

Richard M. Gahagan

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Education

M.S. Agricultural Chemistry (Enology), California State University, Fresno 1982.

B.S. Industrial Technology, California State University, Fresno 1971.

Richard has taught wine and brandy regulations at Fresno State since his retirement from government service in 2001. Prior to retirement, Richard was the Wine Technical Advisor for the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

As ATF's Wine Technical Advisor, he was responsible for advising the wine industry, State and foreign governments, and other Federal agencies on U.S. wine regulations and production. This involved working with many domestic and international wine related issues, including the evaluation of new wine-treating materials and processing technology.

In 1983 and, again in 1998, he served as part of a Federal government inter agency wine committee that successfully negotiated the bilateral wine accords with the European Union.

He also represented the United States Government and the U.S. wine industry at the expert groups Food Safety, Wine Technology, Wine Microbiology, and International Code of Oenological Practice at the Office International de la Vigne et du Vin (OIV), headquartered in Paris, France.

He was also part of the United States' delegation to the Food Additives and Contaminates Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CODEX), headquartered in The Netherlands, which is part of the Food and Agricultural Office (FAO) of the United Nations. He was responsible to providing advice regarding beer, distilled spirits and wine additive and contaminant issues.

Further, he served on the board of the Viticulture and Enology Research Center at California State University, Fresno; the Technical Projects Committee of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture; and the Grape Germplasm Advisory Committee of the United States Department of Agriculture.

He also participated in over two hundred ATF sponsored compliance seminars covering an array of topics including licensing, records and reports, taxes, labeling, enological practices, importing and exporting, laboratory analysis, and distillation.

Also, he coordinated symposia for American Society for Enology and Viticulture annual meetings on such diverse topics as Winery Sanitation; Importation of Bulk Wine; Exports and Laboratory Analyses.

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