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!

How can existing statutes and rules lay the foundation and serve as a blueprint for new and evolving laws that reflect the ever-changing market which the industry serves?

Tuesday morning of the conference kicks off with a discussion of this question and more pertaining to “CURRENT CUTTING EDGE RETAIL PRACTICES – BALANCING CONSUMER DEMAND, MARKET FORCES AND REGULATIONS.” The business and marketing world is exploding with new ideas on what sometimes seems like an hourly basis. This panel will explore initiatives and proposals by some retailers, including the delivery of alcoholic beverages to consumers, retail warehousing and transportation issues, the use of smart phone applications provided by third parties, and as time permits, growler sales.

Don’t miss this timely discussion on retail issues as well as some specific experiences shared by these respected speakers!

Moderator: R.J. O’Hara, Flaherty & O’Hara, PC
Panelists: Colleen Hunter, Senior Director of Licensing, Darden Restaurant Companies
Ileana McAlary, Senior Counsel, Legal Department, Meijer
Rebekah Punak, In House Counsel, InstaCart
Teri L. Quimby, Commissioner, Michigan Liquor Control Commission
James Webster, Senior Partner, Webster Powell, P.C.

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 www.ncsla.org today for details, and watch for more exciting updates on the NCSLA 2016 Annual Conference to be broadcast in the coming weeks. 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 in addition to 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