

**BEFORE THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

**SMOG TECH**  
**HARJIT SINGH, Partner**  
**JASJIT KAUR BAIN, Partner**  
Stockton, California 95205

Automotive Repair Dealer Registration  
No. ARD 243698  
Smog Check, Test Only, Station License No.  
TC 243698

and

**HARJIT SINGH**  
Lodi, California 95242

Advanced Emission Specialist Technician  
License No. EA 137249

and

**PAUL SUPOTE VIRIYAPUNT**  
Stockton, California 95210

Advanced Emission Specialist Technician  
License No. EA 630183

Respondents.

Case No. 79/11-99

OAH No. 2011100307

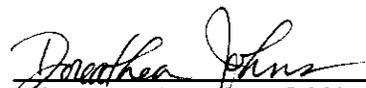
**DECISION**

The attached Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is hereby accepted and adopted by the Director of Consumer Affairs as the Decision in the above-entitled matter except that, pursuant to Government Code section 11517(c)(2)(C), the typographical error on page 2, paragraph 1, Factual Findings, of the Proposed Decision is corrected as follows:

The "automotive repair dealer registration number ARD 1243698" is corrected to read "Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 243698."

This Decision shall become effective 10/15/12.

DATED: September 4, 2012

  
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DORÉATHEA JOHNSON  
Deputy Director, Legal Affairs  
Department of Consumer Affairs

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Respondents.

**PROPOSED DECISION**

This matter was heard before Rebecca M. Westmore, Administrative Law Judge, Office of Administrative Hearings, State of California, on July 19, 2012, in Sacramento California.

Patrick M. Kenady, Deputy Attorney General, represented complainant, Sherry Mehl, Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair (bureau), Department of Consumer Affairs (department).

Christopher A. DeWys, Attorney at Law, Automotive Defense Specialists, represented respondents Smog Tech, Harjit Singh, individually and as partner of Smog Tech, and Paul Supote Viriyapunt, who were present throughout the hearing.

There was no appearance by or on behalf of respondent Jasjit Kaur Bain, Partner of Smog Tech.

Evidence was received, the record was closed, and the matter was submitted for decision on July 19, 2012.

### FACTUAL FINDINGS

1. In 2006, the bureau issued automotive repair dealer registration number ARD 1243698 (registration) to respondents Harjit Singh and Jasjit Kaur Bain, doing business as Smog Tech, located in Stockton, California. The registration will expire on February 28, 2013, unless renewed.

2. On March 17, 2006, the bureau issued smog check, test only, station license number TC 243698 (station license) to respondents Harjit Singh and Jasjit Kaur Bain, doing business as Smog Tech, located in Stockton, California. The license will expire on February 28, 2013, unless renewed.

3. In 2002, the bureau issued advanced emission specialist (EA) technician license number EA 137249 to respondent Harjit Singh. The license will expire on March 31, 2014, unless renewed.

4. On May 5, 2008, the bureau issued advanced emission specialist (EA) technician license number EA 630183 to respondent Paul Supote Viriyapunt. The license will expire on September 30, 2012, unless renewed.

5. At all times referenced herein, John Ya was not registered with the bureau under the Automotive Repair Act of 1971, or licensed under the biennial Smog Check Program implemented by the bureau on January 1, 1990.

6. On June 15, 2011, complainant filed the accusation in her official capacity. Complainant seeks to revoke respondents' registration, licenses and licensing rights on the grounds that respondents Harjit Singh and Jasjit Kaur Bain, d.b.a. Smog Tech, and Paul Supote Viriyapunt issued electronic certificates of compliance on two vehicles without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles. In addition, complainant seeks to revoke respondent Paul Supote Viriyapunt's

licenses and licensing rights on the grounds that he aided and abetted an unlicensed person to participate in the smog test and inspection of a vehicle.

*Prior Citations*

7. On July 20, 2005, the bureau issued Citation No. M06-0027 to respondent Harjit Singh, for issuing a Certificate of Compliance on June 27, 2005, to a bureau undercover vehicle with a missing Positive Crankcase Ventilation (PCV) system. A Citation Office Conference was held on August 23, 2005, in which respondent Singh agreed to:

- (a) Comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to the Automotive Repair Act and the Smog Check Program.
- (b) Perform all smog check inspections and tests on motor vehicles in accordance with Bureau procedures.
- (c) Follow the inspection steps as outlined in the Smog Check Inspection Manual, and as prompted by the Emissions Inspection System.
- (d) Only certify a vehicle as being in compliance after it is determined that the vehicle meets the criteria set forth in Health and Safety Code section 44012.

On September 11, 2005, respondent Singh completed an eight-hour training course.

8. On December 1, 2005, the bureau issued Citation No. M06-0271 to respondent Harjit Singh, for issuing a Certificate of Compliance on November 18, 2005, to a bureau undercover vehicle with a missing Air Injection (AIR) system. A Citation Office Conference was held on January 10, 2006. Respondent Singh signed the Citation Office Conference Memorandum in which he agreed to comply with the same terms outlined in Factual Finding 7. On January 29, 2006, respondent Singh completed a 16-hour training course.

9. On April 19, 2006, the bureau issued Citation No. M06-0658 to respondent Harjit Singh, for issuing a Certificate of Compliance on March 27, 2006, to a bureau undercover vehicle with a missing Positive Crankcase Ventilation (PCV) system. A Citation Office Conference was held on June 8, 2006. Respondent Singh appealed the citation on June 8, 2006. No evidence was introduced to establish the outcome of that appeal.

10. On December 27, 2006, the bureau issued Citation No. C07-0426 to respondents Harjit Singh and Jasjit K. Bain, Partners, d.b.a. Smog Tech, for issuing a Certificate of Compliance on November 8, 2006, to a bureau undercover vehicle with a non-functional Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) system. A Citation Office Conference was held on February 6, 2007. Respondent Bain signed the Citation Office Conference Memorandum in which respondent Bain agreed that:

(a) Respondents and all facility employees shall comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to the Automotive Repair Act and the Smog Check Program.

(b) All smog check inspections and tests on motor vehicles shall be performed in accordance with Bureau procedures.

(c) Inspection steps shall be followed as outlined in the "Smog Check Inspection Manual" and as prompted by the Emissions Inspection System.

(d) A vehicle shall be certified as being in compliance only after it is determined that the vehicle meets the criteria set forth in Health and Safety Code section 44012.

(e) The estimate shall show the vehicle's *odometer reading* at the time of repair(s) / service. [Bolding and italics in original.]

On February 22, 2007, respondents paid the \$500 Citation.

11. On May 13, 2009, the bureau issued Citation No. C09-1299 to respondents Harjit Singh and Jasjit K. Bain, Partners, d.b.a. Smog Tech, for issuing a Certificate of Compliance on May 1, 2009, to a bureau undercover vehicle with the ignition timing adjusted beyond specifications. A Citation Office Conference was held on June 16, 2009, in which respondents agreed to terms (a) through (d) outlined in Factual Finding 10. On June 30, 2009, respondents paid the \$500 Citation.

*Video Surveillance – April 30, 2010 – 1995 Buick Skylark*

12. Tim Bowden is a Program Representative II Specialist with the bureau. As part of his job duties, Mr. Bowden performs surveillance operations at smog inspection facilities.

13. On April 30, 2010, at 07:46 hours, Mr. Bowden began a video surveillance across the street from the Smog Tech facility located on Airport Way in Stockton, California. At approximately 14:46 hours, a 1995 Buick Skylark (Skylark), California license plate number 3MBX738 was repositioned in the smog test bay. Data captured on the BAR97 Test form for April 30, 2010, indicates that an aborted smog inspection was performed on the Skylark at Smog Tech between 14:46 hours and 15:09 hours. Mr. Bowden believes that the test was aborted because the vehicle ran out of gas. Beginning at 15:19 hours and continuing through 15:31 hours, a second smog inspection was performed on the Skylark at Smog Tech, resulting in the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

14. The video surveillance recorded respondent Viriyapunt backing a 1999 Buick, California license plate number 4EAK811 up to the rear of the Skylark on the north side of

the smog test bay at 15:18 hours. He was guided by respondent Singh. Between 15:19 hours and 15:25 hours, an unidentified individual added gas to the fuel tank. At 15:26 hours, respondent Viriyapunt removed the emissions sample probe from its hanger on the front door frame of the smog test bay, and inserted it into the tailpipe of the Skylark. At 15:27 hours, respondent Viriyapunt removed the emissions sample probe from the tailpipe of the Skylark, carried it to the rear of the 1999 Buick, and bent down out of sight. The video does not show respondent Viriyapunt inserting the emissions sample probe into the tailpipe of the 1999 Buick; however, after he stood up and returned to the Skylark, his body language suggested that he was monitoring the area as if to determine if someone was watching. Thereafter, at 15:28:52 hours, respondent Viriyapunt returned to the rear of the 1999 Buick, bent down out of sight, and was next seen at 15:28:54 hours placing the emissions sample probe on the hanger on the front door frame of the smog test bay. It was clear from these actions that respondent Viriyapunt removed the emissions sample probe from the tailpipe of the 1999 Buick. Immediately thereafter, at 15:28:57 hours, respondent Singh exited the Skylark, and between 15:29:04 hours and 15:29:23 hours, respondent Viriyapunt entered the 1999 Buick, drove it forward towards Airport Way, and backed it up towards the south side of the smog test bay, where it remained until it was driven away from the facility at 15:40 hours. At no time during the video surveillance was the rear license plate of the 1999 Buick visible. At 15:31 hours, respondent Singh completed the smog inspection of the Skylark. At 15:31:47 hours, respondent Singh used his cellular telephone in the smog test bay. At 15:32 hours, respondent Singh coiled up the OBD cable and returned it to the side of the smog test analyzer. At 15:33:50 hours, respondent Singh went into the office, and exited at 15:35:52 hours. At approximately 15:39 hours, respondent Viriyapunt entered the office, and exited at 15:39:52 hours. Respondent Viriyapunt had no paperwork in his hands when he exited the office. At 15:40:16 hours, the 1999 Buick was driven away from the facility.

15. At hearing, Mr. Bowden referred to respondents' act of using the tailpipe emissions of one vehicle to register the tailpipe emissions of a vehicle that cannot pass the tailpipe emissions test portion of the smog inspection as "clean piping."

16. During a meeting at the bureau's Sacramento Field Office on July 16, 2010, Mr. Bowden showed the April 30, 2010 surveillance video to respondent Viriyapunt, and informed him that his license would be in jeopardy. Mr. Bowden denied threatening respondent Viriyapunt's license if he did not turn in or testify against respondent Singh. Mr. Bowden requested information from respondent Viriyapunt regarding the clean piping of the Skylark, and contends that respondent Viriyapunt admitted that he clean piped the Skylark, asserted that he was doing his job, and denied receiving additional money to perform the smog inspection of the Skylark.

17. Christopher Pryor is a Program Representative for the bureau, and attended the meeting at the bureau's Sacramento Field Office on July 16, 2010 with Mr. Bowden and respondent Viriyapunt. Mr. Pryor asserted that the video surveillance was exhibited to respondent Viriyapunt who admitted that he performed the smog inspection of the Skylark. Mr. Pryor denied that Mr. Bowden threatened respondent Viriyapunt, or threatened his career if he did not turn in respondent Singh. According to Mr. Pryor, respondent Viriyapunt gave

no explanation for what happened during the smog inspection of the Skylark, and did not sign any documents during the meeting.

18. At hearing, respondent Viriyapunt asserted that Airport Way is a busy street, and there is only 20 feet between the smog test bays and the sidewalk. According to respondent Viriyapunt, he was getting ready to drop off the 1999 Buick at the S&S Dealership on Wilson Way in Stockton; however he did not have all the paperwork for the vehicle. Because the facility parking lot was full, he backed the 1999 Buick towards the smog test bay, and exited the vehicle to go to the office and retrieve the paperwork from respondent Singh. During a conversation with respondent Singh, respondent Viriyapunt learned that S&S Dealership had called and asked respondents to make sure that the license plate was on the 1999 Buick. Respondent Viriyapunt denied that he inserted the emissions sample probe into the tailpipe of the 1999 Buick, and asserted that he bent over to check the bolts on the license plate of the 1999 Buick. According to respondent Viriyapunt, he finally received the paperwork for the 1999 Buick after the smog inspection on the Skylark was completed. However, respondent Viriyapunt's testimony regarding the paperwork for the 1999 Buick contradicted his actions as shown on the surveillance video.

19. Respondent Viriyapunt also asserted that during the July 16, 2010 meeting at the Sacramento Field Office with Mr. Bowden and Mr. Pryor, he never admitted to clean piping the Skylark, or telling them that respondent Singh paid him to clean pipe vehicles. He contends, however, that he was threatened by Mr. Bowden to turn in his boss, or they would take his license that day. Respondent Viriyapunt claims that he "was a little intimidated" at that meeting.

20. Respondent Singh confirmed that the smog inspection was restarted after the customer put gas in the fuel tank. Respondent Singh contends that he received a call from S&S Dealership asking him to check the brakes and the air in the tires on the 1999 Buick because a customer wanted to look at the vehicle. As respondent Viriyapunt was standing next to the office door, he asked respondent Viriyapunt to check the brakes and air in the tires on the 1999 Buick. Respondent Singh denied that he demanded or asked respondent Viriyapunt to insert the emissions sample probe into the 1999 Buick, denied seeing respondent Viriyapunt place the emissions sample probe into the 1999 Buick, and denied that he offered an incentive to respondent Viriyapunt to clean pipe or clean plug vehicles.

*Video Surveillance – May 21, 2010 – Unlicensed Activity*

21. On May 21, 2010, at 09:38 hours, Mr. Bowden began a video surveillance across the street from the Smog Tech facility located on Airport Way in Stockton, California. At 10:31:56 hours, a 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe (Chevrolet), California license plate number 5SJC337, was driven into the smog test bay of Smog Tech. Data captured on the BAR97 Test form for May 21, 2010, indicates that a smog inspection of the Chevrolet was performed at Smog Tech between 1039 hours and 1049 hours, resulting in the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

22. Mr. Bowden asserted that during the smog inspection of the Chevrolet, respondent Viriyapunt allowed John Ya, an unlicensed individual, to enter data into the smog test analyzer between 10:48 hours and 10:49 hours. According to Mr. Bowden, respondent Viriyapunt was wearing black gloves during the smog inspection, and the video surveillance tape shows that Mr. Ya, who was not wearing gloves, entered data into the smog test analyzer.

23. Respondent Viriyapunt denied that he instructed Mr. Ya to perform any functions of the smog inspection, and denied that he allowed Mr. Ya to enter data into the smog test analyzer during the smog inspection of the Chevrolet. Mr. Viriyapunt contends that he was "just showing" Mr. Ya the prompts on the smog test analyzer screen for the visual test portion of the smog inspection. According to respondent Viriyapunt, he performed the visual, functional and tailpipe emissions portions of the smog inspection and made all the entries into the smog test analyzer. Respondent Viriyapunt also asserted that during the July 16, 2010 meeting at the Sacramento Field Office with Mr. Bowden and Mr. Pryor, he never admitted to aiding and abetting Mr. Ya in performing unlicensed activities.

24. The video surveillance recorded John Ya driving the Chevrolet into the smog test bay at 10:31 hours. He exited the vehicle at 10:32:12 hours. At 10:48:29 hours, Mr. Ya began filling out paperwork. At 10:48:41 hours, Mr. Ya placed his hand in front of the smog test analyzer on what appeared to be the keyboard. Assuming Mr. Ya placed his hand on the keyboard, however, it was unclear from the video if Mr. Ya then pressed any keys on the keyboard. It is equally plausible that Mr. Ya placed his hand on the shelf where the keyboard was located.

*Video Surveillance – May 21, 2010 – 2003 Lincoln Aviator*

25. On May 21, 2010 at 17:53 hours, a 2003 Lincoln Aviator (Lincoln), California license plate number 5UBM985, was driven into the smog test bay of Smog Tech. Data captured on the BAR97 Test form for May 21, 2010, indicates that a smog inspection of the Lincoln was performed at Smog Tech between 17:58 hours and 18:04 hours, resulting in the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

26. The video surveillance recorded respondent Viriyapunt driving the Lincoln into the smog test bay at 17:53:56 hours, and beginning the smog inspection of the Lincoln at 17:55 hours. At 17:59 hours, respondent Viriyapunt removed the on-board diagnostic (OBD) cable from the side of the smog test analyzer, and connected it to the Lincoln. At 18:02 hours, an unidentified individual made a motion to retrieve something from respondent Viriyapunt, who was in the front driver's seat of the Lincoln. However, respondent Viriyapunt exited the Lincoln without handing anything to the unidentified individual. When respondent Viriyapunt exited the Lincoln, he was holding the OBD cable. At 18:02:03 hours, respondent Viriyapunt rolled up the OBD cable and made two tossing motions with the cable. At 18:02:12, respondent Viriyapunt tossed the OBD cable over to the adjacent smog test bay. At 18:02:16, respondent Viriyapunt retrieved the OBD cable from the adjacent smog test bay and rolled it up. At 18:02:25 hours, respondent Viriyapunt again

threw the OBD cable to the adjacent smog test bay, and at 18:02:29 hours, the cable became taut. At 18:03.06, respondent Viriyapunt retrieved the OBD cable from the adjacent smog test bay, and replaced it on the side of the smog test analyzer at 18:03:21 hours. At 18:05:59 hours, paperwork was handed to an unidentified individual, and at 18:07:52, the Lincoln was driven out of the smog test bay. It is not visible on the video that someone inserted the OBD cable into a vehicle in the adjacent smog test bay. However, respondent Viriyapunt's conduct of tossing the cable to the adjacent smog test bay twice, coupled with the fact that the cable became taut, suggests that the cable was used in another vehicle prior to the completion of the smog test on the Lincoln.

27. At hearing, Mr. Bowden described respondents' act of using the OBD cable in one vehicle to register the OBD data of a vehicle that cannot pass the functional test portion of the smog inspection as "clean plugging."

28. At hearing, respondent Viriyapunt asserted that respondent Singh was experiencing intermittent communication problems with the OBD interface in the north smog test bay, so respondent Viriyapunt removed his OBD cable from the Lincoln and threw it over to the adjacent smog test bay so they could determine what the problem was. According to respondent Viriyapunt, after he threw the cable the first time, respondent Singh indicated to him that he did not need it. But then respondent Singh asked for the cable again so he tossed it back to him. According to respondent Viriyapunt, after respondent Singh caught the cable, he "put it aside." Respondent Viriyapunt denied that he asked respondent Singh or anyone to insert the OBD cable in another vehicle to complete the smog inspection on the Lincoln. Respondent Viriyapunt also asserted that during the July 16, 2010 meeting at the Sacramento Field Office with Mr. Bowden and Mr. Pryor, he never admitted to clean plugging the Lincoln, or telling them that respondent Singh paid him to clean plug vehicles.

29. At hearing, respondent Singh asserted that the cable in the smog test bay in which he was working on May 21, 2010, was old, and the connecting pins were missing. According to respondent Singh, he asked respondent Viriyapunt to throw him his cable, but then his analyzer started communicating with the vehicle in his smog test bay. A few seconds later, however, the analyzer "threw a red flag and showed no communication," so he asked respondent Viriyapunt to throw him the cable again. Respondent Singh denied plugging the OBD cable into another vehicle to complete the smog test on the Lincoln, or seeing or instructing someone else to plug the OBD cable into another vehicle. On cross-examination, when asked why he did not ask respondent Viriyapunt to also throw him the other end of the cable, respondent Singh admitted that it was attached to respondent Viriyapunt's smog test analyzer and requires the loosening of two screws. According to Mr. Singh, had he got to that point, he would have asked respondent Viriyapunt to unscrew the other end of his cable and toss that to him also.

#### *Factors in Aggravation, Mitigation and Rehabilitation*

30. Respondent Singh has been a smog technician for 10 years. He explained that Smog Tech has five smog tests bay, each of which perform approximately 30 to 40 smog

inspections each day, for a total of approximately 150 smog inspections each day. He has not been a co-owner of Smog Tech since March 2012. Respondent Singh continues to own the building, but leases the business to another owner, who has notified the bureau of the change in ownership and displays his license on the wall. While respondent Singh agreed to implement measures in response to the prior citations, as set forth in Factual Findings 7, 8, 10 and 11, there is no evidence that he took any steps to either prevent the conduct at issue, or, once it occurred, to minimize a recurrence.

31. Respondent Viriyapunt has been a licensed smog technician specialist for four years. He has no history of prior citations or prior discipline against his license.

#### *Costs of Investigation and Prosecution*

32. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, complainant has requested costs of investigation and prosecution in the total amount of \$9,590.53. This total amount consists of the following:

a. Complainant submitted a Certification of Costs and Fees, which requests \$4,138.03 for the investigative services of program representatives from the bureau. Business and Professions Code section 125.3, subdivision (c), permits a bureau seeking costs to submit a "certified copy of the actual costs." In this case, however, the bureau did not submit a breakdown of the time spent by bureau staff on this matter or provide any evidentiary support for its costs during the hearing.<sup>1</sup> Consequently, it did not provide sufficient evidence of the "actual costs" as required under Business and Professions Code section 125.3, subdivision (c), and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1042, to find that the amount requested is reasonable. These requested costs will, therefore, not be awarded.

b. Complainant submitted a Certification of Prosecution Costs and the Declaration of the Deputy Attorney General, which requests costs in the amount of \$5,452.50. Attached to the Deputy Attorney General's Declaration are printouts of documents entitled "Cost of Suit Summary," and "Matter Time Activity By Professional Type." These documents describe the work performed by Deputies Attorney General and a paralegal. The amount requested by the Office of the Attorney General is reasonable in light of the description of the work performed and the nature of this case.

33. At hearing, respondents did not offer any evidence as to their financial ability to pay the costs. The costs of investigation and prosecution are addressed in Legal Conclusions 51 through 52 below.

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<sup>1</sup> California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1042.

## LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

### *Smog Tech's Registration*

1. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), where the automotive repair dealer cannot show that there was a "bona fide error," an automotive repair dealer registration may be invalidated when the automotive repair dealer, or any automotive technician, employee, partner, officer, or member of the automotive repair dealer, has made "in any manner or by any means whatever any statement written or oral which is untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, by certifying under penalty of perjury that the Skylark and Lincoln had passed the California Emissions Inspection Test, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt made statements that were untrue and, which by the exercise of reasonable care, they should have known were untrue. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech's registration for two violations of Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1).

2. As set forth in Factual Findings 21 through 24, complainant did not establish that respondent Viriyapunt aided and abetted an unlicensed technician in the performance of certain aspects of the smog inspection of the Chevrolet. Therefore, cause does not exist to discipline respondent Smog Tech's registration pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1).

3. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), an automotive repair dealer registration may be invalidated when the automotive repair dealer, or any automotive technician, employee, partner, officer, or member of the automotive repair dealer, has engaged in conduct that constitutes fraud. In general, fraud will be found when an individual "intentionally, or by design, misrepresents a material fact, or produces a false impression in order to mislead another, or to entrap or cheat him, or to obtain an undue advantage of him." (*Wayne v. Bureau of Private Investigators & Adjusters* (1962) 201 Cal.App.2d 427, 438.) As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents engaged in fraudulent conduct when they issued an electronic Certificate of Compliance for the Skylark and Lincoln without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech's registration for two violations of Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4).

### *Smog Tech's Smog Check Test Only Station License*

4. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), a station license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if the licensee violates any section of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program, Health and Safety Code section 44000 et seq.

5. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44012, subdivision (a), a smog check shall ensure that “[e]mission control systems required by state and federal law are reducing excess emissions in accordance with the standards adopted pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 44013.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with test procedures. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44012, subdivision (a).

6. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44012, subdivision (f), a smog check shall ensure that a “visual or functional check is made of emission control devices specified by the department ...” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt failed to perform emission control tests on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44012, subdivision (f).

7. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section Health and Safety Code section 44015, subdivision (b), “[i]f a vehicle meets the requirements of Section 44012, a smog check station licensed to issue certificates shall issue a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.” Health and Safety Code section 44012 provides, that smog tests “shall be performed in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt issued electronic certificates of compliance for the Skylark and Lincoln without properly testing and inspecting those vehicles to determine if they were in compliance with Health and Safety Code section 44012. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a) and 44015, subdivision (b).

8. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section Health and Safety Code section 44015, subdivision (b), “[i]f a vehicle meets the requirements of Section 44012, a smog check station licensed to issue certificates shall issue a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.” Health and Safety Code section 44012 provides, that smog tests “shall be performed in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.” As set forth in Factual Findings 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt issued an electronic certificate of compliance for the Lincoln without properly testing and inspecting the vehicle to determine if it was in compliance with Health and Safety Code section 44012. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44015, subdivision (b).

9. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44059, the “willful making of any false statement or entry with regard to a material matter in any ... certificate of compliance ... constitutes perjury.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25

through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt “willfully” made false entries when they issued electronic certificates of compliance for the Skylark and Lincoln. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44059.

10. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), a station license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if a licensee “[v]iolates any of the regulations adopted by the director.”

11. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c), the bureau “may suspend or revoke the license of or pursue other legal action against a licensee, if the licensee falsely or fraudulently issues or obtains a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt issued electronic smog certificates of compliance that falsely represented that the Skylark and Lincoln passed the California Emissions Inspection Test. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c).

12. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.35, subdivision (c), a “licensed station shall issue a certificate of compliance or noncompliance to the owner or operator of any vehicle that has been inspected in accordance with the procedures specified in section 3340.42 of this article and has all the required emission control equipment and devices installed and functioning correctly.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the Skylark and Lincoln, although these vehicles had not been inspected in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.35, subdivision (c).

13. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42, sets forth the mandatory emissions inspection standards and test procedures that a licensed station must follow. As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt failed to conduct the required smog tests on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with the bureau’s specifications. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech’s station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.

14. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), a station license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if the licensee “[c]ommits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondents Singh and Viriyapunt

engaged in acts involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit when they issued an electronic Certificate of Compliance on the Skylark and Lincoln without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Smog Tech's station license for two violations of Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d).

15. As set forth in Factual Findings 21 through 24, complainant did not establish that respondent Viriyapunt aided and abetted an unlicensed technician in the performance of certain aspects of the smog inspection of the Chevrolet. Therefore, cause does not exist to discipline respondent Smog Tech's station license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (f).

*Harjit Singh's Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License*

16. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), an advanced emission specialist technician license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if the licensee violates any section of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program, Health and Safety Code section 44000 et seq.

17. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44012, subdivision (a), a smog check shall ensure that "[e]mission control systems required by state and federal law are reducing excess emissions in accordance with the standards adopted pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 44013." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly on the Skylark in accordance with test procedures. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44012, subdivision (a).

18. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44012, subdivision (f), a smog check shall ensure that a "visual or functional check is made of emission control devices specified by the department ...." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh failed to perform emission control tests on the Skylark in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44012, subdivision (f).

19. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44032, "[q]ualified technicians shall perform tests of emission control devices and systems in accordance with Section 44012." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly on the Skylark in accordance with test procedures. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44032.

20. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44059, the “willful making of any false statement or entry with regard to a material matter in any ... certificate of compliance ... constitutes perjury.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh “willfully” made false entries when he issued an electronic certificate of compliance for the Skylark. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44059.

21. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), an advanced technician license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if a licensee “[v]iolates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to” the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

22. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c), the bureau “may suspend or revoke the license of or pursue other legal action against a licensee, if the licensee falsely or fraudulently issues or obtains a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh issued an electronic smog certificate of compliance that falsely represented that the Skylark passed the California Emissions Inspection Test. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c).

23. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a), a “licensed technician shall inspect, test and repair vehicles in accordance with section 44012 of the Health and Safety Code.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh failed to inspect and test the Skylark in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a).

24. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.41, subdivision (c), a person shall not “knowingly enter into the emissions inspection system any false information about the vehicle being tested.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh knowingly entered false information into the emissions inspection system. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.41, subdivision (c).

25. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42, smog check technicians shall conduct tests and inspections in accordance with the bureau’s BAR-97 Emissions Inspection System Specifications. As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh failed to conduct the required smog tests and inspections on

the Skylark in accordance with the bureau's specifications. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.

26. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), an advanced emission specialist technician license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if the licensee "[c]ommits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18 and 20, respondent Singh engaged in acts involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit when he issued an electronic Certificate of Compliance for the Skylark without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Singh's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d).

*Paul Supote Viriyapunt's Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License*

27. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), an advanced emission specialist technician license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if the licensee violates any section of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program, Health and Safety Code section 44000 et seq.

28. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44012, subdivision (a), a smog check shall ensure that "[e]mission control systems required by state and federal law are reducing excess emissions in accordance with the standards adopted pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 44013." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with test procedures. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44012, subdivision (a).

29. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44012, subdivision (f), a smog check shall ensure that a "visual or functional check is made of emission control devices specified by the department ...." As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt failed to perform emission control tests on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44012, subdivision (f).

30. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section Health and Safety Code section 44015, subdivision (b), "[i]f a vehicle meets the requirements of Section 44012, a smog check station licensed to issue certificates shall issue a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance." Health and Safety Code section 44012 provides, that smog

tests “shall be performed in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.” As set forth in Factual Findings 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt issued an electronic certificate of compliance for the Lincoln without properly testing and inspecting the vehicle to determine if it was in compliance with Health and Safety Code section 44012. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a) and 44015, subdivision (b).

31. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44032, “[q]ualified technicians shall perform tests of emission control devices and systems in accordance with Section 44012.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with test procedures. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44032.

32. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44059, the “willful making of any false statement or entry with regard to a material matter in any ... certificate of compliance ... constitutes perjury.” As set forth in Factual Findings 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt “willfully” made false entries when he issued an electronic certificate of compliance for the Lincoln. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44072.2, subdivision (a), and 44059.

33. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), an advanced technician license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if a licensee “[v]iolates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to” the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

34. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c), the bureau “may suspend or revoke the license of or pursue other legal action against a licensee, if the licensee falsely or fraudulently issues or obtains a certificate of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.” As set forth in Factual Findings 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt issued an electronic smog certificate of compliance that falsely represented that the Lincoln passed the California Emissions Inspection Test. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt’s advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c).

35. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a), a “licensed technician shall inspect, test and repair vehicles in accordance with section 44012 of the Health and Safety Code.” As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt failed to inspect and test the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012. Therefore,

cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a).

36. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42, smog check technicians shall conduct tests and inspections in accordance with the bureau's BAR-97 Emissions Inspection System Specifications. As set forth in Factual Findings 13 through 15, 18, 20, and 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt failed to conduct the required smog tests and inspections on the Skylark and Lincoln in accordance with the bureau's specifications. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.

37. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), an advanced emission specialist technician license may be suspended, revoked or otherwise disciplined if the licensee "[c]ommits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured." As set forth in Factual Findings 25 through 27, respondent Viriyapunt engaged in acts involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit when he issued an electronic Certificate of Compliance for the Lincoln without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle. Therefore, cause exists to discipline respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d).

38. As set forth in Factual Findings 21 through 24, complainant did not establish that respondent Viriyapunt aided and abetted an unlicensed technician in the performance of certain aspects of the smog inspection of the Chevrolet. Therefore, cause does not exist to discipline respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician license pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 44014 and 44072.2, subdivision (f).

#### *Fitness for Continued Registration and Licensure – Smog Tech*

39. A licensee who elects to operate his business through employees is responsible to the licensing authority for their conduct in the exercise of the license. (*California Assn. of Health Facilities v. Department of Health Services* (1997) 16 Cal.4th 284, 295.) A licensed owner has a responsibility to see the license is not used in violation of the law. (*Ibid.*) If a licensee were not liable for the actions of his or her employees, effective regulation would be impossible. (*Ibid.*) The licensee could contract away the daily operations of his or her business and become immune to any disciplinary action brought by the licensing authority. (*Ibid.*) The principle that a licensee will be held liable for the acts of his or her agents is one that has been applied whether the agent is an independent contractor or an employee. (*Ibid.*) This principle is based on the assumption that a licensee is in a position to oversee and control the actions of employees. (*Rob-Mac Inc. v. Department of Motor Vehicles* (1983) 148 Cal.App.3d 793, 798.)

40. As set forth in Factual Findings 10 and 11, respondent Smog Tech's registration and licenses have been subject to prior discipline for issuing certificates of compliance to vehicles without performing the smog check inspections and tests in accordance with Bureau procedures. No evidence was presented to establish that respondents Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh took an active role in monitoring or supervising respondent Viriyapunt between the time of the first video surveillance on April 2010 and March 2012, when respondent Singh sold his ownership interest in Smog Tech. Their lack of oversight resulted in the prior disciplinary actions and the current one. They offered no assurances that they now understand and accept responsibility for the conduct of their employees.

41. In addition, respondent's Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh attended Citation Office Conferences with the bureau in 2007 and 2009, in which they agreed to comply with the bureau's procedures for smog inspections and tests. Despite these agreements, however, respondents Bain and Singh continued to violate the rules and regulations designed to protect the health of all Californians. They offered no assurances that they now understand and accept responsibility for their conduct. Therefore, respondents Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh, d.b.a. Smog Tech, cannot be relied upon to comply with the law.

42. As respondents Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh, d.b.a. Smog Tech were unable to comply with the terms and conditions of their prior disciplinary actions, terms and conditions of probation will not ensure that the public interest and welfare will be adequately protected. Given this history, revocation of respondent Smog Tech's registration and smog check station license is required to protect the public interest and welfare.

43. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (c), "the director may suspend, revoke, or place on probation the registration for all places of business operated in this state by an automotive repair dealer upon a finding that the automotive repair dealer has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of this chapter, or regulations adopted pursuant to it."

44. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, "[w]hen a license has been revoked or suspended following a hearing under this article, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of the licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director."

#### *Fitness for Continued Licensure – Harjit Singh*

45. As set forth in Factual Findings 17 through 26, respondent Singh has engaged in multiple violations of the rules and regulations pertaining to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program by performing a smog inspection on a vehicle using clean piping methods. Respondent Singh has also engaged in dishonesty and fraud by issuing a certificate of compliance for a vehicle which was clean piped.

46. As set forth in Factual Findings 7 through 9, respondent Singh's license has been subject to prior discipline for issuing certificates of compliance to vehicles without performing the smog check inspections and tests in accordance with Bureau procedures. In addition, respondent Singh attended Citation Office Conferences with the bureau in 2005 and once in 2006, in which he agreed to comply with the bureau's procedures for smog inspections and tests. Despite these agreements, however, respondent Singh continued to violate the rules and regulations designed to protect the health of all Californians. He offered no assurances that he now understands and accepts responsibility for his conduct. Therefore, respondent Singh cannot be relied upon to comply with the law.

47. As respondent Singh was unable to comply with the terms and conditions of his prior disciplinary actions, terms and conditions of probation will not ensure that the public interest and welfare will be adequately protected. Given this history, revocation of respondent Singh's advanced emission specialist technician's license is required to protect the public interest and welfare.

48. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, "[w]hen a license has been revoked or suspended following a hearing under this article, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of the licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director."

#### *Fitness for Continued Licensure – Paul Supote Viriyapunt*

49. As set forth in Factual Findings 28 through 38, respondent Viriyapunt has engaged in multiple violations of the rules and regulations pertaining to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program by performing a smog inspection on vehicles using clean piping and clean plugging methods. Respondent Viriyapunt has also engaged in dishonesty and fraud by issuing a certificate of compliance for a vehicle which was clean plugged.

50. As respondent Viriyapunt's advanced emission specialist technician's license has not been subject to prior disciplinary action by the bureau, it would not be against the public interest and welfare to issue a probationary license to respondent Viriyapunt, subject to terms and conditions designed to protect the public and monitor his practice.

#### *Cost Recovery*

51. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, subdivision (a), an administrative law judge may direct a licensee found to have violated the licensing act to "pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case." In *Zuckerman v. Board of Chiropractic Examiners* (2002) 29 Cal.4th 32, 45, the California Supreme Court set forth the following factors to be considered in determining the reasonableness of the costs sought pursuant to regulatory and statutory provisions like Business and Professions Code section 125.3:

The Board must exercise its discretion to reduce or eliminate cost awards in a manner that will ensure that regulation 317.5 does not deter chiropractors with potentially meritorious claims or defenses from exercising their right to a hearing. Thus, the Board must not assess the full costs of investigation and prosecution when to do so will unfairly penalize a chiropractor who has committed some misconduct, but who has used the hearing process to obtain dismissal of other charges or a reduction in the severity of the discipline imposed. The Board must consider the chiropractor's "subjective good faith belief in the merits of his or her position" [citation] and whether the chiropractor has raised a "colorable challenge" to the proposed discipline [citation]. Furthermore, as in cost recoupment schemes in which the government seeks to recover from criminal defendants the cost of their state-provided legal representation [citation], the Board must determine that the chiropractor will be financially able to make later payments. Finally, the Board may not assess the full costs of investigation and prosecution when it has conducted a disproportionately large investigation to prove that a chiropractor engaged in relatively innocuous misconduct.

52. As set forth in Factual Findings 32 and 33, there was sufficient evidence to substantiate that the \$5,452.50 in costs charged by the Attorney General's office were reasonable. Respondents did not provide evidence of their financial ability to pay the requested costs. Therefore, respondents shall be ordered to pay to the bureau \$5,452.50 in costs for the investigation and prosecution.

#### ORDER

1. Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 243698 issued to respondents, Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh, doing business as Smog Tech, located in Stockton, California, is permanently invalidated.
2. Smog Check Test Only Station License Number TC 243698 issued to respondents, Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh, doing business as Smog Tech, located in Stockton, California, is revoked.
3. Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License Number EA 137249 issued to respondent Harjit Singh is revoked.
4. Respondents Jasjit Kaur Bain and Harjit Singh, jointly and severally, are ordered to pay to the bureau the costs of investigation and prosecution of this matter, in the

amount of \$5,452.50, pursuant to Factual Findings 32 and 33, and Legal Conclusions 51 and 52.

5. Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License Number EA 630183 issued to respondent Paul Supote Viriyapunt is revoked. However, the revocation is STAYED and respondent Viriyapunt's license is placed on PROBATION for a period of three (3) years, subject to the following terms and conditions:

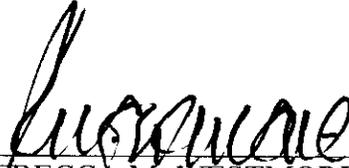
a. Respondent Viriyapunt's license is suspended for a period of five (5) business days commencing on the effective date of this Decision.

b. During the period of probation, respondent Viriyapunt shall:

- i. Comply with all statutes, regulations and rules governing automotive inspections, estimates and repairs.
- ii. Post a prominent sign, provided by the bureau, indicating the beginning and ending dates of the suspension and indicating the reason for the suspension. The sign shall be conspicuously displayed in a location open to and frequented by customers and shall remain posted during the entire period of actual suspension.
- iii. Report in person or in writing as prescribed by the Bureau of Automotive Repair, on a schedule set by the bureau, but no more frequently than each quarter, on the methods used and success achieved in maintaining compliance with the terms and conditions of probation.
- iv. Provide bureau representatives unrestricted access to inspect all vehicles (including parts) undergoing smog inspections, up to and including the point of completion.
- v. If an accusation is filed against respondent Viriyapunt during the term of probation, the Director of Consumer Affairs shall have continuing jurisdiction over this matter until the final decision on the accusation, and the period of probation shall be extended until such decision.
- vi. Should the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs determine that respondent Viriyapunt has failed to comply with the terms and conditions of probation, the department may, after giving notice and opportunity to be heard temporarily or permanently suspend or revoke respondent's advanced emission specialist technician license.
- vii. Attend and successfully complete the bureau's advanced air/clean air car course. Said course shall be completed and proof of completion submitted to the bureau within 180 days of the effective date of this Decision and

Order. If proof of completion of the course is not furnished to the bureau within the 180-day period, respondent's advanced emission specialist technician license shall each be immediately suspended until such proof is received.

Dated: August 14, 2012



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REBECCA M. WESTMORE  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS  
Attorney General of California  
2 ARTHUR D. TAGGART  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 PATRICK M. KENADY  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 050882  
1300 I Street, Suite 125  
5 P.O. Box 944255  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550  
6 Telephone: (916) 324-5377  
Facsimile: (916) 327-8643  
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8 **BEFORE THE**  
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
10 **FOR THE BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

13 **SMOG TECH**  
430 N. Airport Way, Suite A  
Stockton, CA 95205  
14 **HARJIT SINGH, PARTNER**  
**JASJIT KAUR BAIN, PARTNER**  
15 Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No.  
ARD 243698  
16 Smog Check Test Only Station License No.  
TC 243698,

17 and

18 **HARJIT SINGH**  
2250 Olson Drive  
19 Lodi, CA 95242  
Advanced Emission Specialist Technician  
20 License No. EA 137249

21 and

22 **PAUL SUPOTE VIRIYAPUNT**  
9018 Warm Springs Circle  
23 Stockton, CA 95210  
Advanced Emission Specialist Technician  
24 License No. EA 630183

25 Respondents.  
26

Case No. 79/11-99

**A C C U S A T I O N**

**S M O G C H E C K**

27  
28 Complainant alleges:

1 PARTIES

2 1. Sherry Mehl ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as  
3 the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair ("Bureau"), Department of Consumer Affairs.

4  
5 **Automotive Repair Dealer Registration**

6 2. On a date uncertain in 2006, the Bureau issued Automotive Repair Dealer  
7 Registration Number ARD 243698 ("registration") to Smog Tech ("Respondent Smog Tech")  
8 with Harjit Singh and Jasjit Kaur Bains as partners. The registration was in full force and effect  
9 at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on February 28, 2011, unless  
10 renewed.

11 **Smog Check Test Only Station License**

12 3. On or about March 17, 2006, the Bureau issued Smog Check Test Only Station  
13 License Number TC 243698 ("station license") to Respondent Smog Tech. The station license  
14 was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on  
15 February 28, 2011, unless renewed.

16 **Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License**

17 4. On a date uncertain in 2002, the Bureau issued Advanced Emission Specialist  
18 Technician License Number EA 137249 ("technician license") to Harjit Singh ("Respondent  
19 Singh"). The technician license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges  
20 brought herein and will expire on March 31, 2012, unless renewed.

21 **Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License**

22 5. On or about May 5, 2008, the Bureau issued Advanced Emission Specialist  
23 Technician License Number EA 630183 ("technician license") to Paul Supote Viriyapunt  
24 ("Respondent Viriyapunt"). The technician license was in full force and effect at all times  
25 relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 30, 2012, unless renewed.

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1 10. Section 44072.2 of the Health and Safety Code states, in pertinent part:

2 The director may suspend, revoke, or take other disciplinary action  
3 against a license as provided in this article if the licensee, or any partner, officer, or  
4 director thereof, does any of the following:

5 (a) Violates any section of this chapter [the Motor Vehicle Inspection  
6 Program (Health and Saf. Code, § 44000, et seq.)] and the regulations adopted  
7 pursuant to it, which related to the licensed activities.

8 (c) Violates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to  
9 this chapter.

10 (d) Commits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby  
11 another is injured.

12 11. Section 44072.6 of the Health and Safety Code provides, in pertinent part, that the  
13 expiration or suspension of a license by operation of law, or by order or decision of the Director  
14 of Consumer Affairs, or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of the license shall not deprive  
15 the Director of jurisdiction to proceed with disciplinary action.

16 12. Section 44072.8 of the Health and Safety Code states:

17 "When a license has been revoked or suspended following a hearing under this article, any  
18 additional license issued under this chapter in the name of the licensee may be likewise revoked  
19 or suspended by the director."

#### 20 COST RECOVERY

21 13. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that a Board may request the  
22 administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of  
23 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and  
24 enforcement of the case.

#### 25 SURVEILLANCE OPERATION – APRIL 30, 2010

26 14. On or about April 30, 2010, the Bureau performed a surveillance operation at  
27 Respondent Smog Tech's facility. The surveillance operation and information obtained from the  
28 Bureau's Vehicle Information Database ("VID") revealed that between 1446 hours and 1509  
hours, Respondent Singh performed an aborted smog test on a 1995 Buick Skylark. Between  
1518 hours and 1531 hours Respondents Viriyapunt and Singh performed a second smog  
inspection that resulted in the issuance of electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C

1 for a 1995 Buick Skylark by Respondent Singh. Respondent Singh certified that he had tested  
2 and inspected the vehicle and that the vehicle was in compliance with applicable laws and  
3 regulations. In fact, Respondent Singh performed the smog inspection using the clean piping<sup>1</sup>  
4 method by using the tail pipe emissions of a 1999 Buick in order to issue the electronic certificate  
5 of compliance to the 1995 Buick Skylark.

6 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Misleading Statements)**

8 15. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its registration to discipline under Code section  
9 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that on or about April 30, 2010, it made statements which it knew or  
10 which by exercise of reasonable care it should have known were untrue or misleading when it  
11 issued electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C for the 1995 Buick Skylark,  
12 certifying that the vehicle was in compliance with applicable laws and regulations when, in fact,  
13 the vehicle had been clean piped.

14 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

15 **(Fraud)**

16 16. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its registration to discipline under Code section  
17 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that on or about April 30, 2010, it committed acts which constitute  
18 fraud by issuing electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C for the 1995 Buick  
19 Skylark, without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems  
20 on that vehicle, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded  
21 by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

22 ///

23 ///

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25  
26 <sup>1</sup> "Clean piping" is sampling the (clean) tailpipe emissions and/or the RPM readings of  
27 another vehicle for the purpose of illegally issuing smog certifications to vehicles that are not in  
28 compliance or are not present in the smog check area during the time of the certification.

1 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Violation of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

3 17. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its station license to discipline under Health  
4 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about April 30, 2010, regarding  
5 the 1995 Buick Skylark, it violated sections of that Code, as follows:

6 a. **Section 44012, subdivision (a):** Respondent Smog Tech failed to determine that all  
7 emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly in  
8 accordance with test procedures.

9 b. **Section 44012, subdivision (f):** Respondent Smog Tech failed to perform emission  
10 control tests on that vehicle in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.

11 c. **Section 44015, subdivision (b):** Respondent Smog Tech issued electronic Certificate  
12 of Compliance No. NS840665C without properly testing and inspecting that vehicle to determine  
13 if it was in compliance with section 44012 of that Code.

14 d. **Section 44059:** Respondent Smog Tech willfully made false entries for electronic  
15 Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C by certifying that the vehicle had been inspected as  
16 required when, in fact, it had not.

17 **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

18 **(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

19 18. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its station license to discipline under Health  
20 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about April 30, 2010, regarding  
21 the 1995 Buick Skylark, it violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as  
22 follows:

23 a. **Section 3340.24, subdivision (c):** Respondent Smog Tech falsely or fraudulently  
24 issued electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C without performing a bona fide  
25 inspection of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle as required by Health and  
26 Safety Code section 44012.

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1 d. **Section 44059:** Respondent Singh willfully made false entries for electronic  
2 Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C by certifying that the vehicle had been inspected as  
3 required when, in fact, it had not.

4 **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

5 **(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

6 21. Respondent Singh has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health and  
7 Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about April 30, 2010, regarding the  
8 1995 Buick Skylark, he violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as  
9 follows:

10 a. **Section 3340.24, subdivision (c):** Respondent Singh falsely or fraudulently issued  
11 electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C without performing a bona fide inspection  
12 of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle as required by Health and Safety  
13 Code section 44012.

14 b. **Section 3340.30, subdivision (a):** Respondent Singh failed to inspect and test that  
15 vehicle in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.

16 c. **Section 3340.41, subdivision (c):** Respondent Singh entered false information into  
17 the Emission Inspection System ("EIS") for electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C  
18 by entering vehicle emission control information for a vehicle other than the vehicle being  
19 certified.

20 d. **Section 3340.42:** Respondent Singh failed to conduct the required smog tests and  
21 inspections on that vehicle in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

22 **EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

23 **(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)**

24 22. Respondent Singh has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health and  
25 Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about April 30, 2010, he committed  
26 acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by issuing electronic  
27 Certificate of Compliance No. NS840665C for the 1995 Buick Skylark, without performing a  
28 bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle, thereby

1 depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle  
2 Inspection Program.

3 **NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

4 **(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

5 23. Respondent Viriyapunt has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health  
6 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about April 30, 2010, regarding  
7 the 1995 Buick Skylark, he violated sections of that Code, as follows:

8 a. **Section 44012, subdivision (a):** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to determine that all  
9 emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly in  
10 accordance with test procedures.

11 b. **Section 44012, subdivision (f):** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to perform emission  
12 control tests on that vehicle in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.

13 c. **Section 44032:** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to perform tests of the emission control  
14 devices and systems on that vehicle in accordance with section 44012 of that Code, in that the  
15 vehicle had been clean piped.

16 **TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

17 **(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

18 24. Respondent Viriyapunt has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health  
19 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about April 30, 2010, regarding  
20 the 1995 Buick Skylark, he violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as  
21 follows:

22 a. **Section 3340.30, subdivision (a):** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to inspect and test  
23 that vehicle in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.

24 b. **Section 3340.42:** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to conduct the required smog tests  
25 and inspections on that vehicle in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

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1 **SURVEILLANCE OPERATION – MAY 21, 2010**

2 25. On or about May 21, 2010, the Bureau conducted a video-taped surveillance of  
3 Respondent Smog Tech's facility.

4 26. On or about May 24, 2010, the Bureau conducted a detailed review of the VID for all  
5 smog inspections performed at Respondent Smog Tech's facility for May 21, 2010, and compared  
6 it to the video images from the surveillance operation of May 21, 2010. The video showed that  
7 between 1031 hours and 1052 hours, Respondent Viriyapunt with the aid of an unlicensed person  
8 (later identified as John Ya) performed the smog inspection of a 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe, License  
9 No. 5SJC337. Ya made entries into the EIS and Respondent Viriyapunt issued electronic  
10 Certificate of Compliance No. NU120280C for the 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe.

11 27. On the same date, between 1758 hours and 1804 hours, Respondent Viriyapunt began  
12 a smog inspection on a 2003 Lincoln Aviator, License No. 5UBM985. Respondent Viriyapunt  
13 removed the interface cable, which he previously attached, from the Lincoln Aviator's computer  
14 and tossed the cable to the area of the station's adjoining smog test bay. Respondent Viriyapunt  
15 then returned to the EIS and made entries to begin the OBDII functional test<sup>2</sup>, even though the  
16 interface cable was not plugged into the Lincoln Aviator's computer. At 1804 hours, Respondent  
17 Viriyapunt issued electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C for the 2003 Lincoln  
18 Aviator using the clean plugging method<sup>3</sup>. The Lincoln Aviator was not tested during the OBDII  
19 functional test.

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22 <sup>2</sup> The OBDII functional test is an automated function of the BAR-97 analyzer. During the  
23 OBDII test, the technician is required to connect an interface cable from the BAR-97 analyzer to  
24 a Diagnostic Link Connector (DLC) which is located inside the vehicle. Through the DLC, the  
25 BAR-97 analyzer automatically retrieves information from the vehicle's on-board computer about  
the status of the readiness indicators, trouble codes, and the MIL (malfunction indicator light). If  
the vehicle fails the OBDII functional test, it will fail the overall inspection.

26 <sup>3</sup> Clean-plugging is the use of the OBDII readiness monitor status and stored fault code  
27 (trouble code) status of a passing vehicle for the purpose of illegally issuing a smog certificate to  
28 another vehicle that is not in compliance due to a failure to complete the minimum number of self  
tests, known as monitors, or due to the presence of a stored fault code that indicates an emission  
control system or component failure.

1 **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Misleading Statements)**

3 28. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its registration to discipline under Code section  
4 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that on or about May 21, 2010, it made statements which it knew or  
5 which by exercise of reasonable care it should have known were untrue or misleading as follows:

6 a. Respondent Smog Tech certified that that 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe had been tested and  
7 inspected by a licensed technician when, in fact, Ya, an unlicensed person performed most  
8 aspects of the smog inspection.

9 b. Respondent Smog Tech certified that the 2003 Lincoln Aviator had passed inspection  
10 and was in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In fact, Respondent Smog Tech  
11 conducted the inspection on that vehicle using clean plugging methods in order to issue electronic  
12 Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C for that vehicle, and did not test or inspect the 2003  
13 Lincoln Aviator as required by Health and Safety Code section 44012.

14 **TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

15 **(Fraud)**

16 29. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its registration to discipline under Code section  
17 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that on or about May 21, 2010, it committed acts which constitute  
18 fraud by issuing electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C for the 2003 Lincoln  
19 Aviator without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on  
20 that vehicle, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by  
21 the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

22 **THIRTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

23 **(Violation of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

24 30. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its station license to discipline under Health  
25 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
26 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe and 2003 Lincoln Aviator, it violated sections of that Code, as follows:

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1 a. **Section 44012:** Respondent Smog Tech failed to ensure that the emission control  
2 tests were performed on the 2003 Lincoln Aviator in accordance with procedures prescribed by  
3 the department.

4 b. **Section 44014:** Respondent Smog Tech allowed John Ya, an unlicensed person, to  
5 participate in the smog tests and inspections on the 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe.

6 c. **Section 44015:** Respondent Smog Tech issued electronic Certificate of Compliance  
7 No. NU120287C for the 2003 Lincoln Aviator without ensuring that the vehicle was properly  
8 tested and inspected to determine if it was in compliance with Health and Safety Code section  
9 44012.

10 d. **Section 44059:** Respondent Smog Tech willfully made false entries for electronic  
11 Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C by certifying that the 2003 Lincoln Aviator had been  
12 inspected as required when, in fact, it had not.

13 **FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

14 **(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

15 31. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its station license to discipline under Health  
16 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
17 2003 Lincoln Aviator, it violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as  
18 follows:

19 a. **Section 3340.24, subdivision (c):** Respondent Smog Tech falsely or fraudulently  
20 issued electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C for that vehicle without performing  
21 a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on the vehicle as required by  
22 Health and Safety Code section 44012.

23 b. **Section 3340.35, subdivision (c):** Respondent Smog Tech issued electronic  
24 Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C even though the vehicle had not been inspected in  
25 accordance with section 3340.42 of that Code.

26 c. **Section 3340.42:** Respondent Smog Tech failed to conduct the required smog tests  
27 and inspections on that vehicle in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.  
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1 **FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)**

3 32. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its station license to discipline under Health  
4 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
5 2003 Lincoln Aviator, it committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another  
6 was injured by issuing electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C for that vehicle  
7 without performing a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and system on the  
8 vehicle, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the  
9 Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

10 **SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

11 **(Aiding and Abetting an Unlicensed Person)**

12 33. Respondent Smog Tech has subjected its station license to discipline under Health  
13 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (f), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
14 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe, it aided and abetted John Ya, an unlicensed person, by allowing Ya to  
15 participate in the smog tests and inspections performed on that vehicle.

16 **SEVENTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

17 **(Violation of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

18 34. Respondent Viriyapunt has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health  
19 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
20 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe and 2003 Lincoln Aviator, he violated sections of that Code, as follows:

21 a. **Section 44012:** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to ensure that the emission control tests  
22 were performed on the 2003 Lincoln Aviator in accordance with procedures prescribed by the  
23 department.

24 b. **Section 44014:** Respondent Viriyapunt allowed John Ya, an unlicensed person, to  
25 participate in the smog tests and inspections on the 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe.

26 c. **Section 44015:** Respondent Viriyapunt issued electronic Certificate of Compliance  
27 No. NU120287C for the 2003 Lincoln Aviator without ensuring that the vehicle was properly  
28

1 tested and inspected to determine if it was in compliance with Health and Safety Code section  
2 44012.

3 d. **Section 44059:** Respondent Viriyapunt willfully made false entries for electronic  
4 Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C by certifying that the 2003 Lincoln Aviator had been  
5 inspected as required when, in fact, it had not.

6 **EIGHTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

7 **(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)**

8 35. Respondent Viriyapunt has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health  
9 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
10 2003 Lincoln Aviator, he violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as  
11 follows:

12 a. **Section 3340.24, subdivision (c):** Respondent Viriyapunt falsely or fraudulently  
13 issued electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C without performing a bona fide  
14 inspection of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle as required by Health and  
15 Safety Code section 44012.

16 b. **Section 3340.30, subdivision (a):** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to inspect and test  
17 that vehicle in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.

18 c. **Section 3340.42:** Respondent Viriyapunt failed to conduct the required smog tests  
19 and inspections on that vehicle in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

20 **NINETEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21 **(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)**

22 36. Respondent Viriyapunt has subjected his technician license to discipline under Health  
23 and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
24 2003 Lincoln Aviator, he committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another  
25 was injured by issuing electronic Certificate of Compliance No. NU120287C without performing  
26 a bona fide inspection of the emission control devices and systems on that vehicle, thereby  
27 depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle  
28 Inspection Program.

1 **TWENTIETH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Aiding and Abetting an Unlicensed Person)**

3 37. Respondent Viriyapunt subjected his technician license to discipline under Health and  
4 Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (f), in that on or about May 21, 2010, regarding the  
5 2006 Chevrolet Tahoe, he aided and abetted John Ya, an unlicensed person, by allowing him to  
6 participate in the smog tests and inspections performed on that vehicle.

7 **PRIOR CITATIONS**

8 38. To determine the degree of penalty, if any, to be imposed upon Respondents Smog  
9 Tech and Viriyapunt, Complainant alleges as follows:

10 a. On December 27, 2006, the Bureau issued Citation No. C07-0426 to Respondent  
11 Smog Tech against its registration and station licenses for violations of Health and Safety Code  
12 section 44012, subdivision (f) (failure to perform a visual/functional check of emission control  
13 devices) and California Code of Regulations, title 16, ("Regulation"), section 3340.35,  
14 subdivision (c) (issuing a certificate of compliance to a vehicle improperly tested). Respondent  
15 Smog Tech issued a certificate of compliance to a Bureau vehicle with a non-functional exhaust  
16 gas recirculation system. The Bureau assessed a civil penalty of \$500. Respondent Smog Tech  
17 complied with this citation on February 22, 2007.

18 b. On May 13, 2009, the Bureau issued Citation No. C09-1299 to Respondent Smog  
19 Tech against its registration and station licenses for violations of Health and Safety Code section  
20 44012, subdivision (f) (failure to perform a visual/functional check of emission control devices)  
21 and Regulation, section 3340.35, subdivision (c) (issuing a certificate of compliance to a vehicle  
22 improperly tested). Respondent Smog Tech issued a certificate of compliance to a Bureau vehicle  
23 with the ignition timing adjusted beyond the manufacturer's specifications. The Bureau assessed  
24 a civil penalty of \$500. Respondent Smog Tech complied with this citation on June 30, 2009.

25 **OTHER MATTERS**

26 39. Under Code section 9884.7, subdivision (c), the director may invalidate temporarily  
27 or permanently or refuse to validate, the registrations for all places of business operated in this  
28

1 state by to Smog Tech, upon a finding that it has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and  
2 willful violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.

3 40. Under Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Test Only Station  
4 License Number TC 243698, issued to Smog Tech, is revoked or suspended, any additional  
5 license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or  
6 suspended by the director.

7 41. Under Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, if Advanced Emission Specialist  
8 Technician License Number EA 630183, issued to Paul Supote Viriyapunt, is revoked or  
9 suspended, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be  
10 likewise revoked or suspended by the director.

11 42. Under Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, if Advanced Emission Specialist  
12 Technician License Number EA 137249, issued to Harjit Singh, is revoked or suspended, any  
13 additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked  
14 or suspended by the director.

15 **PRAYER**

16 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,  
17 and that following the hearing, the Director of Consumer Affairs issue a decision:

18 1. Revoking, suspending or placing on probation Automotive Repair Dealer Registration  
19 Number ARD 243698, issued to Smog Tech;

20 2. Revoking, suspending or placing on probation any other automotive repair dealer  
21 registration issued in the name of Smog Tech;

22 3. Revoking or suspending Smog Check Test Only Station License Number TC 243698,  
23 issued to Smog Tech;

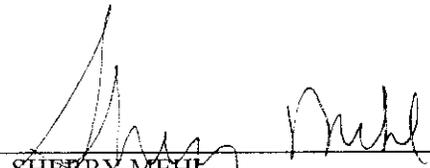
24 4. Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health  
25 & Safety Code in the name of Smog Tech;

26 5. Revoking or suspending Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License Number  
27 EA 630183, issued to Paul Supote Viriyapunt;

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- 1           6.    Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health
- 2   & Safety Code in the name of Paul Supote Viriyapunt;
- 3           7.    Revoking or suspending Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License Number
- 4   EA 137249, issued to Harjit Singh;
- 5           8.    Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health
- 6   & Safety Code in the name of Harjit Singh;
- 7           9.    Ordering Smog Tech, Harjit Singh, and Paul Supote Viriyapunt to pay the Bureau of
- 8   Automotive Repair the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case,
- 9   pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and,
- 10          10.   Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

11  
12           DATED: 6/15/11



SHERRY MEHL  
Chief  
Bureau of Automotive Repair  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
State of California  
*Complainant*

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