		. A
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	DEPARTMENT OF C FOR THE BUREAU OF	RE THE ONSUMER AFFAIRS AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR CALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 79/17 - 12749
12	A 1 SMOG TEST ONLY, DAVID P.	OAH No.
13 14 15 16 17	GREGOR (OWNER) 2100 Westwood Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025  Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 255877  Smog Check, Test Only, Station License No. TC 255877  and	ACCUSATION
18	DAVID GREGOR	
19	2100 Westwood Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025	
20	Mailing Address:	
21	2434 N. Myers St. Burbank, CA 91504-2632	,
22	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 131363	2
23	Smog Check Repair License No. EI 131363	
24	Respondents	
25		
26	111	
27	111	
28	111	
	*	1

(A 1 SMOG TEST ONLY, DAVID P. GREGOR) ACCUSATION

#### **PARTIES**

- 1. Patrick Dorais ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair ("Bureau"), Department of Consumer Affairs.
- 2. On or about August 19, 2008, the Bureau issued Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 255877 to David P. Gregor ("Respondent Gregor") dba A 1 Smog Test Only. The Automotive Repair Dealer Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2018, unless renewed.
- 3. On or about October 1, 2008, the Bureau issued Smog Check, Test Only, Station License Number TC 255877 to Respondent Gregor dba A 1 Smog Test Only. The Smog Check, Test Only, Station License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2018, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about February 25, 2013, the Bureau issued STAR Certification to A 1 Smog Test Only. The STAR Station Certification was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will remain active unless the ARD registration and/or the Smog Check Station license issued to Respondent Gregor is revoked, cancelled, or the licenses become delinquent or certification is invalidated.
- 5. In 1996, the Bureau issued Advanced Emission Specialist License No. EA 131363 to Respondent Gregor. Said license was renewed pursuant to Respondent Gregor's election as a Smog Check Inspector (EO) License No. 131363 and Smog Check Repair Technician (EI) License No. 131363, effective February 13, 2013. The Smog Check Inspector (EO) and Smog Check Repair Technician (EI) licenses were in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein, and will expire on April 30, 2019, unless renewed.

#### JURISDICTION

6. This Accusation is brought before the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (Director) for the Bureau, under the authority of the following laws.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16 section 3340.28, subdivision (e).

### 3

4 5

6

7 8

9 10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25 26

27

28

///

#### REGULATORY PROVISIONS

California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c), states:

"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."

- 18. CCR, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a), states that a licensed smog technician shall at all times "[i]nspect, test and repair vehicles, as applicable, in accordance with section 44012 of the Health & Saf. Code, section 44035 of the Health & Saf. Code, and section 3340.42 of this article."
- 19. CCR, title 16, section 3340.35, subdivision (c), states that a licensed smog check 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."
- 20. CCR, title 16, section 3340.41, subdivision (c), states that "[n]o person shall enter into the emissions inspection system any vehicle identification information or emission control system identification data for any vehicle other than the one being tested. Nor shall any person knowingly enter into the emissions inspection system any false information about the vehicle being tested."
- 21. CCR, title 16, section 3340.42, sets forth specific emissions test methods and procedures which apply to all vehicles inspected in the State of California.

#### COST RECOVERY

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

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 23. On March 9, 2015, the Bureau implemented a statewide regulatory change requiring the use of an On-Board Diagnostic Inspection System (OIS) in testing of 2000 model year and newer gas powered vehicles 14,000 Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVW) and under, and 1998 and newer diesel powered vehicles 14,000 GVW and under. The OIS Bureau Test Data lists differences in Vehicle Identification Numbers (VIN) for vehicles that have received smog inspections, in addition to communication protocol (the language used to communicate) and Parameter ID (PID) differences with vehicles that have been certified correctly that are the same make and model vehicles.
- 24. A Bureau representative initiated an investigation and reviewed OIS test data for A 1 Smog Test Only from January 26, 2016 through August 7, 2017. The investigation revealed that the data related to certain vehicles certified by A 1 Smog Test Only contained a pattern of unmistakable discrepancies between the information transmitted during the inspections and documented information known about the subject vehicles. Specifically, a comparison of the data received from the certified vehicles to data from vehicles of the same year, make, and model determined that the data from at least four (4) of the certified vehicles contained the following unmistakable discrepancies: (1) incorrect vehicle communication protocols and/or (2) incorrect PID counts. Furthermore, the certified vehicles transmitted incorrect eVINs (eVINs were for different vehicles). These documented discrepancies confirm that the vehicles receiving smog certificates from A 1 Smog Test Only were fraudulently tested during the smog inspection using the "clean plugging" method. <sup>2</sup>
- 25. Moreover, the OIS test Data showed that Smog Check technician David Gregor (EO 131363) performed all four (4) of the fraudulent inspections.

<sup>2</sup> "Clean plugging" refers to the use of another vehicle's properly functioning On Board

Diagnostic, generation II, (OBD II) system, or another source, to generate passing diagnostic readings for the purpose of issuing fraudulent smog Certificates of Compliance to vehicles that are not in smog

24 ///

compliance and/or not present for testing.

26. The following chart illustrates the documented clean plugging activities of Respondents A 1 Smog Test Only and Gregor from January 26, 2016 to August 7, 2017:

3

4	Test Date	Vehicle Certified & VIN	Certificate No.	Technician License No.	OIS Test Data Details
5					
6	01/26/16	2002 Honda Accord EX	YX178979C	EO131363 (Respondent	Comm. Protocol: JVPW (expected: I914)
7	01/20/10	JHMCG66022C006384		Gregor)	PID Count: 22
8		311141000022000304			(expected: 16)
9					eVIN: Expected, but
10					incorrectly transmitted as 1GKEC13T13R171952 <sup>3</sup> (a 2003 GMC Yukon)
11					(a 2003 GIVIC Tukon)
12					
13					
14	06/10/16	2008 Audi TT Quattro 3.2 AWD <sup>4</sup>	ZF476948C	EO131363 (Respondent	Comm. Protocol: ICAN11bt5
15	00/10/10	3.2.1111, 2		Gregor)	(expected: ICAN11bt5)
16		TRUDD38J381029024			PID Count: 48 10 (expected: 43 or 43 14)
17					-eVIN: Expected, but
18					incorrectly transmitted as
19					WAUSGAFCXCN030283 <sup>5</sup> (a 2012 Audi A7
20	i	·			Prestige)
21		·		i I	
22					

<sup>23</sup> 24

25

26 27

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The OIS Test Data shows that a 2003 GMC Yukon, VIN 1GKEC13T13R171952, was the vehicle used to generate the fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance for the 2002 Honda Accord EX. The 2003 GMC Yukon was certified under Respondent Gregor at A 1 Smog Test Only on the same day, January 26, 2016, and the data transmitted matches that of the OIS test data for the fraudulent inspection of the 2002 Honda Accord EX.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This vehicle was previously tested on May 1, 2016. The OIS Test Detail for that test indicated the vehicle reported the correct eVIN, reported the communication protocol as ICAN11bt5, and reported a PID count of 43|14, all as expected. Then on May 3, 2017, a subsequent Smog Check test again indicated the vehicle reported the correct eVIN, reported the communication protocol as ICAN11bt5, and reported a PID count of 43|14, all as expected.

Bureau and DMV records indicate that #WAUSGAFCXCN030283 is the permanent identification number assigned to a 2012 Audi A7 Prestige.

	F				
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09/25/16	2004 Chevrolet Silverado C2500 HD <sup>6</sup> 1GCHC23U84F247466	QE450423C	EO131363 (Respondent Gregor)	Comm. Protocol: JPWM (expected: JVPW)  PID Count: 23 (expected: 22)  eVIN: Expected, but incorrectly transmitted as 1FMYU60E63UB173067 (a 2003 Ford Explorer Sport)
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	08/07/17	2001 Audi A8 L Quattro WAUML54DX1N0080598	HD309162C	EO131363 (Respondent Gregor)	Comm. Protocol: ICAN11bt5 (expected: I914)  PID Count: 43 4 (expected: 21 5)  eVIN: Not expected, but incorrectly transmitted as 5NPEC4AC4BH1198839 (a 2011 Hyundai Sonata SE)
17	///				

20 21

22

23

24

25

26

27

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This vehicle was subsequently tested on November 20, 2016. The OIS Test Detail for that test indicated the vehicle reported the correct eVIN, reported the communication protocol as JVPW, and reported a PID count of 22, all as expected.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The OIS Test Data shows that a 2003 Ford Explorer Sport, VIN 1FMYU60E63UB17306, was the vehicle used to generate the fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance for the 2004 Chevrolet Silverado C2500 HD. The 2003 Ford Explorer Sport was certified under Respondent Gregor at A 1 Smog Test Only on the same day, September 25, 2016, and the data transmitted matches that of the OIS test data for the fraudulent inspection of the 2004 Chevrolet Silverado C2500 HD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This vehicle was previously tested on May 18, 2017. The OIS Test Detail for that test indicated the vehicle did not transmit the eVIN, the communication protocol was reported as I914, and the PID count was 21/5, all as expected.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The OIS Test Data shows that a 2011 Hyundai Sonata SE, VIN 5NPEC4AC4BH119883, was the vehicle used to generate the fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance for the 2001 Audi A8 L Quattro. The 2011 Hyundai Sonata SE was certified under Respondent Gregor at A 1 Smog Test Only on the same day, August 7, 2017, and the data transmitted matches that of the OIS test data for the fraudulent inspection of the 2001 Audi A8 L Quattro.

\_ .

27. The data analysis conducted on A 1 Smog Test Only shows that Respondents participated in a scheme to perform at least four (4) fraudulent Smog Check inspections resulting in the issuance of four (4) fraudulent electronic Smog Check Certificates of Compliance between January 26, 2016 and August 7, 2017.

CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE SUBJECTING ARD REGISTRATION TO DISCIPLINARY

ACTION:

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Untrue or Misleading Statements)

28. Respondent Gregor's Automotive Repair Dealer Registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that he made or authorized statements which he knew or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known to be untrue or misleading, as follows: Respondent certified that the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above had passed smog inspection and were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In fact, Respondent used clean plugging methods for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above. Respondent substituted or used a different vehicle(s), or another source, during the OBD II functional tests in order to issue smog certificates of compliance for the vehicles. Respondent did not properly test or inspect any of the four (4) vehicles as required by Health & Saf. Code section 44012. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Fraud)

29. Respondent Gregor's Automotive Repair Dealer Registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that he committed acts that constitute fraud by issuing electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on the vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

1	
1	Con
2	23 t
3	
4	
5	
6 7 8 9	disc
7	faile
8	purs
9	iden
10	con
11	Cali
12	refe
13	27,
14	<u>CA</u>
15	LIC
16	
17	
18	
19	disc
20	faile
21	
22	   perf

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Material Violation of Automotive Repair Act)

30. Respondent Gregor's Automotive Repair Dealer Registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(6), in that he failed in a material respect to comply with the provisions of this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant to it when he issued electronic certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

# CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE SUBJECTING SMOG CHECK TEST ONLY STATION LICENSE TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION:

#### FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 31. Respondent Gregor's Smog Check Test Only Station License is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that he failed to comply with the following sections of that Code:
- a. <u>Section 44012</u>: Respondent failed to ensure that the emission control tests were performed on the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.
- b. <u>Section 44015</u>: Respondent issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, without ensuring that the vehicles were properly tested and inspected to determine if they were in compliance with Health & Saf. Code section 44012.

III

23

24

25

26

2.7

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 32. Respondent Gregor's Smog Check Test Only Station License is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that he failed to comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. <u>Section 3340.24, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent falsely or fraudulently issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above.
- b. <u>Section 3340.35, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, even though the vehicles had not been inspected in accordance with section 3340.42.
- c. <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent knowingly entered false information into the emissions inspection system for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above.
- d. <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent failed to ensure that the required smog tests were conducted on the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

33. Respondent Gregor's Smog Check Test Only Station License is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that he committed dishonest, fraudulent, or deceitful acts whereby another was injured by issuing electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on

the vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

# CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE SUBJECTING SMOG CHECK INSPECTOR LICENSE AND SMOG CHECK REPAIR TECHNICIAN LICENSE TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION:

#### SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

34. Respondent Gregor's Smog Check Inspector License and Smog Check Repair Technician License are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that he failed to comply with section 44012 of that Code in a material respect, as follows: Respondent failed to perform the emission control tests on the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 35. Respondent Gregor's Smog Check Inspector License and Smog Check Repair Technician License are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that he failed to comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. <u>Section 3340.24, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent falsely or fraudulently issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above.
- b. <u>Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)</u>: Respondent failed to inspect and test the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, in accordance with Health & Saf. Code sections 44012 and 44035, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.

 $\parallel$  ///

22<sub>.</sub> 

c. <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent knowingly entered false information into the emissions inspection system for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above.

d. <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent failed to conduct the required smog tests on the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

36. Respondent Gregor's Smog Check Inspector License and Smog Check Repair Technician License are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that he committed dishonest, fraudulent, or deceitful acts whereby another was injured by issuing electronic smog certificates of compliance for the four (4) vehicles identified in paragraph 26 above, without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on the vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 23 through 27, above, as though set forth fully herein.

#### OTHER MATTERS

- 37. Pursuant to Bus. & Prof. 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 Respondent Gregor, upon a finding that he has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.
- 38. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Test Only Station License No. TC 255877, issued to Respondent Gregor is revoked or suspended following a hearing, any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the Director.
- 39. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 131363 and/or Smog Check Repair License No. EI 131363 issued to Respondent Gregor

$_1\parallel$	is revoked	or suspended following a hearing, any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of			
2	Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of said licensee may be likewise				
3	revoked or suspended by the Director.				
4		PRAYER			
5	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,				
6	and that fo	llowing the hearing, the Director of Consumer Affairs issue a decision:			
7	1.	Revoking or suspending Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD			
8	255877 iss	ued to David P. Gregor dba A 1 Smog Test Only;			
9	2.	Revoking or suspending any other automotive repair dealer registration issued to			
0	David P. G	regor;			
1	3.	Revoking or suspending Smog Check Test Only Station License No. TC 255877,			
2	issued to David P. Gregor dba A 1 Smog Test Only;				
3	4.	Revoking or suspending Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 131363, issued to			
4	David Gre	gor;			
5	5.	Revoking or suspending Smog Check Repair License No. EI 131363, issued to David			
6	Gregor;				
7	6.	Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of Part 5 of			
8	Division 2	6 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of David Gregor;			
9	7.	Ordering Respondent David P. Gregor to pay the Bureau the reasonable costs of the			
0.	investigati	on and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section			
1	125.3; and				
2	///				
3	///				
.4	111				
.5	///				
26	///				
27	///				
28	///				
	1				

1	8. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
2	
3   4	
5	DATED: February 2, 2018 Tatuck Dorais
6	PATRICK DORAIS Chief
7	Bureau of Automotive Repair Department of Consumer Affairs
8	State of California  Complainant
9	
10	LA2017507375 52702635.doc
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	· ·
16	
17	
18 19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
	15