

2013-J2473

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 115th Birthday of KA-BAR Knives, Inc. of Olean, New York

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge certain exemplary companies that strive to provide superior products within this great Empire State and throughout this great Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 115th Birthday of KA-BAR Knives, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, On April 29, 1897, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a group of 38 men formed a Limited Partnership, known as Tidioute Cutlery Company, to manufacture and sell cutlery; and

WHEREAS, The formation of Tidioute Cutlery Company is now widely considered to be the origin of KA-BAR Knives, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, The first sales of cutlery in 1898 mark the beginning of KA-BAR Knives, Inc., as it is known today; and

WHEREAS, Experiencing financial difficulties, the Tidioute Cutlery Company was dissolved at the turn of the century; in January 1902, Wallace R. Brown purchased the assets of the company; and

WHEREAS, By March of 1902, a new association headed by Wallace Brown applied to the Governor of Pennsylvania to form a corporation, to be known as the Union Razor Company; and

WHEREAS, On January 25, 1909, Wallace Brown and the Board of Directors decided the company's name was no longer representative of its expanding product line and changed its name to Union Cutlery Company; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after the company's name change, in 1910, the City of Olean, New York, approached Wallace Brown and the company's Directors and proposed the company relocate its operation to their city; and

WHEREAS, Within one year, the Union Cutlery Company began efforts to move the company; a new State of New York corporation was registered as the Union Cutlery Company, Olean, New York; and

WHEREAS, With the Olean facility operating successfully, the Tidioute, Pennsylvania plant was closed down and by 1912, operations were in full swing at Union Cutlery Company's new location in Olean, New York; and

WHEREAS, The company's name "KA-BAR" dates back to the early 1920s from a fur trapper testimonial; in his testimonial, the fur trapper wrote that while trapping, his gun jammed leaving him with only his knife to kill the wounded bear that was attacking him; and

WHEREAS, The trapper thanked the company for crafting a knife of such exemplary quality, however, the letter was only partially legible, with "k a bar" readable as fragments of the phrase "kill a bear"; honored by the testimonial, the company adopted the phrase KA-BAR as its trademark; and

WHEREAS, Each KA-BAR knife undergoes a unique manufacturing process and is tested to ensure corrosion resistance, strength, edge holding ability, and an out-of-the-box razor sharp cutting edge; and

WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps KA-BAR knife is a legend in the world of knives; first adopted in November 1942, it was one of the general issue knives used by the United States Marine Corps in World War II; and

WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps knife quickly gained popularity, and today, KA-BAR also makes Army and Navy versions of the United States Marine Corps knife; and

WHEREAS, A customer-centered focus with an eye on crafting state-of-the-art cutlery is at the core of the company's success; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize and honor milestones in the history of businesses in this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

commemorate the 115th Anniversary of KA-BAR Knives, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to KA-BAR Knives, Inc. of Olean, New York.