

Threats, harassment by IBEW Union

Prepared by Ray Kreig April 20, 2007

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These are some of the incidents in past history that causes anyone or any company to be careful in dealing with the IBEW Union or allowing it to be known that they are concerned about IBEW abuses and contributing to solving this community problem.

- 1) **IBEW UNION RETIREE HARASSES DIRECTORS AT CHUGACH ANNUAL MEETING - 4/27/06** - Right after the votes were announced a man rushed up to the dais and in front of directors Ray Kreig and Uwe Kalenka yelled "We sure whipped your f#**ing ass!" After telling him to clean up his language, Kreig turned to IBEW Union backed Director Jeff Lipscomb and said, "Is he one of your friends?" Lipscomb cringed and emitted something inaudible.



This same man earlier had accosted Director Kalenka and called him a piece of shit. The man said, "We are going to go after you, how does it feel to be a loser?" Kalenka replied, "We win some and lose some. There's always next year". A younger guy with an IBEW Union sticker on his jacket came over and said to the man, "Hey why don't you come over here?" and shuffled him off. Chugach employee Patti Bogan was standing next to Kalenka and said the man was retired.

- 2) **HARASSMENT PHONE CALL - 4/28/06** - At 6 a.m. the day after the Annual Meeting (where director Ray Kreig had just lost his reelection to IBEW backed candidates) he and Lee Ann were wakened up by a phone call. Lee Ann answered it and a man calling himself "Jess" asked nicely to talk to Ray. She passed the phone to Ray. "Jess" screamed at Ray, "You lost! Get the Fuck out!! You're a loser." And he then hung up the phone.

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- 3) **IBEW UNION VIOLENCE AGAINST NONUNION CONTRACTOR -1986 - [IBEW Local 1547 v. Alaska Utility Construction Inc. \(3/26/99\)](#), 976 P 2d 852 - Jury found that IBEW Union acted outrageously and awarded \$425,000 in punitive damages to victimized contractor. Although much of the picketing involved maintaining a presence and shouting epithets at the non-union employees, picketers also shouted obscene death threats along the lines of "we ought to kill all you mother-_____s"; and "we have to kill you all."; Downing contacted Shemel and Hull about the picketing and threats. Shemel told Downing that he should sign an agreement because things could get worse. Downing called Hull to inform him that the picketers were scaring his crew. Shemel threw a rock at AUC employees working in a ditch beneath him, and challenged an employee to come out of the ditch and fight him. Another picketer kicked a stone in the direction of the same AUC worker in the ditch beneath him, and asked whether the worker had made out his will yet. In addition to the stone throwing and taunts to fight, picketers spat on a worker in the ditch beneath them. Picketers also made threats to kill AUC employees and they told Downing they would rape his daughter. The threats to kill AUC employees and to rape their daughters continued. In some instances, the death threats were made by picketers displaying and sharpening large knives.**

- 4) **NUMEROUS THREATS AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN THE CHUGACH ELECTRIC STRIKE - 1987 - George "Bud" Radoff (until recently a CEA power dispatcher) is on a tape that shows him beating a replacement contractor employee on 3/25/87. This victim was 65 years old and he was very seriously**



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injured with a broken jaw among other things. Radoff ran to the employee; slipped on the ground, was out of control and was clubbed by the policeman and had a bloody face and was arrested and cuffed. Radoff was convicted of violence. IBEW Union Chugach Electric employee Ken Hickey constantly talking in the background over much of the tape accusing people of doing drug deals and being gay. Chugach general manager Rick Newland's dog was poisoned during the strike under suspicious circumstances. Numerous acts of vandalism and sabotage including dropping a cable across the transmission line to beluga causing widespread power outage.

- 5) **MORE ON THE CHUGACH STRIKE FROM CATO - 1987 - A consumer-owned utility was violently struck by members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). The strike involved fewer than 200 workers employed by the Chugach Electric Association. The union sought to close the shop to nonunion workers.**

The union established roving picket lines wherever repair crews went. The local president admitted that the union monitored radio repair calls in order to head off the trucks. When the repair crews arrived, they were prevented from leaving their trucks by the pickets who arrived first. The utility's general manager was rammed twice in his car. Additional company vehicles were rammed on subsequent days. Ultimately, the pickets caused the outages that struck four entire communities serviced by the utility. One nonstriking employee was forced to relocate his family after pickets threatened to rape and murder his wife.

On the second day of the strike, a rifle bullet fired into a transformer left homes without electricity during a cold Alaskan March. When replacement workers attempted to restore power, they were blocked by strikers who slashed the tires of the repair vehicles. On the following day, strikers again threatened a repair crew attempting to restore power to 1,000 homes. The utility suffered four suspicious power outages during the first four days of the strike.

Despite assertions of peaceful intentions by the union president, another union militant threatened the utility's Board of Directors: "You settle it [the strike] or we'll bring this town down." In all, IBEW militants deprived 400,000 Alaskans of power in March. <http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa-316.pdf>

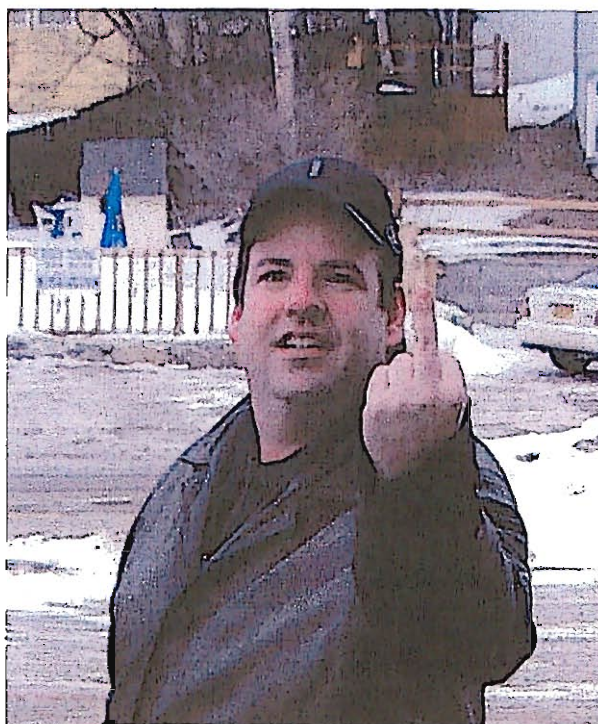
- 6) **HARASSMENT LETTERS SENT TO CHUGACH ELECTRIC BOARD BY UNION PEOPLE AT BOARDWALK CONDOMINIUMS - July 2005 - This occurred after Ray Kreig was appointed to the Chugach Electric board. [ATTACHMENT A]**
- 7) **SLASHED TIRES - Ray Kreig's truck tires slashed while parked at Boardwalk Condominiums. All appearances are this operation was accomplished by the same group that sent the letter above to the Chugach board. [ATTACHMENT B]**

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- 8) **CAR ANTENNA DAMAGE - 1996?** - While attending Chugach board meeting Lee Ann Gerhart's car antenna was wrenched off in the Chugach parking lot. She was Chugach Board President Ray Kreig's girlfriend (and now wife).
- 9) **IBEW UNION THUGGISH BEHAVIOR AT SULLIVAN ARENA -3/06** -Lee Ann Kreig and Chugach directors Ray Kreig and Uwe Kalenka were passing out Chugach Electric campaign flyers at the Anchorage home show. IBEW Union members heard about it and showed up in force to harass and intimidate them, as well as interfere with people they were talking to. No overt threats of violence, but much unpleasant behavior.



- 10) **CHUGACH ELECTRIC DIRECTOR ARRESTED FOR CAMPAIGNING IN PUBLIC PLAZA - 4/6/03** - Candidate Uwe Kalenka was arrested while peaceably handing out flyers from Chugach Consumers in support of his candidacy for the Chugach Electric board. Kalenka was standing in the public plaza at the Sullivan Arena near the 1% for art sculpture at the northwest corner of the arena. The bright yellow flyers listed high union salaries at Chugach Electric and advocated lower rates for consumers.

Kalenka was assisted by Karen Bretz, an Anchorage attorney. Police confiscated the flyers. Kalenka and Bretz were handcuffed and stuffed into the back of police

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cars for an hour and a half before Anchorage Police Department Lt. Paul Honeman arrived.

After reviewing the Chugach Consumers flyers Honeman made the decision to give Kalenka "the full treatment" and charge Kalenka and Bretz with trespass.

Lt. Honeman was an unsuccessful candidate in 2000 for the same Chugach Electric board seat Kalenka seeks. Honeman was endorsed by several unions "to demonstrate solidarity with the members of the IBEW [Union] who work for Chugach Electric Association." The confiscated flyers also supported Chris Birch's candidacy to the Chugach board in the current election. Birch defeated Honeman in the election three years ago.

The flyers distributed by Kalenka and Bretz listed what Chugach Consumers considers to be excessive salaries and benefits paid to union members by captive retail electric customers:

"Relief Maintenance Operator (\$254,628); Swing Loop Wagon Lineman (\$197,873); Journeyman Lineman (\$148,882); Maintenance Tech (\$180,054); Power Dispatcher Trainee IV (\$130,809); Power Plant Warehouseman (\$143,368); Boiler Operator (\$132,049); Plant Helper (\$116,769)."

When interviewed in 2000 by Ray Kreig, past Chugach Electric board president and current chairman of Chugach Consumers, Honeman opposed public disclosure of union salaries.

The Municipality of Anchorage eventually paid Uwe Kalenka \$50,000 for the false arrest. In a letter to Kalenka dated March 20, 2006 municipal attorney Fred Boness said the city regretted "the events that gave rise to this legal action" and in the future would respect the First Amendment rights of those soliciting signatures and distributing materials outside the Sullivan and other public property.