



**RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL
FIREFIGHTERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB®
Boylston Massachusetts Est. 1982**

Office of the International Secretary
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Hello to all my fellow Red Knights Brothers and Sisters

I want to take a moment to thank everyone for the continued opportunity to be part of the Board! It's such an honor and privilege, and I'm excited to contribute to our Club's future together. As a member of the International Board for one term now, I've had the chance to learn a great deal about the dynamics of this organization. There have been joyful moments, as well as some challenging times. I've realized that we don't always have all the facts in any situation, and it's important to communicate with one another. Most of the time, we find that what we think we know is just a story or a misunderstanding. After all, we are all human!

During my last year as your International Secretary, I have had the privilege of attending several important events, including the 2024 International Spring Board Meeting, the 2024 Dixie Rally, the 2024 International Convention, the 2024 Bootleggers Rally, the 2024 International Fall Board Meeting, and, sadly, a few Heaven One services. I cherish the experiences and memories created at each of these events. I look forward to many more years of building bonds, friendships, and unforgettable memories!

Over the past year, I have been busy transforming the TMLA (Trademark License Agreement) system into a fully digital platform, and I am pleased to report that it is nearly complete. The final step is to create an educational program to help our members understand and feel comfortable using the system. With over 4,000 TMLAs in place, this has been a challenging task, but we will continue to work on improving it for our global membership.

Please remember that this system is designed to protect our names and logo from misrepresentation and is not intended to create difficulties or internal strife among our members. One aspect that seems to be commonly misunderstood is the use of the ® symbol. Our intellectual property attorney has clarified its usage: the ® symbol is not compulsory in any jurisdiction where we hold registrations, but it is highly recommended. When I mention this, members often ask what it means. To clarify, the ® is not required, but its use is strongly encouraged, and I will always ask that it be placed on our products. If the symbol is not included, it does not make the item illegal, and I will not disapprove an item solely for the absence of the ®.

If you are unsure whether an item requires a TMLA, please fill out an application along with a picture and send it to me. If the item involves any of our protected names or logos, the answer will always be yes. I'm here to assist you and am always happy to help.

Below are some of the stats from 2024:

TMLA report:

Total requested: 421
Denied: 18
Pending: 6
Approved: 397

Insurance policies:

Insurance requested: 54
Not issued: 7
Pending: 0
Insurance issued: 47
Non-compliant but issued: 1

Rental Agreements issued:

Total requested: 49
Pending: 0
Total issued: 49

New Chapter Applications sent out:

Interest letters sent: 30
Applications sent: 28

One last thing, get out there and meet new RKMC members, rekindle old contacts, and turn them into friendships! Go to rallies and have a great time with like-minded brothers and sisters. There is more to



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this Club than just Chapter life, there is a whole world full of our brothers and sisters that you can make connections with!

Again, Thank you for your faith in me! I'm very appreciative to be able to serve you and help play a small part in making our beloved organization grow for the future!

"Loyal to Our Duty"

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Woods". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Michael "Woody" Woods
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