



STATE OF OHIO  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
COLUMBUS 43215

RICHARD F. CELESTE  
GOVERNOR

May 16, 1983

Tom George, Chief  
Regulations and Procedures Division  
U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
and Firearms  
P.O. Box 385  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0385

Attention: Notice No. 460 and 462

Dear Mr. George:

I am proud to pledge my full support for designation of the viticultural areas called Lake Erie, Grand River Valley, and Ohio River Valley. Designation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms as viticultural areas is an important step in the recognition process for Ohio wine.

Ohio has a long history of producing quality wine, and was once the nation's leader in wine production. The wine industry in Ohio is ever expanding with increasing sophistication. Ohio wines are having success entering the international market as well as providing good, moderately-priced wines domestically.

Designated Viticultural Areas will assist the Ohio wine industry in marketing and labeling its product. The designation is also good for consumers; it informs as well as protects consumers as they shop for their favored wines.

I support all efforts for the official designation of these areas and will do what I can to assist growth in this historically Ohio-rooted industry. I encourage the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to designate the Lake Erie, Grand River Valley, and Ohio River Valley areas as recognized viticultural areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard F. Celeste".

RICHARD F. CELESTE  
Governor

RFC/ga

STATE OF OHIO  
Richard F. Celeste, Governor  
Alfred S. Dietzel, Director



# Department of Development

P.O. Box 1001 • Columbus, Ohio • 43216

May 16, 1983

Mr. Tom George, Chief  
Regulations and Procedures Division  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms  
P.O. Box 385  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0385

Attn: Notice No. 460 and 462

Dear Mr. George:

I am writing to encourage the designation of three viticultural areas in Ohio: Lake Erie, Grand River Valley, and Ohio River Valley. The wine industry is a growing component of the Ohio economy. The designation of such areas will assist in the marketing and labeling of Ohio wines not only domestically but also in the international marketplace.

Ohio is not a stranger to the wine industry. Prior to the Civil War Ohio was the nation's leading wine producer. Ohio is once again asserting itself in this expanding market. The designation of these three areas will assist that development.

Ohio is producing wines moderately-priced for the domestic market. It is important that designation is established to insure consumers are informed in their purchase. The present sophistication of the United States' wine market demands this type of specification.

Viticultural areas in Ohio and neighboring states will expand our tourism trade, an important segment of our economy.

As Director of the Ohio Department of Development, I recognize the importance of the designation of these areas and encourage the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to certify the areas of the Great Lake, Grand River Valley and Ohio River Valley as viticultural areas.

Sincerely,

Alfred S. Dietzel  
Director

ASD/caf

# ODNR

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Fountain Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43224  
(614) 265-6886

May 18, 1983

Mr. Tom George, Chief  
Regulations and Procedures Division  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
Post Office Box 385  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0385

RE: PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 460 & 462

Dear Mr. George:

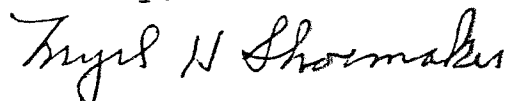
I enthusiastically support designation of three viticultural areas in Ohio: Lake Erie, Grand River Valley and Ohio River Valley. Designation by your agency is important to the recognition of fine Ohio wines and an expanding industry.

Ohio has a rich heritage as a wine producing state. Along the Ohio River in southwest Ohio, the climate, soils and physiography enabled this region to produce quality domestic wines making Ohio the nation's number one producer in the mid-1800's.

Lake Erie has a moderating effect on climates of the Ohio south shore, extending the growing season in Ohio's "fruit belt." The unique combinations of climate, physiography and soils are important reasons for the expansion of Ohio's wine industry in the Lake Erie area Grand River valley.

Tourism will benefit as well from the deserved recognition of Ohio's wine producing areas. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources is doing its part to foster this important trade. It is for this reason that I strongly encourage certification of the Ohio River Valley, Lake Erie and Grand River Valley as viticultural areas.

Sincerely,



MYRL H. SHOEMAKER  
Director

MHS/dlw