AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE POSSESSION OF KNIVES AND SIMILAR WEAPONS IN THE CITY OF WORCESTER

Be It Ordained by the City Council of the city of Worcester as follows:

1. Chapter Nine of the Revised Ordinances is hereby amended by inserting the following new section 8A immediately following section 8:

§ 8A. Possession of Knives and Similar Weapons

(a) No person, except as otherwise provided by law, when arrested while committing a breach or disturbance of the public peace, or when arrested upon a warrant for any alleged crime, is armed with or has on his person or under his control in a vehicle, any knife or cutting device of any kind or mechanical operation with a blade over two and one-half inches; or, any other object or tool so redesigned, fashioned, prepared or treated that the same may be used to penetrate body armor or to otherwise inflict bodily harm or injury to another, except:

1. When actually engaged in hunting or fishing or any employment, trade or lawful recreational or culinary activity which customarily involves the carrying or use of any type of knife, or
2. In going directly to and/or returning directly from such activities, or
3. If the knife is being transported directly to or from a place of purchase, sharpening, or repair, and if packaged in such a manner as not to allow easy access to the knife while it is being transported.

(b) This section shall not apply to persons who, through entities or establishments engaged in a recognized retail or wholesale business, are involved in the sale, purchase or repair of knives for trade, sport, hobby or recreation, including without limitation persons engaged in the transportation to or from such entities or establishments. This section shall also not apply to any person who possesses either a valid class A or class B license issued under section one hundred thirty-one of chapter one hundred-forty of the General Laws.

(c) No person shall sell, give, or deliver to any person under 18 years of age any of the items listed in subsection (a). This provision shall not prohibit parents, adult siblings, and grandparents from selling, giving, or delivering such items to their children, siblings, and grandchildren.

(d) Every violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of $300. Enforcement of this penalty shall be through a non-criminal disposition as provided by G.L. c. 40, § 21D or by the filing of a criminal complaint.

2. Chapter 15, Section 2(b), of the Revised Ordinances of the city of Worcester (2008) is hereby amended by inserting the following new subsection (27) at the conclusion thereof as follows:

(27) Knife Ordinance – R.O. c. 9 § 8A.

Enforcing Persons: Police Chief
Penalty: $300.00
In City Council

January 6, 2009

Passed to be ordained by a yea and nay vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays.

A Copy. Attest:

David J. Rushford
City Clerk