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The Virginia Wine Board Welcomes Diane Flynt

Richmond, VA – On December 2, 2009 the Virginia Wine Board welcomed Diane Flynt as its newest member. Diane is the owner and operator of Foggy Ridge Cider in Dugspur, Virginia. Appointed by Governor Timothy M. Kaine, Diane was formally sworn in for her duties in late November in preparation for the upcoming meeting. Virginia cideries come under Farm winery statute because they contain 18 percent or less of alcohol by volume.

Diane Flynt's 25-year career spans financial services as the Senior Vice President of NationsBank, corporate education consulting for fortune 500 companies, farming and winemaking. She has deep expertise in marketing, promotion and education throughout her professional history.



Diane is accredited with creating Virginia's first farm winery focused solely on growing heirloom apples and producing hard cider. She has also co-lead development of Virginia's only cooperative tasting room with four southwest Virginia wineries.

The Virginia Wine Board was created by the Virginia General Assembly in 2004 to replace the Virginia Wine Advisory Board, which was originally created in 1984 as part of Virginia's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The purpose of the board is to allocate funds to projects that expand viticultural and enological research, education and promotion of the growing of grapes and the production of wine in the commonwealth. The Virginia Wine Board consists of 10 members, who are all appointed by the governor. Six of the members are owners or operators of farm wineries in Virginia, three members are grape growers and the remaining member is the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Other existing board members include: John "Rock" Stephens (Chairman) of The Vineyard at Point Breeze, Jennifer McCloud (Vice-Chairwoman) of Chrysalis Vineyards, Dean Triplett of Willowcroft Farm Vineyards, Luca Paschina of Barboursville Vineyards, Mills Wehner of Chatham Vineyards, Patrick G. Duffeler Sr. of Williamsburg Winery, Marcie Siegel of Sweely Estate Winery and Ruth Saunders of Silver Creek Orchards.