



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 29, 2012

**Contact:** Glenn Mason

(916) 574-8168

### **HAYWARD SMOG CHECK STATION'S LICENSE SUSPENDED**

*Bureau of Automotive Repair alleges fraudulent Smog Checks by Affordable and Quick Smog*

HAYWARD – The owner of Affordable and Quick Smog, a Smog Check station at 29900 Mission Blvd. in Hayward, has had his licenses suspended after investigators with the Bureau of Automotive Repair (Bureau) determined he was cheating the state's Smog Check inspection program.

Investigators from the Bureau uncovered numerous instances of "clean piping" vehicles to get them through the Smog Check test by the smog station owner Malwinder Singh.

"Clean piping" is when a vehicle that would not pass a Smog Check on its own, or is not present for testing, is fraudulently certified as passing. To accomplish this, a technician or other individual uses a clean exhaust sample from another vehicle that will pass a Smog Check, but enters the data for the vehicle for which the Smog Check certificate is required.

"These activities are against the law," said Bureau Chief John Wallauch. "To make matters even worse, this kind of illegal activity has a negative impact on the quality of the air we breathe. When we find Smog Check station owners operating illegally, we will take swift action to stop them and shut them down."

An Administrative Law Judge has granted the Bureau's request for Interim Suspension Orders to immediately suspend Singh's Automotive Repair Dealer registration, Smog Check Test Only station license, and Advanced Emission Specialist Technician license. BAR is proceeding with its efforts to permanently revoke all of the licenses.

## LOS ANGELES SMOG CHECK STATION'S LICENSE SUSPENDED

2-2-2

An administrative hearing will be held at a later date to address the violations found during the investigation. The Bureau has also submitted the results of the investigation to the Alameda County District Attorney's office for possible criminal prosecution.

**###**

*The Department of Consumer Affairs promotes and protects the interests of California Consumers. Consumers who wish to file a complaint against an auto repair facility can contact the Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair at (800) 952-5210. Consumers can also file a complaint online at [www.autorepair.ca.gov](http://www.autorepair.ca.gov).*