



WAYNE TOWNSHIP
of Marion County
Jeb Bardon, Trustee

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: February 15, 2023

Media Contact: Jeff Harris, 317-246-6269 or jeff.harris@waynetwp.org

NEW PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE FREE GUN LOCKS TO VETERANS, WAYNE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

INDIANAPOLIS – In an effort to combat veteran suicide and reduce gun-related deaths, today Wayne Township Trustee Jeb Bardon announced a new partnership with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to offer free gun locks to community residents.

Funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), gun locks will be available to veterans and community members at the Wayne Township Government Center, the Wayne Township Fire Department Headquarters, all five Wayne Township fire stations and on fire trucks and ambulances responding to emergencies. The VA will also begin regularly training Wayne Township first responders on suicide detection and prevention techniques.

“We are honored to partner with the VA in this effort to save lives,” said Trustee Bardon. “We lose far too many veterans to suicide and far too many of our friends and neighbors to gun accidents and acts of gun-related violence. If these gun locks save just one life in Wayne Township, it’ll be well worth the effort,” said Bardon.

This is the first of its kind partnership between the VA and a local township fire department and is acting as a pilot for the rest of the state.

“We are proud to work with our partners to help combat Veteran Suicide rates,” said Michael E. Hershman, Indiana VA Medical Center Director. “Partnerships such as these are critical to helping us reach out to more veterans in need, the families and caregivers.”

Located on the west side of Indianapolis, Wayne Township is home to nearly 150,000 residents, vibrant neighborhoods, hundreds of businesses, and important assets like the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Indianapolis International Airport. The Wayne Township Trustee’s Office offers numerous programs and services to assist residents facing difficult situations and also oversees the Wayne Township Fire Department. For more information on the Wayne Township Trustee’s Office, visit www.WayneTwp.org

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