



# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FRED WOOTON VOTED INCOMING CHAIR-ELECT TO NABCA BOARD

ARLINGTON, VA (January 12, 2022)—Fred Wooton, Commissioner of the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration (WVABCA), was voted incoming chair-elect to the NABCA Board of Directors. He will assume his responsibilities in May 2022, when current Chair-Elect Tim Holden, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, becomes NABCA Chairman of the Board.

Wooton has been with the WVABCA for more than 30 years and was appointed Commissioner in January 2017. He began his career with the ABC as an Inspector before being promoted to an Enforcement Agent and later to Enforcement Supervisor. Wooton has instructed officers and cadets at the West Virginia State Police Academy on alcohol beverage control laws, rules and regulations since 2004. He currently serves as the Secretary on the WV Retail Liquor Licensing Board.

Prior to joining the WVABCA, Wooton worked in the Lodging/Food and Beverage industry in southern West Virginia. Wooton graduated in 1984 from the West Virginia University College of Business and Economics with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He resides in Beckley with his wife, Debra.

“It is important to realize that beverage alcohol, which is legal to consume if you are over 21 and which is publicly available for consumption, be recognized as a product that can not only bring people together in social gatherings, but can also cause harm to oneself and others, if consumed to excess,” said Wooton. “For this reason, it is critical that we as a control system and all of the other regulators across the country do what is necessary to properly manage this product,” he added. “It will be my privilege to serve as NABCA Chairman when my term arrives and I appreciate the confidence and support of the board for electing me to serve in this role,” said Wooton.

Wooton has contributed to NABCA’s governance for 6 years as a board member. He has also served on several committees, including Finance, Governance, Public Affairs - Chair, Internal Affairs - Vice Chair, Pension Plan Trustee - Chair, Chairman’s Task Force, Brokers Advisory Committee, Regulatory Advisory Committee - Chair and Public Health Advisory Committee.

“Having been involved with these various NABCA committees and with his hospitality background, Fred’s contribution to the association will be valuable and I look forward to working with him when his term arrives,” said Neal Insley, NABCA President and CEO. “His enforcement and training perspectives can also help to generate a greater understanding about the importance of regulating this product,” he said.

Click the respective links for information about [NABCA](#), and [WVABCA](#),

###

**Contact:**

Margaret Barchine, APR

703-578-5515--Office

[maggie.barchine@nabca.org](mailto:maggie.barchine@nabca.org)

2900 South Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22206

Alabama | Idaho | Iowa | Maine | MD - Montgomery County | Michigan | Mississippi | Montana  
New Hampshire | North Carolina | Ohio | Oregon | Pennsylvania | Utah | Vermont | Virginia | West Virginia | Wyoming

**About WVABCA:**

The West Virginia Legislature created the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration in 1935. The WVABCA was organized to give effect to the mandate of the people expressed in the repeal of the state prohibition amendment and to assure the greatest degree of freedom that is consistent with the health, safety, and good morals of the people of West Virginia. The Mission of the WVABCA is to regulate, enforce, and control the sales and distribution, transportation, storage, and consumption of alcoholic liquors and nonintoxicating beer as mandated by the West Virginia Liquor Control and Nonintoxicating Beer Act.

**About NABCA:**

Established in 1938, NABCA is the national association representing the Control State Systems - those jurisdictions that directly control the distribution and sale of beverage alcohol within their borders. Headquartered in Arlington, VA, NABCA's mission is to support member jurisdictions in their efforts to protect public health and safety and assure responsible and efficient systems for beverage alcohol distribution and sales.

2900 South Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22206

Alabama | Idaho | Iowa | Maine | MD - Montgomery County | Michigan | Mississippi | Montana  
New Hampshire | North Carolina | Ohio | Oregon | Pennsylvania | Utah | Vermont | Virginia | West Virginia | Wyoming