



ABC &-NEWS

A weekly newsletter on North Carolina policy and political news relevant to the North Carolina's ABC Boards

NCAACB's Uzzell on Capital Tonight



As North Carolina's ABC stores are grappling with supply chain issues, Spectrum News' Capital Tonight featured an interview with Brantley Uzzell, general manager of the Lenoir County ABC Board.

The interview was aired statewide on Spectrum News on Friday (October 1) evening, two days after the NC House ABC Committee held a 2-hour hearing about liquor supply issues in North Carolina.

This e-newsletter reported on last week's committee hearing.

Uzzell is also a leader within the NC Association of ABC Boards and currently serves as the organization's treasurer.

Capital Tonight is a nightly public affairs show that airs Monday-Friday at 7pm and midnight. It is hosted by Spectrum News anchor Tim Boyum, one of the most respected interviewers in North Carolina politics.

[Click here to watch Boyum's 6-minute interview with Uzzell.](#)

NCAACB President Nancy Gooch's Remarks

In last week's e-newsletter, NCAACB reported that President Nancy Gooch addressed the NC House ABC Committee at its 2-hour oversight hearing of the liquor shortage issue affecting the state. Below are President Gooch's comments she delivered.

Chairman Moffitt and Members of the House ABC Committee:

My name is Nancy Gooch and I serve as the President of the North Carolina Association of ABC Boards. Over the past 22 years I have worked as a store clerk, assistant manager, and I'm currently the general manager in Siler City. I appreciate the committee's continued commitment to ensuring that our State's ABC system works well for our customers and the communities that we serve.

Over the past two years our boards have worked through a variety of challenges from many sources unlike any that I've experienced in the past 22 years, including:

- Covid-19 Pandemic and the required operational changes to keep both our customers and staff safe.
- National supply chain issues that have impacted our industry nationally and at times, has limited the availability of products.
- The implementation of long-awaited upgrades to our system that will allow for more efficient ordering and delivery processes to the local boards.

During that same time period, we've experienced record breaking growth. In 2020 alone our sales increased by almost 20% (19.74%). We sold an additional 10.5 million bottles over 2019. Since 2017 our sales have increased by 35%. While the growth allows for increased revenues to the General Fund as well as to local communities, as you might imagine, it also adds demand to our system.

We've worked with our members to ensure that we have open lines of communication with our customers, the ABC Commission and LB&B as we continue to work through the challenges of change and growth.

We are optimistic that there are changes included in the contract will help us become more efficient and we look forward to the full implementation of these changes.

We are committed to working with you as well as the ABC Commission and LB&B as we continue to rise to challenges of the day and address the needs of the future.