

Attached you will find a copy of the Albany *Democrat-Herald* report of a pocketknife stabbing incident in Lebanon last month. Both the alleged perpetrator and victim have appeared in my courts. The alleged perpetrator appeared before me on a criminal charge in November 2013. He has an extensive criminal history as do many of the persons who appear in justice courts and municipal courts.

You will also find color copies of 3 pocketknives: 4-inch blade; 3-inch blade; and, 2-inch blade. One page shows the knives with the blades folded; the other shows the knives with the long blades open.

These documents are intended to illustrate the reasoning that underlies the "blade of less than 4-inches" limitation to be applied to the term "ordinary pocketknife."

An "ordinary pocketknife" with a 4-inch blade similar to that in the exhibit was used in the stabbing incident in Lebanon. The pocketknife with the 4-inch blade may have some utility purposes, it is clearly a knife that can be used as a life-threatening weapon. Such a knife could be very likely carried by someone with the intent to be armed with a weapon, not just an ordinary pocketknife. Under the existing statute, however, this knife would be considered an ordinary pocketknife.

The 3-inch and 2-inch pocketknives are obviously intended for utility purposes. In fact they are my pocketknives. Being raised a farm-boy and still a part-time farmer, I always carry a pocketknife because they do have so many uses. The 3-inch blade pocketknife is my weekend pocket knife.

Please provide copies of these documents and this explanation to the Senate Judiciary Committee for its hearing on SB 385 on Friday. If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact me.

Judge L.

Hon. Jad Lemhouse
Linn County Justice Court
Harrisburg, Oregon

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 28, the 28th day of 2015. There are 337 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Jan. 28, 1915, the United States Coast Guard was created as President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill merging the Life-Saving Service and Revenue Cutter Service. The American merchant vessel SS William P. Frye, en route to England with a cargo of wheat, became the first U.S. ship to be sunk during World War I by a German cruiser, the SS Prinz Fital Friedrich, even

Man charged with stabbing friend in head

KYLE ODEGARD

ALBANY DEMOCRAT-HERALD

A Lebanon man was arrested after allegedly stabbing a friend in the neck and back of the skull with a 4-inch folding pocket knife on Monday night.

Sean David McKee, 26, was charged with attempted murder, first-degree assault and attempted first-degree assault in Linn County Circuit Court on Tuesday afternoon.

The incident occurred



Sean McKee

on River Drive in Lebanon at about 8:10 p.m., and McKee's mother also suffered superficial stab wounds and other minor injuries.

Linn County Sheriff Bruce Riley reported that his office is continuing to look into the motive for the assault.

Anthony Allen Ensley, 32, of Sweet Home, who

was not armed during the altercation, received life-threatening wounds.

He was taken to Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital, then transferred to Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center. He was in stable condition on Tuesday.

During Tuesday's court hearing, Deputy District Attorney Ani Yardumian said that Ensley suffered puncture wounds in the neck near the jugular and carotid artery.

She also noted that McKee had prior

convictions for coercion and four instances of assault, and asked for \$500,000 bail in the case. Judge Glen Baisinger set security in that amount.

McKee's mother, Karen Mae McKee, 48, is the homeowner of the residence where the crimes allegedly occurred.

She was treated by Lebanon Fire Department paramedics at the scene.

Riley said that when deputies arrived at River Drive, Sean McKee was standing next to the Albany-Santiam Canal.

"He got nervous and jumped in," Riley said.

A deputy followed McKee along the bank and asked him to swim to safety, but he would not.

McKee was in the water for more than 10 minutes, according to Lebanon Police Department logs. Lebanon fire personnel were eventually able to get him out of the water with a ladder.

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