



# Regulation Matters

## 2019 Annual Conference

Seelbach Hilton Hotel  
500 South Fourth Street, Louisville, Kentucky, 40202

### PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

**LAINÉ ADDERLEY** is the Senior Vice President of Operations for Wineshipping, a fulfillment company focused to servicing the Direct to Consumer wine industry for over 2 decades. Since he and his wife, Marcelle, settled in the Napa's wine country from South Africa in 2000, he has been immersed in the Direct to Consumer sector of this exciting industry. He has held roles as Vice President of Merchandising for the wine division of 1800Flowers.com and Vice President of Operations for The Winetasting Network, a pioneering company in mail order wine catalogue sales. Laine is a member of Wineshipping's executive team and oversees the ever expanding footprint of 11 company facilities throughout Oregon, California, Missouri and New York. When not supporting his team in driving state of the art supply chain innovations and solutions for their customers and the industry as a whole, Laine (a self-confessed "foodie") relishes taking time creating meals and discovering new wines with friends and family.

**CAITLIN ANDERSON** is a staff attorney with Connecticut's Department of Consumer Protection. As an agency attorney, Caitlin specializes in cases involving alcohol, charities and unfair and deceptive practices. Prior to joining the Department in 2014, she clerked at the Connecticut Supreme Court and worked in private practice where she focused on appellate law, specializing in complex civil litigation and family law. Caitlin completed both her undergraduate and JD at the University of Connecticut. When Caitlin's not busy protecting Connecticut's consumers, she and her husband enjoy playing with their one-year-old son, walking with their Black Lab puppy and indulging in food and wine – either cooking it themselves, or sampling new restaurants. Caitlin also keeps busy by running, including running half-marathons!

**CAITLYN BATTAGLIA** is a Manager within Nielsen's Beverage Alcohol Practice Area where she supports Nielsen's initiatives and thought leadership across beer, wine, and spirits clients. She has been with the Practice area for three years. Prior to joining the Beverage Alcohol Practice Area, Battaglia worked in advanced analytics focusing on pricing and promotion as well as sales and marketing effectiveness. A current Roanoke resident, she holds a B.A. from Denison University and has been with Nielsen for six years.

**DEBBI BEAVERS** joined the Kansas ABC in January 2004. In 2010, she was promoted to licensing manager and promoted to operations manager in 2015. She was appointed interim ABC Director in 2016 and was confirmed by the Senate in January 2017. Debby is the first female director since the inception of ABC in 1949 and serves at the pleasure of the Secretary of Revenue.

Debby's priorities for the ABC Division are to regulate the industry consistently, provide excellent customer service and increase compliance with liquor laws through education and training.

Prior to joining the Kansas ABC, Debby lived in Missouri and worked in the private sector as a Medicare compliance analyst and also a social services director. Debby studied at Missouri Western State College and has an associate's degree in travel.

**TERRI COFER BEIRNE** is Eastern Counsel for San Francisco-based Wine Institute, representing the California wine industry on legal and policy issues before Governors, ABC Boards and Legislatures in seven mid-Atlantic states. She is involved with all efforts to change the sale, taxation, distribution and shipment of wine in



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these states. Prior to this work, she practiced law in Virginia, representing wine, utility and health care clients before the General Assembly, the executive branch, state licensing and regulatory boards, and the State Corporation Commission.

Terri was named by Virginia Business Magazine as a “Legal Elite” in the field of Legislative/Regulatory /Administrative Law in 2007, and received the Virginia Wine Industry “Person of the Year Award” in 2009. She was an adjunct professor from 2006 to 2010 at University of Virginia and Piedmont Virginia Community College, teaching wine law to consumers and industry members. In 2013 she secured the Wine and Spirits Education Trust Level 2 Certification for trade professionals.

A 1988 undergraduate of George Mason University, Terri earned a law degree from TC Williams School of Law at University of Richmond in 2000. A gubernatorial appointee to the George Mason University Board of Visitors from 2007 to 2011, she is currently Vice-Chair of the GMU Foundation Board of Trustees. Terri was appointed as interim supervisor on the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors in 2006, and now serves on the Chesterfield County Economic Development Authority. A certified yoga instructor, Terri resides with her husband and daughter in Midlothian, Virginia.

**NICHOLAS BERGMAN** is a Partner at Buchman Law Firm, LLP, residing in the Firm’s New York City office. He has practiced in the field of beverage alcohol control law for over 20 years. He received his J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio in 1997 and his B.A. from Kenyon College, in Gambier, Ohio, in 1992. He is admitted to the California, New Jersey and New York State bars. Nicholas holds a post graduate degree in Wine Marketing, Finance and Accounting from the Office International du Vin (OIV) in Paris, France.

**RICHARD M. BLAU** is a shareholder with the law firm of GrayRobinson, P.A. He is chairman of the law firm's Alcohol Beverage & Food Law Department, and heads up the firm’s *Nationwide Alcohol Industry Team* focusing on the rules and regulations that govern the marketing, sale and consumption of distilled spirits, wine, beer, and other licensed beverages.

Richard has been rated “Band 1” for Alcohol Beverage Law by *Chambers USA* since 2007. He also is listed in *Best Lawyers in America*, and is “AV” rated by *Martindale-Hubbell*. A substantial portion of Richard’s professional efforts are focused on trade regulations, litigation and dispute resolution involving the hospitality industry. He has industry-specific experience in the areas of administrative practice and regulatory compliance, advertising and promotional law, importation matters and supplier/distribution relations. An elected member of The American Law Institute, Richard also is a member of The Florida Bar, The New York Bar, The Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the American Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association. Additionally, Mr. Blau served for over eight years as the Chair of the American Bar Association’s *Committee on Beverage Alcohol Practice*.

Mr. Blau has lectured on Twenty First Amendment issues at meetings of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA), the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA) and the National Liquor



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Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA). From 1998 through 2006, Mr. Blau authored the chapter on “Beverage Alcohol Practice” for the annual volume of the longstanding treatise *Developments in Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice* published by the American Bar Association.

Mr. Blau received his B.A. from Brandeis University and his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he served as the Associate Editor for Topics of the *Georgetown Law Journal*.

**CARRIE L. BONNINGTON** is a Partner with Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw, Pittman. Ms. Bonnington is the leader of the firm’s Wine, Beer & Spirits law team, co-leader of the firm’s Restaurant, Food & Beverage group, the Managing Partner of the firm’s Sacramento office, and a member of the firm’s Travel, Leisure & Hospitality, Litigation and Government Contracts groups. Ms. Bonnington focuses on alcohol beverage law and regulation. She represents wineries, distilleries, importers, breweries and retailers (such as hotels, restaurants, bars and off-sale retailers) in regulatory practice before state alcoholic beverage control boards, in general civil litigation and in transactional matters. She also regularly advises such clients in connection with state and federal alcohol beverage laws, especially with respect to the advertising, promotion and marketing of alcohol beverages and other trade practice and tied house issues.

Ms. Bonnington has written and lectured in the areas of wine, beer and spirits litigation and regulation. She teaches Wine Law at UC Berkeley and frequently presents at local and national alcohol beverage conferences, seminars and classes. Ms. Bonnington is well-versed in administrative law and procedure, having participated in a number of administrative trials before state agencies, including the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. Ms. Bonnington also has considerable experience with California writ proceedings.

Ms. Bonnington also advises clients in connection with laws and regulations relating to medicinal and adult recreational use of legal cannabis.

**JEANNIE BREMER** is the Vice President of Compliance and Public Policy at The Wine Group. Based in California, The Wine Group is one of the largest wineries in the US with a portfolio of brands including Franzia, Cupcake Vineyards, Chole Wine Collection, and Benziger Family Vineyards. The company operates 9 wineries in California, one in New York and one in Australia. Jeannie is responsible for all beverage alcohol compliance matters at the company including all federal and state compliance and tax/reporting activities, marketing and sales compliance, and import/export compliance. Jeannie is also overseas all public policy matters for the company and is an engaged participant in a variety of Wine Institute committees including as the Chair of Wine Institute’s Technical Advisory Committee’s Labeling Working Group. Jeannie lives in Dublin, California with her two daughters. Ask her about her favorite podcasts!

**DEBORAH BRENNER**, Founder & CEO of Women of the Vine & Spirits, has manifested her vision and inspired people to support a movement in the alcohol beverage industry. As a Social Entrepreneur, Deborah Brenner expounds beyond the entrepreneurial focus of growing a business and measures performance on the positive impact the business makes on society. She has presented a challenge that calls forth the best in people and



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brings them together around a shared sense of purpose, working with the power of intentionality and alignment with a higher purpose.

Deborah Brenner graduated from the University of Delaware with degrees in English and Journalism, and was soon hired by a television and film technology company that required international travel to countries for whom wine is a part of everyday life. After over 20 years in the male-dominated field of high-end technology and owning a marketing and public relations firm, Deborah discovered during a fortuitous trip to Napa and Sonoma that many women in the wine industry – like her own – were under-recognized.

Compelled to tell their stories, she authored a best-selling collection of profiles on women in the wine industry, *Women of the Vine: Inside the World of Women Who Make, Taste and Enjoy Wine*, which *Wine Spectator* named a Critical Read of 2007.

Through the process of writing the book and championing its subjects, Deborah became inspired to enter the wine business herself, releasing wine from a first-of-its-kind collective of seven artisan women winemakers from Napa, Sonoma and Paso Robles. For the following seven years, Deborah learned the business inside and out. Ultimately, however, all the money, blood, sweat and (a lot) of tears could not foster women in the wine industry the way she had hoped, which led her to shut down the Women of the Vine wine brand and return to the drawing board.

One year later, Deborah organized the inaugural Women of the Vine & Spirits Global Symposium, held in March of 2015, which quickly sold out to 500 women from five countries. Due to the overwhelming response, Deborah and the Women of the Vine & Spirits Advisory Board went to work developing a consortium that supports professionals in the alcohol beverage industry year-round. Thus, emerged Women of the Vine & Spirits, a membership-based organization, anchored by the annual Global Symposium, whose mission is to empower and equip women worldwide to advance their careers in the alcohol beverage industry, fostering gender diversity and talent development across the industry at large.

Deborah belongs to the Culinary Institute of America's Society of Fellows and has received a Rising Star Award from Women for WineSense (2008), a New York Small Business Administration Women in Business Champion Of The Year (2009), a New York City National Association of Women Business Owners Signature Award (2010), the Lillian Vernon Award for Outstanding Community Service by the Women's Enterprise Development Center (2011), a NY Women in Communications Rising Star Award (2013), the Rockland Business Women's Network Woman of the Year Award (2014), the Rockland Business Women's Network Woman of the Year Award (2014), American Cancer Society Dr. Louis Berger Award (2017), Wine Enthusiast Wine Star Award Person of the Year Nominee (2017), Las Vegas Inc. "Woman to Watch" (2018), and Wine Enthusiast Wine Star Award "Social Visionary of the Year" Recipient (2018).

**JEFF CARROLL** is Director of Product Management at Avalara. Jeff has over twelve years of experience creating regulatory compliance software solutions for the beverage alcohol industry with both ShipCompliant and Compli (now part of Avalara). Jeff lives in Boulder, Colorado with his wife Ghita and their two children.



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**MARISSA CASTELLANOS** is the Program Director of the Bakhita Empowerment Initiative, a program to combat human trafficking at Catholic Charities of Louisville. Marissa helped start human trafficking programming at Catholic Charities in 2008 and has since assisted in developing statewide anti-trafficking efforts. Marissa provides trainings on human trafficking, assists in developing local task forces and coalitions, provides technical assistance to agencies in protocol development and policy, and provides support to survivors of human trafficking throughout the Commonwealth. She works closely with social service providers, health care workers, law enforcement, and others to ensure that human trafficking is being identified in Kentucky communities and that survivors are provided with the resources they need to rebuild their lives. Marissa is a representative member of the National Advisory Committee on the Sex Trafficking of Children and Youth in the U.S., which advises the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the nation's response to trafficking. Marissa received her Bachelor of Science and Master's in Social Work from the University of Kentucky. Marissa approaches life through the lens of an Enneagram 4w3, appreciates nuance, and believes that small things done with great love can change the world.

**JOHN H. CORDREY** is the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commissioner for the State of Delaware, having been appointed as the first Commissioner in Delaware by Governor Minner and confirmed by the Senate in January 2001. In 1977 he graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Virginia. He obtained his Juris Doctorate in 1980 from Delaware Law School of Widener University, Wilmington, Delaware. Mr. Cordrey served as a judicial law clerk for the Superior Court of the State of Delaware and practiced law from 1981 until his appointment as Commissioner. In addition to practicing law at his firm of Cordrey & Clark, P.A., he was appointed as a member of the Delaware Tax Appeal Board, later named as Chairperson, serving for seventeen years. He served as attorney for the majority caucus of the Delaware State Senate from 1991 until becoming Commissioner. He was elected Chairperson of the Northern Region Conference of NCSLA in June 2002. In November 2002 Delaware hosted the Northern Region Conference's regional conference in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Mr. Cordrey served as President of NCSLA for 2007/08. Mr. Cordrey lives in Georgetown, Delaware with his wife, Carol.

**NIKKI CREECH** has been a part of Kentucky State Government for over 18 years. She started as an Investigator with the Department of Charitable Gaming in 1999. She conducted numerous financial crime investigations throughout her 17-year career. In 2016, she transferred to the Enforcement Division of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control as an Investigator II. Nikki Creech graduated from Eastern Kentucky University in 1994 where she majored in Police Administration and Minored in Organized Crime and Deviance. While attending EKU, she worked with the Bluegrass Drug Task Force for 3 years participating in undercover narcotics investigations. In 2001, she graduated from the Department of Criminal Justice Training Academy and completed an additional 1,300 hours of law enforcement training throughout her career.

**BRANNON P. DENNING** is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor at the Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, located in Birmingham, Alabama. He graduated with a B.A. in political science from the University of the South; a J.D. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and an LL.M. from Yale University. He is the author of *Guns and the Law: Cases, Problems, and Explanation* (with Andrew J.



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McClurg) and *Bittker on the Regulation of Interstate and Foreign Commerce*, second edition, among numerous other books and articles.

**RODRIGO DIAZ**, as Chief Counsel to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, leads a team of attorneys and staff that advises the PLCB in the review and resolution of legal matters impacting the agency. The office renders opinions upon the legality and propriety of statutes, rules and regulations relating to the possession, manufacture, sale, consumption and transportation of alcohol within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Since Rod joined the PLCB in 1992, he has served as assistant counsel, legislative counsel and deputy chief counsel. From 2008 through early 2016, Rod served as executive deputy chief counsel, directly overseeing all legal functions in the agency. During his career, Rod has represented the PLCB before numerous tribunals, including Commonwealth Court and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, involving significant issues like liquid fuels and alcohol sales by supermarkets. Rod has been instrumental in drafting PLCB regulations and representing the agency before the Independent Regulatory Review Commission. Rod has drafted numerous legislative proposals ultimately enacted into law and has provided testimony in legislative hearings involving the beer distribution system. Rod has served on the faculty of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, where he taught liquor licensing matters, and he has planned and moderated panels for the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA). Rod is a cum laude graduate from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science at Yale.

**KRISTINA DICKENS** is a partner at the Christopoulos Law Group who concentrates her practice within the Alcohol Beverage and Hospitality Industry where she provides licensing, compliance and trade practice business advice.

Kristina is the firm's point person with regard to licensing suppliers, importers, distributors and retailers before Federal, State and Local regulatory commissions. Her focus includes multi-unit liquor licensing for national and local retailers, as well as licensing suppliers, importers and distributors throughout the country. Kristina also counsels companies on acquiring and maintaining licenses through ownership modifications and corporate restructuring as well as advising national hotel companies on licensing structures and regulatory requirements. She is an authority on trade practice counseling and compliance matters.

Kristina is a member of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, the National Association of Licensing & Compliance Professionals, The American Bar Association Cannabis & Alcoholic Beverages Litigation Subcommittee and the Chicago Bar Association.

Kristina earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism and Mass Communications from Boise State University and her law degree from the John Marshall Law School. She is a native of Chicago with roots around the globe.

**RICK GARZA** is the Agency Director of the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB). Rick has been with the WSLCB since 1997. During Rick's career with WSLCB he has also held the positions of Legislative and Tribal Liaison, Policy Director and Deputy Director.



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Prior to joining the WSLCB, Rick served 13 years as a staff member for the Washington State Legislature, including five years with the Washington State Senate and eight years with the state House. His legislative assignments included Policy Analyst in the state Senate, House of Representatives Staff Director, and adviser to House and Senate leadership.

Rick is a past President of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA) and presided during 2012-13. In 2016, he was inducted into the NCSLA Hall of Fame.

**PAUL GATZA** is the senior vice president of the professional division of the Brewers Association (BA), a not-for-profit trade association whose purpose is to promote and protect American craft brewers, their beers and the community of brewing enthusiasts. Paul is a member of the association's Taprooms, Technical, Market Development, PR & Marketing and Government Affairs Committees. Paul is a key leader in the development of the independent craft brewer seal and the "That's Independence You're Tasting" marketing campaign.

Paul's origin in the beer community started when he took up homebrewing in 1990. He worked on the bottling line at Boulder Beer and would sneak over to the brewhouse when opportunity allowed. He owned a pair of homebrew supply shops in Boulder and Longmont, Colorado in the 1990s. He served as director of the American Homebrewers Association for 7 years and is in his 18<sup>th</sup> year leading the professional side of the BA's work. Paul is ranked as a National Beer Judge by the Beer Judge Certification Program. Paul is also a former judge director of both the Great American Beer Festival and World Beer Cup, before moving to the judge panels for these elite competitions. He lives at 7,200 feet in Sunshine, Colorado with his wife, daughter, cat, snowshoes, hot tub, bears, and mountain lions.

**JENNA GIGUERE**, as Deputy Chief of Legal Services for the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation, provides in-house legal services to a diverse array of Department divisions and represents the Department in quasi-judicial administrative hearings and Superior Court appeals, with current focus areas including Liquor, Medical Marijuana, Banking, and Board of Accountancy. Jenna also serves as Chair of the Government Lawyers Committee of the Rhode Island Bar Association and as a Volunteer Supervising Attorney for Roger Williams University School of Law Pro Bono Collaborative Civil Legal Clinics Projects. Jenna enjoys new entertainment and dining adventures with her husband, Vernon, morning coffee cuddled on the couch with her rescue dog, Sadie, cook book club at the local library, and outings with the Red Hat Society.

**AMANDA GREGORY** earned a B.A. in political science at the University of Southern California and a J.D. at Harvard Law School. She has previously worked as a litigation associate at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, a Trial Attorney in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice, and a Trial Attorney in the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit of the United States Department of Justice.

Amanda is now an Assistant United States Attorney in the Western District of Kentucky with the United States Department of Justice. Among her duties in that position is coordinating Civil Rights prosecutions in the district and serving as the Human Trafficking Point of Contact. Amanda has prosecuted several human trafficking cases



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herself, including one that resulted in a conviction at trial in December 2016. She has given many trainings and presentations on human trafficking to law enforcement and to the general public.

**JAKE HEGEMAN** is Vice President of Legal and Regulatory Affairs for the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America (WSWA). In this role, Jake works with state and federal regulatory officials on behalf of WSWA and its members. Jake joined WSWA in 2013 from Stateside Associates, a Virginia based state government affairs firm where he served as Vice President. In this role, Jake managed the company's regulatory division and worked on advocacy efforts with a wide variety of state regulatory agencies.

Prior to rejoining Stateside Associates, Jake served as National State Liaison at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). As a liaison, Jake worked alongside agency leadership and state agriculture officials to improve regulatory processes and enhance communication and coordination across a range of animal and plant health issues.

Jake previously worked at Stateside Associates from 2004-2008 as Senior Regulatory Counsel where he managed the Regulatory Services Division and managed numerous research and compliance projects in the energy, environment and retail arenas.

Originally from upstate New York, Jake earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University and his Juris Doctor from Tulane Law School, both with honors. Jake is a member of the New York State Bar and resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

**DAVID A. HERMAN**, Partner at Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C., Springfield, Illinois, is a litigator with diverse experience in complex civil matters involving Illinois and federal law. He advises clients on corporate matters and represents clients before state and federal agencies, including beer distributorships, assisting them in navigating the regulatory landscape. Recently, Dave has represented several distributorships in TTB and Illinois trade practice investigations. He is a registered lobbyist with the State of Illinois and is engaged in a government relations practice. For the past fifteen years, he has also been a part-time administrative hearing officer for the Illinois State Board of Election and the City of Springfield.

In addition to his legal work, Dave serves as a member of the City of Springfield Civil Service Commission. He is active in bar activities and is past President of the Sangamon County Bar Association. He currently serves on the Illinois State Bar Association Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission Committee and Judicial Polls Committee and is a board member of the Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel. Dave also served in the Illinois Air National Guard. Dave's community service spans decades and he has served on the Board of Directors for multiple local organizations.

A native of Springfield, Illinois, Dave received his Bachelor of Science degree from Illinois State University, Cum Laude, in 1989 and earned his Juris Doctor at the Northern Illinois University College of Law, Magna Cum Laude, in 1992. Prior to his law career, he worked at two Illinois-based Anheuser-Busch distributorships.





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**CASSANDRA L. HICKS** serves as the Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Liquor Control and is responsible for managing regulatory responsibilities that support the functions of the division in licensing, inspection, investigation and compliance with liquor laws related to the issuance and renewal of liquor permits, regulation of manufacturers and wholesale distributors, registration, regulation and sale of alcohol products, both 21% or more by volume and low-proof alcohol products. She also supervises the division legal staff that is responsible for interpreting applicable state and federal liquor laws and regulations and conducting administrative hearings under the statutory authority of the superintendent.

In her present position she has eliminated many inefficient processing procedures, decreased the timeframe to implement new permit types created by the legislature and maximized the use of staff by creating cross functional positions.

Prior to working at the division, Ms. Hicks represented businesses and clients in the private practice of law in Bexley, Ohio. Her specialty areas of practice were in business and regulatory matters, intellectual property, employment, and administrative law. She served her client base in development of new and improved ways to evaluate, respond, and comply with business regulatory requirements and proactively address commercial compliance and workplace issues to reduce unnecessary expenditures and negative exposure.

She has also worked as an attorney in the Office of the General Counsel at the Postal Regulatory Commission in Washington, DC, where she streamlined procedures for legal review of international contracts and international postal agreements between the United States, other members of the Universal Postal Union and international carriers for package and delivery services.

Additionally, Ms. Hicks served as General Counsel to the Ohio Secretary of State, where she managed the legal staff in the areas of business law, election and campaign finance law, and provided legal advice and counsel to Ohio's 88 county boards of elections. During her tenure she increased business efficiency and accelerated the timeframe from weeks to days for new businesses to receive approved corporate filings by implementing a new web portal for stakeholder use and changes in internal business processes.

**ANNA HIRAI** is the Assistant Administrator at the Honolulu Liquor Commission. She has been with the Commission since 1997, first as Adjudications Deputy Corporation Counsel, then in various capacities to include Special Assistant to the Administrator, Assistant Administrator, and Acting Administrator. Previously, she was in private practice in Honolulu, Hawaii (corporate, healthcare & real estate) and Little Rock, Arkansas (securities regulation & corporate finance). She has been a member of the Hawaii Bar since 1981 and the Arkansas Bar since 1984.

Anna graduated from Punahou School ("a few years" before Punahou's most famous alumnus); Georgetown University (1977; A.B. American Studies); and Boston College Law School (1981). She is an empty-nester living in Honolulu, with two daughters each successfully pursuing divergent career paths. She has served on the executive committee of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators representing the Western Region states since 2013, and currently holds the position of 2nd Vice President.



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**KENDRA HODGSON** joined the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB) as the Cannabis Examiner Manager in June 2018. She is responsible for a wide array of activities related to cannabis testing and tracking. Core among these responsibilities is Washington State's traceability system. As a business sponsor Kendra is involved daily in the implementation decisions and project monitoring for the agency's IT traceability solution. Kendra's team, as the primary business users on the traceability project, have been engaged in ongoing software rule and requirement elaboration at all levels of software deployment.

Prior to her time with WSLCB Kendra was a Policy Associate with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. Her work focused on industry-specific training programs, such as aerospace and health care, as well as veterans initiatives and the Worker Retraining program. These programs encompassed \$52 million dollars of annual state funding that was dispersed based on rule and policy to 34 community and technical colleges. Kendra also spent many years in the Washington workforce development system both at a local level and as a monitor for state and federal workforce programs for the Washington State Employment Security Department. Kendra hold a B.S. in psychology and a M.Ed. in education counseling.

**STEPHEN B. HUMPHRESS** is the general counsel for the Kentucky Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. Humphress began working as an attorney at the ABC in 2001 and now has eighteen years' experience as a state government attorney. Steve has been appointed by both Republican and Democrat Kentucky Governors to serve as the ABC's General Counsel, and he has been General Counsel for twelve non-consecutive years. Steve received his law degree from the University of Louisville, School of Law and was employed in private practice until joining the ABC.

Steve is Kentucky's leading authority on his state's complex alcoholic beverage laws. Because of his unique knowledge, state and local government officials and industry members actively seek his input on Kentucky alcohol law issues. In recent years, Steve was instrumental in proposing and drafting several comprehensive bills with bipartisan support that modernized and drastically improved Kentucky's alcoholic beverage laws. Steve was the primary author of the comprehensive 2012 Governor's Task Force Report on Kentucky Alcohol Laws and he has written several published articles and reference materials as well. He recently received the Governor's first Red Tape Reduction Award for eliminating fifty percent (50%) of the ABC's outdated and unneeded regulations. Steve is a nationally sought speaker on alcoholic beverage law issues and has been a frequent speaker at National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA) national legal symposiums; National Conference of State Liquor Association (NCSLA) national and regional conferences; CLE International's Wine, Beer & Spirits Law annual conferences, PLI's Alcohol Law program, and Kentucky Bar Association annual conferences. Steve is admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court, United States Sixth Circuit; United States District Courts in Kentucky, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Steve has sixteen published Federal and state court opinions as counsel of record.

**LESTER JONES** serves as the Chief Economist for the National Beer Wholesalers Association, a national trade organization that represents the interests of more than 3,000 licensed beer distributors that service every state. He has more than 20 years of experience in research, survey methodology and applied business economics. He most recently served as Chief Economist at the Beer Institute, where he developed and executed significant research



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America's beer industry. He also has become a recognized public speaker, offering in-depth technical, analytical and quantitative expertise.

As NBWA Chief Economist, Jones tracks the economic factors that impact the beer distribution industry and alcohol policy decisions at the federal, state and local levels. He evaluates and develops primary industry data, including economic impact, tax impacts, sales and volume data. In addition to his decade of work at the Beer Institute, Jones previously worked for Arbitron Company (Nielsen) in Columbia, Maryland, and the Regional Economic Studies Institute at Towson State University in Maryland. Jones has a Master of Science in Economics from the University of Delaware and is a Certified Business Economist.

**ROHITKUMAR JOSHI** is from India and speaks Gujarati, Hindi and English. Mr. Joshi has lived in the United States for the past 11 years. Mr. Joshi worked as an engineer while in India. For the past 4 years Mr. Joshi has worked with Sodexo, first in the Food and Nutrition Department before being promoted to Patient Ambassador. Mr. Joshi received the "Be and Beyond Award" as well as the "Bee Award", both by Kentucky One Health Group, for his exemplary work. Mr. Joshi is currently a member of the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General's Survivor's Council and the Advisory Board for the Bakhita Empowerment Initiative at Catholic Charities of Louisville. Mr. Joshi is committed to working to ensure the good for other people.

**ERIN KELLEHER** is a partner with Hinman & Carmichael LLP in San Francisco. She is a seasoned corporate lawyer with a specialty in advising buyers and sellers on transactions involving alcohol beverage and cannabis licensees. Erin works extensively with clients' outside counsel, providing regulatory advice in concert with clients' corporate attorneys to inform business practices, relationships and potential transactions. Additionally, Erin has extensive knowledge of the laws related to the sale, distribution and marketing of alcoholic beverages, the federal and state tied-house laws, and deep expertise with the qualification requirements applicable to investors in alcohol beverage licensees. Erin regularly represents clients in regulatory compliance audits and advises on trade practice and licensing matters. Erin has leveraged her transactional and licensing experience for the cannabis industry, providing investors and operators with practical structuring advice and risk analysis in a rapidly changing regulatory environment. Erin has participated as a guest lecturer at Sonoma State University on wine regulatory topics, is an active member of numerous trade associations and provides pro bono legal services to the industry.

Erin was previously an associate in the corporate group of Latham & Watkins LLP and Morrison & Foerster LLP. She is licensed to practice in California and New York and is a graduate of Northwestern University School of law.

**THOMAS KIRBY** serves as Chief Law Enforcement Officer at the Virginia ABC Authority where he provides leadership and oversight for the agency's Bureau of Law Enforcement. Chief Kirby has served in a law enforcement capacity for nearly 30 years. He began his career as a local police officer in Newport News and Hampton where he worked for nine years before joining Virginia ABC. In 2001, he accepted a position as an ABC Special Agent and worked out of the bureau's Hampton and Richmond regional offices. He was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge for the Richmond region in 2009 and to Special Agent in Charge of a newly created Fredericksburg region in 2012. Chief Kirby also served as the Special Agent in Charge of the Hampton Region. In 2014, he was promoted to Regional Agent in Charge, leading four regional offices and the Bureau's



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Special Operations Unit. Two years later he was appointed to the position of Deputy Chief of Field Operations, and in 2018 he was named Chief.

Chief Kirby's educational accomplishments include associate and bachelor degrees in criminology from St. Leo University and a graduate certificate from the University of Virginia. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy (FBINA) and the University of Richmond's Professional Executive Leadership Program (PELS).

**NIDHI KUMAR** is General Counsel and SVP of Industry Affairs at Drizly. She manages all of Drizly's legal, regulatory and compliance matters in addition to directing its public policy and advocacy efforts. She is involved with the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators and the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, often engaging in dialogue about how innovative companies can responsibly do business within the industry. Last fall she participated in a working group for the Massachusetts Alcohol Task Force which was charged with re-evaluating the state's alcohol laws in light of a quickly changing landscape. Outside of the industry, Nidhi serves on the steering committee for the Boston chapter of TechGC, a network of general counsels of leading venture capital firms and venture-backed companies. Prior to joining Drizly, Nidhi was in-house counsel at Massachusetts General Hospital and The Brigham and Women's Hospital, where she primarily managed these leading academic medical centers' international legal affairs, advised on their global healthcare initiatives and negotiated collaborations with foreign ministries of health, hospitals and medical schools. Nidhi holds a B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and earned her J.D. from Rutgers University.

**ERNEST LEGIER** is currently Deputy Commissioner of Louisiana Alcohol and Tobacco Control. He is has earned a B.A. in Political Science from the University of New Orleans and a J.D. from Loyola University (New Orleans). In addition to his work as a regulator, he is a recognized leader in alternative dispute resolution, executive management, federal funding application, grants management and compliance, construction management and asset management. He has more than 20 years of experience practicing law, working to improve organizational performance, managing complex projects and operations, and developing and managing client relationships. Mr. Legier has served as Executive Director of the Orleans Parish Hospital Service District "A" where he recruited and hired all staff, developed a physical headquarters, instituted all required policies and procedures, represented the board in all financial matters including the HUD application process, supervised all contracted professional services and oversaw the construction of a 100 million dollar hospital project. Mr. Legier has worked as Vice President of Business Development for the American Arbitration Association where he was responsible for business development efforts in 6 states. He also served as Deputy Director of the Road Home Program which was the program designed to aid homeowners following Hurricanes Rita and Katrina. Mr. Legier is active in his community and serves on the board for several organizations. He has been married for 27 years to Kelly M. Legier and has 3 adult sons, Trey, Jonathan and Nicholas.

**RYAN MALKIN** focusses on serving the legal needs of the alcohol beverage industry. His firm, Malkin Law, based in Miami Beach, FL, regularly assists alcohol beverage suppliers, wholesalers, and unlicensed third parties in navigating the intricacies of federal and state alcohol beverage laws. Prior to forming Malkin Law, Ryan was an attorney at Pernod Ricard USA and an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan. His passion for the alcohol



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beverage industry began as a journalist specializing in writing about the alcohol and hospitality industries, with articles appearing in such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *Beverage Media*, *The New York Post*, and *Esquire*, to name a few. Ryan is also of counsel to Hoban Law Group, a national cannabis law firm.

**JUANA MARINE-LOMBARD** was appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards to serve as Commissioner of the Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control in December of 2015.

Commissioner Marine-Lombard, a native of New Orleans LA is both an attorney and has an MBA from Loyola University. Prior to her appointment as Commissioner, Marine-Lombard served as a criminal magistrate commissioner for Orleans Parish for five years. Additionally, Marine-Lombard served four years on the New Orleans city Alcohol Beverage Control Board. Commissioner Marine-Lombard is married and has five children.

**STEVEN MARKS** is a veteran of public service, with 33 years of service to the State of Oregon. Director Marks joined the Oregon Liquor Control Commission in October 2013 and has been working on implementation of recreational marijuana since the passage of Ballot Measure 91 in November 2014. Marks has also led the agency in the largest retail expansion since prohibition, improving customer convenience by increasing the number of retail locations that sell distilled spirits.

Prior to joining the Oregon Liquor Control Commission as Executive Director, he served as a policy advisor in the Office of the Senate President, a Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor, and as Chief of Staff to the Governor during his service to the state. From 2004 to 2010 Marks was president of his own public policy and public affairs consulting business, *The Marks Network*. In 2013, he returned to state government service as a policy advisor within the Chief Operations Officer's Office, Oregon Department of Administrative Services.

Marks earned his undergraduate degree and Master's Degree in Public Policy, Planning and Management from the University of Oregon.

**ALVA C. MATHER** is a business lawyer and litigator with more than a decade of experience representing clients ranging from startups to Fortune 50 companies. Her areas of concentration include regulatory counseling, commercial contracting, as well as investigatory and litigation support for clients in the food and beverage, particularly alcoholic beverages and franchise and distribution industries. Alva combines extensive knowledge of the regulatory and litigation landscape and well as her deep understanding of the food and beverage industry to help clients mitigate risk, respond to challenges and capture opportunities. She represents and provides business counsel, regulatory advice and litigation support to companies along the food and beverage spectrum, among them manufacturers, suppliers, grocery stores and restaurants. Alva is nationally recognized for her support of clients in the alcoholic beverages industry and is frequently asked to write and speak on matters affecting this highly regulated industry. She graduated magna cum laude from Mount Holyoke College, earned a Masters in Sociology from Northwestern University and her JD from the University of Pennsylvania, where she served as an editor on Law Review.



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**DOMINIQUE MENDIOLA** began her work in marijuana policy and regulation with the Colorado Department of Revenue's Marijuana Enforcement Division in 2014. She currently serves as Deputy Director of Policy, Licensing and Communications. In this role, she manages rule-making, licensing and communications for the Division. She also conducts legal and policy analyses, monitors and advises on policy matters, facilitates stakeholder engagement, and serves as the primary liaison between the Division and Governor's Office and other state agencies. She also serves as the on-camera spokesperson for the Division.

On July 5, 2018, Gov. John Hickenlooper announced Mendiola as the state's Director of Marijuana Coordination, where she provided cross-agency coordination and advised the Governor and regulators on Colorado's adult-use and medical marijuana industries. She served in this role for the remainder of his term.

Mendiola received her political science degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 2009, and her law degree from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law in 2012. Prior to joining the Marijuana Enforcement Division, she practiced law in Texas and Colorado with a focus in civil litigation.

**RENEE METZ** claims "dual citizenship" having been born and raised in Michigan and residing in North Carolina for thirty years. She graduated from Graceland College (now University) in Iowa and from NC Central University School of Law. Renee spent nine years practicing mostly criminal and juvenile law with private law firms and a local District Attorney's Office before joining the North Carolina ABC Commission in 2003. She was named Chief Counsel in 2013 and has made numerous presentations regarding ABC-related topics to law enforcement agencies, industry associations, community organizations, and the NC General Assembly. In 2019, the Legal Division was expanded to include the Product Compliance Division (beer and wine).

**JOHN NEIMAN**, a former U.S. Supreme Court clerk and Solicitor General of Alabama, is a member of Maynard Cooper's General Litigation group and serves as Chair of the firm's Appellate Practice group. John's practice focuses on constitutional and regulatory litigation.

John represents clients in courts throughout the country. As state Solicitor General, John argued two cases at the United States Supreme Court and multiple cases in the Eleventh Circuit and Alabama Supreme Court. The Eleventh Circuit recently appointed him to defend a trial court's decision not to certify a class action, and John successfully briefed and orally argued that position against appellate challenges from both the plaintiffs and defendant. Past wins include successful defense of the Alabama Governor's decision to remove the confederate flag from state capitol grounds. John currently is litigating water-rights and civil-rights cases pending in the federal trial courts, insurance cases in the California appellate courts, and civil-rights cases pending in Alabama state courts.

Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business distinguishes John as a Band 1 leading attorney in the area of Appellate Litigation. *Best Lawyers*® named him the region's 2017 "Lawyer of the Year" for Appellate Practice.

**MICHAEL B. NEWMAN** is a partner in Holland & Knight's San Francisco office and serves as head of the firm's Alcohol Beverage Team, Mr. Newman focuses on counseling industry clients on national and international regulatory, contract, legislative and licensing matters, advertising and promotional law, intellectual



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property rights, importation matters, trade practices, and inter-tier relations. He represents clients on matters before the federal Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau, the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and State Board of Equalization, and other state alcohol beverage agencies throughout the United States.

**ROBERT “R.J.” O’HARA** is president of Flaherty & O’Hara, p.c., a Pennsylvania-based boutique law firm with ten attorneys and 20 support staff practicing exclusively in the alcohol beverage space. R.J. received his J.D., cum laude, from the University of Dayton in 1989 and his B.A. in English in 1985 from the same school. He served as Articles Editor of the University of Dayton Law Review and is a member of the National Honors Society in History. He co-founded the Alliance of Alcohol Industry Attorneys and Consultants and is chair of its Board. He is an associate member of several national professional and alcohol regulatory organizations and is honored to be frequently invited to speak at national and regional conferences on alcohol-related topics, as well as on the legalization of marijuana for medical and recreational uses.

R.J. represents members of all three tiers of the alcohol industry, providing liquor licensing advice, handling complex ownership changes, litigation and administrative hearings, and advising clients on national licensing issues arising from mergers, acquisitions and corporate restructuring, as well as administrative citations. He represents numerous private equity funds and institutional investors in the hospitality, restaurant and alcohol manufacturing spaces, and he is adept at addressing their unique concerns. He often counsels on tied house and trade practice matters, advises clients on the legality of national alcohol promotions and marketing programs, and frequently drafts legislation. R.J. is also a shareholder in a PA craft brewery, Erie Brewing Company in Erie, PA, maker of Railbender Ale, an award-winning Scotch ale, among others.

**SEAN O’LEARY** is the President of O’Leary Law and Policy Group, LLC where he specializes in providing legal and consulting services to businesses in heavily regulated industries such as liquor and cannabis. Mr. O’Leary is a frequent speaker at liquor conferences and is a regular contributor to national publications on liquor issues. Further, he started a blog called [irishliquorlawyer.com](http://irishliquorlawyer.com) that is well regarded by the liquor industry and has an international following.

Previously, Mr. O’Leary was a Senior Public Administrator for the Illinois Liquor Control Commission where he played an important role in setting the direction and policy of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission. He acted as the policy liaison for the governor’s office and drafted regulations and statutes. Mr. O’Leary’s advice was sought by many individuals including political leaders of both parties, legislators, local government officials, industry members, and representatives from other state alcohol enforcement agencies.

**DAVID M. OZGO** has been a Senior Vice President and Chief Economist at the Distilled Spirits Council for the past 18 years. He analyzes market trends and presents a widely anticipated industry review each year to analysts and writers that cover the industry. Mr. Ozgo is responsible for tax and regulatory impact analysis at the Council and has analyzed over 200 state level tax and regulatory proposals. Mr. Ozgo was also responsible for the economic and social impact analysis for the Council’s successful Sunday sales campaign. He also oversees the industry’s Brand Data program. He frequently testifies before legislative bodies on tax, regulatory and market access issues and is often called upon to opine on industry positions in the media.



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Prior to joining DISCUS he was with the management consulting firm PHB Hagler-Bailly where he worked in the transportation and energy fields. Earlier in his career he worked for the Association of American Railroads. Mr. Ozgo received his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from George Mason University.

**GERALD PASCARELLI** is a Vice President on Cowen's beverages, tobacco & cannabis team. Mr. Pascarelli joined Cowen in 2014 and has been focused on the cannabis sector since Cowen's initial launch on the industry in September 2016. As part of the cannabis team headed by Vivien Azer, Mr. Pascarelli has been an integral part of Cowen's research process, contributing to multiple industry whitepapers focused on market sizing, consumer demographics and cannabis' impact to alcoholic beverages. Prior to joining Cowen, Mr. Pascarelli spent eight years at Kingdon Capital Management, a New York-based hedge fund.

**PAUL PISANO** is Senior Vice President, Industry Affairs and General Counsel for the National Beer Wholesalers Association. Pisano leads the association's efforts in industry, legal and state governmental affairs and serves as a liaison to state distributor associations and outside groups.

Prior to joining NBWA, he served at the Department of Commerce, most recently as director of congressional affairs at the U.S. Census Bureau. He also spent six years working in senior positions on Capitol Hill.

Pisano holds a B.A. degree from Hampden-Sydney College and earned his J.D. from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law.

**ROBERT SHAFFER** is an executive Vice President and General Counsel of Retail Services & Systems, Inc. (dba Total Wine & More), based in Bethesda, Maryland. Founded in 1991, Total Wine & More is the largest privately-held retailer of fine wine, beer and spirits in the United States, with 196 stores and over 6,000 employees in 23 states. Bob heads the Legal Department at Total Wine, which is responsible for compliance, government affairs, corporate communications, and community relations for the business. He also serves as a member of the executive management team.

Prior to joining Total Wine, Bob was a partner at the Washington, D.C.-based law firm, Zuckerman Spaeder LLP, where he concentrated in commercial litigation. He and his wife Denise, a judge, have three daughters and live near Baltimore.

**DEBORAH A. SKAKEL**, Co-chair of Blank Rome's Corporate Litigation Practice Group in New York, maintains an active litigation and counseling practice in which she couples the street smarts of a business lawyer with the skills of a litigator. Debbie has significant experience representing clients in the alcohol beverage industry, focusing on regulatory-related issues.

Outside the Firm, Debbie is an avid fan of the University of Alabama Crimson Tide, the New York Yankees, the New York Rangers, and the New England Patriots, and manages the New York Office's Softball Team. She and her husband (who is also a litigator) live in Harlem and have three grown children.





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**ADAM P. STAPEN** concentrates his practice on federal and state alcohol beverage licensing, hospitality law, marijuana law, real estate and related litigation matters. Adam represents all three tiers of the alcohol industry throughout the State of Colorado in securing and protecting their liquor licenses, navigating regulatory and land use issues, in the negotiation and drafting of agreements, and in the purchase and sale of their businesses. Adam also represents medical and retail marijuana licensees in all facets of business, including corporate structure, financing, licensing, enforcement and compliance.

**DOROTHY (DOTTIE) TAYLOR** has served in many capacities throughout her career. She first started in banking but soon realized her interests lie elsewhere and she transitioned into the criminal justice field - first to the Rolla, Missouri Municipal Court as the court clerk; then to the Missouri State Highway Patrol in a communications position (dispatcher); and shortly after that to a sworn position as a trooper. She rose through the ranks of the Patrol, serving in a variety of positions. She obtained the rank of corporal while working the road and then sergeant as a criminal investigator, where she became supervisor of her unit. She served the State of Missouri as a criminal investigator for several years before being promoted to lieutenant and accepting a position with the Patrol's Professional Standards (internal affairs) Division. Her last assignment before she retired was as Assistant Director of the Patrol's Training Division.

On November 1, 2017, the day after her retirement from the Highway Patrol, Dottie took over the helm at Missouri Alcohol and Tobacco Control as the State Supervisor. Dottie strives to bring a style of leadership to ATC that encourages positive innovation and empowerment. After staffing at ATC was drastically cut in the late 2000's, ATC went through ten long, lean years, but has finally begun to rebuild, with district offices in Kansas City, St. Louis and Springfield, in addition to the main location in Jefferson City. Dottie's position requires a gubernatorial appointment and serves at the behest of the governor, now Governor Parson, with confirmation by the Missouri Senate. She plans to stay at ATC as long as the Governor will have her. When the Governor determines her work at ATC is done, she plans to REALLY retire to a more temperate climate.

**CHRISTOPHER THIEMANN** is the Distilled Spirits Program Manager in the Regulations and Rulings Division at the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) and has a collateral duty assignment as TTB's LGBT Employment Program Manager. Chris is also responsible for TTB's labeling and advertising regulations modernization project. He started his career at TTB in 2008 as a Presidential Management Fellow and spent time during his fellowship in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services working on global health issues. Chris holds a bachelor degree from Columbia University and J.D. and M.B.A. degrees from Ohio State University.

**ROBERT M. TOBIASSEN** is the President of the National Association of Beverage Importers (NABI), Washington, DC, commencing this position on October 1, 2018. Prior to that appointment, he was the Principal at Tobiassen Consulting Plus Solutions LLC after a 34-year Federal service career with regulatory, taxation, and administrative and judicial enforcement experience with the domestic and global alcohol industry and served in the career Senior Executive Service (SES). As Chief Counsel at the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB), U.S. Treasury Department, from 2003 to 2012, he headed a professional and support staff providing comprehensive legal support on taxation, regulatory and administrative law, constitutional law, trial and appellate



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litigation, international trade and globalization, personnel and equal opportunity, ethics, environmental law, and appropriations and fiscal law. He was responsible for the drafting and reviewing of regulations, administrative rulings, and legislation; developing and reviewing trade agreements; and evaluating enforcement actions under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Federal Alcohol Administration Act. He served as the legal liaison with state alcohol regulators, trade associations, public advocacy groups, other federal agencies, and Members of Congress and their staff, including the Joint Committee on Taxation, and foreign governments and international organizations. He is a frequent speaker at alcohol law seminars and a published expert on legal issues concerning alcohol. Mr. Tobiassen holds an A.B. in Political Science with distinction from the University of California, Berkeley, a J.D. from the Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon where he served on law review, and a LL.M. in Taxation from the Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC. Among other awards, Mr. Tobiassen received the 2003 Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious SES Executives and the 2012 Distinguished Service Award from the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Tobiassen resides in Fairfax County, Virginia.

**CHRISTINE TROUT VAN TATENHOVE** serves as the Special Counsel to the Speaker of the House in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Previously, she served as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control in the Public Protection Cabinet, where she oversaw the regulation of the alcohol industry throughout the Commonwealth.

Christy is no stranger to public service. She previously served as legal counsel for the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions, including as a Special Assistant United States Attorney prosecuting securities fraud. Prior to that, she served for three years as a federal law clerk.

She is also an accomplished legal practitioner and maintained a private law practice that concentrated in the areas of white-collar criminal defense as well as complex business and commercial litigation matters.

A native of Whitesburg, Kentucky, she attended the University of Louisville where she received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and was a McConnell Scholar. In 2002, she received a Juris Doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law.

In her spare time, Christy enjoys spending time with her family, college football and basketball, and running. She loves ethnic food and sipping Kentucky bourbon.

**BART WATSON** is chief economist at the Brewers Association. Prior to his position with the BA, he was a lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley, and a visiting assistant professor at the University of Iowa. His academic research focused primarily on the political and economic effects of increasing market consolidation in distribution channels. He holds a B.A. from Stanford University and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.

**ANDREA WILSON** is Michter's Master of Maturation as well as its Executive Vice President - General Manager. As Michter's Master of Maturation supporting Master Distiller Pamela Heilmann, Andrea manages barrel specifications, barrel procurement, heat cycling and temperature monitoring during aging, tracking



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maturation of barrels, whiskey filtration in preparation for bottling, and innovation to continue to improve the aging process. Andrea is admired for her accomplishments in the whiskey industry and has been involved in all aspects of making Michter's whiskeys. Prior to joining Michter's, Andrea spent over ten years with Diageo in various whiskey related positions including Director of Distillation and Maturation, North America - overseeing both the U.S. and Canadian distillation and maturation programs. Prior to her departure from Diageo she was the company's Director of Whiskey Strategy for North American operations. Becoming the first woman to ever serve as Chair of the Kentucky Distillers Association is among the many honors achieved by Andrea during her illustrious career. She holds a Master of Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Louisville, and she has been highlighted in the KET television documentary, Kentucky Bourbon Tales: Distilling the Family Business.

**ALYSSA WOLFE** serves as Acting Counsel to the Director at the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control. In that capacity, she provides legal and policy advice to the Director and to the Division on issues affecting all three tiers of the alcoholic beverage industry. Prior to being appointed Acting Counsel in August 2018, she served as a Deputy Attorney General at the Division since January 2013. This followed a twenty-year legal career as an environmental attorney at the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and in private practice. Alyssa received her J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University and her B.A. in Political Science from Rutgers College.