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Press Release

Doug Margerum Signs Long-Term Lease on Honea Vineyards Vineyard to be Dedicated to Rhône Varietals

Los Olivos, February 17, 2016: Margerum Wine Company has signed a long-term lease with Honea Vineyards for Margerum's Rhône varietals wine production. The vineyard will be grafted to Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre, Cinsault and Counoise and will be the primary source for Margerum's well know M5 red wine blend. Additionally, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne, Roussanne, Viognier, and Picpoul Blanc will be grafted for a new Margerum wine, the M5 white Rhône varietal blend. The hillside will be planted to Syrah and Viognier for a co-fermented Syrah to be added to Margerum's single vineyard Syrah program.

Honea Vineyards is located in the newly designated Los Olivos District AVA in the Santa Ynez Valley. Purchased in 2002, Honea Vineyards consists of 40 acres at 2201Alamo Pintado Road, the major wine country road running between the wine center town of Los Olivos and the Danish town of Solvang. The acreage is divided between limestone hillsides and gravelly alluvial flatlands with three prominent hills leading up from the flat land along Alamo Pintado creek. Twenty acres have been planted in grapes and two in olive trees.

Margerum Wine Company creates handcrafted wines using only the highest quality grapes. Margerum makes wines that are indicative of the place where they are grown – wines that have individual characteristics, personality and that are made naturally. The scale of production is kept at a level where they are touched and known; wine is raised to the bottle – the antithesis of mass production. The standards of quality are measured by Margerum's criteria – not by external sources. Margerum makes wines the founder and winemakers personally enjoy – some to drink young, all for the table, and others for long aging in cool cellars for the children to enjoy.

Margerum wines are made at a state-of-the-art winery located in the Santa Ynez Valley on Industrial Way in Buellton, California. In addition to M5 (a Rhône varietal red blend), Margerum primarily produces vineyard Syrahs, a co-fermented Syrah called ÜBER, and SYBARITE Sauvignon Blanc. Margerum works with the top vineyards in Santa Barbara County to produce small lots of premium wines.

For more information please contact Doug Margerum – <u>doug@margerumwines.com</u> or at 805.570.7268

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