

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 419-2500



CONTACT: John Carr
(916) 419-2525

September 21, 2011
PR 11-36

California State Senate Confirms Jacob Appelsmith as Director of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control

(Sacramento) – The California State Senate has confirmed Jacob Appelsmith as Director of the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. The official vote by the California State Senate took place September 1, 2011.

With overwhelming support for his appointment from a number of organizations, Appelsmith received a unanimous 5-0 vote of approval from the Senate Rules Committee and a 39-0 vote of approval from the full Senate.

"I am honored the Senate has approved my appointment," said Appelsmith. "I look forward to helping Governor Brown, the Legislature and the people of California during these challenging times."

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. appointed Appelsmith as Director of the Department back in January, 2011. Appelsmith began his career as a lawyer with Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro in San Francisco, where he worked for six years as a commercial litigator. He joined the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, in 1994. He began working in the Employment Law Section and eventually became the Department of Justice's general counsel for personnel and equal employment opportunity matters, as well as the statewide head of the employment law section.

In 2008, Appelsmith was promoted to Special Assistant to then Attorney General Edmund G. Brown Jr. on matters pertaining to law enforcement and the criminal justice system, and was also appointed Chief of the California Bureau of Gambling Control. As Chief of the Bureau, he oversaw regulatory and criminal enforcement relating to California's 60 tribal casinos and 90 card rooms.

Appelsmith graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1985. He was Phi Beta Kappa and was awarded the History Department's highest honor award. He returned to his native Berkeley to attend law school, graduating from the University of California Boalt Hall School of Law in 1988. While at Boalt, he worked as a student clerk to California Supreme Court Justice Allen Broussard. Appelsmith was an Associate Editor of the Industrial Relations Law Journal, and he clerked at law firms in New York and Portland, Maine.

Appelsmith oversees ABC, which is responsible for the administration, licensing and regulation of businesses that manufacture, distribute and sell alcoholic beverages in California. In addition, Appelsmith is also a Senior Advisor to the Governor.