FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sparkling Ice® Bottles Taste Sensation of STARBURST® Candy in New Zero-Sugar Beverage

Sparkling Ice STARBURST product line already driving unprecedented engagement among industry and influencers

PRESTON, Wash., Feb 07, 2024 – The <u>Sparkling Ice® brand</u>, crafted by <u>Talking Rain Beverage Company</u>®, today announced the launch of Sparkling Ice® STARBURST™ – a new line of delicious Sparkling Ice flavors that capture the taste and vibrant sensory experience of STARBURST® original fruit chew candy with zero sugar.

"Sparkling Ice STARBURST is a bold new sparkling water collaboration, designed to surprise and delight our loyal fans and attract a whole new legion of flavor-loving consumers to our zero-sugar beverages," said Rich DePencier, Chief Growth Officer at Talking Rain Beverage Company. "This brand collaboration is already igniting enthusiasm among beverage influencers, industry leaders and retailers. It's just the beginning of a new chapter in the Sparkling Ice brand that our fans will love."

Influencers eager to experience the tasty synergy of Sparkling Ice and STARBURST began buzzing about the collaboration weeks before news of the launch was available publicly. To date, their organic content has garnered more than a half-million views on TikTok alone.

Plus, Talking Rain reports that industry leaders are bullish about the pairing of two beloved brands and category leaders, based on unprecedented early demand from retailers and distributors.

This is the first major brand initiative since Sparkling Ice, the No. 1 sparkling water brand in the U.S., launched its "Anything But Subtle" campaign at the start of the year. That campaign kicked off the company's largest marketing investment ever, and enlisted Emmy Award-winning actress Annie Murphy to play its "Chief Flavor Officer," a colorfully clad executive who gushes about the premium sparkling beverage.

Heading up the team of beverage innovators behind Sparkling Ice STARBURST is Talking Rain's director of new product development, Tatyana Osipovs.

"Our Sparkling Ice product development team knew Sparkling Ice STARBURST would bring a huge level of excitement to consumers with this flavorful collaboration," said Osipovs. "We spent months recreating that creamy, candy mouthfeel in addition to capturing all flavors of the STARBURST fruit chew candies in the Sparkling Ice beverage. Now our fans can enjoy the full-flavored fun of these candy flavors in our delicious drink with zero sugar!"

The new line of STARBURST-inspired Sparkling Ice comes in the candy's four original flavors – cherry, lemon, orange, and strawberry. It will be available online via Amazon starting March 4. It also began arriving at select retailers in late January and will continue rolling out nationally throughout the spring.

For more information on Sparkling Ice https://www.sparklingice.com.

About Talking Rain® Beverage Company

Talking Rain, the makers of Sparkling Ice, is your Washington-based beverage company with an impressive 35-year legacy in the beverage world. We've brewed up a remarkable collection of brands, including the fan-favorite Sparkling Ice®, Sparkling Ice® +Caffeine, Sparkling Ice® +Energy and Talking Rain AQA®. These beverages come in a delightful array of flavors, all focusing on providing healthier beverage options.

But we're not just about making great drinks; we're all about building connections with our community and sharing the love with every sip. That's our special ingredient – a blend of passion and commitment.

For more information, please visit https://www.talkingrain.com.

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