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**THOMAS R. AKRAS** serves as Director of the Legal and Legislative Division for the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission for the State of Maryland. In this role, he is responsible for reviewing and monitoring legislative bills related to alcohol and tobacco, generally, and ATC duties specifically. Mr. Akras is also responsible for recommending and developing new ATC relevant legislation, reviewing and providing interpretive guidance related to existing State laws and regulations, updating existing state regulations as appropriate, and overseeing the administrative hearings process for the agency. Prior to the ATC, Mr. Akras served from 2014 to 2021 as Deputy Executive Secretary and General Counsel to the Board of Liquor License Commissioners of Baltimore City. Before transitioning to the alcoholic beverage regulatory field, Mr. Akras served as an Assistant State's Attorney and Assistant City Solicitor with the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office and Baltimore City Solicitor's Office. Mr. Akras holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics and Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland. He also holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Baltimore. Although originally from New York, he is happy to call Baltimore his home where he lives with his wife, Anne, and their baby daughter, Carmen.

**RANDY BARNHART**, Vice President Government Relations and Compliance, Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits has more than 40 years of experience in the beverage alcohol industry. Starting in 1979, Barnhart worked as a warehouseman / driver for a Maryland beer wholesaler. Joining Seagram Americas in 1983, Barnhart gained distiller sales and marketing experience over a 20-year period on the East Coast in both open and control markets.

He joined Southern Glazer's in 2003 as Vice President of the New England Division managing the sales of wine and spirits. In 2018, Barnhart transitioned from sales into Government Relations and Compliance with Southern Glazer's.

A graduate of Salisbury State College, Barnhart has extensive Executive Management course work at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

**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 25 years. He received his J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio in 1997 and his B.A. from and 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,



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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 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*. In 2019, Richard was inducted into the NCSLA *Hall of Fame*.

**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, a member of the firm's Travel, Leisure & Hospitality and Litigation sections, and the Managing Partner of the firm's Sacramento office. Ms. Bonnington focuses on alcohol beverage law and regulation. She represents wineries, distilleries, breweries, retailers (such as hotels, restaurants, bars and off-sale retailers) and third party providers in regulatory practice before state alcohol beverage control boards, in general civil litigation and in transactional matters. She 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 extensively written and lectured in the areas of wine, beer and spirits litigation and regulation. She lectures at various Universities 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.

**ROBERT BUDOFF** is Senior Vice President of Legal and Regulatory Affairs at the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States (DISCUS). He has been with DISCUS over 30 years and served as its Assistant General Counsel until 2019. A graduate of Georgetown University Law Center, Bob also has practiced law in the private and public sectors.

**MATTHEW CHERRY** currently serves as the lead regulatory attorney for matters involving trade and marketing practices at the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. Mr. Cherry graduated from Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 2013 and began his career in state government as a budget analyst for the House Appropriations Committee Vice Chair during Texas's 83rd Legislative Session.



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Since he joined TABC, Mr. Cherry has served as the Public Information Coordinator, Acting Director of Governmental Relations, Ethics Officer, and as a staff attorney. He is also a member of the Commission's COVID-19 response team, assisting with implementing statutory and policy changes to the state's alcoholic beverage laws during the coronavirus pandemic.

In his current role as TABC's Marketing Practices Attorney, Mr. Cherry prosecutes administrative cases involving regulatory violations and advises the agency's audit, licensing, marketing practices, product registration, and tax divisions.

**RICHARD CHESLEY** is the program manager of South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling. The Office – which is non-regulatory by law – provides multiple services to local and state governments, schools, colleges and universities, businesses others including technical assistance, grant funding and outreach/educational initiatives. Key projects of the Office include Recycle Right SC, Don't Waste Food SC, Smart Business, Take Action SC (a K-12 environmental curriculum supplement), and See It, Report It (a campaign to prevent illegal dumping of tires).

Richard has been with the Office since it began in 1991 following a 10-year career as a newspaper staff writer.

**DIMITRIOS G. CHRISTOPOULOS** is the principal of the Christopoulos Law Group, LLC. Established in 2005, CLG is a Chicago based law firm which exclusively serves the Beverage Alcohol and Hospitality Industry. Dimitri and CLG primarily represent beer, wine and spirits distributors, as well as national and local restaurants, hotels, grocery stores and event venues. CLG is also counsel to the Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois.

Dimitri is experienced in representing the Industry in investigatory and enforcement matters before the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission as well as local commissions. He has extensive Industry litigation experience, including in federal and state courts as well as the appellate courts.

Dimitri is a member of the Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois, the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, the National Association of Licensing Compliance Professionals, the Academy of Hospitality Industry Attorneys, the Illinois Restaurant Association, the Hellenic Bar Association and the Hellenic American Leadership Council.

An attorney since 1992, Dimitri earned his Bachelor's degree from Loyola University of Chicago and his law degree, *cum laude*, from the John Marshall Law School.

**ROGER CLAYTON** is a regulatory attorney with Strike Kerr & Johns in San Francisco. Roger assists clients with trade practice issues, marketing promotions, tied-house compliance, third-party alcohol delivery, state and federal licensing, and license protest proceedings. Roger also represents clients in administrative actions, and conducts alcohol regulatory due diligence for corporate restructures, mergers and acquisitions.



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**KATIE CRUMBLE** has worked at Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority for ten years where she is the Education and Prevention Director. Her team develops and implements statewide alcohol prevention initiatives across the lifespan, evaluates national and statewide public health and safety data and research, and works to ensure community capacity building across the commonwealth through grants, volunteering and partnerships. Previous to this, Katie worked as a Licensed Professional Counselor in the private and non-profit sectors for seven years with clients seeking help for trauma, grief, and addiction. Katie received her B.S. in Human Development from Virginia Tech and her M.S. in Clinical Psychology from Evangel University.

**SCOTT DEFIFE** serves as President of the Glass Packaging Institute. He previously served as the Vice President of Government Affairs at the Plastics Industry Association, the Executive Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs for the National Restaurant Association, as well as Sr. Managing Director of Government Affairs for the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association.

Prior to his work in trade associations, Scott was senior policy staff in the US House of Representatives Leadership office for House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, covering budget, tax, finance, energy and environment issues, and for Energy and Commerce Committee Members Bart Gordon (TN) and Karen McCarthy (MO), and Ways and Means Member Mike Andrews (TX).

Scott also brings experience at the state and local level of government as well, having worked in the Texas Senate, the Texas State Office of Federal Relations, the National Conference of State Legislatures and for municipal electric utilities. His experience at multiple levels of government and across several different industries and materials gives him a broad policy and perspective to support the work of the glass industry to improve the national recycling infrastructure and education.

Scott was recently appointed to a 3-year term on the Colorado Producer Responsibility Advisory Board helping guide the CDPHE on the new state packaging EPR program. Scott serves as the President of the <u>Glass Recycling Foundation</u>, a 501(c)3 organization created to help fill gaps in glass recycling by providing matching grants that support community glass recycling projects. He has also served on the Board of The Recycling Partnership and is a member of the leadership committee of the Glass Recycling Coalition.

Scott has a Bachelor's degree in communications and Master's in Public Administration from the University of Texas at Austin.

**MARIBEL DELGADO** is Vice President and Deputy General Counsel of the E. & J. Gallo Winery, where her focus has been in global alcohol beverage law, distributor affairs, advertising and promotions law and contracts. Currently, she leads Gallo's legal team supporting U.S. Sales, Marketing, and Regulatory functions. She is also responsible for Gallo's Government Affairs function at the federal and state level including management of the company's retained lobbyists and acting as company representative for various trade associations in the wine, spirits, and glass manufacturing areas.



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Maribel also serves on the Legal Department Leadership Team and served as an inaugural member of Gallo's Diversity and Inclusion Council.

Prior to joining Gallo in 2003 Maribel was in private practice for eight years in large law firms in San Francisco. Immediately prior to joining Gallo, she was an associate at McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enerson (later Bingham McCutchen). At Bingham McCutchen she represented and advised a variety of private and public companies on general corporate transactions and securities law matters. Before Bingham McCutchen, Maribel was a litigation associate at Hancock, Rothert & Bunshoft. While at Hancock she worked on all aspects of state and federal complex commercial litigation cases, including environmental coverage actions, breach of contract, products liability, and defense of ski resorts in California and Nevada.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Political Science from Stanford University in 1992, and her Juris Doctorate degree from U.C. Berkeley's School of Law in 1995.

**KELLY DIGGINS** is Vice President and Deputy General Counsel at Constellation Brands, Inc. where she leads Constellation's Regulatory Affairs team. Prior to joining Constellation, she served as Senior Counsel at North American Breweries (now FIFCO USA) where she was responsible for alcohol beverage regulatory matters, intellectual property, and franchise law.

Kelly is admitted to practice in both New York and Washington. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Rochester Institute of Technology, her J.D. from University of Dayton and her LL.M from Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.

**BRAD EPPERLY** is an attorney for the Nyemaster Goode Law Firm in Des Moines, Iowa. After graduating from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1993 he joined a law firm in Omaha, Nebraska where he practiced in commercial litigation, bankruptcy and insurance defense. After several years in Omaha, he moved back to Iowa, joining the law department at Norwest Financial in Des Moines. After a couple years as an assistant general counsel he joined the law firm of Pingel & Templer in West Des Moines, continuing to practice in commercial litigation, bankruptcy and insurance defense. In 2004 he joined the Nyemaster Goode Law Firm. In 2007, he began working with the Governmental Affairs Department with the firm, representing firm clients at the Iowa Capitol. Brad's work at the Iowa Capitol is primarily on behalf of industry associations that includes the auto industry, electric cooperatives, chambers of commerce, CPA's, defense attorneys, newspapers, broadcasters, railroads, insurance, brewing and the grocery industry. In 2022, after years of work, his firm was successful in passing legislation that removed the redemption of beverage containers from grocery and convenience stores.

**EMILY GANT** is a shareholder in the Hospitality, Travel & Tourism practice, where she works as an alcohol beverage and cannabis attorney.



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Emily serves as the Chair of the Commercial, IP & Tech Transactions practice at Foster Garvey PC in Seattle. She counsels wineries, breweries, distilleries, restaurants, hotels and other retailers on liquor licensing, trade practice compliance, distribution issues, contracts, dispute resolution and other liquor-related matters.

She is also the Chair of the Cannabis practice, where she advises licensed producers, processors, retailers and ancillary service providers. Like alcohol, cannabis is a highly regulated industry. Emily helps clients structure their business entities, contracts and strategic partnerships to ensure compliance with Washington's complex regulatory scheme. Emily was recently named to the National Law Journal's 2022 Cannabis Law Trailblazers List.

An Oregon native, Emily graduated with honors in History from Whitman College in 1999 and received her J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law in 2004."

LISA GARDNER currently serves as the Executive Director of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission (ILCC). She joined the ILCC following a 10 year plus legal career as an attorney and brings a wealth of legal expertise and experience to the role. Prior to joining the ILCC team, Lisa was the Managing Attorney of Lakeside Law Group followed by McLeod Law Group. She also is a former Hearing Officer and Administrative Law Judge for the City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection where she conducted hearings relating to the regulation of retail liquor in Chicago, as well as other licensed retail establishments. She also previously served as a Supervising Attorney at the University of Illinois Chicago Law School Domestic Violence Clinical Advocacy Program and currently is a Paralegal Studies Adjunct Professor at Generations College.

Director Gardner received her Juris Doctorate from Loyola University Chicago where she focused her legal studies on child and family law as well as trial advocacy, earning certificates in both. She attributes her communication skills to her undergraduate studies at Southern Illinois University – Carbondale, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a concentration in Media Marketing.

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

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 First Vice-President of the newly formed international organization Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA). He is past President of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA) where he presided during 2012-13. In 2016, he was inducted into the NCSLA Hall of Fame.



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**LUIS GONZALEZ** serves as Republic National Distributing Company's (RNDC) Corporate Vice President and Regulatory Affairs and Commercial Counsel based in Florida. Luis has 20 years of experience in the beverage alcohol industry. Before attending law school, Luis was a law enforcement officer in Florida for ten years with five of those years as a special agent and special agent supervisor with the Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco in Key West, Miami, and Orlando.

Prior to joining RNDC's legal department, Luis was an Associate and Partner with the international law firm of Holland & Knight for 12 years. There he specialized in alcohol beverage law and commercial litigation and represented all three industry tiers.

Luis was the author of Holland & Knight's Florida Alcoholic Beverages Trade Practices Guide and has been a speaker on alcohol beverage law at the University of Central Florida, various legal continuing education events, and at the 2023 NABCA Legal Symposium.

**THOMAS GRAHAM** was sworn in as executive director of TABC in July 2022. Before beginning his role leading the agency, Graham gained a deep understanding of the alcoholic beverage industry from more than 15 years of service at TABC.

Graham began his career in state government in 2005, when he was hired as an auditor at TABC. In 2013, Graham was appointed director of the Excise Tax and Marketing Practices Division. He also served as the interim director of the agency's Licensing Division before becoming executive director.

Graham leads the agency with a commitment to serving Texans and keeping pace with a modern industry and consumer demands, while protecting public safety. In 2022, the Center for Alcohol Policy honored Graham with its Leadership in Alcohol Regulation Award.

Graham holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government from the University of Texas at Austin and is a graduate of the Governor's Executive Development Program at UT's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

**AMY GRAYDON** is the Assistant Administrator for External Affairs and Chief of Staff for the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) at the U.S. Department of Treasury. In this role, Ms. Graydon provides strategic advice to the Administrator and the Deputy Administrator and focuses on stakeholder-engagement, communications, and public affairs. She manages the Bureau's internal workflow processes and facilitates proactive coordination of Bureau-wide priorities and in direct support of TTB's mission. She also ensures the Bureau employs Customer Experience principles when designing and improving its services and systems.

Prior to joining TTB in June 2022, Ms. Graydon served as the Director, Office of Policy, Strategic Planning, and Regulations at the Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). In this capacity,



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Ms. Graydon led the Agency's strategic planning and associated performance management processes. She also spearheaded the Agency's regulatory development and analysis process to address issues concerning motor carrier safety, operating authority, hazardous materials transportation, and the movement of household goods.

Ms. Graydon worked for 17 years at the U.S Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Most of her tenure with DHS was spent working with public and private partners to enhance the country's chemical security. While at DHS, Ms. Graydon also led CISA's efforts to plan and execute nationwide cybersecurity and physical security exercises that served as a critical platform to test existing policies and procedures and to identify areas of strengths as well as areas for improvement.

Ms. Graydon began her 29-year Federal career working in Washington D.C. and Philadelphia, PA, as part of the Department of Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance.

Ms. Graydon received a Bachelor of Science in International Business from Georgetown University, and a Master of Public Administration from George Washington University.

**STEVE GROSS** is Vice President, State Relations at Wine Institute, where he has been employed since 1986. Steve's duties entail overseeing the activities of Wine Institute's six State Relations Regional Counsels and Directors as they address state legislation affecting the wine industry, as well as coordinating Wine Institute's legislative and regulatory activities with staff, contract lobbyists and member wineries.

Steve regularly participates in national programs dealing with issues facing the wine industry, both on the legislative and regulatory levels. Steve serves on the Sonoma State University Wine Business Institute's Executive Board. He also serves on the Board of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB). A native of Nebraska, Steve brought to Wine Institute knowledge garnered during his ten years of employment in the on-sale food and beverage industry, as well as extensive experience in political campaigns and legislative activism.

**KYLE V. HILL** is a partner with Martin Frost & Hill in Austin, Texas. Kyle's practice encompasses licensing and compliance matters for clients in the alcoholic beverage industry at both the state and federal levels. He has handled the licensure of hundreds of retail stores, hotels, restaurants, convenience stores, private clubs, breweries, brewpubs, and other businesses both in and beyond Texas. Kyle advises clients involved in the manufacture, distribution, marketing, and sale of alcoholic beverages and in complying with the laws and regulations governing these activities.

**STEPHEN B. HUMPHRESS** is currently an Assistant Attorney General at the Kentucky Office of Attorney General. He began working as an attorney at the Kentucky Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) in 2001 and now has twenty-two (22) years' experience as a state government attorney. Humphress was appointed by both Republican and Democrat Kentucky Governors to serve as the ABC's General Counsel for twelve (12) non-consecutive years. He received



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his law degree from the University of Louisville, School of Law and was employed in private practice until joining the ABC.

Humphress is the leading authority on Kentucky's alcoholic beverage laws. He has drafted several comprehensive bills modernizing Kentucky's alcoholic beverage laws that the legislature enacted into law with bipartisan support. Humphress 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. In 2017, he recently received the Governor's first Red Tape Reduction Award for eliminating over fifty percent (50%) of outdated and unneeded ABC regulations.

Humphress is a nationally sought speaker on alcoholic beverage law issues and has been a frequent speaker at National Alcohol Beverage Control Association's ("NABCA") national legal symposium; National Conference of State Liquor Association's ("NCSLA") national and regional conferences; Continuing Legal Education (CLE) International's Wine, Beer & Spirits Law annual conferences, Practicing Law Institute's (PLI) Alcohol Law program, and the Kentucky Bar Association's ("KBA") annual conferences. He is also an NCSLA officer.

Humphress 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. Humphress has sixteen (16) published Federal and state court opinions as counsel of record.

**MARIA JACKSON** is Senior Director and Associate General Counsel for Regulatory at Instacart, a San Franciscobased technology company that provides a grocery and alcohol delivery platform. Maria oversees a wide variety of regulatory matters at the company and advises the business teams on various e-commerce issues, including compliance with alcohol, consumer protection and environmental laws and regulations. Before joining Instacart, Maria was Senior Counsel at Lyft and spent 6 years as Corporate and Regional Counsel at Campari America. She received her J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and received her B.A. in Public Policy from Stanford University.

**ANNE M. JUNIA** is a co-founding partner of Powell Junia P.C. in Chicago, Illinois and specializes in litigation, legislative matters and regulatory compliance within the alcohol beverage and hospitality industry. Anne works closely with retailers, e-commerce and technology-based companies with particular focus on emerging industry practices, to advise on options for compliance strategy and success. In recent years, Anne has had the opportunity to educate and engage legislators and regulators on recommended legal standards and three-tier compliant best practices to address recent marketplace shifts and to advocate for sound policy solutions that foster responsible growth within the industry. Anne earned her B.A. in Economics from University of California at San Diego in June 2000, and her J.D. from John Marshall Law School in June 2007.

**BARBARA J. KWON** is a Partner with Danow, McMullan & Panoff, PC, who concentrates her practice in Alcohol Beverage Control Law. She represents and counsels owners, operators and franchisors of international hotel groups, retail stores, restaurants and recreational/entertainment venues. Ms. Kwon also provides legal guidance with respect to June 9, 2023 (*Subject to Change*) Page **9** of **16** 



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compliance with the Alcohol Beverage Control Law to major wine, distilled spirits and malt beverage producers as well as importers and wholesale distributors. Ms. Kwon is a graduate of Rutgers School of Law and Georgetown University.

**ERNEST P. LEGIER, JR.** is an experienced attorney and executive with 30 years of experience leading projects and organizations. He is currently serving as Commissioner of Louisiana Alcohol and Tobacco Control. An honorably discharged veteran of the Louisiana National Guard, he earned a B.A. in Political Science from the University of New Orleans (1992), a J.D. from Loyola University New Orleans (1995), and an MBA from the University of New Orleans in 2020. 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 \$100,000,000.00 hospital project. He 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 historic 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 is also a member of the "Knights of Columbus" at his local church. He has been married for 30 years to the Honorable Kelly M. Legier and has 3 adult sons, Trey, Jonathan and Nicholas.

MARGIE A.S. LEHRMAN enjoys the association world, as demonstrated by her service to multiple national organizations. Currently, she serves as the CEO to the American Craft Spirits Association (ACSA), a trade group with over 700 members. With a rise in spirits production by small businesses throughout the U.S., ACSA was formed in 2013 as the only national trade group representing the interests of independent, craft spirits producers, with manufacturers operating in all 50 states. Margie also continues to serve as an advisor to Lehrman Beverage Law, where she formerly practiced in the area of alcohol beverage licensing matters within the Washington, DC Metropolitan area. Formerly, Ms. Lehrman worked for 15 plus years for the American Association for Justice (AAJ), formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and the Foreign Policy Association. She leads with over 25 years of association management experience. Ms. Lehrman holds a J.D. from California Western School of Law and a bachelor's degree in International Service and Politics from Marymount College. She lives in Vienna, Virginia and enjoys boating on the Chesapeake, gardening, cycling, yoga, traveling, and cooking.

JAY LERDAL is the Product Manager of ServSafe Alcohol for the National Restaurant Association. In this role he manages the ServSafe Alcohol Program which trains front of house staff in responsible alcohol service and how to handle difficult situations.



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Jay has over 15 years of experience in product management, sales engineering and business development. Prior to joining the National Restaurant Association in 2007, Jay served as a Business Manager for Cargill, Inc. A graduate of Loyola University Chicago with a Master's in Business Administration, he also holds a Bachelor's in marketing and finance from the University of Minnesota.

**RANDY LIEBOWITZ** is the Chief Legal Officer of Blue Cloud Distribution, Inc., a national beer wholesaler that is a wholly owned subsidiary of PepsiCo, Inc. Prior to this role, Mr. Liebowitz was a Global Food Regulatory Senior Counsel at PepsiCo, Inc. practicing in the fields of food regulatory, advertising, mergers & acquisitions, alcohol beverage and corporate transactional law. Mr. Liebowitz started his career in the U.S. Department of the Treasury at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, where he worked for six years. His responsibilities there included international trade agreements, drafting and editing federal regulatory enforcement. Mr. Liebowitz also served in a detail as the Acting Senior Advisor to the General Counsel of the U.S. Department of the Treasury where he reviewed all Treasury bureau regulations prior to signature by the Secretary of the Treasury.

**FREDERICK "TED" MAHONY** has served as Chief of the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission since 2001. In 2004 he was named the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA) Agent of the Year for his leadership in ensuring effective liquor law enforcement in Massachusetts and in 2008 the Massachusetts ABCC was recognized as the NLLEA Agency of the Year for its innovative enforcement programs.

Chief Mahony has developed strong data driven enforcement programs toward the prevention of impaired driving and underage drinking for both Massachusetts ABCC and the NLLEA. In 2012, Chief Mahony testified before the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on the role that alcohol law enforcement officers play in preventing impaired driving. He indicated that using "place of last drink" (POLD) data to drive enforcement action led to a reduction in impaired driving arrests associated with establishments that were targeted for intervention, information the NTSB has since included in their recommendations. Chief Mahony served as President of the NLLEA in 2008-2009 and again in 2012-2013.

**DONALD S. McGEHEE** has devoted most of his career to public service. He is the Division Chief of the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division of the Michigan Department of Attorney General. He was first appointed as an Assistant Attorney General in 1985 by former Attorney General Frank J. Kelley (known affectionately as the Eternal General). He has served under five Attorney Generals including the current Michigan Attorney General, Dana Nessel. He is charged with running the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division which provides general legal counsel to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, Bureau of State Lottery, Michigan Gaming Control Board, Michigan Sheriffs' Coordinating and Training Counsel, Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Additionally, the division provides legal counsel on all firearms issues and investigates and handles complaints filed by citizens concerning Michigan's bottle deposit law. He is a recognized expert in alcohol and gaming law. He co-authored various legislative amendments to the Liquor Control Code and Michigan Gaming laws and their Administrative Rules. He was one of the principal attorneys for Michigan on the landmark Supreme Court June 9, 2023 (*Subject to Change*) Page **11** of **16** 



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decision in *Heald v Granholm* and the recent Sixth Circuit decision in *Lebamoff vs Whitmer & Gagliardi*, direct shipping cases involving the interplay between the Dormant Commerce Clause and the Twenty-first Amendment. He has worked closely with the Liquor Control Chairman, Gaming Control Board and Lottery Commissioner in regulating alcohol and gaming and dealing with tribal sovereignty and casino compact issues. He also works closely with liquor and law enforcement agencies in combating illegal shipments of alcohol and illegal gambling operations. He has substantial litigation experience and has spoken numerous times at alcohol and gaming conferences and as a visiting speaker at state universities and law enforcement associations.

**CHERYL MURPHY DURZY,** CEO and Founder of LibDib, managed wholesale sales for her family's 80,000 case winery, Clos LaChance, for over 17 years. She has a full understanding of the industry and issues regarding alcohol distribution in the United States. She is passionate about LibDib and hopes to evolve the current system by offering all small, family- owned wineries and businesses an opportunity to sell their products to other businesses that want them. Cheryl is truly entrenched in the industry, sitting on several boards, including the California Sustainable Wine Association and Free the Grapes. In addition to a BA from the University of San Diego, she has taken courses and received certificates from the OIV Wine Marketing Program and the Court of Master Sommeliers. In December 2008, Cheryl took and passed with merit the Advanced Certificate level of the Wine and Spirits Education Trust. She is also the former President of the Board of the Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers Association.

**CAROLINE O'CONNELL** represents clients in all tiers of the alcoholic beverage industry. Caroline assists clients with permitting, compliance and transactional matters, trade practice and tied house compliance, promotional and marketing plans, suppliers and wholesaler relations, franchise law compliance and wholesaler terminations, import and distribution agreements, mergers and acquisitions and corporate structuring for licensees in regulated industries.

**ROBERT "R.J." O'HARA** is president of Flaherty & O'Hara, p.c., a Pennsylvania-based boutique law firm with eleven attorneys and numerous support staff practicing exclusively in the alcohol beverage space. R.J. received his J.D., *cum laude*, from the University of Dayton in 1989 where he served as the Articles Editor of the Law Review, and his B.A. in English in 1985 from the same school, where he served as Chief Justice of the Student Judiciary. R.J. 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.

R.J. represents clients in all three tiers of the alcohol industry on general liquor licensing matters, complex ownership changes, in litigation and hearings, on multistate license acquisitions, on administrative citations and on tied house and trade practice matters. R.J.'s clients also include numerous private equity funds and institutions invested in the hospitality, restaurant and alcohol manufacturing spaces, addressing their unique concerns. Flaherty & O'Hara is national liquor counsel to numerous national and regional chain hotels, restaurants, and grocers, and frequently provides advice to third party delivery companies and internet and app-based businesses. The Firm's attorneys advise clients on the legality of national alcohol promotions and marketing programs, and frequently draft legislation. Flaherty



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& O'Hara has also developed proprietary software, Evergreen Renewal Services, which it uses to renew and manage tens of thousands of client liquor licenses and other business permits. 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.

**CHRIS O'ROURKE** has been with Moet Hennessy USA since 2004. As General Counsel, he manages the Company's legal and regulatory compliance efforts. Chris represents the Company at the Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S. and sits on the Board of Directors for Responsibility.Org.

Prior to joining Moet Hennessy, Chris spent eleven years in private practice with the law firms of Clifford Chance, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, and Rogers & Wells, where he handled complex commercial litigation and transactional matters. Prior to law school Chris worked as a bond trader on Wall Street.

Chris is a graduate of Fairfield University and earned his law degree from the New York University School of Law.

**CHRISTOPHER R. RIANO** is Of Counsel at Holland & Knight LLP and is a nationally recognized attorney with extensive experience in constitutional, public, and administrative law, particularly in highly regulated industries. His experience includes service as a Commissioner for the New York State Gaming Commission, the General Counsel to the New York State Liquor Authority, Assistant Counsel to the Governor of New York for Education, Arts, and Constitutional Law, as well as service as a New York State Administrative Law Judge. Riano currently serves as the President of the nation's Center for Civic Education, as the Chair of the LGBTQ Law Section for the New York State Bar Association, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the New York State Bar Association. Riano also is an award-winning author and scholar in the fields of constitutional and public law. He has written and lectured on constitutional law, jurisprudence, and public/administrative law in numerous publications and for dozens of organizations across the country.

**KELLY ROBERSON** is the Executive Director of the Center for Alcohol Policy. Kelly brings to the Center her years of experience in policy and marketing from the public and private sectors.

Prior to her work with the Center, Kelly served as policy advisor and communications director in the U.S. House of Representatives where she led a varied portfolio of issues on behalf of the Western Caucus. She cultivated a strong understanding of regulated industries and worked with several members of Congress and their staffs on issues including energy and the environment, land use and resources, agriculture, water and Native American affairs.

When not at the Center, Kelly can be found racing road and mountain bikes both domestically and abroad. A passion she developed while serving as the National Director of Digital Communications for the country's largest independent bicycle retailer where she spearheaded strategic partnerships, stood up the company's e-commerce operation, and revamped their digital presence.

Kelly is a native of Scottsdale, Arizona and graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University with a degree in Spanish Linguistics and International Business and Management.

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**SARAH ROSS** has served as Associate Legal Counsel for the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority since 2020. Prior to joining ABC, she served as a child welfare advocate and prosecutor in Pennsylvania. Sarah received her undergraduate degree in Political Science and her law degree from Widener University. She lives in Richmond, Virginia, and enjoys cheering on her children, who are avid swimmers and runners.

**PHILLIP SANCHEZ** is the Division Counsel and Acting Director for the New Mexico Alcoholic Beverage Control Division. He has been with the agency since June 2019. During his time with the agency, he has been responsible for providing legal analysis of proposed legislation and promulgating administrative rules in relation to passed legislation. Prior to joining the agency, Mr. Sanchez served as a prosecuting attorney for the State of New Mexico from 2012 to 2019, prosecuting a wide range of crimes from misdemeanors to first degree felonies.

**RACHEL SCHNEIDER** joined Molson Coors Beverage Company in 2022 as VP Sustainability & EHS. She leads the company's global sustainability/ESG strategy and oversees environmental, health & safety for the Americas. Prior to joining Molson Coors, Rachel was at Harley-Davidson for 12 years, leading sustainability efforts and driving business and strategic planning. Rachel made the switch to the corporate sustainability world after a 15-year legal career. She was an equity partner in the Environmental Law Group of Quarles & Brady LLP (Milwaukee office), specializing in environmental and other regulatory compliance matters, with an emphasis on remediation, transactions, and crisis management.

Rachel grew up in Nebraska and has lived in Milwaukee since graduating from Macalester College. Rachel currently lives in the greater Milwaukee area with her husband and their diva pet, Cat. Their four children currently live on both coasts and in Madison, Wisconsin.

MARY SEGAWA, M.S., has worked in community and statewide prevention and public policy for over 25 years, both at the community and state levels. She began her work for the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board in 2010, bringing her knowledge of public health and prevention science into the shaping of regulations and education efforts. Mary works closely with other state agencies, national organizations, and community coalitions, and in 2020 she received the National Prevention Network's Award of Excellence.

Mary received her undergraduate degree from Kansas State University and her master's from Missouri State University. She previously worked in student services on university campuses, which brought her and her husband to the beautiful Pacific Northwest and her passion for Seattle sports teams.

**ELLEN KEOUGH SPIROPOULOS** is an attorney with Phillips Murrah P.C., a full service law firm with offices in Oklahoma City and Dallas. She has been practicing in the area of alcohol regulation, enforcement and legislation for more than 25 years with clients in the manufacturing, distribution and retail tiers. She is a graduate of Carleton College (B.A. '86) and Northwestern University (J.D. '94), a member of the state and federal bars, and an adjunct professor at the Oklahoma City University School of Law.



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Director MICHELLE STONE-PRINCIPATO began her career with the Colorado Liquor and Tobacco Enforcement Division in October 2015. Michelle started her career with the Department of Revenue as the Agent in Charge of the Licensing Section, then as the Agent in Charge of the Enforcement Division, supervising four field offices throughout the state. Michelle was promoted to LED's Deputy Director, then Director in April 2020. Michelle was instrumental in guickly deploying an online payment system and devising new and innovative solutions to keep businesses open during the pandemic. The Division implemented an online state application process and coordinated a file-sharing program with 350 local licensing authorities to improve the customer service experience. Michelle was instrumental in the enacting of Communal Outdoor Dining Area (CODA) spaces into law in the 2021 legislative session. The Division implemented the Nicotine/Tobacco Retailer licensing program in 2021, which educates and regulates approximately 4,500 retailers in the State of Colorado while coordinating with local licensing authority partners. Michelle is a Colorado Task Force on Drunk and Impaired Driving member and the Western Regional Chair of the National Association of State Liquor Administrators. Previously Michelle was given the honor and privilege to serve the citizens of the City of Lakewood as a Law Enforcement Professional for 17 years. Michelle has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Metropolitan State College of Denver and a Paralegal Certificate from Arapahoe Community College. Michelle has continued her professional development efforts with the Harvard Kennedy School on policy implementation and the National Association of State Chief Administrators' Transformational Leadership Program.

**CHRISTOPHER THIEMANN** is the Distilled Spirits Program Manager in the Regulations and Rulings Division of the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB). Christopher has been with TTB since 2008, when he joined as a Presidential Management Fellow, and he also spent time in the Office of Global Health Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Christopher led TTB's decade-long initiative to modernize its regulations related to labeling and advertising of alcohol beverages and has been actively involved in the transition of CBMA Imports responsibilities from CBP to TTB. A native New Yorker, Christopher has a Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University and J.D. and M.B.A. degrees from The Ohio State University.

**WENDY TURK** is the Director of Regulatory Affairs for Fintech. In her role she maintains relationships with alcohol regulators across the country, keeps current on legislative changes, maintains involvement in state wholesaler organizations, and provides regulatory insight for Fintech and its customers. Wendy has also spent eight years working for a large wine & spirits distributor. She is based in Denver, CO and a holds a Bachelors of Business Administration with a concentration in Economics.

**GINNA WINFREE BURRELL**'s practice is focused on all aspects of alcoholic beverage licensing and regulation. Prior to joining GSRM Law, Ginna served as Assistant Director and, most recently, as Interim Director of the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC). Ginna's hands-on experience working at the TABC truly gives her a competitive edge and tangible insight into what is needed to overcome any challenges regarding her client's licensing and/or other alcoholic beverage initiatives. Ginna is professionally connected to many of the decision makers in the alcoholic beverage industry. She understands, from having done the job herself, the often specific information administrators



Stephanie Strauss President

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require to realize her client's desired outcome. Ginna's practical skills allow her to streamline the licensing process, saving her clients both time and resources.

Ginna's clients include the restaurants, hotels, bars, clubs, resorts and other venues who serve and/or sell alcoholic beverages, as well as manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers of alcoholic beverages in both Tennessee and beyond state lines. She counsels clients on the full spectrum of alcoholic beverage law disciplines, ranging from state and federal liquor license requirements; to regulatory, entitlement and enforcement matters; to temporary and emergency suspension hearings. Ginna is also involved in probation and consent order violations, disciplinary orders and appeals. In addition, Ginna works productively with the TABC regarding citations, enforcement matters, administrative hearings and other court actions pertaining to alcoholic beverage-related ordinances, statutes and regulations.

Ginna has served as an invited speaker and industry commentator on topics related to the alcoholic beverage industry. She also served in 2015-16 as the Southern Region Vice Chair and member of the Board of Directors for the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators.

**ALYSSA WOLFE** is an Assistant Attorney General and serves as Counsel to the Director at the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (NJABC). 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 Counsel in August 2018, she served as a Deputy Attorney General at the NJABC 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.