

## **Palmina's Wines presented to Italy's President Napolitano at G8 Summit**

*President Obama presents historic gift box that includes Palmina's Santa Barbara County wines*

LOMPOC – July 13 – What might be the ultimate honor for a winery that is solely dedicated to crafting wines from Italian varietal grapes grown in Santa Barbara County? Having their wines included as a gift from President Obama to Italy's President Giorgio Napolitano at our President's first G8 summit might just top the list. And that is just what happened last week for Chrystal and Steve Clifton's Palmina winery.

An email from the U.S. Department of State's Office of the Chief of Protocol requesting wine created quite a stir itself amongst the Palmina crew, but hearing that the wines were included in the unique and historic gift has the entire community abuzz. "We almost didn't dare to dream that this might really happen", notes Chrystal Clifton. "It is certainly an honor, and we hope that President Napolitano enjoys the wines!"

"We were conducting a tasting of our wines in Washington DC in June, and unbeknownst to us, the White House staff must have attended the tasting" according to winemaker/owner Steve Clifton. "At Palmina, we are not making Italian wines, but rather using many of the techniques and methods of Italy to translate their food friendly culture of wine to Santa Barbara County Italian grape varietals, and our own unique climate and way of life. When we returned to California, the White House requested wine for President Obama's trip to Italy, to which we enthusiastically responded with a Palmina selection, including Nebbiolo, Barbera, and Lagrein red wines, and Tocai Friulano and Arneis whites. We're thrilled!"

President Obama presented a selection of American made wines crafted from Italian grape varietals to President Napolitano, housing them in a custom wood box made from old floor boards recycled from the Oval office.

Palmina is a Californian celebration of the rich, wonderful lifestyle and attitude toward food, wine, friends and family that exists in Italy. For more information, visit [www.palminawines.com](http://www.palminawines.com) or contact Chrystal Clifton at (805) 735-2030 or via email at [chrystal@palminawines.com](mailto:chrystal@palminawines.com).

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