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the Washington Wine Institute
is the voice on regulatory & legislative issues that affect the Washington wine industry

Washington State Wine Commissioner Appointments, Wine Producers

MEMORANDUM

To: Washington Wine Institute Members
From: Craig Ottavelli, Director of Operations
Date: March 24, 2011

Re: Washington State Wine Commissioner Appointments, Wine Producers

Two Washington State Wine Commission wine producer positions will expire on June 30, 2011. One seat must be held by a person producing over one million gallons of wine annually, producing wine from their own grapes and located in Eastern Washington. The second position is the nonvoting position that represents non-vinifera fruit. This position requires the holder to be a wine producer in this state whose principal wine or wines are produced from fruit other than vinifera grapes. Producers from either Eastern or Western Washington are acceptable for this position.

Martin Johnson (Ste. Michelle Wine Estates) and Peggy Patterson (Hoodsport) currently hold the positions that are set to expire. The effective dates for the terms up for appointment are July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2014. There are no term limits on the Commission's board member positions.

One grower position is also expiring effective June 30, 2011. The seat that is expiring is the position held by a person who does not have over fifty acres of vinifera grapes in production and may be a person who produces and sells his or her own wine. If you are interested in the grower position, please contact the Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers for more information.

Individuals interested in appointment to the two producer positions should submit a letter of interest indicating background and qualifications along with a résumé and brief statement on why you wish to be a commissioner no later than April 15th, 2011. Please send submissions by email to the Washington Wine Institute at Info@WashingtonWineInstitute.org, or by mail to:

Washington Wine Institute
Attn: WWC Application
1501 Capitol Way S, Ste. 204B
Olympia, WA 98501-2200

The Washington Wine Institute Board of Directors will conduct interviews April 25th at the Washington State Wine Commission Offices in Seattle and then recommend two wine producers for appointment by Director of Agriculture Dan Newhouse.

For more information please contact the WWI office at [\(360\) 352-1557](tel:3603521557) or send an email to info@washingtonwineinstitute.org.

CURRENT WASHINGTON WINE COMMISSIONERS

John Bookwalter, Chair

J. Bookwalter Winery

Kent Waliser, Vice Chair

Sagemoor

Glenn Coogan, Treasurer

Ascentia Wine Estates

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Boushey Vineyards

Patricia Gelles

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Eric Hurlburt

Washington State Department of Agriculture

Martin Johnson

Ste. Michelle Wine Estates

Steve Newhouse

Upland Vineyards

Peggy Patterson (non-voting)

Hoodsport Winery

Dan Ewer

Young's Columbia Wine Company

Rick Small

Woodward Canyon Winery

Jay Soloff

DeLille Cellars

Chris Sparkman

Sparkman Cellars

According to [RCW 15.88](#), each voting member of the commission shall be a citizen and resident of this state and over the age of 21. Each voting member, except the member holding position 11 (held by a distributor), must be or must have been engaged in that phase of the grower or wine producer industry that he or she is appointed to represent, and must during his or her term of office derive a substantial portion of wine from vinifera grapes as an owner, lessee, partner or a stockholder owning at least ten percent of the voting stock in a corporation engaged in the growing of vinifera grapes or the wine production from vinifera grapes; or the manager or executive officer of such a corporation.

WASHINGTON STATE WINE COMMISSION COMMISSIONER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Washington State Wine Commission was created by the Washington State Legislature in 1987 to promote the growth of the wine industry for the benefit of all of the state's citizens. Its mission is to raise awareness and demand for Washington State wine through marketing and education, while supporting viticulture and enology research to drive industry growth.

The commission was constituted under the Washington State Department of Agriculture and is governed by an appointed board of commissioners.

The commission is composed of twelve voting members and one non-voting member; five voting members shall be growers, five voting members shall be wine producers, one voting member shall be the director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture and one voting member shall be a wine distributor. The non-voting member is a producer of non-vinifera fruit wine.

Each voting member is to be a resident of the state of Washington and over the age of 21. Each voting member is to be currently, or have been involved in, the phase of the industry for which they represent, i.e. grower, producer, or distributor. Members serve three year terms.

Commissioner Duties and Responsibilities:

- Be actively involved in commissioner board meetings through regular attendance and engagement in discussions;
- Have a clear understanding of the mission of the organization and be able to articulate its purpose and structure to the industry and general public;
- Represent and speak for the broader interests of the industry, not that of one's own business;
- Be knowledgeable about industry trends, particularly as it relates to supply and demand;
- Be available to serve on committees and attend Commission-sponsored events and activities; and
- Be knowledgeable about state agency governance rules and regulations, i.e. Open Public Meetings Act, State Ethics laws, wine and grape assessment process, etc.

Key Qualifications:

- A strong grasp of marketing principles and tactics;
- Extensive contacts and relationships throughout the industry and in the broader community (both within Washington and beyond);
- A collegial and collaborative approach to decision making and problem solving;
- Strong leadership and management skills
- Strong communication skills
- A strong record of participation or involvement in industry activities
- High level of integrity