



Press Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Tom Hogue (202) 453-2180

June 21, 2016
FY-16-16

Proposed Revisions to Wine Labeling and Recordkeeping Requirements

Washington, D.C. — The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) will publish a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register on Wednesday, June 22, 2016, proposing to amend its labeling and recordkeeping regulations in 27 CFR part 24 to provide that any standard grape wine containing 7 percent or more alcohol by volume that is covered by a certificate of exemption from label approval may not be labeled with a varietal (grape type) designation, a type designation of varietal significance, a vintage date, or an appellation of origin unless the wine is labeled in compliance with the standards set forth in the appropriate sections of 27 CFR part 4 for that label information. TTB is also proposing to amend its part 4 wine labeling regulations to include a reference to the new part 24 requirement.

TTB is taking this action in response to concerns raised by wine industry members and members of Congress regarding the accuracy of label information on certain wines covered by certificates of exemption from label approval, particularly regarding the labeling of certain wines that may not meet the part 4 regulatory requirements for using American viticultural area (AVA) names.

You may submit comments on this proposal and view copies of the proposed rule and any comments TTB receives about this proposal at the "Regulations.gov" website (<https://www.regulations.gov>) within Docket No. TTB-2016-0005. A link to that docket is posted on the TTB website at <https://www.ttb.gov/wine/wine-rulemaking.shtml> under Notice No. 160.

Alternatively, written comments may be submitted to one of these addresses:

- U.S. Mail: Director, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW., Box 12, Washington, DC 20005; or
- Hand delivery/courier in lieu of mail: Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street, NW., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005.

Comments on this proposal must be received on or before August 22, 2016.

####