

## News Release

Brett Robinson, President

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# Beer Distributors of Oklahoma Celebrate Anniversary of 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment, Today's Effective Distribution System

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK, December 2, 2016 – The Beer Distributors of Oklahoma on Monday will celebrate the 83rd anniversary of the ratification of the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution, which repealed Prohibition and established today's effective system of state-based alcohol regulation.

On December 5, 1933, Prohibition ended in the United States when 36 states (a three-fourths majority of the then 48 states) ratified the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution. The 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment repealed the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, ending 13 years of Prohibition, and granted each state the primary authority to enact and enforce alcohol laws consistent with the desires and needs of their citizens.

Brett Robinson, Beer Distributors of Oklahoma president said, "Oklahoma's independent, licensed beer distribution facilities, along with over 15,000 Oklahoma jobs associated within the beer industry, generates over \$200 million annually in personal, business, federal, state, local and consumption taxes. Operating under a state-based regulatory system, Oklahoma's independent beer distributors create great jobs and provide choice and value to consumers in communities all across Oklahoma."

Tulsa native Craig Purser, National Beer Wholesalers Association president and chief executive officer said, "NBWA raises a glass in celebration of the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment and its role in establishing the effective system that we have in America today. Because of state-based alcohol regulation, the three-tier system and independent beer distributors, the public can count on transparency and accountability while consumers enjoy unparalleled choice and variety.

Today's system has generated a Golden Age for beer. We are seeing unprecedented variety, offered by more than 4,000 breweries – compared to less than 50 back in the 1980s. Craft brewers continue to develop and expand, representing more than 10 percent of the overall beer market in the U.S. And imports continue to soar, offering consumers tastes and experiences from all over the world.

America's 3,300 independent, licensed beer distribution facilities – and the 130,000 men and women working in the industry – are proud to partner with states as part of this time-tested system.”

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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.*

*The National Beer Wholesalers Association (NBWA) represents the interests of America's more than 3,000 licensed, independent beer distributor operations in every state, congressional district and media market across the country. Beer distributors are committed to ensuring alcohol is provided safely and responsibly to consumers of legal drinking age through the three-tier, state-based system of alcohol regulation and distribution. To learn more about America's beer distributors, visit [www.AmericasBeerDistributors.com](http://www.AmericasBeerDistributors.com). For additional updates from NBWA, follow [@NBWABeer](https://twitter.com/NBWABeer) on Twitter, watch NBWA videos on [www.youtube.com/NBWABeer](http://www.youtube.com/NBWABeer) and visit [www.facebook.com/NBWABeer](http://www.facebook.com/NBWABeer).*