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CONTACT: Pamela Frantz, Executive Director
847-721-6410

NCSLA 2014 Annual Conference Presents “’Tails!’”

2014 is a special year for NCSLA as they celebrate the 80th anniversary of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators in San Antonio at the annual conference, June 16-20, 2014. Serving as conference host is the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and Administrator Sherry Cook.

The annual conference theme is “**NCSLA – 80 Years: Just Getting Started.**” Over the course of four days the business agenda will cover a number of complex and diverse issues that have evolved over the decades.

Modern mixologists seem to be limited only by their imaginations. Part artist, part chemist, the new-age bartender is constantly inventing new techniques to enhance the tippler’s sensory experience. From infusion to barrel-aged cocktails, twenty-first century innovations can challenge the limits of early twentieth century regulatory systems. Join masters of the cocktail shaker and regulators struggling to keep up with the times on Wednesday afternoon, June 18th, as they examine trends in the cocktail culture and how the legal framework is adapting to avoid being the party pooper.

Lynn Walding, Diageo’s Executive Director for Control States, will moderate this lively panel which includes mixologists Lutfy Flores-Vico of SoHo Wine & Martini Bar in San Antonio and Elayne Duff, the head mixologist for Diageo Wine and Spirits. Lutfy’s cocktail menu is known for its ever-changing mix of infusions, ranging from a candy cane-infused tequila to a bourbon infused with beef brisket. Elayne has created cocktails for some of New York City’s finest restaurants, including Le Bernardin, Central Park Boathouse and Villa Pacri. In 2009, Elayne was honored by the James Beard Foundation as one of the most prominent female mixologists in the country.

Representing the regulators will be Hobert “Hobie” Rupe, NCSLA past president and Executive Director of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, and Curtis Coleburn, NCSLA 2nd Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. These officials will discuss how creative bartenders’ innovations sometimes get ahead of the regulatory scheme, and how the government can walk the tightrope of insuring public safety while not unnecessarily becoming the “fun police.”

Start marking your plans NOW to come to San Antonio, Texas from June 16-20, 2014 for this year’s annual meeting of the NCSLA! **Early registration ends May 2, 2014** so visit www.ncsla.org and register today to take advantage of the lowest conference rate! Watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2014 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks. *Not a member of NCSLA?* Joining is easy - just complete the [online application form](#) and join us for this historic conference in San Antonio!

About National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated:

A national organization of state alcohol beverage regulators, founded June 19, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois, whose purposes are to promote the enactment of the most effective and equitable types of state alcoholic beverage control laws; devise and promote the use of methods which provide the best enforcement of the particular alcoholic beverage control laws in each state; work for the adoption of uniform laws insofar they may be practicable; promote harmony with the federal government in its administration of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act; and strive for harmony in the administration of the alcoholic beverage control laws among the several states. Visit www.ncsla.org for more information.