support lever **220** may be formed of a rigid material and has bearings **222** and the support lever **220** is pivotally coupled, at one end, to the topcase **260** at the point so that the support lever **220** can rotate slightly when a downward force is applied from above. In another embodiment, the support lever **220** may be formed of a flexible material and is fixedly coupled, at one end, to the topcase **260**. In this embodiment, in step **870**, to complete the key switch **200**, the key cap **210** is positioned over and attached to the support lever **220**. According to an embodiment, the underside of the key cap **210** can be adhered to the top side of the support lever **220**.

**[0060]** The advantages of the invention are numerous. Different aspects, embodiments or implementations may yield one or more of the following advantages. One advantage of the invention is that a low-travel keyboard yet may be provided for a thin-profile computing device without compromising the tactile feel of the keyboard.

**[0061]** The many features and advantages of the described embodiments are apparent from the written description and, thus, it is intended by the appended claims to cover such features and advantages. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, the invention should not be limited to the exact construction and operation as illustrated and described. Hence, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to as falling within the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

**1**. A thin profile keyboard for a computing device, comprising:

a plurality of keys arranged in a plurality of rows, wherein each row comprises a plurality of keys and wherein the keys in a first row are offset from the keys in a second row, each key comprising:

a key cap;

an actuator attached to a base plate, the actuator being configured to deform to activate electrical switch circuitry; and

a rigid support lever having a first end attached to a bottom surface of the key cap and a second end attached to a substrate at a pivot point, wherein a portion of the support lever is positioned over the actuator and wherein when a force is applied to a top surface of the key cap, the force causes the support lever to rotate about the pivot point, causing a bottom surface of the support lever to contact and deform the actuator.

**2**. The keyboard of claim **1**, wherein the actuator is a metal dome for providing a low-travel keystroke having an abrupt force drop.

**3**. The keyboard of claim **2**, wherein the low-travel keystroke has a travel distance that is less than about 1.85 mm.

**4**. The keyboard of claim **2**, wherein the low-travel keystroke has a travel distance that is in a range of about 0.2 mm to about 0.5 mm.

**5**. The keyboard of claim **1**, wherein the top surface of the key cap is substantially flat and the bottom surface of the key cap is substantially flat.

**6**. The keyboard of claim **5**, wherein the key cap is formed of glass.

**7**. The keyboard of claim **5**, wherein the key cap is formed of metal.

**8**. The keyboard of claim **1**, wherein the support lever comprises an elastomeric spacer configured to contact the actuator only when the force is applied to the top surface of the key cap.

**9**. A method of assembling at least a portion of a low-travel keyboard for a computing device, comprising:

providing a metal dome configured to deform when depressed from above, wherein the metal dome is configured to activate electrical switch circuitry of the keyboard when the metal dome is deformed;

disposing a support lever over the metal dome, wherein the support lever is coupled with a substrate at a point on a first end of the support lever; and

adhering a bottom surface of a key cap to a top surface of a second end of the support lever, wherein the second end of the support lever is positioned over the metal dome to deform the dome when depressed from above.

**10**. The method of claim **9**, wherein the support lever is formed of a rigid material and pivotally coupled with the substrate, wherein the support lever is configured to pivot about the point when depressed from above.

**11**. The method of claim **9**, wherein the support lever is formed of a flexible material and fixedly attached at the first end to the substrate.

**12**. The method of claim **9**, further comprising providing a compliant component on the support lever, wherein the compliant component is positioned directly over the metal dome and configured to contact the metal dome when the support lever is depressed from above.

**13**. The method of claim **9**, wherein a total travel distance of the keyboard is less than 1.85 mm.

**14**. The method of claim **9**, wherein the key cap is formed of a slab of material.

**15**. The method of claim **9**, wherein the electrical switch circuitry is in a membrane disposed below the metal dome, wherein the membrane comprises conductive traces.

**16**. The method of claim **15**, wherein the membrane comprises a top layer, a spacer layer, and a bottom layer.

**17**. The method of claim **16**, wherein the top layer contacts the bottom layer when the metal dome is deformed.

**18**. A thin-profile keyboard for a computing device having a plurality of key switches arranged in a plurality of rows, each key switch comprising:

a portion of a membrane including electrical switch circuitry;

a metal dome disposed over the membrane and configured to deform to activate the electrical switch circuitry;

a single support lever having a first end coupled to a substrate, wherein a second end of the support lever is disposed over the metal dome, wherein the support lever is configured to deform the metal dome when the support lever is depressed from above; and

a key cap disposed over and rigidly adhered to the second end of the support lever.

**19**. The keyboard of claim **18**, wherein the support lever includes an elastomeric component positioned over the metal dome, wherein the elastomeric spacer is configured to contact and deform the metal dome when the support lever is depressed from above.