



June 23, 2016

The Honorable Maura Healey  
Attorney General  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108-1518

Dear Attorney General Healey:

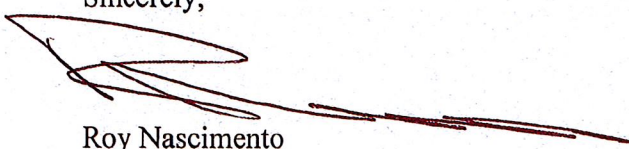
The Johnny Appleseed Trail Association is the state's recognized Regional Tourism Council for North Central Massachusetts. Our role is to promote and market the region's tourist attractions which play a vital role in the state and local economies. With agri-tourism becoming a major tourism destination, we were troubled by the recent decision by the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission denying a pouring license to the Nashoba Valley Winery in Bolton, MA.

The Nashoba Valley Winery has become an iconic institution in Massachusetts, creating an interest for those who appreciate authentic farm-to-table experiences and support the age old industry of farming – which too often is overlooked. Any decision that is made to act as a barrier for a business to thrive is irresponsible. It appears that this new interpretation of the regulations concerning alcoholic beverages is counter-productive and fails to meet the goals of the agency.

We respectfully ask your office to review this matter closely and recommend the court to issue an injunction that would compel the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission to continue to issue all licenses that it has previously issued. We hope that the decision is overturned and the Nashoba Valley Winery can be fully operational beyond 2016. As an employer, attraction, and family-owned business, we hope that both your office and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission recognize the faults in this decision.

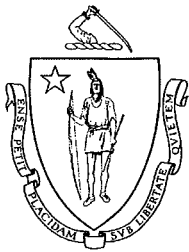
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Roy Nascimento  
President & CEO





THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

MAURA HEALEY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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July 6, 2016

Roy Nascimento  
860 South Street  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Mr. Nascimento,

Thank you very much for writing to the Attorney General's Office to express your support for the continued operation of the Nashoba Valley Winery.

On June 28, our office wrote to Nashoba's attorney to share our legal opinion that the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) has the authority under current law to allow the winery to continue to operate as it has for many years. In fact, the laws reflect our state's commitment to farm-to-table businesses and local agriculture, like the Nashoba Valley Winery. I have attached a copy of that communication. We are now working closely with all parties to resolve the matter.

Thank you very much for writing to our office. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Policy and Government Division at 617-727-2700.

Sincerely,

Mike Firestone

Chief of Staff  
Attorney General Maura Healey