

Overview

Who are we?

See Something. Say Something. Do Something. Let's Make Our Country Safer.

Safer Country Club is a student-led organization dedicated to creating safer communities through education, awareness, and action. Our club partners with Safer Country, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to preventing gun tragedies and promoting responsible firearm safety practices.

Through advocacy, community outreach, and educational initiatives, members work together to reduce preventable tragedies.



Our Mission

The mission of Safer Country Club is to:

- Help prevent gun-related tragedies in our communities, including mass shootings and suicides.
- Increase public awareness of Virginia's Red Flag Laws.
- Educate community members about firearm safety and responsible gun ownership.
- Promote prevention strategies that reduce the risk of accidental injuries and deaths.
- Support veteran mental health initiatives and connect veterans with available resources.
- Encourage students to become leaders who actively contribute to safer schools and communities.
- Create a safer environment for everyone through education, advocacy, and community engagement.

Safer Country Club chapters can organize their activities into three main categories: **Advocacy, Education, and Mental Health**. Each category includes small-, medium-, and large-scale initiatives that chapters can implement based on their resources, membership, and goals.

Our Officer Team

President - Leana Paradkar

Vice President - Sanskriti Singh

Secretary - Siri Kotera

Treasurer - Anshika Atluri

Director of Marketing - Nyan Kadari

Director of Communications - Tiyaisha Chakraborty

Director of Community Engagement - Abhinav Kandregula

Legislative Liaison - Karthik Uppalapati

Junior Officer - Jishnav Ragupathi

Chapter Liaison - Niharika Atluri

Chapter Liaison - Mahika Ramagiri

What Are Virginia's Red Flag Laws?

Virginia's Red Flag Law allows courts to temporarily prohibit individuals who pose a significant risk to themselves or others from purchasing, possessing, or transporting firearms. The law is designed to help prevent acts of violence and suicide while protecting due process rights.

Getting Started

1. Find a Sponsor

Identify a teacher, counselor, or school staff member who is willing to serve as the club sponsor and support your chapter.

2. Recruit Founding Members

Gather 3–5 students who are interested and dedicated towards the cause.

3. Establish Leadership Roles

Select club officers, such as:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Social Media Coordinator/Marketing Director

4. Build Your Presence

Create an Instagram account or on other social media platforms to:

- Promote club activities
- Share educational content
- Recruit new members
- Highlight events

 Rock Ridge Safer Country

Advocacy

Advocacy

Goal

Advocacy focuses on actively supporting Red Flag Laws, promoting smart public safety policies, and learning how to support programs run by local and state representatives.

Members can also participate by writing letters or emails to local legislators and representatives about issues related to community safety.

Small Scale: Contact Local Representatives

Write letters or emails to local legislators and representatives expressing support for Red Flag Laws and other public safety policies.

Students can research their elected officials and draft respectful messages explaining why they support certain policies. Members can work together to learn about current legislation, discuss key issues, and send letters encouraging representatives to take action on community safety initiatives.

Medium Scale: School Awareness Event

Organize a school wide walkout or awareness event that supports victims of school shootings and raises awareness about Red Flag Laws.

First, gain permission from the principal and school administration to organize the event. Next, use social media, flyers, and school announcements to promote participation. Students can create speeches that advocate for Red Flag Laws and encourage community involvement in public safety initiatives.

Large Scale: Legislative Proposal Project

Write or draft legislation that proposes or supports Red Flag Laws by researching existing policies, identifying gaps, and drafting a student-written bill that reflects community safety concerns.

Students can work in teams to research real legislation, consult with teachers or local officials, and create a mock or proposed bill. The proposal can then be presented to school administrators, community leaders, or local representatives.

Examples:

LEGISLATIVE WORKING PAPERS

Senator Kannan Srinivasan
SD-32 | Eastern Loudoun
2026 Legislative Worksheet

Directions: Use this form to capture the parameters for your legislative proposal. This information will be provided to the Division of Legislative Services (DLS) attorneys, so you do NOT have to "write the legislation," just provide enough information to create a draft.

Think through a) your goals and objectives, b) how your proposal will solve a specific, limited problem, c) the parameters of the legislation, d) how will we measure the success of the legislation, e) how we prevent someone from abusing or misusing the legislation.

Name (Submitter):	Leana Paradkar
Phone:	703-419-5577
E-mail	leana.paradkar@gmail.com

Short Title of Legislative Proposal:

Virginia Handgun Qualification License Act

Objective: (In 2-3 sentences or bullet points, describe your overall objective or the strategic goals of your proposed legislation. What do you hope to achieve?)

The objective of this proposed legislation is to require individuals to obtain a Handgun Qualification License (HQL) before purchasing, renting, or receiving any sort of handgun in Virginia. It ensures that all handgun purchasers have demonstrated basic firearm safety knowledge and undergone thorough background checks including fingerprinting. Ideally, it would reduce the amount of impulsive or uninformed handgun purchases that contributed to accidents and/or violence.

Parameters: (Explain the parameters for your proposed legislation (i.e. scope, limitations, guardrails, target audience, etc.)

- Applies to all citizens that are seeking to purchase, rent, or receive a handgun
 - Doesn't apply to long guns (rifles, shotguns)
- Applicants must complete a state-certified firearms safety course of at least four hours covering Virginia gun laws, home safety, and hands-on handling
- Applicants must submit to LiveScan fingerprint scanning for a background check through Virginia State Police
- Training must be completed within three years of the application date

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Name (Submitter):	Leana Paradkar
Phone:	703-419-5577
E-mail	leana.paradkar@gmail.com

Short Title of Legislative Proposal:

Virginia Firearm Microstamping Act

Objective: (In 2-3 sentences or bullet points, describe your overall objective or the strategic goals of your proposed legislation. What do you hope to achieve?)

The objective of the proposed legislation is to require all new handguns sold in Virginia to have microstamping technology, which etches a unique microscopic code onto cartridge cases when the firearm is discharged. It enables law enforcement to trace firearms used in crimes quicker and with more accuracy, reducing unsolved gun violence cases. It should ideally deter illegal gun use by creating a traceable link between a fired cartridge and the specific firearm that fired it.

Parameters: (Explain the parameters for your proposed legislation (i.e. scope, limitations, guardrails, target audience, etc.)

- Applies to all licensed firearm dealers selling new handgun in Virginia
- Does not apply to previously existing handguns
- Manufacturers must certify microstamping compliance before any handgun model can be sold by a dealer in the state of Virginia
- Law enforcement and Military Exemptions would apply
- A phase-in period of 2-3 years is ideal for manufacturers to comply

Education

Education

Goal

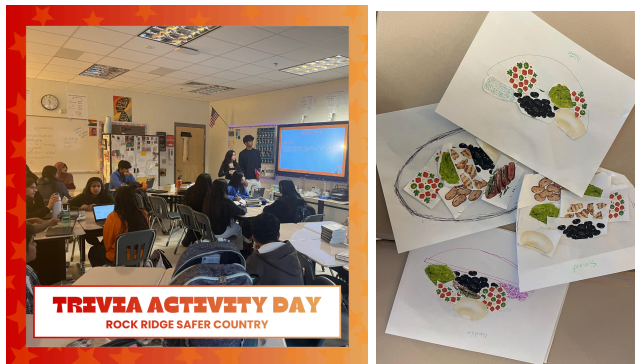
The Education section focuses on informing the public about Red Flag Laws and raising awareness about safety issues. It equips people with the knowledge to make informed decisions and understand what actions can be taken when addressing concerns related to gun violence and community safety.

Initiatives

Small Scale: Educational Club Activities

Create activities for students to participate in during club meetings that educate members about Red Flag Laws and the importance of responsible firearm policies.

This can be done through trivia games, discussions, presentations, and activities that include statistics and information about the impact of school shootings and gun violence in the United States.



📅 RRSC - 01/09/26

Medium Scale: Monthly Newsletters

Send monthly or quarterly newsletters to members and community supporters to continuously educate and update them on important safety topics, as well as [new firearm-related legislation that passes in Virginia](#) and on a federal level.

These newsletters can include short educational articles, key facts, current events, available resources, and opportunities for students to get involved. Regular communication helps maintain awareness beyond club meetings and events.

Medium Scale: Social Media Campaign

Create short-form content educating people in the school and wider community on [new firearm-related legislation that passed in Virginia](#) last session.

Figure out creative ways to engage (i.e. trivia, animation, etc.) viewers and gain more engagement. For inspiration, take a look at Rock Ridge Safer Country/Safer Country Club's Instagram and TikTok.



Large Scale: Youth Leadership Camp

Organize a summer camp or educational program that teaches young students public speaking, leadership, and civic engagement skills.

The program can focus on helping students develop communication skills, understand how legislation is created, and learn how they can become active participants in their local and state governments.



[CLICK HERE FOR ALL 8 LESSON SLIDES FOR THE YOUTH ADVOCACY LAB](#)

Current Project we are working on to educate the community on new gun laws:

New Virginia Gun Bills

Mental Health

Mental Health

Goal

The Mental Health section focuses on planning events and initiatives that promote student well-being, increase awareness of mental health resources, and encourage a supportive school environment. By supporting mental health and connecting individuals with available resources, this section aims to address some of the underlying factors that can contribute to violence and other crises.

Initiatives

Small Scale: Mental Health Activities

Organize activities during club meetings that promote mental health awareness and teach students how to support themselves and others.

Students can dedicate a meeting to activities such as making cards for veterans, assembling care packages, or writing positive messages. Be creative!



Medium Scale: Student Wellness Event

Host a student-led event that creates a positive environment and promotes student well-being.

After gaining permission from your school, organize an event and use social media to increase participation. Activities may include canvas painting, slime making, stress-relief activities, mindfulness exercises, and providing food or snacks for attendees.



Large Scale: School-Wide Mental Health Conference

Organize a school-wide mental health event that includes guest speakers, community organizations, and educational resources.

After receiving school approval, invite mental health professionals, counselors, veterans, or community leaders to speak. The event should focus on educating students about mental health and how it is connected to community safety and connecting students with available support resources.

Fundraising

Fundraising

Why Do You Need Money?

Fundraising allows your club to support and lead impactful activities, events, and initiatives.

For example:

- Hosting a mental health awareness event may require supplies, decorations, educational materials, or refreshments.
- Organizing community outreach projects often involves purchasing resources and promotional materials.
- Supporting/Donating to organizations that align with your mission can help expand your impact.

Examples of organizations you may choose to support include:

- Safer Country
- Veteran mental health organizations
- Local community safety initiatives

Always follow your school's policies regarding fundraising and donations. We highly recommend reaching out to an administrator or checking with your sponsor before launching any fundraising initiatives.

Fundraising Ideas

Restaurant Fundraisers

Partner with local restaurants such as Chick-fil-A, Chipotle, Panera, or other businesses that offer fundraising programs.

Here's how it works:

1. Schedule a fundraising date and time with the restaurant.
2. Promote the event to friends, family, teachers, and community members.
3. Customers mention your club or use a fundraising code when purchasing food.
4. The restaurant will give a percentage of the proceeds, often around 20–25%, to your club.

Promote the event on social media and encourage members to invite others to maximize participation.

Example:  chipotle fundraiser flier

Food Sales

Food sales are one of the most popular, simple and effective fundraising methods.

Ideas include:

- Selling snacks during school events
- Partnering with local bakeries or restaurants
- Organizing themed food sales
- Selling refreshments at sporting events
- Hosting a bake sale

Club members can help advertise, prepare, and sell items to increase profits and engagement.

Crowdfunding

Online fundraising platforms can help your club reach a larger audience.

Popular platforms include:

- GoFundMe
- Spotfund

Tips for success:

- Create a clear description of your club's mission.
- Share how donations will be used.
- Include photos or videos from club activities.
- Promote the campaign through social media and community networks.

Get Creative!

Some of the most successful fundraisers come from unique ideas.

Media

Media

FOLLOW US!!

Instagram

- Make sure to tag/link the main Safer Country Club's profile to each account in the bio
 - @safercountry
 - @rockridgesafercountry
- Use to advertise events, give information to members, and spread Safer Country's mission as a whole
 - Information includes how to join, when each meeting is (A POST FOR EACH MEETING IS RECOMMENDED!), when your events are and how to get involved volunteering at your events
 - Spreading Safer Country's mission
- One of this year's main goals are expanding so use social media to find other people who may be interested in starting a chapter and put them in contact with us
- Post all TikToks on Instagram Reels as well
- You are encouraged to repost all posts that the Safer Country Club posts

TikTok

@rockridgesafercountry

- Use to advertise events, give information to members, and spread Safer Country's mission as a whole
 - Information includes how to join, when meetings and events are, and how to get involved volunteering at your events
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