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July 8, 2019

**To: Vintners, Wineries, Processors**

**From: Lake County Winegrape Commission**

**RE: 2019 Vintner Assessment Reports and Payments Due January 10, 2020**

This is to notify you that the Lake County Winegrape Commission's Board of Directors has set the assessment rate for the 2019 harvest season at one percent (1%) of the gross dollar value on the sale of District 2 winegrapes, juice, and bulk wine. Enclosed please find the 2019 Vintner Assessment Report Form and Worksheet.

The Lake County Winegrape Commission (Crush District 2) is a California state government agency responsible for promoting Lake County winegrapes and winegrape products. As a "vintner" under Commission law (*California Food and Agricultural Section 74837\**), you are obligated to deduct the Commission assessment (1%) from the gross amounts paid to growers for Lake County winegrapes and to remit those assessments to the Commission. Deadlines for submitting reports and remitting assessments to the Commission are as follows:

**2019 Harvest Reports and Assessment Deadlines**

- **Vintner Assessment Reports and Assessment Payments for harvest 2019 winegrapes are due January 10, 2020.**
- **Reports and remittance for purchases of juice and/or bulk wine are due within 30 days after that purchase.**

A copy of the reporting form and worksheet is enclosed and available on the Commission's web site at [www.lakecountywinegrape.org](http://www.lakecountywinegrape.org). All information provided to the Commission is confidential. If you have any questions about your obligations, please contact Lake County Winegrape Commission President Debra Sommerfield at (707) 279-2633.

Also, please be aware that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) may conduct random vintner/winery audits during the upcoming fiscal year in order to verify the accuracy of assessment reports and payments to the Commission. LCWC and CDFA both understand the value of your time and do not anticipate these audits to be excessively burdensome. In the event that you are selected for an audit, you will be given formal notice with ample time to schedule with CDFA.

*\* NOTE: "Vintner" means a winegrower, as defined in Section 23013 of the Business and Professions Code, who holds a winegrower's license issued by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 23300) of Division 9 of the Business and Professions Code, and who is engaged in producing must, grape juice, grape concentrate, wine, or products thereof, including high proof and brandy by processing winegrapes or field crushed must. "Winegrower" means any person who has facilities and equipment for the conversion of grapes, berries, or other fruit into wine and is engaged in the production of wine.*