
Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, Committee, Task Force or Position

Applicants appointed by the Board of Supervisors will be required to take an oath of office. All applications will be kept on file for one year from the date of application.

Public Records Act

Applications are public records that are subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act. Information provided by the applicant is not regarded as confidential except for the addresses and phone numbers of references and the applicant's personal information including home and work addresses, phone numbers and email address.

Form 700 Conflict of Interest Code

[California Fair Political Practices Website](#)

Please note that appointees may be required by state law and county conflict of interest code to file financial disclosure statements.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Napa County Winegrape Pest & Disease Control District Board of Directors: Submitted

Category of Membership for Which You Are Applying

Board of Directors

Profile

Michael

First Name

Coode

Last Name

Middle
Initial

Email Address

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Angwin

City

CA

State

94508

Postal Code

Which supervisorial district do you reside in? *

☒ District 3

To find your supervisorial district go to <https://www.countyofnapa.org/1334/About-the-Board>, click on "Look Up My District" and enter your address.

Primary Phone

Pope Valley Winery
Employer

General Manager and
Winemaker
Job Title

General Manager
Occupation

Education/Experience

Master of Wine Business Bachelor Applied Science (Wine Science)

Name and occupation of spouse within the last 12 months, if married. (For conflict of Interest purposes)

Stefanie Coode

Resume

[Michael_Coode_Resume_2025.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Letter of Recommendation or Supplemental
Attachments

Professional or occupational license, date of issue, and expiration including status

RBS Alcohol Server Certification 3-15-25

References: Provide names and phone numbers of 3 individuals who are familiar with your background.

Josh Anstey [REDACTED] David Eakle [REDACTED] Diana Eakle - Hawkins [REDACTED]

Community Participation

Please explain your reasons for wishing to serve and, in your opinion, how you feel you could contribute.

Having worked extensively in public and private wine research both domestically and internationally, I feel I could bring a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience to this particular field

Nature of activity and community location

Part of the Historic Society Pope Valley Winery has and will continue to be involved in several community events and fundraisers and donated generously too

Other County Board/Commission/Committee on Which You Serve/Have Served

This will be the first

Public Actions that may impact Credit Rating (List all court or other public administration actions impacting your credit rating within the past ten (10) years)

NA

Michael Coode

Electronic Signature Agreement

I meet the criteria required to serve in this position.

☒ Yes ☐ No

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please Agree with the Following Statement

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

☒ I Agree

Electronic Signature (First M. Last)

Michael G M Coode

Date

6/6/2025

Michael Coode

General Manager and Head Winemaker

Angwin, CA 94508



Core Competencies

1. ****Proven Leadership in the Wine Industry****: Asserts a significant track record of successful leadership over 22 years in the wine sector.
2. ****Vast Winemaking Experience****: Highlights 25 harvests of comprehensive involvement across all facets, including research, sales, operations, and more.
3. ****Award-Winning International Recognition****: Boasts an unmatched ability to produce award-winning wines that have earned international acclaim, spearheading impactful product development and operational enhancements with a keen eye on boosting ROI.
4. ****Expert Financial Management****: Showcases a deep and authoritative understanding of the economic aspects of winery management, from crafting budget-friendly strategies to enhancing sales performance.
5. ****Comprehensive Skill Set****: Merges diverse abilities from product innovation to tasting room oversight, underscoring a relentless drive towards business excellence and pioneering within the wine industry.

EXPERIENCE

Pope Valley Winery, Pope Valley California (60 Tons, ~3,000 Cases)

General Manager and Head Winemaker

January 2025 – Present

- Relaunching the historic brand, leading the redesign of brand architecture. Realizing packaging opportunity costs in all facets of the business.
- Leading the community engagement and go to Market strategy for this historic site

Rutherford Hill Winery, Rutherford California (600 Tons, ~28,000 Cases)

Head Winemaker and General Manager

May 2022 – December 2024

- Reporting into VP of Supply and manage a team of 24
- Relaunched the brand, co-lead the redesign of brand architecture as well as wine style with a consumer centric approach. Realized packaging opportunity costs to drive miscellaneous cost down.
- Co-lead with the VP of Marketing, and VP of Public Relations the Go to Market strategy as well as worked with the Tasting Room Director on the DTC strategy and communications.
- Set and maintained budgets, P&L statements and capex project plans.
- Achieved equal highest Wine Spectator review for a Napa Sauvignon Blanc in the publication's history.
- Achieved equal highest Wine Spectator Merlot rating for 2021 as well as the estates highest score.

Rombauer Vineyards, Plymouth California (1800 Tons, ~75,000Cases)

Site Manager and Associate Winemaker

May 2020 – May 2022

- Managed winery and vineyard operations encompassing 140 acres of estate vineyards and 7 growers totaling 1,000 tons.
- Ensured a healthy budget was achieved sitewide as well as a strong team culture.
- Assisted in creating a wine experience that drove consumer loyalty that also enlisted the local community in driving visitation.

E & J Gallo, Modesto California

New Product Development Manager

June 2016 – May 2020

- Reporting into Senior Director Winegrowing and managed a team of 3
- Led the product development department for the <\$20 wine category, overseeing several winemakers' areas and production teams across multiple sites and regions.
- Drove the cross-functional collaboration in the development of 100+ SKUs from ideation to bottling involving consumer & product insights, research, winemaking, and brand management.
- Extensively supported the R&D Team develop new varietals and growing techniques to support new wine making techniques or strategies
- Instituted processes for product management to ensure winemakers adhered to methods for meeting targeted wine styles and TTB regulations.
- Supported company expansion by developing new international wines in country.
- Developed new products in Chile and Argentina for Gallo to export to global destinations

Inglennook, Rutherford California (~250 Acres, 15,000cases)

Production Operations Manager

May 2015 – May 2016

- Designed and implemented a research program for winemaking and vineyard management operations excellence (including a 5-acre research vineyard).
- Diagnosed, mapped, and implemented a strategy for managing the damaging red blotch virus.
- Aided the Managing Director and architectural team in designing a state-of-the-art estate winery.

Australian Wine Research Institute, Australia (100tons, ~360 Ferments)

Winemaker & Operations Manager

November 2012 – May 2015

- Reporting into Enology Professor and managed a team of how many 3
- Managed research winery operations with 350+ pilot-scale ferments and custom crush projects.
- Returned the first surplus (\$110k+) in the winery's history from a deficit of 5+ years.
- Judged at national wine competitions; and supervised undergraduate and postgraduate students.

South Australian Wine Industry Association, Adelaide Australia

Wine Educator and Industry Representative

June 2011 – May 2015

GLOBAL HARVEST EXPERIENCE

Paul Jaboulet Aîné	Hermitage	France	September – October 2014
Loom Wine	McLaren Vale	Australia	November 2011 – May 2012
Wolf Blass	Barossa Valley	Australia	January – April 2011
Peller Estate	Niagara	Canada	September – November 2010
Tyrrell's Wine	Hunter Valley	Australia	January – February 2009
Château Margaux	Bordeaux	France	September – November 2008
Inniskillin Wines	Niagara	Canada	September 2007 – February 2008
Tahbilk	Nagambie	Australia	February – April 2007

EDUCATION

University of Adelaide, Adelaide Australia - *Master of Wine Business*

2009 – 2010

Master's thesis: *Wine Tourism Effects of the Tasting Room on Consumer Brand Loyalty*

Charles Sturt & Deakin University, Geelong Australia - *Bachelor of Applied Science (Wine Science)*

2006 – 2008

Publications

[**The Buyer.net** – Michael Coode's winemaking CV is shaking things up at Rutherford Hill](#)

[Published Master Thesis - Wine Tourism Experience Effects of the Tasting Room on Consumer Brand Loyalty](#)

Accolades

James Suckling – Rutherford Hill 9 wines with 90+ (*achieved the Brands highest scores of 93*)

Wine Spectator – Achieved the highest scores for the winery (in 40 years)

- **Rutherford Hill 2021 Stag's Leap Merlot** 94 (*The brands highest score and equal best score for Napa Valley Merlot*)
- **Rutherford Hill 2022 Sauvignon Blanc** 94 (*Equal highest in Napa Valley for the vintage and in the history of the publication for Napa Sauvignon Blanc*)

Wine Advocate – Rutherford Hill 8 wines with 90+ (*achieved the Brands highest scores of 93*)