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NCSLA 2013 Conference Presents “Why Do You Want To Know Who I Am? Complex Ownership versus Licensing Requirements”

The National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated (NCSLA) will assemble June 24-28th on the island of Oahu at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort in Honolulu, Hawaii for its 2013 annual meeting and conference. Serving as conference host is the Honolulu Liquor Commission.

The annual conference theme is “**Evolve, Adapt, Endure.**” Our business agenda will cover a number of diverse issues that demonstrate the need, application and importance of this philosophy.

Can’t get enough of *Boardwalk Empire*? Need another fix of Elliot Ness and his Untouchables? NCSLA has just the answer...spend a fun-filled hour discussing the ins and outs of complex ownership structures and the legal disclosure requirements for licensing.

Join Nicholas Bergman of the Buchman Law Firm at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, June 28, as he moderates a star-studded panel of leading practitioners, industry representatives and an actual regulator exploring the real-world challenges that occur when modern complex business structures collide with strict regulatory requirements. “*Why do you want to know who I am? Complex Ownership versus Licensing Requirements*” will entail an in-depth look at how regulators have been treating the more complicated ownership structures they are now confronting when trying to satisfy licensing investigative requirements. The panel will ask why the regulatory approach to background investigations is the way it is, what can be done to streamline it, and what impact these legal directives have on industry. For example: How can the industry gain entrance or expand their operations without facing more delay, or reverting to outdated, inefficient corporate structures?

As part of the discussion, the panel will look at how foreign ownership and the advent of private equity has played out in the regulatory sphere, as well as what to do with celebrity figures who are fixated on protecting their financial and personal information. Are these structures really just developed for tax optimization or is there more to it? What types of model legislation can be applied to help bring down the barriers to entry and alleviate delay? This panel will continue and build upon the interactive discussion that started in Oklahoma City at last October’s Northern/Southern regional conference, and take it to the next level. Audience participation is encouraged, so come prepared with your questions and insights.

Moderator: Nicholas Bergman, Partner, Buchman Law Firm, LLP
Panelists: Lori Ajax, Deputy Division Chief, California Alcoholic Beverage Control
Susan Johnson, Attorney, Stoel Rives LLP
Katie Markert, Manager, Network Optimization, North American Breweries
Robert “R.J.” O’Hara, Attorney, Flaherty and O’Hara, P.C.
William Tomaszewski, General Counsel, Wine.com, Inc.

Start making your plans NOW to come to Honolulu, Hawaii from June 24-28, 2013 for this year’s annual meeting of the NCSLA! **Early registration ends May 10th** so visit www.ncsla.org for details and register **NOW** to take advantage of the lowest rates! Watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2013 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks.

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.