



Matthew D. Botting
President



COLORADO
Department of Revenue
Enforcement Division - Liquor & Tobacco

Host: Colorado Liquor
Enforcement Division

Regulating Alcohol in Today's Dynamic Marketplace

Presenter Biographies



STEVEN BARKER is the General Counsel of the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement (ABLE) Commission, and has served in that capacity since 2015. Mr. Barker began his public service career as an Assistant General Counsel for the Oklahoma Tax Commission. Prior to joining the ABLE Commission, Mr. Barker served as an Assistant Attorney General under E. Scott Pruitt. He resides in Edmond, Oklahoma with his wife Shauna, where they raise their children Caden (3) and Reese (1).

NICHOLAS BERGMAN is a Partner at Buchman Law Firm, LLP, residing in the Firm's New York City office. He has practiced in the field of beverage alcohol control law for 20 years. He received his J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio in 1997 and his B.A. from Kenyon College, in Gambier, Ohio in 1992. He is admitted to the California, New Jersey and New York State bars. Nicholas holds a post graduate degree in Wine Marketing, Finance and Accounting from the Office International du Vin (OIV) in Paris, France.



RICHARD M. BLAU is a shareholder with the law firm of GrayRobinson, P.A. He is chairman of the law firm's Alcohol Beverage & Food Law Department, and heads up the firm's **Nationwide Alcohol Industry Team** focusing on the rules and regulations that govern the marketing, sale and consumption of distilled spirits, wine, beer, and other licensed beverages.

Richard has been rated "Band 1" for Alcohol Beverage Law by *Chambers USA* since 2007. He also is listed in *Best Lawyers in America*, and is "AV" rated by *Martindale-Hubbell*. A substantial portion of Richard's professional efforts are focused on trade regulations, litigation and dispute resolution involving the hospitality industry. He has industry-specific experience in the areas of administrative practice and regulatory compliance, advertising and promotional law, importation matters and supplier/distribution relations. An elected member of The American Law Institute, Richard also is a member of The Florida Bar, The New York Bar, The Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the American Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association. Additionally, Mr. Blau served for over eight years as the Chair of the American Bar Association's *Committee on Beverage Alcohol Practice*.

Mr. Blau has lectured on Twenty First Amendment issues at meetings of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA), the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA) and the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA). From 1998 through 2006, Mr. Blau authored the chapter on "Beverage Alcohol Practice" for the annual volume of the longstanding treatise **Developments in Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice** published by the American Bar Association.

Mr. Blau received his B.A. from Brandeis University and his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he served as the Associate Editor for Topics of the *Georgetown Law Journal*.



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CARRIE L. BONNINGTON is the leader of the firm's Wine, Beer & Spirits practice, the Managing Partner of the firm's Sacramento office, and a member of the firm's Restaurant, Food & Beverage, Travel, Leisure & Hospitality, Litigation and Government Contracts groups. Ms. Bonnington focuses on alcohol beverage law and regulation. She represents wineries, distilleries, importers, breweries and retailers (such as hotels, restaurants, bars and off-sale retailers) in regulatory practice before state alcoholic beverage control boards and in general civil litigation and transactional matters. She also regularly advises such clients in connection with state and federal alcohol beverage laws, especially with respect to the advertising, promotion and marketing of alcohol beverages and other trade practice and tied house issues.

Ms. Bonnington has written and lectured in the areas of wine, beer and spirits litigation and regulation. She teaches Wine Law at UC Berkeley and frequently presents at local and national alcohol beverage conferences, seminars and classes.

Ms. Bonnington is well-versed in administrative law and procedure, having participated in a number of administrative trials before state agencies, including the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the California Department of Health Care Services. Ms. Bonnington also has considerable experience with California writ proceedings.

Ms. Bonnington also advises clients in connection with laws and regulations relating to medicinal and adult recreational use of legal cannabis.



DONOVAN BORVAN is the Executive Director of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission. Prior to his appointment to that position, he was an Associate General Counsel in the Office of the Illinois Governor. Donovan practiced antitrust and commercial litigation at Sidley Austin before entering state government.

Donovan is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and the University of Chicago Law School. He was a Chicago Cubs fan long before it was easy, runs marathons very slowly, and used to play a lot of golf before someone did him the favor of stealing his clubs. He resides in Chicago.



KEVEN DANOW was awarded the degree of Juris Doctor, with honors, from Fordham University School of Law and has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, with honors, from Adelphi University.

In addition to being licensed to practice law in the State of New York, Mr. Danow was certified as a public accountant by the New York State Education Department. His experience includes four years as an agent of the Internal Revenue Service, rising to



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handle complex cases in the Large Case Division. This division is responsible for the tax audits of companies whose assets equal or exceed two hundred fifty million dollars.

Mr. Danow's particular areas of concentration include guiding clients through the regulation complexities involved in the manufacture, importation, distribution and sale of beverage alcohol. Mr. Danow's clients include suppliers, distributors, and retailers. His responsibilities include guiding clients through the process of applying for basic federal permits, label approval and state licensing procedures. In addition, Mr. Danow advises clients in connection with federal and state regulatory compliance.

Mr. Danow's practice areas include commercial litigation in Federal and State Courts and administrative hearings before the Internal Revenue Service, the New York Tax Appeals Tribunal, the State Liquor Authority, the State Department of Transportation and the American Arbitration Association. Additionally, he is regularly involved in estate planning, drafting wills and trusts, and negotiating and drafting agreements concerning the formation, purchase, and sale of businesses.

Mr. Danow is a Contributing Editor of *Beverage Media* and lectures in the area of beverage alcohol law.



JOHN DUNHAM is the President of John Dunham & Associates. John specializes in the economics of how public policy issues affect products and services. He has conducted hundreds of studies on taxes and regulation. He is a regular commentator on U.S. economic conditions. His research has been published in a number of refereed journals including *Economic Inquiry*.

Prior to starting his own firm, John was the senior U.S. economist with Philip Morris, producing research and information on key issues facing all of the company's divisions. Before this, John was a senior economist for the New York City Mayor's Office, the New York City Comptroller's Office, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey where he conducted the economic impact analysis of the World Trade Center.

John received his M.A. in economics from the New School for Social Research and his MBA from Columbia University. He is a member of the American Economics Association and the National Association of Business Economists.



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RICK GARZA is the Agency Director of the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board. Rick has been with the Liquor and Cannabis Board since 1997. During Rick's career with LCB he has also held the positions of Legislative and Tribal Liaison, Policy Director and Deputy Director. Prior to joining the Liquor Control Board, Rick served 13 years as a staff member for the Washington State Legislature, including five years with the Washington State Senate and eight years with the state House. His legislative assignments included Policy Analyst in the state Senate, House of Representatives Staff Director, and adviser to House and Senate leadership.

Rick is a past President of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA) and presided during 2012-13.



STEVE GROSS is Vice President, State Relations at Wine Institute, where he has been employed since 1986. Steve's duties entail overseeing the activities of Wine Institute's six State Relations Regional Counsels and Regional Managers as they address state legislation affecting the wine industry, as well as coordinating Wine Institute's legislative and regulatory activities with staff, contract lobbyists and member wineries.

Steve regularly participates in many national programs dealing with issues facing the wine industry, both on the legislative and regulatory levels. Steve serves on the Board of Directors of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB). He also serves on the Sonoma State University Wine Business Institute's Executive Board. A native of Nebraska, Steve brought to Wine Institute knowledge garnered during his ten years of employment in the on-sale food and beverage industry, as well as extensive experience in political campaigns and legislative activism.



RENEE COWICK METZ joined the North Carolina ABC Commission in 2003 and was named Chief Counsel in 2013. She has made numerous presentations about ABC-related topics to law enforcement agencies, industry associations and community organizations. Renee is a graduate of Graceland College (now University) in Iowa and NC Central University School of Law. Prior to joining the ABC Commission, Renee spent nine years practicing mostly criminal and juvenile law with private law firms and a local District Attorney's Office. Although born and raised in Michigan, Renee has lived in the Raleigh area of North Carolina since 1989. Renee married in September 2015 and enjoys reading, playing piano and rescuing dogs.



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CAROLINE O'CONNELL is a partner at Lawson & Weitzen whose practice focuses on advising clients at all tiers of the alcoholic beverage industry. Caroline regularly assists clients with licensing and regulatory compliance at the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, and throughout the United States. As a corporate lawyer, Caroline helps clients manage contractual relations within and among the industry tiers by advising on industry specific agreements such as import and distribution agreements, assisting with acquisitions, exchanges and sales of alcoholic beverage brands and providing guidance regarding alcoholic beverage franchise laws.



DAVID M. OZGO has been a Senior Vice President and Chief Economist at the Distilled Spirits Council for the past 15 years. He analyzes market trends and presents a widely anticipated industry review each year to analysts and writers that cover the industry. Mr. Ozgo is responsible for tax and regulatory impact analysis and provided the economic and social impact analysis for the Council's successful Sunday sales campaign. He has testified before numerous regulatory and legislative bodies and provided analytical assistance to various regulators and administrators. Mr. Ozgo writes frequent op-eds explaining industry positions. He also oversees the industry's Brand Data program.

Prior to joining DISCUS he was with the management consulting firm PHB Hagler-Bailly. He also worked as an economist for the Association of American Railroads. Mr. Ozgo received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in economics from George Mason University.



STEPHEN L. PEPPER, Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, has published well-known law review articles on lawyers' ethics and on the subject of freedom of religion under the First Amendment. Several of his articles on lawyers' ethics have been included in casebooks and in edited collections of essays. His essay on the underlying theory of the ethical relation between lawyer and client won the Association of American Law Schools' 1985 Scholarly Papers competition, and his article on lawyers' ethics and the counseling of clients was the lead article in the May 1995 issue of the Yale Law Journal. A subsequent article, titled "Lawyers' Ethics in the Gap Between Law and Justice," deals with counseling clients when lawful conduct may also be ethically problematic. His most recent works are a book chapter

providing practical guidance to working executives and professionals on ethics and the exercise of moral vision, an essay on integrating morality and law in day-to-day legal practice in the 2012 volume of the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics, and an article on three underlying conceptual dichotomies in lawyer ethics, published in the 2015 volume of the same journal.



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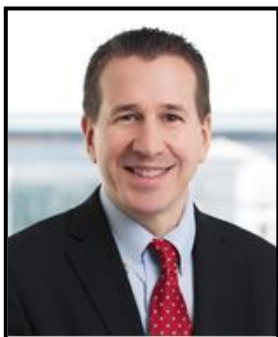
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Professor Pepper graduated from Stanford University “with great distinction.” His law degree is from Yale Law School, where he won first place in the Thurman Arnold appellate advocacy competition and was a finalist in the Cardozo brief writing competition. He practiced law for four years with the Denver firm of Holland & Hart.

Professor Pepper has given presentations on lawyers’ ethics and on the First Amendment at numerous academic conferences and meetings of practicing lawyers. He regularly teaches the first-year Torts course, the required Legal Profession course, and a seminar on professional ethics. The students at the College of Law have selected him “Professor of the Year” four times.

MARY KAY ROOT was appointed Director of the New Mexico Regulation & Licensing Department’s Alcohol and Gaming Division in January, 2014. Prior to her appointment, she served as Acting Director for 8 months and as Deputy Superintendent of RLD for 3 years. Ms. Root currently serves as the Regulation & Licensing Department’s Tribal Liaison and previously as Legislative Coordinator. In her community, she is a volunteer firefighter and an active acequia member. She is also an attorney with 28 years of experience; 20 of those primarily in the public sector. Under former Governor Gary Johnson, she served as the Director for Labor & Industry and as Acting Deputy Secretary for the New Mexico Economic Development Department; working on land and water right acquisitions so New Mexico could open the Santa Teresa port of entry. Ms. Root also worked with the Spaceport Authority to obtain state funding that triggered \$65 million in federal funding for the Spaceport. She spent 13 legislative sessions at the New Mexico State Senate as Chief Analyst for the Minority Leadership. Ms. Root has also consulted with the Jicarilla Apache Nation on matters of tribal employment, conducted mediations and presented seminars on management practices. During her time in private law practice, she represented clients in general civil matters including employment and labor, complex business negotiations, governmental relations, corporate, estate planning, bankruptcy, probate, appellate briefing and constitutional law.



MARC E. SORINI concentrates on issues facing the alcohol beverage industry, with a particular focus on the supplier tier companies. He heads the Firm's Alcohol Regulatory & Distribution Group and is recognized as one of the leading lawyers in his field.

Marc represents companies that require focused counsel from a lawyer with in-depth experience in the specific laws regarding alcohol and in beverage industry best practices. His work also spans a number of traditional areas of legal practice that affect beverage companies.

Marc has represented alcohol beverage suppliers before federal and state courts, the US Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and state alcohol beverage control agencies. He advises clients on compliance with the regulations and policies of the TTB, FTC, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).



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REBECCA STAMEY-WHITE is a legal advocate, advisor and strategist focusing her practice on the laws related to the sale, distribution and marketing of alcoholic beverages and cannabis. She is a partner with Hinman & Carmichael LLP, a nationally-recognized boutique law firm representing the alcoholic beverage, hospitality and cannabis industries and their service providers. Rebecca provides licensing, distribution, compliance and trade practice business advice for regulated industries and defends clients in state agency protest and accusation hearings and federal alcohol investigations. She is the practice leader for the firm's marketing & events practice, third party providers practice and cannabis practice.

Prior to Hinman & Carmichael, Rebecca was an associate in the San Francisco litigation group of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where she worked on litigation involving constitutional challenges to state alcohol direct shipping restrictions and provided regulatory advice to California wine industry businesses. Rebecca received her Bachelor of Arts degree in History & International Studies from Northwestern University and her juris doctor from Northwestern University School of Law.

Rebecca is a frequent speaker at industry conferences, law schools and continuing legal education programs on the latest legal issues in the alcoholic beverage and cannabis industries. She is an active member of many of the alcohol beverage industry organizations, including the Wine Institute, the Rhone Rangers, the Zinfandel Advocates & Producers, the California Music & Culture Association, the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators and the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA). In the cannabis space, Rebecca is an active member of the National Cannabis Bar Association, the California Cannabis Industry Association and the Sonoma County Growers Alliance. During ski season, she volunteers as a national ski patroller at Northstar California Ski Resort in Lake Tahoe.

BILL TOMASZEWSKI has been the General Counsel for Wine.com, Inc. since 2004. His main focus is working with state agencies on alcohol regulatory matters. Prior to his employment with Wine.com he served for 20 years with the Jersey City Police Department in various roles. He is a graduate of Rutgers-Newark School of Law. Bill is board president for Planet Bee Foundation, an environmental education nonprofit, and on the board of Pacific Rowing Club, a San Francisco nonprofit rowing club for youth.

ROBERT WIEST earned his Bachelor of Science Criminal Justice/Political Science from the University of Delaware. His graduate studies are in Public Administration, Human Resources and he attended the Delaware State Police Academy. Mr. Wiest has 27 years of experience in regulatory and administrative liquor control, including 11 years of experience as a sworn Agent for the Delaware Alcoholic Beverage Control and Tobacco Enforcement specializing in complex investigations including: hidden ownership, tied house, illegal transportation, DUI fatalities, and over-service of patrons. Mr. Wiest was a state representative to the University of Delaware/ Robert Wood Johnson Policy and Enforcement Task Group established to address binge drinking, as well as being a certified TIPS instructor and certified TABS instructor. In 2001, Wiest was appointed to his current position as Deputy Commissioner of the Office of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commissioner's Office for the State of Delaware.



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CRAIG WOLF has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America (WSWA) since 2006. Founded in 1943, WSWA is a national trade association consisting of 372 wine and spirits wholesalers and brokers whose members operate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

As President of WSWA, Craig serves as the voice of the wholesale wine and spirits industry, advocating for wholesalers' interests with state and federal elected officials, the media, regulators and the law enforcement community. WSWA supports legislation, regulation and public policy at both the state and federal levels that promotes a consumer-focused, accountable and responsible system for the distribution of beverage alcohol, and which serves to prevent underage access.

As CEO of WSWA, Craig manages the day-to-day operations of one of Washington's most influential trade associations, with an annual budget of eleven million dollars, a staff of twenty-three, and a two million dollar per cycle Political Action Committee (WSWA-PAC).

Prior to taking over the top spot at the association in 2006, Craig held the position of WSWA's General Counsel for just under seven years. Before joining WSWA, Craig served as Counsel to the United States Senate Judiciary Committee, as a Trial Attorney in the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice and for five years worked as an Assistant State's Attorney for Allegany County, Maryland.

Craig received his law degree in 1987 from the University of Baltimore School of Law and his bachelor's degree in 1984 from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He is a Certified Association Executive (CAE) and graduate of the Institute for Organization Management (IOM).

Craig is a Major in the United States Army Reserve and is currently assigned as the Chief of Administrative and Operational Law at the 200 Military Police Command. He is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan). He lives in Howard County, Maryland with his wife, Sally. Their children, Hannah and Zachary, are both in college.