

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

**CONFIDENTIAL ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
HANDLER NOMINEE QUESTIONNAIRE**

The Secretary of Agriculture needs the following information for consideration in connection with your nomination to serve on the Almond Board of California (ABC) under Federal Marketing Order No. 981. Statutory authority to obtain such information is provided in 7 U.S.C. 608. Failure to provide this information may hinder your selection by the Secretary.

1. Name _____
2. Mailing Address (incl. City, State, and Zip Code) _____

3. Telephone Number (incl. area code) _____
4. Almond handler with which you are associated _____
5. Name and address of firm _____

 - a) Your position with the firm _____
 - b) Number of years of experience in position _____
6. Number of years of experience in the almond industry _____

I am willing to serve on the Almond Board of California if selected by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Signature

Date

Marketing Order committee members, in their official capacities, are prohibited from taking any action specifically designed to influence legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion concerning legislation. Committee members may not communicate with any official of a State or Federal legislative body for the purpose of attempting to influence legislation. Committee members are also prohibited from attempting to influence State or Federal government actions or policies or those of foreign governments, except as specifically authorized under the marketing order or expressly approved by the Secretary.

Committee members are specifically precluded from authorizing the expenditure of marketing order funds for the purpose of attempting to influence legislation or government actions. These same prohibitions apply to committee managers, staff, and contractors, except that committee managers may consult with the Department of Agriculture (USDA) employees during the pendency of informal rulemaking actions.

If marketing order committee or subcommittee members or committee employees are sued individually or jointly for errors in judgment, mistakes or other acts either of omission or commission (except for acts of dishonesty, willful misconduct, or gross negligence) in the conduct of their duties under the marketing agreement or order, they may be authorized legal defense by the Department of Justice (DOJ). Alternatively, legal defense may be provided through private counsel, if recommended by USDA and approved by DOJ. USDA and DOJ enjoy an excellent working relationship with respect to providing legal representation for committee members and employees, either by DOJ or through authorized private counsel. USDA is committed to a comprehensive legal defense policy for all committee members and employees acting within the scope of their authorized committee duties and responsibilities.

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