

## <u>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 30, 2014</u> CONTACT: Pamela Frantz, Executive Director 847-721-6410

## NCSLA 2014 Annual Conference Presents "Ex Parte Communications"

2014 is a special year for NCSLA as they celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators in San Antonio at the annual conference, June 16-20, 2014. Serving as conference host is the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and Administrator Sherry Cook.

The annual conference theme is "NCSLA – 80 Years: Just Getting Started." Over the course of four days the business agenda will cover a number of complex and diverse issues that have evolved over the decades.

80 years ago much of the state alcohol regulatory systems were created at NCSLA meetings without the industry in the room. 80 years later, the industry is ever present at NCSLA meetings and the interaction of regulators and regulated is more common place. Inside agencies, investigators regularly interact with agency regulators and judges. Outside agencies, former regulators now work in the industry and maintain contact with and offer advice to current regulators. This session titled, "Ex Parte Communications – What is Permissible When Speaking to Public Officials?" will discuss the canons of ethics, ABA Model Rule of Professional Conduct 3.5 which governs these interactions, and are important to guide the "do's and don'ts" of interactions between regulated and the regulators.

The panel will consist of former Texas ABC Assistant Director and current industry consultant Randy Yarbrough, retired Chief of the Texas Rangers and attorney Maurice Cook, and civil litigator Joshua Segal with the Boston law firm Lawson & Weitzen LLP who will serve as moderator. Don't miss this exciting session on Friday morning, June 20<sup>th</sup>, as it promises to be a lively discussion of issues affecting regulators and the regulated alike!

Start marking your plans NOW to come to San Antonio, Texas from June 16-20, 2014 for this year's annual meeting of the NCSLA! **Early registration ends this Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>,** so visit <u>www.ncsla.org</u> and register today to take advantage of the lowest conference rate! Watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2014 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks. *Not a member of NCSLA?* Joining is easy - just complete the <u>online application form</u> and join us for this historic conference in San Antonio!

## **About National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated:**

A national organization of state alcohol beverage regulators, founded June 19, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois, whose purposes are to promote the enactment of the most effective and equitable types of state alcoholic beverage control laws; devise and promote the use of methods which provide the best enforcement of the particular alcoholic beverage control laws in each state; work for the adoption of uniform laws insofar they may be practicable; promote harmony with the federal government in its administration of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act; and strive for harmony in the administration of the alcoholic beverage control laws among the several states. Visit <a href="https://www.ncsla.org">www.ncsla.org</a> for more information.