

*CBS Mornings*

12/22/25

8:02:24 a.m.

2 minutes and 21 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New Approach to Gun Safety]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: All right, let's begin this hour with a shift for one of the most prominent gun violence prevention groups in America as mass shootings continue in the United States. Now, this comes as one of the victims of the Brown University shooting, Ella Cook, will be laid to rest today. Now, the group, Everytown for Gun Safety is offering a controversial training course. Some who support that group are not happy. Nicole Valdes has the story.

NICOLE VALDES: Inside this gun range, these candidates are vying to become instructors for Train SMART, the new firearms training program from an unlikely organization.

EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY'S CHRIS MARVIN: For Everytown to move into the business of working with gun owners and meeting gun owners where they are, that is a crucial step in promoting gun safety.

VALDES: Everytown for Gun Safety rose to prominence after the tragic Sandy Hook School shooting, campaigning to restrict gun sales and expand background checks. Now, their efforts are growing beyond gun control, taking aim at safer gun ownership.

MARVIN: That should be the paramount mission for Everytown for Gun Safety is to teach gun safety to the people who are holding the guns.

VALDES: Chris Marvin, an Army combat veteran, was part of the team who helped design the program.

MARVIN: We promote this culture of training, safety and accountability around guns. It's the same culture that we learned in the military.

VALDES: But the shift has surprised some, including Colorado State Senator Tom Sullivan.

COLORADO STATE SENATOR TOM SULLIVAN (D): They need to remember who it was that was there to help them get where they are as people who are out there, who are visiting cemeteries and going to church services.

VALDES: Sullivan lost his son Alex in the 2012 Aurora shooting, fueling his advocacy for gun safety. He even became a face of the movement.

SULLIVAN: These words were said by the gun lobby —

VALDES: But when Everytown launched its Train SMART Program, Sullivan says he was left

in the dark.

SULLIVAN: — I hope that we're still reading from the same book. Maybe they are a couple chapters ahead of me.

VALDES: Marvin hopes this chapter brings those against gun violence and those for gun ownership together.

MARVIN: It's about meeting everybody where they are with their relationship with guns and gun violence, and that caters equally to gun owners and to survivors and to people who are both.

VALDES: And Train SMART tells us, their in-person classes could start early next year, until then, they offer their courses online. For *CBS Mornings*, I'm Nicole Valdes.