

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Names Matthew Botting and Robert Wieworka to Top Legal Counsel Positions

Sacramento – The Director of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), Steve Hardy, has appointed Matthew Botting to the position of General Counsel, and appointed Robert Wieworka to the position of Chief Prosecuting Counsel.

“These two men bring a great deal of experience, knowledge and expertise to these very important positions,” said Hardy. “They truly understand the mission of ABC.”

Botting has 16 years of state government legal experience, including six years with ABC and four years as a Deputy Attorney General. He was ABC’s Chief Legal Counsel from 2000-2004 before he was hired away by private industry. Botting returned to ABC in 2005 as a Staff Counsel III where he served until his latest appointment to General Counsel to the Director. He has a Law Degree from Otago University in New Zealand and also has a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from the same University. Botting began his government career in 1992 as a Staff Counsel for the State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF), he was hired as a Deputy Attorney General in 1996 where he served until ABC hired him as Chief Counsel in 2000. He replaces John Peirce, who retired from ABC after more than 20 years of public service to the State of California.

Robert Wieworka is ABC’s new Chief Prosecuting Counsel. He has been a Staff Counsel III with ABC since 1998. He has a law degree from Empire School of Law, a Bachelor Degree in Administration of Justice from Sonoma State University, and an Associate Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Napa College

Wieworka was a U.S. Navy Petty Officer, First Class from 1965-1972, a Sonoma Police Officer from 1973-1975, and a Rohnert Park Public Safety Officer from 1975-1980. He graduated from law school in 1984 and immediately opened his own law practice in Rohnert Park. He practiced in the private sector until 1998 when ABC hired him as a Staff Counsel III.