

American Knife & Tool Institute
Conference Call Recap
July 16, 2010

Topic: New York

AKTI BOR & Advisory Members:

Here's a recap of our conference call today. Since we had consensus of discussion, and no votes were taken, no official minutes will be provided. Please let me know if you have any questions about the summary below. Jan Billeb

Board of Regent Participants: Goldie Russell, Bill Raczkowski, CJ Buck, Les de Asis, Craig Green, Clint Kadel, Rod and Peggy Bremer, Gil Hibben, Mike Manrose
Advisory Participants: Nick Trbovich, John Belniak, Morgan Taylor
Others: Dan Lawson, Jan Billeb

Agreed that AKTI should stay the course on our decision to seek a lasting legislative solution in New York State with a change in the definition of gravity knife, expecting such effort would stop the NY County DA's tactics from spreading into the rest of the state, and, although a New York City code change is likely impossible, that the definition change would have application statewide, including New York City.

AKTI will agree with Knife Rights that: (1) KR has point in a legal challenge in New York City to push back against the Manhattan DA's office, hopefully preempting additional threats, (2) the AKTI organization will not provide any financial contributions to Knife Rights, and (3) AKTI has point on a legislative solution. Goldie Russell will discuss with Doug Ritter (1) what information Knife Rights will provide to AKTI so AKTI can provide information to our constituents; (2) a joint press release from the two organizations alerting dealers to the issue which, after review and approval by AKTI Regents and Advisory members, will be sent out by manufacturers to dealers and provided to knife publications; (3) and any information about knife pre-emption that AKTI should consider in New York.

Dan Lawson will review conflict of interest issues and provide a statement to board members with an opinion about board members providing contributions to Knife Rights to help with its efforts in this issue. Dan Lawson agreed he was willing to be AKTI's communication contact with Knife Rights' legal team.

The New York legislative committee of: CJ Buck (chair), Nick Trbovich, Les de Asis, Dan Lawson, Jan Billeb, and Goldie Russell will work on: (1) plan of how to handle New York legislative change; (2) fundraising efforts to finance the effort.