



Regulatory Strategies for an Innovative Marketplace

2018 Annual Conference – Waikoloa, Hawaii

PANEL UPDATE – WEEK 9

Before getting to the weekly update, we would like to address the concerns you may have about the volcano activity on The Big Island. Director Gerald Takase advised that the lava flow and current volcano eruptions are taking place on the opposite side of the island and will have no effect on the NCSLA annual conference. Waikoloa is on the west side and that area is not experiencing any of the volcano destruction. The conference is continuing as planned and our host, Hawaii County, is looking forward to welcoming you.

This week's update on the 2018 Annual Conference features an intriguing panel discussion titled *“Legal Cannabis: Synergy or Discord?”* and will take place on Tuesday, June 19th, right before lunch. The annual conference theme is *“Regulatory Strategies for an Innovative Marketplace,”* and the agenda will cover a number of diverse and timely topics confronting the industry and marketplace of alcohol today.

As we gather in June of 2018, only a small minority of states have not yet legalized the use of marijuana in any form. While the vast majority of states have legalized only the medicinal use of marijuana (with recreational being confined, at least at the time of this summary, to about eight states, with more coming on line for recreational use at regular intervals), the momentum is towards full legalization. Many people would argue that a state's legalization of medicinal marijuana is merely the first step toward its legalization of the recreational use of the plant.

Join moderator R.J. O'Hara as he quizzes a panel on what could be called “Cannabis 2.0, beyond the early years.” You'll hear opinions from a panel of experts - including a representative from state government regulating the lawful recreational use of cannabis (Steve Marks, Oregon), a private cannabis industry member (Andy Brassington, Emerald Herbal), a renowned “think tank” member (Beau Kilmer, a Rand Corp. senior drug policy researcher and professor), and a lawyer in both the alcohol and cannabis industry (Matt Saltzman, Nevada).

The panel will explore where the cannabis industry is today, how it has evolved and is evolving, the differences between the cannabis industry and the alcohol industry, where the industries intersect and where or whether there is synergy or discord, complements or conflict, the benefits and the problems with the industry, the federal question, and where the experts think it is going, and more.

Start making your plans NOW to come to Waikoloa, Hawaii from June 17-20, 2018 for this year's annual meeting of the NCSLA! There's still time to register so visit www.ncsla.org today for details. And if you haven't already reserved a guest room – do it TODAY because the amazing group rate of \$189 per night plus taxes is only available through May 10, 2018! **Not a current 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. Please join me this June as we showcase an educational business program and make lasting memories in a pacific paradise. I hope to see you there!

A. Keith Burt
NCSLA President