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October 1, 2013

RE: Lake County Winegrower Harvest Report Form Due December 15, 2013

Dear Lake County Winegrape Grower,

On behalf of the Lake County Winegrape Commission, I am writing to provide you with the 2013 Winegrower Harvest Report Form and to share a bit about the changes you will notice to the form and to our process.

We have simplified our process by streamlining the reporting/collection timeline to two major due dates. As in previous years, the Commission has set the Assessment Rate for the 2013 marketing season at one percent (1%) of the gross dollar value on the sale of District 2 winegrapes, juice, and bulk wine.

You are not required to remit assessment unless your buyer refuses to do so. Buyers are required to withhold the Commission assessment from amounts paid to you and submit the assessment payments on your behalf to the Commission. However, you are required to provide information about your vineyards and sales to the Commission.

Timing for submitting reports (growers) and remitting assessments (vintners):

- **December 15, 2013:** Reports and assessments due for harvest 2013 winegrapes purchased between July 1, 2013, and November 30, 2013.
- **April 15, 2014:** Reports and assessments due for harvest 2013 winegrapes purchased between December 1, 2013, and March 31, 2014.
- For purchases of harvest 2013 winegrapes made after March 31, 2014, a supplemental report and remittance is due from the buyer within **30 days after that purchase**.
- For purchases of juice and/or bulk wine, a report and remittance is due from the buyer within **30 days after that purchase**.

The **Winegrower Harvest Report Form** (copy enclosed) provides vital information that enables Commission staff to work on your behalf to collect the assessment due from vintners/wineries. These assessments fund the marketing, research, and education efforts of the Commission.

On this form, you will notice several options for you to complete based on what you harvest and sell. You also will note a new section requesting vineyard information. This will help us gather baseline data about vineyard acreage in Lake County and provide a more insightful look at the aggregate information about our industry. Please note that all information regarding individual growers, vintners, and transactions is kept strictly confidential.

A copy of the **Winegrower Harvest Report Form** is enclosed for your convenience and also is available on the Commission's web site at www.lakecountywinegrape.org.

If you have any questions at all about the new form or process, or about the work of the Commission, please feel free to contact me directly by phone at (707) 279-2633, ext. 302, or by e-mail to debras@lakecountywinegrape.org.

Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Debra Sommerfield", written in a cursive style.

Debra Sommerfield
President

Enclosure