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**MARGIE A.S. LEHRMAN APPOINTED INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
AMERICAN CRAFT SPIRITS ASSOCIATION
INAUGURAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PENNFIELD JENSEN RETIRES**

WASHINGTON, DC (August 6, 2015) – The American Craft Spirits Association (ACSA) today announces the appointment of Margie A.S. Lehrman as the interim Executive Director, as Pennfield “Penn” Jensen, a respected beverage industry veteran who helped found the organization and later served as its Executive Director, retires. Jensen will continue to consult with ACSA and Lehrman to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

Lehrman is an industry veteran from Washington, D.C., and was selected by the Board of Directors to assist with critical issues facing the craft distilling community. Lehrman brings with her nearly 20 years of experience at an executive level with national associations, coupled with a background in beer, wine, and spirits law at Lehrman Beverage Law, PLLC. She began her career with the Foreign Policy Association in New York City before embarking on a legal career in Washington D.C. in the 1980s. More recently, she was the Chief Operating Officer with the American Association for Justice, formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

“While Penn has left a lasting legacy, I am thrilled to take the helm of the ACSA at such a critical time for the craft distilling community,” stated Lehrman. “We have a dedicated team, a vibrant Board of Directors, and a burgeoning industry of hundreds of craft distillers here in the U.S. There is ample opportunity to expand the work of ACSA, shepherding its growth from infancy to a more mature association. There will be a broader menu of member benefits, from active legislation, particularly with a current push to reduce the Federal Excise Tax, to robust products and services for all member craft distillers.”

Thomas Mooney, ACSA President and Founding Member, and Co-Owner and CEO of House Spirits Distillery in Portland, Oregon added, “Margie joins us with deep knowledge of the complexities of a non-profit membership trade group while at the same time, understanding the intricacies of an industry that is highly regulated. She

brings a unique leadership skill set to the table and we're thrilled to have her onboard."

"In 2012, Penn and several of ACSA's founding members set out with a clear vision: to create a non-profit trade group that would rally the industry together, and serve as the voice of our country's craft distillers and artisan producers," added Mooney. "While Penn's choice to retire is a bittersweet one, we are incredibly proud of the work we have accomplished under his leadership and guidance in our three years together, and we are confident that under Margie's leadership, the ACSA will make tremendous progress toward protecting and promoting American craft spirits in the years to come."

About ACSA

The American Craft Spirits Association is the only registered non-profit trade association representing the U.S. craft spirits industry. Its mission is to promote and protect the craft spirits producers in the U.S.. Membership in ACSA is open to anyone.

ACSA is governed by a Board of Directors elected by the eligible voting members of the Association. Voting members must be independent licensed distillers (DSPs) annually producing fewer than 750,000 proof gallons out of bond (the amount on which a Federal Excise Tax is paid.) For information about ACSA, call 502-299-0238.

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