



**W.R. CASE & WINKLER KNIVES UNVEIL
'AMERICAN HEROES' KNIFE COLLABORATION:
THE CASE® WINKLER "SKINNER"**

New fixed blade design demonstrates synergy between two influential American makers



Bradford, Pa. - June 2, 2017 – The Case® Winkler Skinner is a new fixed blade knife crafted collectively by Case® and Winkler Knives. The design is the result of a decades-long career in knife making by Master Bladesmith Daniel Winkler and the extensive experiences of retired U.S. Army Special Operator and Navy SEAL Kevin Holland. Case will be unveiling a collection of three different versions of the new knife at BLADE Show 2017, which takes place June 2-4 at the Cobb Galleria Centre in Atlanta, GA.

The Case® Winkler Skinner is the first in a planned series of collaborations aimed at celebrating American heroes, an idea brought to life by Case's historic military contributions and Winkler Knives' ongoing involvement with U.S. Special Operations. The knife is manufactured in Case's modern production facility by an elite team of Case knife makers whose work is held to strict quality and performance standards equaling the reputation of Winkler Knives' custom manufactured blades.

The Case® Winkler Skinner is a high-performance field knife that is lightweight, well balanced and built for dependability. The flat ground, distal tapered Trailing Point blade is made from tough 80CrV2 steel, known for its enduring lateral strength, superior edge retention and ease of sharpening. The full tang is skeletonized and tapered to reduce weight and improve balance. The knife is accompanied by a molded black leather sheath that's specially reinforced to help keep its shape, ensuring a continually snug fit when not in use. A reversible belt attachment accommodates carrying the knife on either side of the body.

All of these premium features make the Case® Winkler Skinner the perfect ally to take on hiking, camping and hunting adventures, and a welcome addition to any military operator's kit.

"At Case, we like to say that every knife tells a story, and this new collaboration will surely speak volumes," remarked John Sullivan, Case's Director of Marketing. By combining Daniel's and Kevin's expertise and personal experiences with Winkler Knives' methods and our own Case technology, we've crafted a tough, utilitarian field knife that performs as well as a Winkler Knives II original and is suitable for use across many different environments."



Daniel Winkler, with more than 30 years of experience to his credit, brings multiple disciplines to the Case® Winkler Skinner project - as a Master Bladesmith, respected metallurgist, blade geometrist and full-time knife maker who, through Winkler Knives, has served some of the most elite Special Operators across all branches of the U.S. military. "My introduction to Case knives came to me as a young boy in North Carolina, when my father gifted me the 'Tested' era Folding Hunter that was given to him by his grandfather – which I still own," Winkler said. "I'm proud to be working with Case - a company who outfitted the First Special Service Force during World War II - and my friend, Kevin Holland - to bring a knife of this caliber to those who still serve."

As co-designer of the Case® Winkler Skinner, Kevin Holland brings decades of intense military expertise to this collaboration. A highly decorated veteran member of U.S. Special Operations, Holland's vast knowledge of knife design, construction and tactical use hails from the many different situations and extreme environments in which he had to depend on knives to survive. Holland's real-world experiences helped craft the Case® Winkler Skinner into an optimal field knife as well as an essential accessory to Special Operators everywhere.

"As a veteran of U.S. Special Operations, I learned first-hand the importance of carrying the highest quality tools on assignment," said Kevin Holland. "I'm proud to have been able to share my experiences to help create something that performs as well for outdoorspeople at home as it can for our Armed Forces around the world."

The knife's name, "Skinner", reflects Holland's years as a young hunter and trapper who relied on his Case Slimline Trapper to field dress small game and clean fish in the mountains of North Carolina. It is this story which inspired a Commanding Officer to assign "Skinner" as Holland's nickname during SEAL Team selection, a title by which he answers to even today.

The Case® Winkler Skinner is 9.625 in (24.5 cm) in length; AKTI blade length is 5.125 in (13 cm) and is .1875 in (4.8 mm) wide. The knife will be available in August 2017 from Case Authorized Dealers nationwide with MSRP's ranging from \$295 to \$310. For additional information, please visit wrcase.com.

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ABOUT DANIEL WINKLER AND WINKLER KNIVES



Daniel Winkler is an award-winning custom knife maker based in Blowing Rock, North Carolina. His early recognition came from hand-forging Early American-influenced knives and axes. The historical styling of his work led to Winkler being commissioned to create cutlery for principal characters in the award winning 1992 film, *The Last of the Mohicans*. In more recent years he has had the honor of working with members of elite units within the U.S. Military and Allied Forces around the world, a development which prompted the establishment of the Winkler Knives II product line that continues today.

ABOUT KEVIN HOLLAND



Kevin Holland is an American hero who has honorably served his country as an elite special operator across two different branches of the U.S. Military, completing more than 2,000 combat missions in multiple deployments across the globe. A North Carolina native, Holland has earned many awards and commendations for his leadership, bravery and valor. In more recent years, Holland has worked as an independent knife designer for Winkler Knives and consultant for other outdoor and military-related industries. He is currently employed as a business executive in the private sector.

ABOUT W.R. CASE & SONS CUTLERY COMPANY

Since 1889, W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery Company has been an American manufacturer of premium, hand-crafted knives. Case knives are proven to withstand the test of time, from the battlefields of World War II to the historic moon landing; a testament to the hard-working artisans who continue to make every Case knife in Bradford, Pa. Case's range of products – including traditional folding pocketknives, fixed blade sporting knives and limited production commemoratives – are held to the highest standard of quality, as evidenced by the numerous hand operations and manufacturing steps required to create a single knife. A unique tang stamp dating system used since the very early days of its history has made Case one of the world's favorite collectable brands. In 1981, Case created The Case Collectors Club, which now boasts more than 18,000 active members and is one of the largest known knife collecting associations in the world. Case is owned by Zippo Manufacturing Company, makers of the world famous Zippo® Windproof Lighter. Call (800) 523-6350 or visit wrcase.com for more information; you can also follow Case (@WRCase) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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