

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

CARL HIGBIE, JOSEPH HARRIS, and )  
MICHAEL VOTRUBA, )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

STEVEN G. JAMES, in his Official )  
Capacity as Superintendent of the )  
New York State Police, SHERIFF KYLE )  
BOURGAULT, in his Official Capacity as )  
the Sheriff of Rensselaer County, New York,)  
SHERIFF DONALD J. KRAPP, in his )  
Official Capacity as the Sheriff of Columbia )  
County, New York, and JOHN DOES 1-10, )

Defendants. )

Civil Action No. 1:24-cv-00174-MAD-TWD

**DECLARATION OF SHERIFF JAY COOK**

1. My name is Sheriff Jay Cook. I am the duly elected Sheriff of Franklin County, New York and have been the Sheriff of this County since 2023.

2. I submit this declaration with respect to the case *Higbie v. James*, 24-cv-274, within this district. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge.

3. Within Franklin County, I am responsible for reviewing all applications for New York concealed carry licenses that are submitted within the County.


4. Due to operation of New York state law, my office cannot and therefore does not accept applications submitted by persons who are not residents of the State of New York who reside within Franklin County, or otherwise own property or are principally employed within Franklin County.

5. To my knowledge, my office has never accepted an application from a resident of another state who does not have such a tie to Franklin County.

6. Further, Franklin County's licensing official does not issue permits to non-residents who do not have the above ties to the County. To my knowledge, no such permit has been issued within Franklin County during my tenure as Sheriff.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: 02/20/25

  
Sheriff Jay Cook