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## CHUMASH CASINO RESORT'S WILLOWS RESTAURANT EARNS 14TH AAA FOUR DIAMOND AWARD

SANTA YNEZ, CA — February 19, 2019 — For the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Willows at the Chumash Casino Resort has been honored as an American Automobile Association Four Diamond Restaurant, remaining part of an exclusive local class to earn the annual distinction.

Willows is one of just four Santa Barbara County restaurants to receive Four Diamond status from AAA, which released its list of winners on Thursday. Just 2.1 percent of AAA inspected and approved restaurants earn the award. Other local establishments to make the list are The Gathering Table in Solvang, and Angel Oak and Bouchon in Santa Barbara.

"The first-class fine-dining experience at Willows has long been a source of pride for our tribe, and to be continually recognized by AAA is a great honor," said Kenneth Kahn, Tribal Chairman of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. "We recognize that this wouldn't be possible without the years of dedication from our Food and Beverage team, which works hard to meet the high expectations our guests have when they dine at Willows."

Willows specializes in prime steaks and seafood while boasting a full menu that features flavorful ingredients from local farms, ranches and gardens. The restaurant was remodeled in 2016 to create a relaxed yet elegant setting for a dining experience. The entrance features a wine wall with 160 bottles showcasing Willows' award-winning wine list.

AAA notes that Four Diamond Restaurants "offer a distinctive fine-dining experience, employing creative preparations that are skillfully served amid upscale ambience."

This year, there are 656 Four Diamond restaurants located across North America, including 74 throughout California.

Willows is located on the third floor of the Chumash Casino Resort and is open daily from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. For reservations, please call 805-686-0855 or visit www.chumashcasino.com/dining/willows.

Located on Highway 246 in Santa Ynez, California, the Chumash Casino Resort is owned and operated by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. The tribe also owns Hotel Corque, Root 246 restaurant and the Hadsten House in Solvang, and two gas stations in Santa Ynez. As the largest employer in the Santa Ynez Valley, the tribe employs more than 2,000 residents of Santa Barbara County.