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NCSLA 2016 Annual Conference presents "A Blueprint To The Future"

The National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated (NCSLA) will assemble June 26-29th at The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois for its 2016 annual meeting and conference. Serving as conference host is the Illinois Liquor Control Commission and Executive Director U-Jung Choe. "This year's national conference occurs in Chicago, where NCSLA originated 82 years ago. The Illinois Liquor Control Commission looks forward to an engaging discussion of alcohol beverage issues by experienced State regulators and professionals. In between business discussions, we are excited to showcase Chicago as a world-renown host city offering museums, a dramatic skyline and architecture, eclectic cuisine and a wide array of entertainment options. The Illinois Liquor Control Commission is pleased to be hosting the 2016 annual conference, and we invite you to come to Chicago and enjoy everything the city has to offer," stated Executive Director Choe.

The annual conference will be held at The Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago, 909 North Michigan Avenue, and is perfectly positioned in downtown Chicago to make the most of it. North Michigan Avenue is the upscale hub of downtown Chicago, and the hotel is located within an easy walk of luxury retailers such as Bloomingdale's and Saks, as well as the city's most celebrated restaurants and famous jazz and blues clubs. For outdoor enthusiasts, Lake Michigan and the Oak Street Beach are just blocks away.

The annual conference theme is "A **Blueprint To The Future**," and the program adeptly reflects NCSLA's mission which is to educate and serve the needs of its members, through open communication, in furtherance of effective alcohol policies within our communities and nation. During the conference a variety of current issues will be discussed, including mergers and acquisitions, consumer diversity and demand, technology and innovation, and public safety concerns. In addition to our cornerstone sessions on ethics and the *Legal Update*, you'll draw inspiration from keynote speakers Isiah Thomas, NBA All-Star, and Andy Lansing, President & CEO of Levy Restaurants. NCSLA will also introduce a new program titled "*Regulator Academy*," which focuses on educational topics for state regulators. The conference will culminate with an Awards banquet on Tuesday evening at the Art Institute of Chicago that promises to be a memorable event and a unique cultural experience. All this and more over the course of two and a half days!

"It has been an honor to serve as President of NCSLA this year, and I invite all our members to join me in Chicago for this educational and informative conference," said Jerry W. Waters, Sr., of Pennsylvania. "I know of no other organization that provides a forum where so many regulators and industry members have an opportunity to learn about the pressing issues of the day. So come and experience firsthand the many benefits of NCSLA as you learn from industry experts and regulators alike."

Start making your plans NOW to come to Chicago, Illinois from June 26-29, 2016 for this year's annual meeting of the NCSLA! **Registration is now open** so visit <u>www.ncsla.org</u> today for details. *Not a member of NCSLA*? Joining is easy - just complete the <u>online application form</u> on the NCSLA website. You won't want to miss a minute of these beneficial business sessions in addition to the valuable networking opportunities with colleagues and friends!

About National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated:

A national organization of state alcohol beverage regulators, founded June 19, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including the following such purposes: to present, compare and discuss effective and equitable types of state alcoholic beverage control laws; to devise and evaluate the use of methods which provide the best enforcement of the particular alcoholic beverage control laws in each state; to identify and encourage uniform laws insofar as they may be practicable; to promote harmony with the federal government in its administration of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act; and to strive for harmony in the administration of the alcoholic beverage control laws among the several states. Visit <u>www.ncsla.org</u> for more information.