



# *Regulating Alcohol In The 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

*2015 Annual Conference – San Diego, CA*

Dear NCSLA Member,

The National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated (NCSLA) will assemble June 14-17<sup>th</sup> at the Rancho Bernardo Inn for its 2015 annual meeting and conference in San Diego, California. Serving as conference host is the California Alcoholic Beverage Control and Director Timothy Gorsuch.

The annual conference theme is “**Regulating Alcohol In The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**,” and the business agenda will cover a number of diverse and current issues over the course of three (3) days. Join us on Tuesday afternoon, June 16<sup>th</sup>, for the panel debate, *Exceptions: Critical Adaptive Tools or Threats to Principle?*

Oliver Wendell Holmes said, “The young man knows the rules. The old man knows the exceptions.” On a daily basis, alcohol beverage regulators struggle between being committed to enforcing long held principles while constantly evaluating how the principles make sense in the modern world. Ideally, laws exist to provide guidance and consistency but should be elastic enough to adapt to unanticipated events.

Elasticity can come about through exceptions. Exceptions are either statutory or discretionary administrative “carve-outs” created out of an immediate or pressing need, and can either strengthen the core principles of a law or ultimately eviscerate the effectiveness of a law.

Three panelists representing various alcohol beverage interests will discuss how exceptions are regularly used in alcohol beverage law. What are the exceptions? For what purpose do exceptions exist? How was the exception created? These questions and more will be addressed by the moderator and the panelists. In the end, you just may discover whether or not exceptions are critical adaptive tools or threats to principle.

*Moderator:* Hobert Rupe - Executive Director, Nebraska Liquor Control Commission

*Panelists:* Katie Jacoy – Western Counsel, The Wine Institute  
Chris Wittman, Associate General Counsel, MillerCoors  
Joshua Segal, Attorney, Lawson & Weitzen, LLP

Start making your plans NOW to come to San Diego, California from June 14-17, 2015 for this year’s annual meeting of the NCSLA! **Registration is now open** so visit [www.ncsla.org](http://www.ncsla.org) today for details, and watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2015 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks. *Not a member of NCSLA?* Joining is easy - just complete the [online application form](#). You won’t want to miss a minute of these educational and informative sessions in addition to the valuable networking opportunities with colleagues and friends!

I am honored to serve as President of NCSLA this year, and I invite all our members to join me in San Diego for this conference. I hope to see you there!

Bob Hill  
NCSLA President