STEVE LAVAGNINO

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Date: 6/17/24 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara 105 East Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 **RE:** Commission Appointment For placement on the Board of Supervisors agenda for the meeting of: June 25, 2024. I would like to recommend the appointment/ reappointment of the following person to the Agricultural Advisory Commission: Salutation: Mrs Mrs Mr Ms. Full Name of Appointee: Djamila Cabugos Appointee will represent the Fifth District on this commission. Position was formerly held by: Check box only if this appointment is filling an unexpired vacancy. Fifth District Supervisor: Steve Lavagnino **COB Information Verification** Signed by: ☐ Letter of Resignation on file ☐ Vacancy Notice on file Term: _ years □ Beginning date Ending date

Economics Professor, UCSB

Profile Djamila Cabugos First Name Last Name Email Address Street Address $\mathsf{C}\mathsf{A}$ 93460 City Postal Code Indicate Supervisor Who Will Receive a Copy of your Application * ▼ Third District - Joan Hartmann Primary Phone Alternate Phone Which Boards would you like to apply for? Agricultural Advisory Committee: Submitted **Reference 1 Name** John Price **Reference 1 Telephone Reference 1 Occupation** Business Owner, Price Management **Reference 2 Name** Peter Rupert **Reference 2 Telephone Reference 2 Occupation**

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Reference 3 Name	
Ed Edick	

Reference 3 Telephone

Reference 3 Occupation

Founder, Village Properties

Interests & Experiences

Please explain why you are interested in serving, and what experience you bring to the Committee. Attach additional documentation as necessary.

As CEO of Sunstone Winery, I am excited by the opportunity to serve on the Agricultural Advisory Committee of Santa Barbara County. My interest in this role stems from a deeprooted commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture and supporting our local farming community. Having lived in Santa Barbara my entire life, apart from my years studying for my undergraduate degree at UCLA, abroad at the University of Barcelona, and for my juris doctorate at UC College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings), I have a profound connection to this region and its agricultural heritage. Owning and operating Sunstone Winery has provided me with invaluable insights into the intricacies of vineyard management, wine production, and the broader agricultural landscape. Our estate's success is built on sustainable farming practices which enhance the quality of our products, the wellbeing of our employees and consumers, and the long-term health of our land. This commitment to sustainability is something I am eager to promote within our county. In addition to my role at Sunstone Winery, I also serve as the CEO of a cannabis startup company. This venture has exposed me to the adversities and issues faced by the agricultural marijuana and hemp industries. These struggling, unstable sectors need help, and I am passionate to do what I can to help move these industries forward. In my roles, I have had the privilege of employing and working alongside a diverse team of agricultural and industry professionals. I have seen firsthand the importance of supporting our workforce, fostering innovation, and maintaining high standards of agricultural practices. Moreover, Sunstone Winery's focus on integrating related agricultural uses, such as agritourism and direct-to-consumer sales, has given me a unique perspective on the evolving needs of our industry. I believe this experience will be particularly valuable in advising on policies and initiatives that promote the economic viability and sustainability of agricultural businesses in Santa Barbara County. I am heavily invested in the community, recognizing the vital role that agriculture plays in our local economy and culture. Serving on the Committee will allow me to contribute to the development of policies that support farmers, protect our natural resources, and enhance the overall well-being of our county.

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Give any information explaining qualifications, experience, training, education, volunteer activities, community organization memberships, or personal interests that bear on your application for the above Board, Commission or Committee. Attach additional documentation as necessary.

Beyond an entrepreneur, I am a licensed business attorney. My legal expertise, experience, and perspective will enhance my ability to contribute to the policy-advising work of the committee. My legal background enables me to analyze complex issues, draft well-founded recommendations, and navigate the regulatory landscape effectively. I graduated high school from Laguna Blanca School in Santa Barbara. I earned my undergraduate degree at UCLA in 2009, studied a year abroad at the University of Barcelona, and obtained my juris doctorate at UC College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) in 2013. I am licensed to practice law in California. Out of law school, I returned to Santa Barbara and joined Matthew I. Berger Law Group, where I litigated commercial, tort, real property, insurance bad faith, IP, and cannabis matters before state and federal courts; drafted business transactional agreements; and counseled clients on business matters including establishing, licensing, and enforcing IP rights. In 2017, I founded my own business law practice which focused on serving as outside general counsel to startups. My practice included counseling corporate clients in a wide range of transactional and IP matters; drafting corporate agreements; and managing trademark portfolios. An entrepreneur at heart, in 2019 I teamed up with my husband to found our company Canvinia Inc., acquire Sunstone Winery, and pioneer an exciting yet challenging new era of wine and cannabis. Community has always been important to me. I currently serve on the Board of the UCSB Economic Forecast Committee as a representative of the agricultural business sector. I am also concluding my three-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Rona Barrett Foundation. where I serve as Vice President and Treasurer. The mission of the Rona Barrett Foundation is to create innovative solutions for affordable housing and supportive services for seniors in need. Closest to my heart, I am a mother of three incredible sons and wife to a devoted husband, which further strengthens my commitment to healthful environmental practices. My deep family and community orientation shapes my dedication to agriculture, sustainable practices, and environmental stewardship. In summary, my background in managing a dynamic vineyard estate and related agribusinesses, coupled with my commitment to sustainable agriculture, community development, and legal expertise, positions me well to make meaningful contributions to the Agricultural Advisory Committee. I am eager to bring my experience and passion to this role, working collaboratively to support and advance the agricultural interests of Santa Barbara County.

<u>Djamila_Cabugos_Resume.06_15_2024.docx</u>

Upload a Resume

Demographics	
Ethnicity	
Gender	
▽ Female	
Date of Birth	ı
Education Completed:	
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Please Agree with the Following Statement

I agree that upon submission of this application all information provided is a matter of public record, and is subject to disclosure.

✓ I Agree *

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