



May 1, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a great pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Anthony Silveira. Anthony and I met in the mid 1970s in the West Side operations of Fresno County where Anthony was the manager of vineyard operations located in Huron and Cantua Creek that included 2,250 acres of nine varietal wine grapes. Anthony and I were both farming and running grape harvesting equipment. Anthony had an impressive operation from managing operational personnel, overseeing shop and equipment maintenance, to managing a very productive vineyard operation of yield and high quality.

Over the years I watched as Anthony expanded operations to 6,000 acres of wine and table grapes and 2,000 acres of stone fruit and Granny Smith apples. During this time in the 1980s, Anthony was farming in five counties running 15 grape harvesters at 100 loads per night and he was also farming peaches, nectarines, and plums and an apple harvest that included table grapes, almonds, and row crops.

In 1990 Anthony's management direction took him to Merced County with apples and to Yolo and Santa Barbara Counties for premium wine grape production. Anthony's staff was remarkable and impressive that included a director of finance/controller, ranch secretary, an in-house P.C.A. director, four divisional managers and staff, and a shop divisional manager.

In 2000 Anthony wanted a change of direction and went to a more intense operation with Cal Western Nurseries as a sales manager. Again I saw Anthony grow again in his career and abilities and he has expanded operations and sales to California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

Anthony is a determined and motivated individual with an impressive work ethic. One of his strongest traits is his ability to form strong interpersonal relationships with his fellow workers. Anthony has proven to be a leader in the grapevine nursery industry and his experience, knowledge, and determination make him a valuable asset.

Please contact me for additional information if needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Anthony". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.