## Invitation to Join Safer Homes, Suicide Aware Suicide Prevention Program

## Dear Firearms Industry Leader,

Through a bipartisan effort in 2017, the Safer Homes, Suicide Aware campaign was established in Washington State in response to the alarming number of people – especially men in the middle years (age 35-64) and veterans – ending their own lives with firearms.

Because of misinformation in our own communities, most of us are not aware that nearly 4 out of 5 firearm-related deaths in Washington State are suicides. As responsible gun owners, it is time to take ownership of this firearm safety issue that claims far more lives than homicides or accidents combined.

To address this, we're excited to invite you to join the Safer Homes, Suicide Aware campaign to reduce firearms-related suicides in Washington.

The campaign offers significant benefits to retailers, ranges and safety instructors, including access to free online training on suicide prevention for you and your staff, free training modules to teach your customers about firearms safety and suicide prevention, and guidelines on how you can help prevent and respond to suicides in your business and community.

When we dismiss suicide as something that cannot be stopped or say, "if they don't have a gun, they'll just find another way," we discredit ourselves as gun owners and disrespect our proud tradition of firearms safety. By showing leadership on this issue, we protect our friends, families and communities, and demonstrate our commitment to our second amendment rights as responsible gun owners and firearms industry leaders.

Firearms safety is a proud tradition in Washington. When we put our collective efforts into reducing hunting and other accidents with firearms it paid off. It's time to do the same for suicides. A Safer Homes, Suicide Aware representative will follow up with you directly in the next 4 months to help you enroll in this certification program. In the meantime, if you have questions about this program, please contact us by

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We look forward to working with you to build a stronger firearms community focused on preventing suicides in our community.

Cordially,

Alan Gottlieb Founder Second Amendment Foundation Co-Chair Safer Homes Task Force Robin Ball Sharp Shooting Indoor Range and Gun Shop Member Safer Homes Task Force

