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AKTI News & Legislative Updates

A great loss for the knife community.

Greetings!

The American Knife & Tool Institute and our industry has lost someone very special who was passionate about life, his family and friends and all things knives. With extreme sadness we had to say goodbye last week to Les de Asis, Founder of Benchmade Knife Company, and Co-Founding Board of Regent Member of the American Knife & Tool Institute.

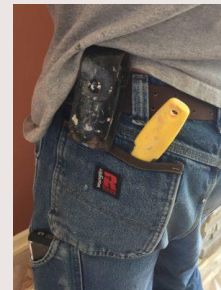


Les was innovator, advocate and friend. He believed in the mission and methods of the American Knife & Tool Institute and never faltered in his 100% support. Les de Asis and Benchmade Knife Company were instrumental, along with CJ Buck and Buck Knives, in assuring the formation and success of a solid nonprofit organization to advocate for the interests of the knife community.

[Read more.](#)

What is Concealed?

Many knife laws contain a section on concealing knives. Which knives are included, and when is a knife "concealed?" Attorney and knife expert Dan Lawson explains how involved the answers to those two questions are in an article published in the February issue of **Knife Magazine** and on our website titled "**Concerning Concealment.**" Thanks to Knife Magazine for supporting AKTI and giving us an opportunity to share important information about knife laws and legislation in their monthly publications.



Legislative Updates - Knife Bills are Moving!

Washington - Action Alert

SB 5782 would allow the sale and possession of automatic knives. It has passed the Senate and the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee. If you live, work or travel frequently to Washington State, contact your House representative and ask them to vote yes on SB 5782. [More details.](#)

Ohio

SB 140 introduced May 2019, to remove prohibitions on the manufacture, possession and sale of automatic knives, springblade knives and gravity knives. Passed Senate. Referred to the House Committee on Criminal Justice. AKTI submitted written testimony of support.

West Virginia

SB 96 to enact **statewide preemption** introduced January 8, 2020, by Senator Trump. Passed the Senate and in the House; February 28, recommended by the House Committee on Judiciary to pass.

[Follow Current Knife Legislation](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON AKTI INDUSTRY MEMBER

A. G. Russell KNIVES

A.G. Russell Knives has been in business for over 50 years designing knives, retailing and starting the first mail order knife business. Their goal has always been to provide **quality** knives at a reasonable price.

A.G. was a strong supporter of AKTI. A.G. Russell Knives, a member since 2000, was also a member of the Board of Regents. Goldie Russell serving as AKTI's 5th President.

Ensuring that Americans will always be able to make, buy, sell, own, carry and use the knives and edged tools of their choice.

For more information on the American Knife & Tool Institute visit
www.AKTI.org

