

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 26-29th 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.

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!

The alcohol industry is changing in extraordinary ways. Expanding economic globalization, contracting industry concentration, proliferating Social Media platforms, the exponential propagation of unlicensed third-party providers – these are just a few of the many dynamic changes creating enforcement challenges for regulators and compliance quandaries for industry members. To keep up, alcohol regulation must evolve, *and quickly!*

How do you cope with such change in an already-complex environment? You need a blueprint to identify key issues and define the legal parameters for dealing with them. Staying informed about relevant judicial cases is important. Understanding the courts' reasoning in deciding those cases is vital.

Fortunately, NCSLA can help you build that blueprint!

Join me on Tuesday, June 28th, at this year's NCSLA Annual Meeting as Richard Blau presents his **2016 LEGAL UPDATE**. Richard will review federal and state court cases, as well as several recent enforcement proceedings, to address a wide range of important issues, including:

- Regulating expanded D-T-C alcohol sales, Social Media marketing, and the havoc wrought by the rapidly evolving technology platforms of "e-Commerce;"
- The legal boundaries of State alcohol regulation in a globalized economy;
- The legal ramifications of an increasingly concentrated alcohol industry;
- The continuing constitutionality of state tied-house evil laws;
- Whether Equal Protection will preserve, or end, alcohol laws that are intended to preserve and protect small retailers;
- Spring Break in Florida: a blue print for how to balance Free Speech vs. Local Control;
- Whether the 21st Amendment still acts as a shield for alcohol regulators against personal liability for civil rights violation claims under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983;
- and finally, in tribute to our host venue, the curious case of the Illinois *Qui Tam* tax suits.

This year's *LEGAL UPDATE* will examine how 21st Amendment, The Commerce Clause, The Equal Protection Clause, The First Amendment, The Sherman Act, and a host of other laws are impacting state regulatory schemes throughout the nation.

Surveying hundreds of recently published judicial decisions, Richard Blau's **2016 LEGAL UPDATE** is one of the most comprehensive legal presentations of the year. It is unique -- a judicial case survey focusing specifically on the laws that govern the alcohol industry. And it's only available this summer, at the NCSLA Annual Meeting!

Only one week left to register so visit www.ncsla.org today! Need a room at The Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel? There are still some rooms available at the NCSLA group rate of \$239/night plus taxes, but today is the last day to reserve at the low group rate. Make your reservation soon before the block of rooms is gone!

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 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