

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

29 January 2019

Dear Sir:

SUBJECT: ACRE

This letter is intended to give you an outline of the status as well as to provide you with current supporting documents.

When I purchased my property in 1997 it was listed as agricultural property with the township. At the time we owned horses and had to get a variance from the township to put agricultural animals on agricultural property. Even the township board that we went in front of thought this was uncalled for, but at the time was a township code.

The township in 1968 disapproved a 60 foot right of way on the southern portion of the property. Only allowing a 30 foot right of egress, ingress and regress. A year later the property was sub-divided with the 60 foot right of way. Township does not enforce their own decisions. As a result there has been many legal actions taken to court about the right of way over the past 20 years.

The property is just over 10 acres, it has been in clean and green as long as we have owned the property. As a 100% disabled veteran the Township would only recognized 5 acres as tax exempt for a number of years. Recently the township identified the property taxes exemption for the whole 10 plus acres.

We have planted over 2,000 grapevines, 210 hops rhizomes, we maintain between 10 and 20 bee hives (Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) and winter die off in past 4 years has been 60 to 70 %) we raise 5 steers for butchering, maintain a flock of 30 chickens and 20 Guinea fowl. There are 10 apple, 10 pear, 1 cherry, 1 crabapple and 1 plum tree. A raspberry and strawberry patch.

We are attempting to open a winery on the property next door which we purchased. We planted 686 grapevines on the property. We renovated the basement of the house to become a tasting room for the winery. We renovated the rest of the house to allow for small social gatherings. We added a solar array for power. We renovated the 24 by 32 foot garage to be the winery. We applied for a Federal Winery License and was APPROVED. We filed for a Pennsylvania state winery license through the PLCB (Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board) and was APPROVED. When we went in front of the township codes board March 2018, we were told to combine the two properties, which we did in accordance with the township codes board and codes.

We have contacted the United States Department of Agriculture and applied for Added Value Grant (since we planted, grow, harvest and process our grapes into wine we are authorized this grant) since we are adding value to our grapes.

We also applied for Local grants from the county since we are a farm. Cumberland Economic Development Corporation.





We made a second attempt to open the winery and it appears that the township is not recognizing the property as agriculture property but a commercial property.

We have another township codes board hearing on 12 February 2019 @6pm to appeal the most recent township decisions. We have to pay \$750 to go in front of the board and \$1,200 in escrow.

Any questions please feel free to contact me at the above address and phone numbers.

