

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Spring assist locking knife

Re: Spring assist locking knife

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URL:

As mentioned, from a legal standpoint you are much better off carrying a handgun (with an LTCF) than a knife. An LTCF allows you to carry in any municipality in the state. Knife laws are not required to be uniform. You do need to make yourself aware of a few restricted areas, ie Fed buildings, courthouses, school grounds, etc.

Using a knife requires being very close to whatever is attacking you. This means you're more likely to be hurt and questions can be raised as to whether or not you fulfilled your duty to retreat from a hand to hand encounter.

I believe pepper spray is widely legal in PA, though not in Philadelphia (Philadelphia Co.?). I would be leery of carrying wasp spray around with me. Many household chemicals have warnings on them stating that it violates federal law to use them for a purpose not listed on the label.

Also, FWIW, law enforcement officers are not always the best people to take legal advice from. They notoriously are under educated on firearm laws. I'm sure that goes for a lot of other aspects of law as well. I'm not faulting the officers for not knowing all of the laws, no one could be expected to do that. They should not, however, give advice without knowing the legalities. I strongly suspect that it is illegal to spray wasp killer in the eyes of a bear unless your physical well being is immediately threatened. Even then, you would likely be breaking some laws but would be unlikely to be prosecuted.