

**From:** Richard Kahn <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** "jeffrey E." <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Panel  
**Date:** Wed, 30 Sep 2015 21:29:52 +0000

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brandon says below he cannot meet on October 14th as you requested  
he says he can produce more sample for your next visit to NY or is there another day you would like him to come by 71st  
please advise  
thank you

FYI - price we negotiated for labor and materials was 40,000

Richard Kahn  
HBRK Associates Inc.  
575 Lexington Avenue 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
tel [REDACTED]  
fax [REDACTED]  
cell [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Brandon Thompson <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Panel  
**Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:44:45 AM EDT  
**To:** Richard Kahn <[REDACTED]>

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your letter.

At the very start, I have to tell you that I have a problem with October 14. I have Court date on that day in Alexandria Va. I have to leave on October 13, and be in the Court on October 14 at nine. Any other day will be good with me. What I can do for Mr. Epstein, is the produce some more samples on oak wood for him to decide which color is most pleasing to him.

The important thing is that you may not be aware of the implications of this restoration.

You see, before I can start finishing, I have to remove all the paint thoroughly. To remove the paint from all the woodwork will require a lot of time and effort. 100% of the time the paint remains in the wooden grain and looks like white spots on the surface. You have to remove the paint several times, to leave the surfaces completely free of paint ready for clear finish.

Most of the time, the woodworkers who know the surfaces will be painted, they will not use uniform white oak, but rift oak, red oak quarter sawn oak and other that I have to bleach the sections and achieve uniform surface. There are lifted veneers that I have to glue back to the panels, as was the case on the door. I am sure there will be a lot of lifted veneers on the rest of the surfaces. The stripping itself is a very lengthy enterprise.

So far we will strip the previous finishes with Methylene Chloride, which in turn requires neutralizing and thorough washing of the surface. Next come the repairs. You can nor see them right now, but when you strip

the paint, they all will show and you have to do all the repairs. Next come the assessment of the surfaces and making all uniform for staining .

Than application of stain and finish.

Now, I do not spray finishes on the surface. I apply all by hand.

All my previous customers distinctly requested to apply natural finish, which is French Polish.

If you want, we can visit some of my previous customers on 5th Avenue, like Mr. Robert Howard, 5th Avenue and 80th Street, closest location to Mr. Epstein`s townhouse, where I finished everything in his apartment in French Polish. Even now, after 15 years looks like new and wonderful. The peoples who requested the French Polish are: Mr. Lee Vance, former Golden Sack vice president, Mr. Robert Howard, Mr. Corsi, Mr. Blankfein, Dr. Morgan Delaney, Mr. Philip Falcone (redacted).

The thing is that if you apply the lacquer or varnish, in each of them there are several modifiers to extend their "shelf life". This includes: acetone, toluene, methyl ethyl keaton, xylene, and others in very small proportions, which in turn evaporate creating a hazard to your health. I can only assure you, all these peoples insisted on French Polish as a natural alternative, which is beautiful and long lasting finish.

French Polish is applied by hand and is labor intensive.

The price I quoted Mr. Epstein for this work is very, very low. I asked my "competitor's" and colleagues how much would they charge for similar work, as I gave them dimensions of the space, they all started from \$60,000.- and much higher price.

I feel good about pricing this work like this, as I feel is very fair for the amount of work involved.

Please, let me know, whether you want me to produce more samples before I meet Mr. Epstein.

Kindly,

Brandon

On Tue, Sep 29, 2015 at 2:57 PM, Richard Kahn <(redacted)> wrote:

mr epstein asked if you could meet with him on october 14th to review job and wood color  
please advise if you will be available on that day  
thanks

Richard Kahn  
HBRK Associates Inc.  
575 Lexington Avenue 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
tel (redacted)  
fax (redacted)  
cell (redacted)

On Jul 28, 2015, at 8:14 AM, Brandon Thompson <(redacted)> wrote:

Yes, I called you last Monday as we agreed and left the message for you.  
I will call you again today 9:30 am.  
Thank you

On Tue, Jul 28, 2015 at 7:48 AM, Richard Kahn <(redacted)> wrote:

Still waiting on quote for library. Can you call me after 930am at office. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 25, 2015, at 10:01 AM, Brandon Thompson <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Richard,

My apology for not getting any sooner to respond.

In all my previous works for Mr. Epstein, I did not performed completely new finish. I did the surface work.

In the Library, second floor at 7 E 71st Street,. It was only waxing, although I performed more work as I saw it necessary to treat the tiny cracks in the finish. I performed Boiled Linseed Oil treatment to insure first quality work, and than wax.

This job is different. It requires stripping entire Library surface to the bare wood and than starting anew. The best thing at this moment would be to ask some other contractors to bid on this job, and I do not mind to be underdog. Please, collect all the bids, and I will do the work absolutely first class for less. I will try to call you Monday after 9:00 am.

Brandon

On Fri, Jul 24, 2015 at 2:14 PM, Richard Kahn <[REDACTED]> wrote:

please call me  
thanks

Richard Kahn  
HBRK Associates Inc.  
575 Lexington Avenue 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
tel [REDACTED]  
fax [REDACTED]  
cell [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Brandon Thompson <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Panel  
**Date:** July 24, 2015 at 2:07:42 PM EDT  
**To:** [REDACTED]

<IMG\_0321.JPG>

Sent from my iPhone

