1	ROB BONTA	
2	Attorney General of California ERIN M. SUNSERI	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General GREGORY J. SALUTE	
4	Supervising Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 164015	
5	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266	
6	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9431	
7	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 E-mail: Gregory.Salute@doj.ca.gov	
8	Attorneys for Complainant	
9	BEFORE THE	
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOR THE BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR	
11	STATE OF C.	ALIFORNIA
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. <b>79/24-17474</b>
13	JOSE RAUL BLANCO, d.b.a. MOVALL	
14	SMOG 23846 Sunnymead Blvd #14	ACCUSATION
15	Moreno Valley, CA 92553	
<ul><li>16</li><li>17</li></ul>	Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 294485, Smog Test, Test Only, Station License Number TC 294485	
18	JOSE RAUL BLANCO MELENDREZ	
19	44394 Meadow Grove St Hemet, CA 92544	
20	Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 643978	
21	-and-	
22	VALENTIN V. VALENCIA	
23	920 Orange St Colton, CA 92324	
24	Smog Check Inspector License Number EO	
25	635186	
26	Respondents.	
27		
28		1
		1

**PARTIES** 

- 1. Patrick Dorais (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair, Department of Consumer Affairs.
- 2. On or about June 3, 2019, Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Automotive Repair Dealer Number ARD 294485 to Jose Raul Blanco dba Movall Smog (Respondent). The Automotive Repair Dealer was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2025, unless renewed.
- 3. On or about June 4, 2019, Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check, Test-Only, Station Number TC 294485 to Jose Raul Blanco dba Movall Smog (Respondent). The Smog Check, Test-Only, Station was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2025, unless renewed.
- 4. Respondent is also certified as a STAR Station. The certification was issued on July 18, 2019, and will remain active unless the ARD registration and/or Smog Check Station license is revoked, canceled, licenses become delinquent, or the certification is invalidated.
- 5. On or about October 20, 2022, Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 643978 to Jose Raul Blanco Melendrez (Respondent). The Smog Check Inspector License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on December 31, 2026, unless renewed.
- 6. On or about February 4, 2013, Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 635186 to Valentin V. Valencia<sup>1</sup> (Respondent). The Smog Check Inspector License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 30, 2026, unless renewed.

### **JURISDICTION**

7. 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> At all times alleged herein, Respondents Jose Raul Blanco Melendrez and Valentin V. Valencia were acting as employees of Respondent Movall Smog and committed the acts alleged herein in the course and scope of their employment at Respondent Movall Smog.

27

28

18. California Code of Regulations, 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**

19. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the 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, with failure of the licentiate to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

### VID DATA REVIEW

- 20. Beginning March 9, 2015, California's Smog Check Program was updated to require the use of an On-Board Diagnostic Inspection System ("OIS"). OIS is the Smog Check equipment required in all areas of the State when inspecting most model-year 2000 and newer gasoline and hybrid vehicles and most 1998 and newer diesel vehicles. The system consists of a certified Data Acquisition Device ("DAD"), computer, bar code scanner, and printer. The DAD is an On-Board Diagnostic ("OBD") scan tool that, when requested by the California OIS software, retrieves OBD data from the vehicle. All OBD data that the vehicle indicates it supports is requested by the California OIS software and will be retrieved. The DAD connects between the OIS computer and the vehicle's DLC. The California OIS software requires a continuous Internet connection when performing a Smog Check inspection and the OIS software communicates with BAR's central database through the Internet connection. The bar code scanner is used to input technician information, the vehicles identification number ("VIN"), and DMV renewal information. The printer provides a Vehicle Inspection Report ("VIR") containing inspection results for motorists and a Smog Check Certificate of Compliance number for passing vehicles.
- 21. Data retrieved and recorded during an OIS smog check includes; the eVIN, which is the digitally stored VIN programmed into the vehicle's Powertrain Control Module ("PCM"); the communication protocol, which is the manufacturer/vehicle specific language the PCM uses to

relay information; and the number of Parameter Identifications ("PIDs"), which is the number of specific data values each PCM uses related to emissions controls.

- 22. During an OIS inspection, engine operating parameters are retrieved from the vehicle's OBD II system and recorded to the VID. This is accomplished during the functional portion of the OIS Smog Check inspection by plugging the DAD into the vehicle's DLC when prompted by the OIS analyzer screen prompt. Some of the parameters recorded are:
  - Engine speed in revolutions per minute (RPM)
  - Throttle position as measured by a throttle position sensor (TPS) mounted onto the throttle shaft. Measured in a percentage of opening from 0% at idle and near or up to 100% at full throttle.
  - Manifold absolute pressure as measured by a manifold air pressure sensor (MAP) connected to an intake manifold source, measured in kilo pascals (kpa). Typical readings for a normally aspirated vehicle as follows: 0 kpa being absolute vacuum, 25kpa to 45kpa at idle, 101 kpa at full throttle, same as atmospheric pressure at sea level.
  - Mass air flow as measured by a mass air flow sensor (MAF) mounted in the engine's air intake tract. Measured in grams per second (gps).<sup>3</sup>
  - Ignition timing is set by the vehicle PCM based on engine speed and load, and is measured in degrees Before Top Dead Center (BTDC).
- 23. During normal engine operation at idle, engine speed is relatively steady around its target idle speed. With the engine idling, the TPS is steady and at or near 0%. The MAP and/or MAF readings are also steady. For the engine speed to increase, the throttle would have to be opened to increase airflow through the engine. The engine's management systems supply fuel and spark timing appropriate to any changes in throttle position and engine speed. An increase in throttle, measured by the TPS, which increases engine RPM, would result in corresponding increases in MAF as well as a change in MAP. Stated another way, any movement in the throttle

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Not all vehicles include both MAP and MAF parameters. Many vehicles will have either MAP or MAF parameters separately.

from the idle position will result in an increase of airflow through the engine with corresponding increases RPM and/or MAF along with changes in MAP.

- 24. During an OIS Smog Check inspection, along with other visual and functional inspections, there is an OBD II query portion of the inspection. The OBD II query is performed with the engine idling and, when requested by the OIS analyzer, and an elevated or increased engine speed.
- 25. If the vehicle passes the visual, functional and tailpipe tests, it passes the overall inspection, and a Certificate of Compliance is issued and transmitted electronically to the Vehicle Information Database ("VID"). These Certificates of Compliance are purchased in blocks of fifty (50) through the EIS or OIS from the VID, using a pre-arranged electronic bank account debit system or by check, via mail, from Bureau Headquarters in Sacramento. Each Certificate of Compliance has a unique control number so that it can be tracked to determine which Smog Check Station purchased the Certificate of Compliance and to which vehicle it was issued.
- 26. The VID contains registration data from Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") plus emission standards, vehicle smog check inspections, smog check stations and technicians, and Certificates of Compliance. The VID receives the passing smog check results immediately following the inspection. During the vehicle registration process, the DMV accesses the VID to verify that the vehicle has been tested and certified. The Bureau can also access the VID to view test data on smog check inspections performed at any Smog Check Station, or search for, retrieve, and print a test record for a particular vehicle which has been tested. The EIS or OIS, depending on the test type, also prints a Vehicle Inspection Report ("VIR"), which is a physical record of the test results and shows the Certificate of Compliance number that was issued if the vehicle passed the smog inspection.
- 27. The smog check technician must sign the VIR under penalty of perjury to indicate that the inspection was done within Bureau guidelines. Smog Check Stations are required by law to maintain a copy of the VIR along with a copy of the repair invoice for three years. The consumer's VIR serves as a receipt and proof that the VID was updated, and a Certificate of Compliance was issued. Licensed Smog Check Technicians are the only persons authorized by

the Bureau to perform official inspections. They are issued a personal access code and a license, which are used to gain access to the EIS and OIS to perform smog check inspections.

Unauthorized use of another technician's access code or license is prohibited.

28. Respondents have engaged in numerous acts or omissions constituting violations of the Automotive Repair Act (Business and Professions Code section 9880 *et seq.*) and Motor Vehicle Inspection Program (Health and Safety Code section 44000 *et seq.*) through their practice of "clean plugging." Respondent's employees OIS Test Data available on the State database indicates that Respondents are involved in fraudulent smog inspection activities. A Bureau representative initiated an investigation based on information transmitted to the VID for smog check inspections performed by Respondent's employees. The investigation revealed that the data related to certain vehicles certified by Respondent's employees contained a pattern of unmistakable discrepancies between the information transmitted during the inspections and documented information known about the vehicles at issue. Specifically, the representative compared the data received from the certified vehicles to data from vehicles of the same year, make, and model and determined that the data from at least ten (10) of the certified vehicles were fraudulently tested by Respondent's employees during the smog inspection using the "clean plugging" method as follows:

### Fraudulent Inspection #1 (Valencia)

- 29. Bureau Program Representative Steve Koch (Koch) reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on February 10, 2023, a 2003 Toyota Camry LE, CA license 5BRN715, VIN 4T1BE30K43U705275 (2003 Camry), was tested and smog certificate # IR936486C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO635186, Valencia.
- 30. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2003 Camry shows between time stamp 151 and 17696 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 16.5% opening, MAF is fixed at .42 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</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 compliance and/or not present for testing.

is fixed at 5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 17696 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1550 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 16.5% opening, MAF is fixed at the same .42 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 5 degrees BTDC.

31. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2003 Camry being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### **Previous Failing Test: 2003 Camry**

32. A previous failing test was performed on the 2003 Camry at another station on January 4, 2023. The 2003 Camry failed the test for the MIL commanded on, but the MIL did not illuminate, a tamper on the post cat oxygen sensor for an unapproved installed spacer, incomplete OBDII readiness monitors, and stored OBDII DTC P0301. No dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the test.

#### Fraudulent Inspection #2 (Valencia)

- 33. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on February 21, 2023, a 2004 Toyota Corolla CE, CA license 8FED696, VIN 1NXBR32E54Z326458 (2004 Corolla), was tested and smog certificate # TE051900C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO635186, Valencia.
- 34. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2004 Corolla shows between time stamp 140 and 18483 engine speed is steady at approximately 675 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 9.8% opening, MAF is fixed at .45 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 18483 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1800 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 9.8% opening, MAF is fixed at the same .45 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 5 degrees BTDC.

35. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2004 Corolla being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### Fraudulent Inspection #3 (Valencia)

- 36. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on February 23, 2023, a 2002 Honda Accord LX, CA license 7WXD435, VIN 3HGCG66512G703766 (2002 Accord), was tested and smog certificate # TE306576C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO635186, Valencia.
- 37. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2002 Accord shows between time stamp 148 and 20206 engine speed is steady at approximately 650 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 9.8% opening, MAP is fixed at 26 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 11.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 20206 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1550 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 9.8% opening, MAP is fixed at the same 26 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 11.5 degrees BTDC.
- 38. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAP, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2002 Accord being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### **Previous Failing Test: 2002 Accord**

39. A previous failing test was performed on the 2002 Accord by Licensed Inspector Valentine at Movall Smog on January 2, 2023. The 2002 Accord failed the test for the MIL commanded on, and stored OBDII DTC P0401 and P1259. The Dynamic OBDII PID data

collected during the test shows the expected change in the throttle, MAP, and ignition timing advance parameters as characteristic or expected for normal engine operation.

### Fraudulent Inspection #4 (Valencia)

- 40. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on February 23, 2023, a 2004 Nissan Armada SE, CA license 6DUV220, VIN 5N1AA08B44N711342 (2004 Armada), was tested and smog certificate # TE306577C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #E0635186, Valencia.
- 41. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2004 Armada shows between time stamp 178 and 19966 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at .4% opening, MAF is fixed at 1.39 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 60 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 19966 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1600 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same .4% opening, MAF is fixed at the same 1.39 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 60 degrees BTDC.
- 42. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2004 Armada being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

#### Fraudulent Inspection #5 (Valencia)

- 43. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on June 17, 2023, a 2004 Mitsubishi Montero Limited, CA license 7XAU442, VIN JA4MW51S84J004921 (2004 Montero), was tested and smog certificate # TI857856C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO635186, Valencia.
- 44. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2004 Montero shows between time stamp 115 and 17200 engine speed is steady at approximately 600 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 3.1% opening, MAF is fixed at 3.98 gps, MAP is fixed at 27 kPa, and the ignition timing

advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 9 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 17200 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1400 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 3.1% opening, MAF is fixed at the same 3.98 gps, MAP is fixed at the same 27 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 9 degrees BTDC.

45. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, MAP, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2004 Montero being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### **Previous Failing Test: 2004 Montero**

46. A previous failing test was performed on the 2004 Montero at another station on April 29, 2022. The 2004 Montero failed the test for an illuminated MIL, incomplete OBDII readiness monitors, and stored OBDII DTCs P0171, P0431, and P0442. No dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the test.

#### Fraudulent Inspection #6 (Melendrez)

- 47. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on October 18, 2023, a 2002 Honda Accord EX, CA license 6LHS715, VIN JHMCG66802C025909 (2002 Accord EX), was tested and smog certificate # IX050417C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO643978, Melendrez.
- 48. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2002 Accord EX shows between time stamp 121 and 18484 engine speed is between approximately 600 RPM and 800 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 11.8% opening, MAP is fixed at 25 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 12.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 18484 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1400 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 11.8% opening, MAP is fixed at the same 25 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 12.5 degrees BTDC.

49. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAP, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2002 Accord EX being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### **Previous Failing Test: 2002 Accord**

50. A previous failing test was performed on the 2002 Accord EX at another station on April 30, 2022. The 2002 Accord failed the test for an illuminated MIL, and stored OBDII DTC P0420, P1381, and P1456. No dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the test.

### Fraudulent Inspection #7 (Melendrez)

- 51. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on April 13, 2024, a 2001 Honda Accord LX, no plate, VIN 3HGCG66511G704284 (2001 Accord), was tested and smog certificate # TU546123C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO643978, Melendrez.
- 52. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2001 Accord shows between time stamp 166 and 21564 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 11.8% opening, MAP is fixed at 25 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 12.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 21564 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1400 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 11.8% opening, MAP is fixed at the same 25 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 12.5 degrees BTDC.
- 53. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAP, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2001 Accord being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### Fraudulent Inspection #8 (Melendrez)

- 54. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on April 15, 2024, a 2000 Ford Ranger, CA license 6J14488, VIN 1FTYR10C8YPB79223 (2000 Ranger), was tested and smog certificate # TU546128C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO643978, Melendrez.
- 55. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2000 Ranger shows between time stamp 18 and 26638 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 14.5% opening, MAF is fixed at 4.11 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 8 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 26638 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1350 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 14.5% opening, MAF is fixed at the same 4.11 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 8 degrees BTDC.
- 56. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2000 Ranger being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### Previous Failing Test: 2000 Ranger

57. A previous failing test was performed on the 2000 Ranger at another station on April 8, 2024. The 2000 Ranger failed the visual portion of the test for crankcase emission controls, catalyst, tampered EGR, and other emission related components/systems; an illuminated MIL, incomplete OBDII readiness monitors, and stored OBDII DTCs P0118 and P1504. No dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the test.

### Fraudulent Inspection #9 (Melendrez)

58. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on April 27, 2024, a 2003 Honda Accord EX, CA license 5ATG176, VIN JHMCM566X3C044552 (2003

Accord), was tested and smog certificate # TW461609C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO643978, Melendrez.

- 59. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2003 Accord shows between time stamp 126 and 18661 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 9.4% opening, MAF is fixed at 2.45 gps, MAP is fixed at 25 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 7.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 18661 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1350 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 9.4% opening, MAF is fixed at the same 2.45 gps, MAP is fixed at the same 25 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 7.5 degrees BTDC.
- 60. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, MAP, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2003 Accord being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

#### Fraudulent Inspection #10 (Melendrez)

- 61. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Movall Smog. The review indicates on July 19, 2024, a 2004 Nissan Xterra SE, CA license 7TIL781, VIN 5N1MD28Y94C602634 (2004 Xterra), was tested and smog certificate # UA284685C was issued under licensed Smog Check Technician #EO643978, Melendrez.
- 62. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2004 Xterra shows between time stamp 179 and 20197 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM with an RPM spike to approximately 950 RPM at time stamp 16171. During this time the throttle is fixed at 0% opening, MAF is fixed at 3.67 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 10 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 20197 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1400 RPM, with a downward spike to approximately 925 RPM at time stamp 29192. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 0% opening,

MAF is fixed at the same 3.67 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 10 degrees BTDC.

63. During the entire period the dynamic data was collected, the only parameter that changed was engine RPM. The throttle position, MAF, and ignition timing advance readings remained unchanged even though the engine speed was increased. These readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2004 Xterra being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

### **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### (Untrue or Misleading Statements - Respondent Movall Smog)

64. Respondent Movall Smog's registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that Respondent's employees made or authorized statements which they knew or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known to be untrue or misleading, as follows: Respondent's employees certified that the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-63, had passed inspection and were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In fact, Respondent's employees conducted the inspections on those vehicles using the clean plugging method in order to issue smog certificates of compliance, and did not test or insect the vehicles as required by Health and Safety Code section 44012.

### **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### (Fraud - Respondent Movall Smog)

65. Respondent Movall Smog's registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that Respondent Movall Smog's employees committed acts which constitute fraud by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-63, 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.

///

### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Failure to Comply with the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program – Respondent Movall Smog)

- 66. Respondent Movall Smog's smog station license is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 44072.10 subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-63, Respondent Movall Smog failed to comply with the following sections of the Health and Safety Code:
- (a) <u>Section 44012</u>: Respondent Movall Smog's employees failed to ensure that the emission control tests were performed on the vehicles, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.
- (b) <u>Section 44015</u>: Respondent Movall Smog's employees issued electronic certificates of compliance for the vehicles, without ensuring that the vehicles were properly tested and inspected to determine if they were in compliance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.

### **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

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

- 67. Respondent Movall Smog's smog station license is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-63, Respondent's employees failed to comply with the following provisions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 16, as follows:
- (a) <u>Section 3340.35, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent Movall Smog's employees issued electronic certificates of compliance even though those vehicles had not been inspected in accordance with section 3340.42, Title 16, of the California Code of Regulations.
- (b) <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent Movall Smog's employees failed to conduct the required smog tests and inspections on those vehicles in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

///

# 

### 

## 

# 

### FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit - Respondent Movall Smog)

68. Respondent Movall Smog's smog station license is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 44072.10 subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-63, Respondent Movall Smog's employee's committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for those vehicles 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.

### SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program – Respondent Blanco Melendrez)

69. Respondent Blanco Melendrez's smog check inspector license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 47-49, 51-53, 54-56, 58-60, and 61-63, Respondent Blanco Melendrez failed to comply with section 44012 of the Health and Safety Code in a material respect, as follows: Respondent Blanco Melendrez failed to perform the emission control tests on those vehicles in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.

## SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program – Respondent Blanco Melendrez)

- 70. Respondent Blanco Melendrez's smog check inspector license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 47-49, 51-53, 54-56, 58-60, and 61-63, Respondent Blanco Melendrez failed to comply with provisions of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- (a) <u>Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)</u>: Respondent Blanco Melendrez failed to inspect and test those vehicles in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.

- (b) <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent Blanco Melendrez entered false information into the EIS.
- (c) <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent Blanco Melendrez failed to conduct the required smog tests and inspections on those vehicles in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

### EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit - Respondent Blanco Melendrez)

71. Respondent Blanco Melendrez's smog check inspector license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 44072.10 subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 47-49, 51-53, 54-56, 58-60, and 61-63, Respondent Blanco Melendrez committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for those vehicles 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.

### NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program – Respondent Valencia)

72. Respondent Valencia's smog check inspector license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-31, 33-35, 36-38, 40-42, and 43-45, Respondent Valencia failed to comply with section 44012 of the Health and Safety Code in a material respect, as follows:

Respondent Valencia failed to perform the emission control tests on those vehicles in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.

### TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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

73. Respondent Valencia's smog check inspector license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth

above in paragraphs 29-31, 33-35, 36-38, 40-42, and 43-45, Respondent Valencia failed to comply with provisions of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:

- (a) <u>Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)</u>: Respondent Valencia failed to inspect and test those vehicles in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.
- (b) <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent Valencia entered false information into the EIS.
- (c) <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent Valencia failed to conduct the required smog tests and inspections on those vehicles in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

### **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### (Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit - Respondent Valencia)

74. Respondent Valencia's smog check inspector license is subject to discipline pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 44072.10 subdivision (c), in that regarding the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 29-31, 33-35, 36-38, 40-42, and 43-45, Respondent Valencia committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for those vehicles 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.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

- 75. Pursuant to Business & 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 Respondent Movall Smog upon a finding that Respondent Movall Smog has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.
- 76. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check, Test Only Station License Number TC 294485 issued to Respondent Movall Smog is revoked or suspended following a hearing under this article, any additional license issued under Chapter 5, Part 5, Division 26 in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the Director.

77. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License
Number EO 635186, issued to Respondent Valencia, is revoked or suspended following a hearing
under this article, any additional license issued under Chapter 5, Part 5, Division 26 in the name
of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the Director.
78. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License

Number EO 643978, issued to Respondent Blanco Melendrez, is revoked or suspended following a hearing under this article, any additional license issued under Chapter 5, Part 5, Division 26 in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the Director.

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

- Revoking or suspending Automotive Repair Dealer Number ARD 294485, issued to
- Revoking or suspending any other Automotive Repair Dealer Registration issued to
- Revoking or suspending Smog Check, Test-Only, Station Number TC 294485, issued
- Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of Respondent Jose Raul Blanco;
- Revoking or suspending Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 643978, issued
- Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of Respondent Jose Raul Blanco
- Revoking or suspending Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 635186, issued to Valentin V. Valencia;