

# Wine Council Annual Report | 2023

The newly formed **Wine Council** fills a current gap in services provided to existing members when it comes to the adult beverage industry, specifically the wine sector. The Council serves as a focused space and group that can address many of the issues facing organic wine growers and brands in the organic and made with organic grapes category for wines.

## Council Highlights | 2023



- The Council launched! 2023 was its inception year with its inaugural meeting taking place in December 2023.
- The Council worked on its plans and agenda items for the coming year (2024), which will focus on equivalency issues, NOSB petitions for a number of items, packaging and labeling concerns.
- Started discussions on SO2 use for organic wine and parity with EU guidelines.

## Council Priorities | 2024



- Education, equivalency issues with exports, labeling barriers from TTB
- We are prioritizing, in 2024, materials and methods that could be more aligned in equivalency agreements, our domestic challenges around SO2 amounts and materials allowed, and packaging concerns.
- EU-US Organic Equivalency Arrangement

## Council Highlights | 2023

The Wine Council provides perspective on other producers' challenges and solidarity for advocacy for organic wine specific issues. The Council provides a dedicated time and space to speak with and hear from industry colleagues facing similar challenges. The council provides an opportunity to work together on strategies and tactics to overcome industry challenges and gives the organic wine industry a voice in helping make positive change to organic winegrowing in the US.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS



The Wine Council is led by Joseph Brinkley (Bonterra Organic Estates) as Chair, Cain Thompson (O'Neill Vintners & Distillers) as Vice Chair, and Eliza Frey (Frey Vineyards) as Secretary. If you are interested in joining the Council, please contact Danielle Cote (DCote@ota.com).

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