



# *A Blueprint To The Future*

*2016 Annual Conference – Chicago, Illinois*

Dear NCSLA Member,

The National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Incorporated (NCSLA) will assemble June 26-29<sup>th</sup> 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.

The annual conference theme is “**A Blueprint To The Future,**” and during the conference a variety of current issues will be discussed over the course of two and a half days. So come join us in Chicago where NCSLA originated 82 years ago!

Have you ever confronted an issue and struggled alone in deciding how to address the problem? Chances are, that wasn't the first time the question came up and, as a regulator, you weren't likely the first person to have faced the matter.

On Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, I will lead a panel discussion in the new *REGULATOR ACADEMY*, titled “**SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR ABC REGULATORS,**” in which I and three other experienced regulators will share challenges that we have confronted in our decades of experience and what steps (and missteps) we took in response. After all, what better way to design a blueprint for effective regulation and management for the future than to learn from the experience (as well as the mistakes) of others.

Besides, as your NCSLA President, I took to heart the membership's request for more time and opportunities for regulators to interact with each other at the annual and regional conferences. It is my firm belief that a key mission of this Association is the creation of a collegial atmosphere in which information is shared and professional and personal bonds are formed which, in turn, will establish a network of resources that will help each of us carry-out our individual responsibilities back home. Trust me, none of us should feel alone in what we do!

So, whether you are new to the role or a veteran regulator yourself, please join me and the following panelists as we share what we have learned through our decades of experience:

Moderator: Jerry Waters, Sr., NCSLA President & Regulatory Affairs Director, Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

Panelists: David Edmunds, Deputy Commissioner, New York State Liquor Authority;  
Stephen Larson, Administrator, Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division;  
Patrick Maroney, Director, Colorado Liquor & Tobacco Enforcement Division.

Don't miss this year's annual meeting of the NCSLA! Visit [www.ncsla.org](http://www.ncsla.org) today for details, and watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2016 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the next two weeks.

*Need a room at The Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel?* The **room block at the government rate is sold out** but there are still some rooms available at the NCSLA group rate of \$239/night plus taxes. Make your reservation soon before the block of rooms is gone!

*Not a member of NCSLA?* Joining is easy - just complete the [online application form](#) on the NCSLA website. You won't want to miss a minute of these beneficial business sessions and the valuable networking opportunities with colleagues and friends!

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. I hope to see you there!

Jerry Waters, Sr.  
NCSLA President