



June 30, 2023

## 75th Annual Meeting Registration Open

Please join us September 24-26 in Virginia Beach at the Oceanfront Marriott to celebrate VPCMA's 75th Anniversary. The program will open Sunday evening with a cocktail hour hosted by Marathon Petroleum. After the traditional banquet dinner will be program featuring our annual awards and a special recognition of past association leaders and award recipients.

Monday morning we will be pleased to welcome the Honorable Jason Miyares, the 48th Attorney General of Virginia who will address membership on the important work undertaken by his office in the areas of consumer protection and business regulation. Next, Brock Martinez from Federated Insurance will review several topics related to risk management and investing in your business. This will be followed by a the 2023 business meeting of the association. Finally, we will close the session with an open forum issue group session to discuss pending legislative and regulatory mandates including electrification, fossil fuel bans, California cars and the like. Monday afternoon will be open with the option to participate in a tour and tasting at the Cavalier distillery located at the beautiful Cavalier hotel across the street. At five pm we will have a happy hour pool side and oceanfront, with the remainder of the evening open for supplier hospitality.

During the 2023 session of the Virginia General Assembly your association was faced with a once in generation legislative challenge – an effort to change Virginia's laws and define jobber distributors as major oil company refiners. This effort, pushed by a very limited number of dealers from Northern Virginia, actually passed the Virginia Senate in January. Given the impact of this issue and the potentially devastating effect it could have on the membership, we are taking the unprecedented step of devoting Tuesday's entire program to three panels on the "jobber/distributors are refiners" issue. The first will examine potential financial impact on members if this legislation were to be successful, the business climate, and jobber/dealer relations within the unique Northern Virginia marketplace. A legal panel will then examine current Virginia and federal Petroleum Practices Act, the issue of preemption and legal steps members may wish to consider implementing in the future. The 2024 General Assembly will



bring unprecedented change to the House and Senate with more than one third of the members serving for the first time. Waiting until January to educate legislators about our industry and its issues will not get the job done. Joining us will be two of Virginia's most esteemed government relations professionals Kate Baker of Two Capitols Consulting and Tripp Perrin of Lindl Corporation, This session will provide you with the information and tools you need to educate legislative candidates about our industry- to demonstrate to them that Virginia-based petroleum marketers are not refiners and why they should oppose any future attempt to classify our members as such.

**Registration is now open for the VPCMA 75th Annual Meeting at the Marriott Virginia Beach Oceanfront September 24-26. To register for the meeting, [click here](#). To reserve a room (starting at \$204/night) [click here](#).**

**To view a full meeting program, [click here](#).**

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### **Important Reminder: Virginia Motor Fuels Taxes Increase Tomorrow**

Readers are reminded that as the result of legislation passed in 2020 which tied the fuels tax to the rate of increase in the consumer price index, motor fuels taxes will increase on sales made after 12:00 midnight this Saturday, July 1. There has been a slight adjustment downward in the Distributor Tax rate since preliminary figures were released in April. The rates effective Saturday may be found in the following DMV links. This information should be shared with all in your organization responsible for tax remission.

[https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/commercial/#taxact/tax\\_rates.asp](https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/commercial/#taxact/tax_rates.asp)

[https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/commercial/#taxact/tax\\_rates\\_ws.asp](https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/commercial/#taxact/tax_rates_ws.asp)

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### **Another New Law Effective Tomorrow Regulates “Crossover” Beverages That Contain Alcohol**

The General Assembly passed legislation this year relating to so-called “crossover” alcohol products. Crossovers are defined as reimagined versions of beverages that traditionally have not contained alcohol. Under the law, sellers of crossover products for off premises consumption:

- Are prohibited from placing wine or beer products in an area immediately adjacent to non-alcoholic beverages containing the same or similar brand name, logo or package as an alcoholic beverage, and
- Must display signage that indicates the crossover product contains alcohol. The signs must be of sufficient size to be clearly visible to consumers.

Along with other interested parties, we recently met with ABC on this legislation and as the result of public input they have developed the attached link to educate licensees on the provisions of the law and how to comply. The link also contains downloadable point of sale materials that address the consumer notification provisions. To access both, [click here](#).

To access a copy of the law, [click here](#).

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## **EMA Opposes EPA's Plan to Eliminate Fuel-Fired Heating Appliances from the Energy Star Program**

*From EMA*

EMA has requested an extension of the comment period for EPA's controversial proposal to eliminate residential fuel-fired furnaces from the ENERGY STAR rating program. The EPA notice said the agency will not accept new fuel fired entries into the Energy Star program after December 31, 2024. The phaseout would leave only residential electric heating and cooling appliances with the coveted Energy Star rating that consumers rely on to make informed purchasing decisions. EMA opposes the short-term phaseout of fuel-fired furnaces from the Energy Star Program because it eliminates consumer choice and significantly advances the move to electrification of residential heating appliances. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the letter.

The ENERGY STAR program is a voluntary labeling program where the EPA sets energy efficiency specifications for appliances. Manufacturers that meet EPA's efficiency standards are eligible to display the ENERGY STAR logo on their appliances. In turn, consumers and businesses who want to save energy and money can look for the ENERGY STAR label when making buying decisions. EMA is part of an industry wide coalition working together to oppose the EPA's phaseout plan using both regulatory and Congressional resources. EPA's comment period regarding fuel-fired boilers ends July 7th and EMA plans to submit comments on behalf of EMA as well as sign the industry wide coalition comments.

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## **2023-2024 Federal Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Due August 31 for Vehicles Used on Road After July 1, 2023**

*From EMA*

The 2023 Heavy Highway Vehicle Use (HHVU) tax reporting period runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. The HHVU tax is paid on each commercial motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 55,000 pounds or greater that travels 5,000 miles or more per year. The HHVU applies to most petroleum cargo tank vehicles and transports. Once the HHVU tax is filed and paid, the IRS will return IRS Form 2290 with a "paid" stamp within 6 weeks of receipt.

Please note: EMA now has an exclusive endorsement agreement with ThinkTrade, an IRS authorized e-filing service provider and a BBB accredited company with A+ rating. ThinkTrade offers EMA member companies a 15 percent discount off ThinkTrade's e-filing services through a dedicated landing page to prepare, file and pay federal excise tax returns on IRS Forms 720, 8849 and 2290. For more information about ThinkTrade and EMA's landing page to file taxes, please visit <https://taxexcise.com/ema/>.

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## **New Technician Training Benefit**

We are pleased to announce a new member benefit - technician training. Working in conjunction with NORA and the Pennsylvania Petroleum Association (PPA), members will be able to receive a 75 percent reduction in technician training classes offered by PPA. This program is capped at \$25,000 for the first year with a maximum of four employees per company. Pre-approval is required before registration with PPA. Full program details on the educational offerings is [available here](#).