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**Martin Family Vineyards Wins Top Honors at Indy Intl. Wine Competition
2003 Estate Petite Sirah Awarded Best Red Wine**

Healdsburg, California (August 25, 2006) — Facing goliath opposition from much larger wineries and nearly 4,000 entries, Martin Family Vineyard's 2003 Dry Creek Valley Estate Petite Sirah was awarded the *American Airlines Trophy — Best Commercial Red Wine* at the 2005 Indy International Wine Competition. The judging was held July 27 – 29 at the Blue Ribbon Pavilion of the Indiana State Fairgrounds. This small Sonoma County producer flexed its winemaking prowess earlier in the year when it won a *Chairman's Award* at the 2006 Riverside International Wine Competition for its 2003 *Rockpile Cabernet Sauvignon*.

"This is our chance to crow," said General Manager Jim Morris. "We faced some stiff competition from established wineries that have much greater resources than our two-man operation."

Eighty-two professional wine judges swirled, sniffed, sipped and spit their way through a total of 3,859 wines from 425 producers in 42 U.S. states and 17 different countries. The exceptionally large gathering of judges represented a sampling of tenured American wine-industry professionals including journalists, winemakers, viticulturists, educators and distributors.

"The very best part of running a competition for me," wrote Competition Coordinator Ellen M. Butz in a congratulatory email, "is when the quality of unique wines like yours is recognized out of the thousands of commercial entries. ... I am delighted you won this trophy."

Grapes for the award-winning 2003 Petite Sirah were sourced from Follett Ranch, a vineyard situated in northern Dry Creek Valley.

The Indy International Wine Competition is one of the largest and most prestigious professional wine competitions in the United States. It was founded in 1992 by the Indiana State Fair in cooperation with Purdue University.

Founded in 1997, Martin Family Vineyards (www.martinfamilyvineyards.com) is a boutique wine producer located in Sonoma County's Dry Creek Valley. It sources fruit from 24 acres of estate vineyards (cabernet sauvignon, petite sirah, syrah and zinfandel) as well as other Dry Creek Valley properties. Another 24 acres of estate-owned vineyard are currently under development in Dry Creek Valley. The company distributes its limited-production releases in 11 American markets: California, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

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