

Independent Accountant's Report

Hass Avocado Board 25212 Marguerite Pkwy., Ste. 250 Mission Viejo, CA 92692

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the nomination process conducted pursuant to the Hass Avocado Promotion Order, 7 C.F.R. § 1219. The Hass Avocado Board is responsible for administering the nomination process.

The Hass Avocado Board has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of assisting the Board and the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") in identifying producers and importers for possible appointment to the Hass Avocado Board. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

Our procedures and results were as follows:

- 1. We obtained a copy of the Hass Avocado Nomination Procedures ("Procedures"), dated December 5, 2024. We read the Procedures to gain an understanding of the rules governing the nomination process. The Board also provided us with a list of producers and importers in the U.S. who are eligible to serve on the board.
 - <u>Results:</u> We noted that the Board must submit two *producer* names for each available producer seat. There are five available producer seats, for a total of ten producer names to be submitted to the USDA. The Board must also submit two *importer* names for each available seat. There are three available seats, for a total of six importer names. We noted that all votes must be submitted by May 30, 2025.
- 2. Electronic ballots were collected and tabulated by the e-balloting agency. A certified elections results report, along with raw voter results reports were provided from the e-balloting agency to the firm for data entry into the ballot tally summary schedule.
- 3. After data entry, a second auditor at the firm recounted all votes.
- 4. The ballot tally summary schedule, in descending order by vote count, was provided to the Board in Exhibit A.

The results of the top candidates with the highest total number of votes are as follows. (Please note that in the event of a tie, lots were cast to determine the order of presentation.)

Producer Nominees

| | First Name | <u>Last Name</u> | Qualifying Votes |
|----|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | John | Berns | 64 |
| 2 | Daniel | Harte | 61 |
| 3 | Mark | Vawter | 54 |
| 4 | Charley | Wolk | 45 |
| 5 | Jonathan | Smith | 45 |
| 6 | Joanne | Robles-Swanson | 30 |
| 7 | Emily | Stadnik | 27 |
| 8 | Joanna | Loring | 20 |
| 9 | Richard | Molensko | 19 |
| 10 | Patrick | Cain | 17 |
| 11 | George | Bien-Willner (write-in) | 1 |
| 12 | Nick | Stehly (write-in) | 1 |

Importer Nominees

| | First Name | <u>Last Name</u> | Qualifying Votes |
|---|------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Jorge | Hernandez | 8 |
| 2 | Rigo | Perez Jr. | 6 |
| 3 | Rob | Ybarra | 5 |
| 4 | Juan | Monsalve | 3 |
| 5 | Debbie | Willmann | 2 |
| 6 | John | Patrick | 1 |

- 5. The certified election results report and the raw voter results report provided by the e-balloting agency along with our ballot vote tally summary will be stored electronically for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 6. We provided a listing to the board that included the producer or importer along with the provided email address from the paper ballots.

We were engaged by the Hass Avocado Board to perform this agreed-upon-procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the AICPA. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on handler assessments. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Hass Avocado Board and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Hass Avocado Board and the United States Department of Agriculture and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Irvine, California June 6, 2025

Davis fan up

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HASS AVOCADO BOARD NOMINATIONS Overall Tally Results May 30, 2025

Producer Nominees

| Producer nominees | | | |
|---|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | First Name | Last Name | Qualifying Votes |
| 1 | John | Berns | 64 |
| 2 | Daniel | Harte | 61 |
| 3 | Mark | Vawter | 54 |
| 4 | Charley | Wolk | 45 |
| 5 | Jonathan | Smith | 45 |
| 6 | Joanne | Robles-Swanson | 30 |
| 7 | Emily | Stadnik | 27 |
| 8 | Joanna | Loring | 20 |
| 9 | Richard | Molensko | 19 |
| 10 | Patrick | Cain | 17 |
| 11 | George | Bien-Willner (write-in) | 1 |
| 12 | Nick | Stehly (write-in) | 1 |
| Total of qualifying producer votes received by deadline 384 | | | |
| | | Importer Nominees | |
| | First Name | Last Name | Qualifying Votes |
| 1 | Jorge | Hernandez | 8 |
| 2 | Rigo | Perez Jr. | 6 |
| 3 | Rob | Ybarra | 5 |
| 4 | Juan | Monsalve | 3 |

| 7 | Roberto | Fantini | 0 |
|---|---------|----------------------------------|----|
| Total of qualifying importer votes received by deadline | | orter votes received by deadline | 25 |

Willmann

Patrick

Qualified Ballots

5 Debbie

6 John

| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
|---|-----|
| Total number of producer ballots received by deadline | 116 |
| Total number of importer ballots received by deadline | 14 |
| Total qualified ballots | 130 |

Disqualified Ballots

| Voter indicated they are ineligible to vote | 4 |
|---|-----|
| Total disqualified ballots | 4 |
| | |
| Total Ballots | 134 |