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## BEER DISTRIBUTORS OF OKLAHOMA NAME 2018 OFFICERS

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK, January 11, 2018 – The Beer Distributors of Oklahoma (BDO), the 80-year-old advocacy association representing Oklahoma's independent beer distributors, has announced its 2018 officers and directors.

Kevin Hitchcock of Hitchcock Distributing, Inc. in Durant will serve as BDO board chairman and James Wilkins of LDF Sales & Distributing, Inc. in Tulsa will serve as vice chairman. Matt Jett of Jett Distributing Company in Clinton will serve as secretary/treasurer and Gordon Green of Capital Distributing Company in Oklahoma City will serve as BDO's representative to the National Beer Wholesalers Association. Mitch Zaloudek of Pope Distributing Company in Enid is immediate past chairman. BDO directors are Scott Eason of Southwest Sales, Inc. in Lawton and Tom McElveney of Fisher59 in Denton, Texas.

"For 80 years, the Beer Distributors of Oklahoma have represented Oklahoma's independent beer distributors at the state Capitol and in Washington, D.C., making it one of Oklahoma's oldest advocacy organizations," said Brett Robinson, BDO president. "BDO members have a distinguished heritage and work in collaboration with state and federal policy makers to implement responsible alcohol laws that enhance the three-tier system and protect state-based regulation. BDO independent distributor members contribute overwhelmingly to Oklahoma's economy by providing thousands of quality jobs and tax revenue on an annual basis, while

continually advocating alcohol responsibility in numerous public safety initiatives and campaigns. Because beer and alcohol are different than other consumer products they must be treated as such, by not only those within the industry, but consumers and government as well."

"I am honored to assume the chairmanship of the Beer Distributors of Oklahoma, and look forward to working with my fellow independent distributors to advance the independent beer distribution sector in Oklahoma," said Hitchcock. "BDO members were at the forefront of efforts in 2016 to pass SQ 792, the ballot initiative overwhelmingly approved by Oklahoma voters to modernize our beer and wine laws. The first day of implementation of these important changes is fast approaching on October 1st, and the Beer Distributors of Oklahoma will be ready. The citizens voiced their desire by a large margin for a modern system that provides more convenience, value and selection within the adult beverage marketplace. Additional work is still to be accomplished in the months ahead, and BDO members will continue to play an active role in ensuring the modernization of Oklahoma's alcohol laws is implemented as intended."

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Founded in 1938, the purpose of the Beer Distributors of Oklahoma is to provide leadership which enhances the independent beer wholesale business; to advocate before government and the public on behalf of its members; to encourage the responsible consumption of beer and to provide programs and services that will enhance members' efficiency and effectiveness.