

ABL WEEKLY

POLICY, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS NEWS FOR BEVERAGE RETAILERS

Friday, September 20, 2019

Issue 399

MEETINGS & EVENTS

[October 2 – UBRA Board & General Membership Meeting | Little Rock, AR](#)

[October 9 – NYSLA 10th Annual Albany Holiday Trade Show | Albany, NY](#)

[October 10 – IABR Annual Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting | Indianapolis, IN](#)

[October 14-17 – TLW 84th Annual Fall Convention | Green Bay, WI](#)

[October 15 – NYSLA 10th Annual Buffalo Holiday Trade Show | Buffalo, NY](#)

[October 21-23 – ABL Fall Board Meeting & Industry Meetings | Washington, DC](#)

[March 29-30 – 2020 ABL Annual Meeting](#)

ABL & PUBLIC POLICY NEWS:

[Lower Scottish Drink Drive Limit Has No](#)

[Change on Accident Rate](#): Lowering the drink-drive blood alcohol limit in Scotland was not followed by reduced road traffic accidents, perhaps because of a lack of enforcement.

[How Congresswoman Debbie Dingell Is](#)

[Fighting Drunk Driving](#): Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI) is working on legislation to reduce drunk driving deaths across the country.

[Trump Moves Haphazardly Toward Tax Cuts](#)

[2.0](#): President Trump is putting together a proposal for a second round of tax cuts to fortify his reelection platform, but the effort is coming together only hesitatingly and faces uncertain buy-in even among Republicans.

[Should You Be Worried About Tainted](#)

[Alcohol When Traveling?](#): The headlines are scary enough to make travelers pack their own drinks when they head abroad. Costa Rica's Ministry of Health has reported that 25 people have died there this year due to methanol poisoning as a result of consuming tainted spirits.

[What Federal Circuit Will Influence the](#)

[Future of Liquor Law?](#): With so many Federal Circuit Courts (Circuit or Circuits) hearing cases on liquor issues, one may wonder which Circuit will become the predominant oracle on liquor issues.

[U.S. Trade Groups Urge Congress to Rein In](#)

['Tariff Man' Trump](#): Nearly two dozen U.S. lobbying groups have joined forces to try to rein in U.S. President Donald Trump's power to unilaterally impose tariffs amid growing concern about the negative economic impact of his trade policies.

INDUSTRY NEWS:

Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau

(TTB): [TTB Newsletter – Weekly News \(September 20\)](#)

National Beer Wholesalers Association: [Beer](#)

[Industry Leaders Join Forces to Drive Beer Growth with Launch of "Beers To That" Campaign](#)

Alcohol Law Review: [2nd Circuit Tussle Distills Court Divide on Booze Laws](#)

Beer Business Daily: [Largest On-Premise Account Having a Good Beer Year](#)

Libation Law Blog: [Court Rules Patagonia's Lawsuit Against Anheuser's "Patagonia" Beer Can Proceed](#)

Libation Law Blog: [Washington's Court of Appeals Justification in Favor of Volume Discounts May Be Helpful in Challenging Similar Laws in Other States](#)

National Beer Wholesalers Association: [Hard SeltzerWs - Adding New Volume to the Industry in 2019](#)

Nightclub Security Consultants: [How to Document a Major Incident in Your Venue](#)

Public Action Management: [Why Not Prevent Alcohol-Related Problems Before a Death Occurs?](#)

SevenFiftyDaily: [How to Troubleshoot Common Draft Problems](#)

Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America: [WSWA Women's Leadership Council Wraps Up Third Annual Conference](#)

Wine Business: [Slowing Sales Focus Eyes on Gallo-Constellation Deal](#)

Wine Business: [Top 10 U.S. Wine Distributors](#)

AFFILIATE NEWS:

Illinois Licensed Beverage Association
[Marijuana a concern for the alcohol industry](#)

Those working in the alcohol industry say Illinois hasn't crossed all its T's when it comes to recreational marijuana. A question one local business owner has is how do license holders determine if someone is high on marijuana or being overserved alcohol?

Massachusetts Package Store Association
[Package Stores Dig-In for Ballot Question Fight](#)

Package stores are gearing up for what could be a costly ballot battle with a multinational convenience store chain that wants to lift the state's decades-old restrictions on alcohol licenses. A proposal by Cumberland Farms, which has cleared the first of several hurdles to get on the 2020 ballot, would lift the state's cap on off-premise beer and wine licenses until they are eliminated in 2024.

Montana Tavern Association
[Great Falls Woman to Head State Tavern Association](#)

Mary Jane Heisler, the owner of the Classic '50s in Market Place, Great Falls, was elected president of the Montana Tavern Association at the 65th annual convention on Sept. 12. Heisler has served on the MTA Budget Committee for more than 20 years. She was elected by the association membership.

Tavern League of Wisconsin
[SafeRide Program: Celebrating 35 Years Of Success!](#)

Now in its 35th year, the Tavern League of Wisconsin's SafeRide Program continues to be a model for the rest of the nation. The Tavern League's commitment to eliminate drunk driving from Wisconsin's roadways is documented in its recently released SafeRide Survey of more than 60 counties in the state.

Wyoming State Liquor Association
[Thankful Thursday Founder to Receive 2019 WTE Community Spirit Award](#)

\$1.9 million raised. Ten years of effort. Countless people helped. One man to thank. Bryan "Alf" Grzegorzcyk, the creator and driving force behind the wildly successful charity fundraising event called Thankful Thursday, has helped change the lives of multitudes of Cheyenne community members.

CANNABIS NEWS:

More Cannabis Companies Are Getting Warning Letters from the FTC: Earlier this year, Curaleaf Holdings received a warning letter from federal regulators cautioning that the claims it was making surrounding its products, including that they could help with Alzheimer's and cancer, were misleading, especially since research on cannabis is scarce and studies are very limited in scope.

CannTrust's Cannabis Licenses Suspended by Health Canada: Citing noncompliance with Canada's federal cannabis law and regulations, embattled producer CannTrust says it has received a Notice of License Suspension from Health Canada.

Vaping Illnesses Highlight Flawed Marijuana Regulations: Cancer-care expert Dr. Diana Martins-Welch finds herself in an unusual position: Last week she started telling her medical marijuana patients to quit vaping cannabis and pick up a joint instead.

Most Cannabis-Infused Beverages Suck, Says One Famed Critic: A conversation with Warren Bobrow, Author of "Cannabis Cocktails, Mocktails & Tonics: The Art of Spirited Drinks and Buzzworthy Libations."

ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT:



Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits: Our vision is to be the distributor of choice for our customers and suppliers through a diverse team of empowered industry leaders, while giving back to the communities we serve. Our mission is to exceed all expectations of our trading partners with outstanding sales, service and results, through innovative strategies, unmatched relationships, cutting-edge technology and the industry's best trained and most talented team. Our cultures builds on our multigenerational heritage, team members think and act like owners while treating each other with respect, camaraderie and transparency. Integrity, intellect and ingenuity guide our decisions and our relationships with suppliers, customers and each other.

STATE & LOCAL NEWS:

California: Bill Stalls That Would Allow Alcohol to Be Sold Past 2 in the Morning in Bars: The last call for bars and clubs to sell alcohol will remain at 2 a.m. Friday night was the last night for the California Legislative session and lawmakers kept working until the early morning hours.

Colorado: State Considers Higher Vaping, Smoking Age: Colorado lawmakers are putting together a bill that would raise the statewide minimum vaping and smoking age to 21, the Denver Post reports.

Massachusetts: ABCC Issues Emergency Ruling on Retailer Inducements: Friday the

New York: State May Ban Flavored E-Cigarettes: Following several highly publicized vaping-related illnesses and deaths, New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo announced on Sunday that he would pursue emergency regulations to quickly ban the sale of flavored e-cigarettes, according to The New York Times.

New York: Retailers Continue to Oppose the Opening of Total Store in Queens: As members of the Trone family, who own the multiunit-location, Bethesda-Maryland-based chain store Total Wine & More move ahead with plans to open their first store in New York

Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission issued an emergency regulation, effective immediately, that amends 204 CMR 2.08 on inducements, to prohibit the receipt of inducements by any licensee.

New Jersey: Considers Ban on All Electronic Smoking Products: After three vaping-related illnesses have been confirmed in New Jersey, the state's Senate President Steve Sweeney said he will propose a plan to phase out all electronic smoking products.

City, local wine and spirits stores—as well as politicians—continue to express their concern.

Pennsylvania: Lawmaker Battles PLCB Over Liquor-License Data: A state lawmaker is finding his quest for records to help him decide whether to support a bill that would increase the number of restaurant liquor licenses has led him into a court battle with a state agency.

Rhode Island: Lottery No-Bid Contract Roils State Politics: A proposal to extend the Rhode Island Lottery's contract with one of the state's most significant employers is opening deep rifts between Democratic Party leaders as industry and good government groups cry foul.

BUSINESS & LIFESTYLE NEWS:

We Asked Bartenders the Best Bottles of Alcohol for Tailgating: When you go to an NFL or NCAA football game, the play on the field is theoretically the most important aspect of your day. But we know the truth. It's the pre-party where the fun is had — hanging with friends, gorging yourself on brats and burgers, and tipping back a few drinks.

Michael Jordan and Partners Launch Cincoro - A New Upscale Tequila: Cincoro, a new high-end Tequila helmed by a team of NBA owners—including Michael Jordan—and finance professionals, has launched in 12 markets across the U.S.

California Is Obsessed with This Avocado Beer: If there's a fruit that I'd associate with Los Angeles, it'd have to be the avocado. Sure, the trendy stone fruit is popular nationwide, but there's just something about the avocado's combination of superfood status.

Wine No Longer Mixes with Cocktails: The world's biggest booze companies no longer want to mix their drinks. While their liquor brands are lucrative and popular with consumers, the likes of Diageo and Pernod Ricard haven't found the same success with wine.