



# *A Blueprint To The Future*

*2016 Annual Conference – Chicago, Illinois*

Dear NCSLA Member,

The National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated (NCSLA) will assemble June 26-29<sup>th</sup> at The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois for its 2016 annual meeting and conference. Serving as conference host is the Illinois Liquor Control Commission and Executive Director U-Jung Choe.

The annual conference theme is “**A Blueprint To The Future,**” and during the conference a variety of current issues will be discussed over the course of two and a half days. So come join us in Chicago where NCSLA originated 82 years ago!

The *Wall Street Journal* reported yesterday that Constellation Brands is purchasing Prisoner Wine Co. for \$285 million dollars. Seems like every time you turn around there are reports of a new merger or acquisition. Why is this so prevalent and will it continue? What impact does consolidation have on competition, the industry, consumers and the regulatory community? Get these answers and more as a panel discusses “**IS CONSOLIDATION THE NEW NORM FOR THE BEVERAGE ALCOHOL INDUSTRY? HOW MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS ARE IMPACTING THE INDUSTRY.**”

Don't miss the conversation on Monday afternoon, June 27, as these distinguished panelists examine the consolidation trend within the industry. You'll hear about the causes for consolidation, the regulatory impact, and benefits from an operational perspective. Plus, industry members will discuss involvement in recent merger activity and give their own opinions on future expectations. Also, the U.S. Department of Justice will advise about antitrust considerations when a proposed acquisition surfaces.

Moderator: Gloria L. Materre, Partner, Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP  
Panelists: Stephen Humphress, General Counsel, Kentucky Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control  
Michelle Seltzer, U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division  
Andrew Levy, V.P. Gold Network Development, Constellation Brands Beer Division  
Earl Farkas, Senior Partner, Gozdecki, Del Giudice, Americus, Farkas & Brocato LLP

Start making your plans NOW to come to Chicago, Illinois from June 26-29, 2016 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. Watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2016 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks. *Not a member of NCSLA?* Joining is easy - just complete the [online application form](#) on the NCSLA website. You won't want to miss a minute of these beneficial business sessions in addition to the valuable networking opportunities with colleagues and friends!

It has been an honor to serve as President of NCSLA this year, and I invite all our members to join me in Chicago for this educational and informative conference. I hope to see you there!

Jerry Waters, Sr.  
NCSLA President