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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **For Release Upon Receipt**

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### **Wine Industry Leader Nat DiBuduo to be Honored as 2018 Distinguished California Agriculturalist by Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers**

Woodbridge, CA...Nat M. DiBuduo will be honored at the Outlook 2018 Agribusiness Conference in Visalia on March 22<sup>nd</sup> as the Distinguished California Agriculturalist of the year. The award, recognizing an individual who has contributed in a significant and highly visible way to the betterment of California agriculture, is presented by the California Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers (ASFMRA) annually.

Nat DiBuduo is currently President and CEO of Allied Grape Growers, a marketing association with over 500 members who produce over 250,000 tons annually. Nat has been involved in agriculture all of his life, having worked with his family (Papagni Fruit Company) farming and developing vineyards in Fresno, Madera and Kern Counties through college. Nat and brother, Jerry, formed DiBuduo Farm Management (DLM) in 1978 where Nat stayed until 1984 at which time Jerry expanded and incorporated the company while Nat went on to work as Vice President of Pro Ag, a pioneering fully integrated pest management company. Ownership of DiBuduo Ag Services, an agricultural consulting firm, and employment with Capital Agricultural Property Services, Inc. managing agricultural land throughout California and Arizona, were all part of Nat's career journey prior to joining Allied Grape Growers in 2000.

Nat has received numerous commendations for his work and leadership in agriculture including being named one of the Top 50 Leaders in the California Wine Industry by Wine Business Monthly in both 2016 and 2017, receiving the '2014 Profiles in Leadership Award' by the Agriculture Lead-

ership Foundation, and being recognized by the California Association of Winegrape Growers as CAWG Leader of the Year in 2012, to name a few.

Nat's career has always gone hand in hand with his support of the agriculture industry, his community, and his Alma Mater, California State University Fresno, further demonstrating his commitment and dedication to improving and promoting California Agriculture. He was appointed to the CSU Fresno Foundation Board of Governors, was past chair of the CDFA DP/GWSS Board, is a member of Friends of Fresno Fair, and served on the City of Fresno Mayor's Advisory Committee. Nat is also a graduate of the California Agriculture Leadership Program Class VI and earned the Accredited Farm Manager (AFM) designation with the nationally recognized American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers.

The Outlook 2018 Agribusiness Conference will be held Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Visalia Convention Center. The conference will feature a full day of programming under the theme, 'California Agriculture: Business NOT as Usual!' along with the release of the highly renowned Trends® in Agricultural Land and Lease Values publication. Questions may be directed to the California Chapter, ASFMRA Office at (209) 368-3672 or to [info@calasfmra.com](mailto:info@calasfmra.com).

NOTE: Press Passes are available complimentary to the media. Please contact Suzie Roget at (209) 368-2672 or [info@calasfmra.com](mailto:info@calasfmra.com) to make arrangements.

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