

From: shooters@oregonfirearms.org
Subject: Re:
Date: February 19, 2004 4:19:29 PM PST
To: police@portptld.com
Cc: ksr@oandc.com

2/19/04

Dear Chief Klahn,

Thank you for your e-mail.

I am aware that you passed my first e-mail along to Miss Jacobson. I referred to that action in the certified letter I sent you.

Miss Jacobson did indeed leave a message at my office. She did not, however, address the issue in question, and has not, as of now, addressed it. I returned her call within an hour and have heard nothing since.

As I said in both my e-mail to you, my return call to Miss Jacobson and my latest letter to you, I am very aware of the Port of Portland's ordinance. What I am trying to learn, with no success, is how to reconcile the Port's ordinance with Oregon State law, which I quoted in my original e-mail to you. There is an apparent conflict and I am simply trying to understand where the authority comes from for the Port to make a rule which would seem to be the sole responsibility of the State Legislature.

I will be happy to inform our members that they may not carry their legal firearms in the terminal, but I cannot do that in good faith if I cannot explain to them why it is illegal.

While I certainly understand your desire to turn this matter over to Miss Jacobson, the fact remains that if a license holder is detained or arrested in the terminal, because they are in possession of a firearm which is legal everywhere else but courtrooms and Federal buildings, it will be a member of your department who will be involved. As such, a more clear interpretation of your understanding of the law would be very helpful.

In 1991, I was informed by the Clackamas County Sheriff's office that licensees may carry their handguns up the security check point. I considered that the rule may have changed as a result of new security procedures following the events of 9/11 2001. However, the ordinance is dated 1996, so clearly this is not the case.

As you know, people travel from all over the state to use the airport facility. A license holder who had studied Oregon law would have no reason to believe he was in violation if he brought a concealed handgun into the terminal, up to the security checkpoint.

In order for me to explain why the Port of Portland has a power invested in no other government or municipal entity, I'll need to be given the information to locate this authority.

I look forward to receiving this information.

Very truly yours,
Kevin Starrett

