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2009 Brown-Forman Retailers of the Year Honored at ABL Convention

Bethesda, MD – March 11, 2009 – In a ceremony during the Final Night Banquet of the American Beverage Licensees 7th Annual Convention on March 3 in Las Vegas, ABL joined Brown-Forman in recognizing the 2009 Brown-Forman Retailers of the Year. The awards are presented annually to recognize and honor dedicated members of ABL's state and regional affiliates.

Ralph Aguera, Brown-Forman Vice President, Trade Relations, announced the winners, presented them with plaques and thanked them for their contributions to the beverage alcohol industry. The winners were also invited to a private reception and photo session prior to the evening's banquet.

The 2009 Brown-Forman Retailers of the Year are:

Roger Barbiero, Village Liquor, Rockville Centre, NY
Tom Barton, Rear Inn Lounge, Westminster, CO
Mike Ellington, Samco, San Angelo, TX
Bruce Gadlin, Jax Fine Wine and Spirits, Cumming, GA
Jerry Gasber, Gasber's Fine Day, St. Clairsville, OH
Alan Hanselman, Schnitzelbank Restaurant, Jasper, IN
Tanya Harper, Pioneer Bar, Cut Bank, MT
Jess Hepper, Platinum Jaxx, Anchorage, AK
Thomas "Goose" Kaiser, The Bay Café, Baltimore, MD
Robert Klein, Brown Jug, Anchorage, AK
Dick Kovach, The Liquor Loft, New Hartford, NY
Ryan Maloney, Julio's Liquors, Westboro, MA

David Marberger, Dunkirk Wine & Spirits, Dunkirk, MD
Doran Powell, Chilkoot Charlie's, Anchorage, AK
Dina Rosetti, Rosetti's Liquor Barrel, Bay St. Louis, MS
Bud Schwarzbach, Wine Discount Center and Famous
Liquors, Highland Park, IL
Jim Seliger, Flambeau Lanes, Park Falls, WI
Scott Slaga, 710 Beach Club, San Diego, CA
Max Sorensen, Max's Drive Thru, Madison, OH
Ray Vandivier, Vandivier Enterprises, Indianapolis, IN
Jeff Vogt, JV's Downtown Bar & Grill, Waterloo, IL
Fran Walton, Wilderness Inn II, Wilmington, NY
Dwight Whitney, Bullfrog Wine & Spirits, Ft. Collins, CO

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American Beverage Licensees is the preeminent national trade association for retail alcohol beverage license holders. Its nearly 20,000 members, who are often independent, family owned operators, are comprised of on-premise and off-premise retailers who provide hundreds of thousands of jobs and annually infuse billions of dollars into the American economy.