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BEFO	RE THE
	CONSUMER AFFAIRS
	AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
STATE OF C	CALIFORNIA
	Case No. 79/13-76
In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 19113-16
ALCHI INC., DBA PATRIOT AUTO	* 1
CARE AND BRAKES, WATHIQ N.F. ALCHI, PRESIDENT	
910 Highland Avenue, Ste. A	ACCUSATION
National City, CA 91950	(SMOG CHECK)
to the Delandary N	(SMOG CHECK)
Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 253302	
Smog Check Station License No. RC 253302	
Lamp Station License No. LS 253302, Class	
A Brake Station License No. BS 253302, Class	Contained to the
C C Station License No. B3 255502, Class	
And	
J. ALBERTO GURROLA	
526 E. Avenue	
National City, CA 91950	1.00
Advanced Emission Specialist Technician	A STORY No. 10 Care And All Control of the Control
License No. EA 108157 (to be redesignated	
upon renewal as EO 108157 and/or EI	
108157)	
Respondents.	
Respondents.	
///	
III.	

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Complainant alleges:

PARTIES

John Wallauch ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity
as the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair, Department of Consumer Affairs.

LICENSE INFORMATION

Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD253302

On or about January 18, 2008, the Bureau issued Automotive Repair Dealer
 Registration Number ARD 253302 ("registration") to Alchi Inc., doing business as Patriot Auto
 Care and Brakes, Wathiq N.F. Alchi, President ("Respondent"). The registration will expire on
 December 31, 2013, unless renewed.

Smog Check Station License No. RC 253302

3. On or about February 26, 2010, the Bureau issued Smog Check Station License Number RC 253302 ("station license") to Respondent. The station license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2013, unless renewed.

Lamp Station License No. LS 253302

4. On or about June 28, 2012, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Lamp Station License Number LS 253302, Class A, to Respondent. The Lamp Station License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2013, unless renewed.

Brake Station License No. BS 253302

5. On or about June 28, 2012, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Brake Station License Number BS 253302, Class C to Respondent. The Brake Station License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2013, unless renewed.

Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License EA 108157

On a date uncertain in 2002, the Bureau issued Advanced Emission Specialist
 Technician License Number EA 108157 ("technician license") to J. Alberto Gurrola

("Respondent Gurrola"). Respondent Gurrola's technician license is due to expire on December 31, 2013. Upon timely renewal of the license, the license will be redesignated as EO 108157 and/or to EI 108157.¹

JURISDICTION

- 7. This Accusation is brought before the Director of Consumer Affairs ("Director") for the Bureau of Automotive Repair, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 8. Business and Professions Code ("Code") section 9884.7 provides that the Director may revoke an automotive repair dealer registration.
- 9. Code section 9884.13 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a valid registration shall not deprive the director or chief of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against an automotive repair dealer or to render a decision invalidating a registration temporarily or permanently.
- 10. Health and Safety Code section 44002 provides, in pertinent part, that the Director has all the powers and authority granted under the Automotive Repair Act for enforcing the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.
- 11. Health and Safety Code section 44072.6 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration or suspension of a license by operation of law, or by order or decision of the Director of Consumer Affairs, or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of the license shall not deprive the Director of jurisdiction to proceed with disciplinary action.
- 12. Health and Safety Code section 44072.8 states that when 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.
- 13. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.28, subdivision (e), states that "[u]pon renewal of an unexpired Basic Area Technician license or an Advanced Emission

¹ Effective August 1, 2012, California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 3340.28, 3340.29, and 3340.30 were amended to implement a license restructure from the Advanced Emission Specialist Technician (EA) license and Basic Area (EB) Technician license to Smog Check Inspector (EO) license and/or Smog Check Repair Technician (EI) license.

- 22. On or about March 14, 2012, Bureau personnel re-inspected the Toyota and found the following: the Oxygen Sensor, two (2) vacuum lines to the vacuum modulator, and the defective hose to the MAP Sensor had been replaced. The only repair necessary for the Toyota to pass a properly performed Smog Check Inspection was the replacement of the defective vacuum hose to the MAP Sensor. The replacement of the Oxygen Sensor and the two (2) vacuum lines to the vacuum modulator were unnecessary.
- 23. The smog test repair information obtained from the VID and the VIR generated by Respondent Gurrola, shows repairs were performed to the Toyota's Vacuum Routing (EGR), Initial Timing (Secondary), and Oxygen Sensor (Inputs). The Toyota's Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) System, Initial Timing, and Oxygen Sensor were documented and found to be in good condition and not in need of repair or replacement.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Untrue or Misleading Statements)

24. Respondent's registration is subject to discipline pursuant to Code section 9884.7(a)(1), in that Respondent made statements which he knew or which by exercise of

reasonable care should have known to be untrue or misleading when, on or about March 8, 2012, the Respondent told the undercover operator that the Oxygen Sensor and four (4) vacuum lines on the Bureau's 1990 Toyota needed replacement, when in fact, only one (1) vacuum line was defective. The Oxygen Sensor and the two (2) vacuum lines to the vacuum modulator were in good condition and did not need replacement.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Fraud)

25. Respondent's registration is subject to discipline pursuant to Code section 9884.7, subdivision(a)(4), in that on or about March 9, 2012, the Respondent committed acts constituting fraud by accepting payment for replacement of the Oxygen Sensor and vacuum modulator lines when the only repair needed was the replacement of the defective vacuum hose to the MAP Sensor. The replacement of the Oxygen Sensor and vacuum modulator lines was unnecessary.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Code)

- 26. Respondent's registration is subject to discipline pursuant to Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(6), in that Respondent failed to comply with the following sections of that code:
- a. **Section 9884.8:** On or about March 9, 2012, Respondent failed to provide the Bureau operator with an invoice describing all service work performed and parts supplied.
- b. Section 9884.9, subdivision (a): On or about March 8, 2012, Respondent failed to provide the Bureau operator with a written estimated price for parts and labor for a specific job.
- c. Section 9884.9, subdivision (a)(1): On or about March 8, 2012, Respondent failed to note additional authorization for repairs on Invoice No.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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

27. Respondent's Smog Check Station license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about March 8, 2012, Respondent violated California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.41, subdivision (a) in that on or

about March 9, 2012, Respondent failed to provide the Bureau operator with a copy of the VIR for the failed smog test conducted on March 8, 2012.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

28. Respondent's Smog Check Station license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about March 8, 2012, Respondent committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by representing to the undercover operator that that the undercover vehicle needed the Oxygen Sensor and four (4) vacuum lines replaced, when in fact, only one (1) vacuum line was defective.

UNDERCOVER OPERATION - APRIL 5, 2012

- 29. Prior to the undercover run at the subject facility, Bureau personnel had inspected and documented a 1992 Toyota (Toyota). Bureau personnel installed a defective vacuum hose connected to the Vacuum Sensor for the fuel injection system. This condition caused the Toyota to fail a Smog Check Inspection due to elevated tailpipe emissions. The only emission repair necessary for the Toyota to pass a properly performed Smog Check Inspection was the replacement of the defective vacuum hose to the Vacuum Sensor.
- 30. On or about April 5, 2012, a Bureau undercover operator drove the Bureau documented Toyota to the Respondent's facility and requested a Smog Check Inspection. The operator signed an estimate and was provided with a copy. Smog test results obtained from the Bureau's Vehicle Information Database shows that Respondent Gurrola performed a Smog Check Inspection on the Toyota and Smog Certificate of Compliance No. was issued. The operator paid \$58.00, received a copy of Invoice No.
- 31. On April 9, 2012, Bureau personnel re-inspected the Toyota and found the following: The defective vacuum hose to the Vacuum Sensor was still installed on the Toyota. Bureau personnel performed two (2) Smog Check Inspections on the Toyota and the vehicle failed both Smog Check Inspections due to elevated tailpipe emissions. The Bureau documented Toyota could not have passed a properly performed Smog Check Inspection.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

32. Respondent's station license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about April 5, 2012, regarding the 1992 Toyota, Respondent failed to comply with Health and Safety Code section 44012 in that Respondent failed to perform emission control inspections on the Toyota in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Regulations)

33. Respondent's station license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about April 5, 2012, regarding the 1992 Toyota, Respondent failed to comply with the provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.35, subdivision (c) in that Respondent issued electronic Certificate of Compliance No. for the Toyota even though the vehicle had not been inspected in accordance with section 3340.42.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 34. Respondent Gurrola's technician license(s) is subject to discipline pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about April 5, 2012, regarding the 1992 Toyota, Respondent Gurrola failed to comply with the following sections of that Code:
- a. Section 44012: Respondent Gurrola failed to perform emission control inspections
 on the vehicle in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.
- b. Section 44032: Respondent Gurrola failed to perform tests of emission control devices and systems in accordance with Section 44012.

NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Regulations)

35. Respondent Gurrola's technician license(s) is subject to discipline pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about April 5, 2012, regarding the

1992 Toyota, Respondent Gurrola failed to comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a) in that Respondent Gurrola failed to inspect, test and repair the Toyota in accordance with Health and Safety Code sections 44012 and 44035, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.

<u>UNDERCOVER OPERATION – MAY 8, 2012</u>

- 36. Prior to the undercover run at the subject facility, Bureau personnel had inspected and documented a 1992 Chevrolet (Chevrolet). Bureau personnel caused a malfunction to the AIR system (AIR control wire grounded). This condition causes the vehicle to fail a Smog Check Inspection test due to excessive Oxides of Nitrogen (NOX) emission levels. The only emission repair necessary for the Chevrolet to pass a properly performed Smog Check Inspection was to repair the malfunction to the AIR system.
- 37. On or about May 8, 2012, a Bureau undercover operator drove the Bureau documented Chevrolet to the Respondent's facility and requested a Smog Check Inspection. The operator signed an estimate and was provided with a copy. Respondent Gurrola performed a Smog Check Inspection on the Chevrolet and Respondent told the operator that the vehicle had failed. The operator authorized the subject facility to diagnose the cause of the Smog Check Inspection failure and was provided a written estimate of \$90.00 for the diagnosis.
- 38. On or about May 9, 2012, the operator phoned the Respondent to inquire about the progress of the diagnosis. She was told the EGR (Exhaust Gas Recirculation) passages were restricted with carbon and needed to be cleaned out. The operator was given a verbal estimate of \$90.00 and she then authorized the repair.
- 39. On or about May 9, 2012, the operator returned to the subject facility to retrieve the Chevrolet. The Respondent told the operator additional problems had been found with the Chevrolet in that two wires had been taped together and they were grounded causing the air pump to run all the time. The operator paid \$238.00, received Invoice number and two (2) VIRs. One VIR, dated May 8, 2012, shows the Chevrolet failed the failed the Smog Check Inspection and the second VIR, Dated May 9, 2012, shows the Chevrolet passed the Smog Check Inspection.

40. On May 10, 2012, Bureau personnel re-inspected the Chevrolet and found the following: The malfunction to the AIR system had been repaired as invoiced. This was the only repair necessary for the Chevrolet to pass a properly performed Smog Check Inspection. The EGR passage cleaning that was authorized and invoiced was unnecessary. The EGR system was documented and found to be functioning properly and not in need of service or repair. Both VIRs show an entry of "N/A" (not applicable) for "Thermostatic Air Cleaner", when in fact, the Chevrolet is equipped with a Thermostatic Air Cleaner.

TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Untrue or Misleading Statements)

41. Respondent's registration is subject to discipline pursuant to Code section 9884.7(a)(1), in that Respondent made statements which he knew or which by exercise of reasonable care should have known to be untrue or misleading when, in regard to the Bureau's 1992 Chevrolet, Respondent told the operator the EGR passages were restricted and needed to be cleaned, when in fact the EGR system was in good condition, functioning properly, and not in need of repair or service.

ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Fraud)

42. Respondent's registration is subject to discipline pursuant to Code section 9884.7, subdivision(a)(4), in that Respondent committed acts constituting fraud by accepting payment for repairs to the EGR passages of the Bureau's 1992 Chevrolet. The only needed repair of the Chevrolet was to repair the malfunction to AIR system.

TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of Regulations)

43. Respondent's registration is subject to discipline under Code section 9884.7(a)(6), in that on or about May 9, 2012, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3373, Respondent created an untrue or misleading record by stating on the Invoice No. for the Bureau's 1992 Chevrolet, that the EGR passages were restricted, when in fact the EGR system was documented and found to be in good condition and not in need of repair.

THIRTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

44. Respondent's station license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about May 8, 2012, in regard to the 1992 Chevrolet, Respondent failed to comply with Code section 44012 in that Respondent failed to perform the emission control inspection on the undercover vehicle in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department in that Respondent entered N/A (Not Applicable) into the EIS for the visual inspection results for the Thermostatic Air Cleaner (TAC), when in fact, a TAC is required and was present and connected on the 1992 Chevrolet.

FOURTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

45. Respondent's station license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about March 8, 2012, Respondent committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by telling the undercover operator that EGR passages of the 1992 Chevrolet were restricted and needed to be cleaned, and accepting payment for this repair, when in fact the EGR system was in good condition, functioning properly, and not in need of repair or service.

FIFTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

46. Respondent Gurrola's technician license(s) is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about May 8, 2012, regarding the 1992 Chevrolet, Respondent Gurrola failed to comply with Code sections 44012 in that Respondent Gurrola failed to perform emission control inspections on 1992 Chevrolet in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department in that Respondent Gurrola entered N/A (Not Applicable) into the EIS for the visual inspection results for the Thermostatic Air Cleaner (TAC), when in fact, a TAC is required and was present and connected on the undercover vehicle.

SIXTEENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Regulations)

47. Respondent Gurrola's technician license(s) is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about May 8, 2012, regarding the 1992 Chevrolet, Respondent Gurrola failed to comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a) in that Respondent Gurrola failed to inspect, test and repair the 1992 Chevrolet in accordance with Health and Safety Code sections 44012 and 44035, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42 as set forth in paragraph 45 above.

OTHER MATTERS

- 48. Pursuant to Code section 9884.7, subdivision (c), the Director may refuse to validate, or may invalidate temporarily or permanently, the registrations for all places of business operated in this state by Alchi Inc., including, but not limited to Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 253302, upon a finding that it has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.
- 49. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Test Only Station License No. RC 253302, issued to Alchi Inc., Wathiq N. F. Alchi, President, doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, is revoked or suspended; any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.
- 50. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Lamp Station License No. LS 253302, class A, issued to Alchi Inc., Wathiq N. F. Alchi, President, doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, is revoked or suspended; any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.
- 51. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Brake Station License No. BS 253302, class C, issued to Alchi Inc., Wathiq N. F. Alchi, President, doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, is revoked or suspended; any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.

52. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Respondent Gurrola's technician license(s), currently designated as EA 108157 and as redesignated upon timely renewal as EO 108157 and/or EI 108157, is/are revoked or suspended, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.

PRAYER

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

- Revoking, suspending or placing on probation Automotive Repair Dealer Registration
 No. ARD 253302, issued to Alchi Inc., doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, Wathiq
 N. F. Alchi, President;
- Revoking, suspending or placing on probation any other Automotive Repair Dealer Registration issued in the name Alchi Inc., Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, and/or Wathiq N. F. Alchi;
- Revoking or suspending Smog Check Station License No. RC 253302, issued to
 Alchi Inc., doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, Wathiq N. F. Alchi, President;
- Revoking or suspending Lamp Station License No. LS 253302, class A, issued to
 Alchi Inc., doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, Wathiq N. F. Alchi, President;
- Revoking or suspending Brake Station License No. BS 253302, class C, issued to
 Alchi Inc., doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, Wathiq N. F. Alchi, President;
- Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of Alchi Inc., Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, and/or Wathiq N. F. Alchi;
- Revoking or suspending J. Alberto Gurrola's Smog Technician license(s), currently designated as EA 108157 and as redesignated upon his timely renewal as EO 108157 and/or EI 108157;
- Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of J. Alberto Gurrola;

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1	9. Ordering Alchi Inc., doing business as Patriot Auto Care and Brakes, Wathiq N. F.	
2	Alchi, President, and J. Alberto Gurrola, to pay the Bureau of Automotive Repair the reasonable	
3	costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions	
4	Code section 125.3; and,	
5	10. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.	
6		
7	DATED: 5313 John WALLANCH Sy Joy 35	
8	JOHN WALLAUCH Chief Bureau of Automotive Repair	
9	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California	
10	Complainant	
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