



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mt. Baker Vapor to move operations to Mesa *Regulatory environment in Washington led to relocation*

PHOENIX (June 10) – Mt. Baker Vapor has officially announced their plans to relocate their operations from Bellingham, Wash. to Mesa, Ariz. after the introduction of legislation seeking taxation on the sale of their products, ultimately impacting Mt. Baker Vapor’s operations.

Founded in March 2011, Mt. Baker Vapor has grown rapidly alongside the burgeoning vaping movement. They have the distinction of being one of the largest online e-liquid producers and retailers in the world, processing more than 2,000 orders per day to a customer base of more than 300,000. As the industry has grown, Mt. Baker Vapor has become a trusted name for vapers worldwide.

"Throughout the process of relocation, we have been impressed by the opportunities that the Mesa area provides for developing our company in a welcoming political climate," said James Thompson, co-owner of Mt. Baker Vapor. "We look forward to becoming part of the business community in the Greater Phoenix area and contributing towards economic growth in the State of Arizona."

Co-owners James Thompson and Jesse Webb were faced with the decision to relocate their company after the state of Washington introduced two bills that if passed would tax the sale of vaping equipment as well as ban online sales. The potential regulatory and monetary impacts of the legislation spurred Thompson and Webb to look outside the state of Washington to house their company.

"Mt. Baker Vapor’s desire to locate in Arizona reinforces our state’s reputation as the best place in the country to do business," said Sandra Watson, President & CEO of the Arizona Commerce Authority. "Arizona’s pro-business environment, connectivity to world markets and strong talent pool make it a preferred place for companies to scale their businesses in a global economy. We are pleased to welcome Mt. Baker Vapor and look forward to supporting their continued success."

"We’re excited to welcome Mount Baker Vapor to the Falcon Field area and the city of Mesa," said Bill Jabjiniak, Director of Economic Development for the city of Mesa. "As an established industrial and manufacturing hub for the city, Falcon Field has always been an attractive location to start and grow a business. Mount Baker Vapor’s expansion and addition of 100 new jobs to the area is another testament to that fact."

The co-owners look forward to growing their business in a more welcoming environment. "While we have enjoyed our time building this company in Washington, it has become clear to us through continued proposals by the legislature that our company and those it employs are not welcome in the state," said Thompson.

"The decision from Mt. Baker Vapor to relocate to the city of Mesa speaks to our favorable regulatory environment," said Chris Camacho, president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council. "We have worked hard as a state to make it easier for companies to do business in Arizona and to not get in the way of companies as they grow."

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“It was a pleasure working with Jesse, James, the entire Mount Baker Vapor team, and Matthew Mapes from Arizona Business Bank,” said Peter Batschelet of Lee & Associates, Arizona who worked with Chris McLurg on the project. “The property located at 4049 E Presidio will suit MBV’s needs as they continue to expand their business platform. In addition to the quality of construction and design, the building came equipped with two clean room facilities which will enable their manufacturing prerequisites to be met.”

The transition of Mt. Baker Vapor from Washington to Arizona should be completed by October 2015. To learn more, visit www.mtbakervapor.com.

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About Mt. Baker Vapor

Mt. Baker Vapor was founded in March of 2011 by owners James Thompson and Jesse Webb with the purpose of bringing affordably priced, quality e-juice to vapers around the world. The company’s website - mbakervapor.com - features a wide selection of flavored juice, hardware, and other vaping equipment essential to the booming global phenomenon. With over 1,500,000 orders and counting, MBV has established itself as a leading innovator in this cutting edge industry.

About the Arizona Commerce Authority

The Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) is the state’s leading economic development organization with a streamlined mission to grow and strengthen Arizona’s economy. The ACA uses a three-pronged approach to advance the overall economy: recruit, grow, create – recruit out-of-state companies to expand their operations in Arizona; work with existing companies to grow their business in Arizona and beyond; and partner with entrepreneurs and companies large and small to create new jobs and businesses in targeted industries. Visit www.azcommerce.com for more information.

About the City of Mesa

With a population of nearly 500,000, Mesa, Arizona is the 38th largest city in the United States and second largest in the Phoenix-Mesa metro area. Mesa encompasses 133 square miles inside a 21-city region that has a population of 4.3 million people, and is projected to grow to 6.0 million by 2030. Mesa is a vibrant city and a premier location for business development opportunities. Serving industry leaders such as Apple, Banner Health, Boeing, Bridgestone, Empire Southwest, MD Helicopters, Nammo Talley, Ulthera and more, Mesa is a smart location for intelligent companies.

About the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC)

A true public-private partnership, GPEC is the regional economic development organization for Greater Phoenix. Working with its 22 member communities, Maricopa County and more than 170 private investors, GPEC attracts quality businesses to this dynamic region. By creating a high-performance economy through capital investments and jobs, Greater Phoenix companies enjoy a business climate where they can compete and thrive in today’s global economy. Since 1989, GPEC has worked to achieve an economically sound and sustainable region. For more information, visit www.gpec.org.