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Napa County Planning, Building
& Environmental Services

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2) 1904 Emerald Drive, Calistoga CA 94515
July 28, 2015

Napa County Planning Commission
1195 Third Street #210
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Napa County Planning Commission:

I am a part-time resident of Calistoga and a long-time personal friend of Jim and Beth Summers. I am writing this letter so that you will better understand what an asset they and Summers Estates Wines are to the City of Calistoga, to the small-family winery community, and to Napa County.

I have known Beth for 43 years, and Jim for almost 30. Beth is an amazing businesswoman who understands the needs of her customers and her community. Her smiling face is one that keeps customers coming back to Summers Estates (and thus Napa Valley). Jim is also a savvy businessman who can talk to anyone about wine and the special appeal of the Calistoga AVA.

Beth and Jim are not "millionaires from elsewhere" who decided to open a winery. They are hardworking individuals who chose to live in Calistoga, raise their daughter, grow grapes, and eventually open one of the most charming and welcoming wineries in Calistoga. They are civic-minded individuals who give back by participating in the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce (Jim is a past President) and Soroptomist International Calistoga (Beth is currently Board Treasurer). In addition to the winery being members of the Calistoga Wine Growers Association, Beth Summers served on the original Napa Valley Vintners Association committee to promote the recognition of the Calistoga AVA.

They rarely, if ever, turn down requests from community fund-raisers. They have always been active parents and contributors at both St. Helena Catholic School and Justin Sienna High School. Summers Estates also donated to my daughter's school in La Jolla, where we have an annual auction to support scholarships and teacher education.

If the Summers say that improvements or status changes for their winery are needed, you can be sure they have been well-thought out and are not frivolous. The benefits to the wine making industry, Calistoga, and Napa Valley would far outweigh any negatives associated with such changes.

Feel free to contact me for additional information if you desire.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kristine A Quart