1	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California	
2	THOMAS L. RINALDI Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	HEATHER VO Deputy Attorney General	
4	State Bar No. 223418 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6317	
6	Facsimile: (916) 731-2126 Attorneys for Complainant	
7	Thorneys for Complainant	
8	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
9	FOR THE BUREAU OF A	UTOMOTIVE REPAIR
10	STATE OF CA	ALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 79/21-11084
12	JULIO C. CARBALLO, dba	OAH No. 2023060779
13	MALONE DEE TEST ONLY 13136 Paramount Blvd.	
14	South Gate, CA 90280	FIRST AMENDED ACCUSATION
15	Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 294837	
16	Smog Check, Test Only Station License No. TC 294837	
17	And	
18	JULIO C. CARBALLO	
19	3366 Imperial Hwy. Lynwood, CA 90262	
20	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 644542	
21	And	
22	ANTHONY A. POZ-GOMEZ 1309 Torington Dr.	
23	Las Vegas, NV 89108	
24	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 641248	
25	And	
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1 2 3 4	BRANDON IVAN MORENO 5811 Loveland St., Apt. L Bell Gardens, CA 90201 Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 642902 Respondents.
5	DA D'THEC
6	PARTIES 1. Patrick Dorais (Complainant) brings this First Amended Accusation solely in his
7	
8	official capacity as the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair, Department of Consumer
9	Affairs.
10	Automotive Repair Dealer
11	2. On or about July 12, 2019, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Automotive
12	Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 294837 to Julio C. Carballo, dba Malone Dee Test Only
13	(Respondent Malone Dee Test Only). The Automotive Repair Dealer Registration was in full
14	force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31,
15	2024, unless renewed.
16	Smog Check, Test Only Station
17	3. On or about January 12, 2021, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check,
18	Test Only Station License Number TC 294837 to Respondent Malone Dee Test Only. The Smog
19	Check, Test Only Station License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges
20	brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2024, unless renewed.
21	STAR Certified Station
22	4. Respondent Malone Dee Test Only was certified as a STAR Station on June 1, 2021;
23	however, it failed to meet minimum requirements and the certification was terminated on March
24	9, 2022.
25	Smog Check Inspector – Julio C. Carballo
26	5. On or about September 8, 2023, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog
27	Check Inspector License Number EO 644542 to Julio C. Carballo (Respondent Carballo). The
28	

Smog Check Inspector License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2025, unless renewed.

Smog Check Inspector – Anthony A. Poz-Gomez

On or about July 20, 2018, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 641248 to Anthony A. Poz-Gomez (Respondent Poz-Gomez). The Smog Check Inspector License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on January 31, 2024, unless renewed.

Smog Check Inspector – Brandon Ivan Moreno

On or about February 16, 2021, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check 7. Inspector License Number EO 642902 to Brandon Ivan Moreno (Respondent Moreno). The Smog Check Inspector License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and expired on July 31, 2023, and has not been renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 8. Business and Professions Code ("Bus. & Prof. Code") section 9884.7 provides that the Director may revoke an automotive repair dealer registration.
- 9. Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.13 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a valid registration shall not deprive the Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against an automotive repair dealer or to render a decision temporarily or permanently invalidating (suspending or revoking) a registration.
- 10. Health and Safety Code ("Health & Saf. 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.
- Health & Saf. 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.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

12. Bus. & Prof. Code section 22, subdivision (a), states:

"Board" as used in any provision of this Code, refers to the board in which the administration of the provision is vested, and unless otherwise expressly provided, shall include "bureau," "commission," "committee," "department," "division," "examining committee," "program," and "agency."

13. Bus. & Prof. Code section 118, subdivision (b), states:

The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground.

- 14. Bus. & Prof. Code section 477, subdivision (b), states, in pertinent part, that a "license" includes "registration" and "certificate."
 - 15. Bus. & Prof. Code section 498 states:

A board may revoke, suspend, or otherwise restrict a license on the ground that the licensee secured the license by fraud, deceit, or knowing misrepresentation of a material fact or by knowingly omitting to state a material fact.

- 16. Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7 states, in pertinent part:
- (a) The director, where the automotive repair dealer cannot show there was a bona fide error, may deny, suspend, revoke or place on probation the registration of an automotive repair dealer for any of the following acts or omissions related to the conduct of the business of the automotive repair dealer, which are done by the automotive repair dealer or any automotive technician, employee, partner, officer, or member of the automotive repair dealer.
- (1) Making or authorizing 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.

. . . .

(4) Any other conduct that constitutes fraud.

1	
2	(6) Failure in any material respect to comply with the provisions of this chapter or
3	regulations adopted pursuant to it.
4	
5	(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the director may suspend, revoke or place on
6	probation the registration for all places of business operated in this state by an automotive repair
7	dealer upon a finding that the automotive repair dealer has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated
8	and willful violations of this chapter, or regulations adopted pursuant to it.
9	17. Bus. & Prof. Code section 9889.3 states, in pertinent part:
10	The director may suspend, revoke, or take other disciplinary action against a license as
11	provided in this article if the licensee or any partner, officer, or director thereof:
12	(a) Violates any section of the Business and Professions Code that relates to his or her
13	licensed activities.
14	
15	(e) Has misrepresented a material fact in obtaining a license.
16	
17	18. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2 states, in pertinent part:
18	The director may suspend, revoke, or take other disciplinary action against a license as provided in this article if the licensee, or any partner, officer, or
19	director thereof, does any of the following:
2021	(a) Violates any section of this chapter [the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program (Health and Saf. Code § 44000, et seq.)] and the regulations adopted pursuant to it, which related to the licensed activities.
22	
23	(c) Violates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to
24	this chapter.
25	(d) Commits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured.
26	(e) Has misrepresented a material fact in obtaining a license.
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	5

1	19. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.10 states, in pertinent part:
2	
3	(c) The department shall revoke the license of any smog check technician
4	or station licensee who fraudulently certifies vehicles or participates in the fraudulent inspection of vehicles. A fraudulent inspection includes, but is not limited to, all of
5	the following:
6	
7	(4) Intentional or willful violation of this chapter or any regulation, standard, or procedure of the department implementing this chapter
8	20. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8 states that when a license has been revoked or
9	suspended following a hearing under this article, any additional license issued under this chapter
10	in the name of the licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.
11	REGULATORY PROVISIONS
12	21. California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c),
13	states: "[T]he bureau may suspend or revoke the license of or pursue other legal action against a
14	licensee, if the licensee falsely or fraudulently issues or obtains a certificate of compliance or a
15	certificate of noncompliance."
16	22. CCR, title 16, section 3340.30, subdivision (a), states that a licensed smog technician
17	shall at all times "[i]nspect, test and repair vehicles, as applicable, in accordance with section
18	44012 of the Health and Safety Code, section 44035 of the Health and Safety Code, and section
19	3340.42 of this article."
20	23. CCR, title 16, section 3340.35, subdivision (c), states that a licensed smog check
21	station "shall issue a certificate of compliance or noncompliance to the owner or operator of any
22	vehicle that has been inspected in accordance with the procedures specified in section 3340.42 of
23	this article and has all the required emission control equipment and devices installed and
24	functioning correctly."
25	24. CCR, title 16, section 3340.41, subdivision (c), provides: "No person shall enter into
26	the emissions inspection system any vehicle identification information or emission control system
27	identification data for any vehicle other than the one being tested. Nor shall any person
28	

knowingly enter into the emissions inspection system any false information about the vehicle being tested."

- 25. 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.
- 26. CCR, title 16, section 3340.28, subdivision (e), states that "[u]pon renewal of an unexpired Basic Area Technician license or an Advanced Emission Specialist Technician license issued prior to the effective date of this regulation, the licensee may apply to renew as a Smog Check Inspector, Smog Check Repair Technician, or both."

COST RECOVERY

27. 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.

VID DATA REVIEW

- 28. On March 9, 2015, the Bureau implemented a policy 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.
- 29. Based on a review of Respondent Malone Dee Test Only testing data indicating a similar vehicle was being used to certify multiple makes and models of different vehicles using the BAR97 analyzer, the Bureau of Automotive Repair began an investigation and reviewed data beginning on April 27, 2021. During this investigation, it was discovered that smog check inspections were performed at Respondent Malone Dee Test Only, using the Smog Check Inspector licenses of Respondents Poz-Gomez and Moreno, certifying that they had tested and inspected the vehicles below and that the vehicles were in compliance with applicable laws and

regulations. Respondents fraudulently performed four smog check inspections using a method known as "clean plugging". The clean plugging method resulted in the issuance of fraudulent certificates of compliance for the vehicles in the following table that were not present at Respondent Malone Dee Test Only during the time they were reportedly certified. The following charts illustrate the documented clean plugging activities of Respondents between April 27, 2021 through July 13, 2021.

Test Date	Vehicle Certified	Certificate No.	Details	OIS Test Data Details
<u>Vehicle #1</u> April 27, 2021	2006 Dodge Charger R/T	SA363834C	Test data does not support this vehicle as described above.	Comm. Protocol: ICAN11bt5 (expected:ICAN11bt5
			Test performed by Respondent Poz- Gomez (EO 641248)	PID Count: 44/12 (expected: 43/12, 43/2 or 43/6)
				eVIN: 4JGBB86E18A35387- (expected: 2B3KA53H76H50760:
<u>Vehicle #2</u> June 21, 2021	2003 Ford F150	SC719791C	Test data does not support this vehicle as described above.	Comm. Protocol: ICAN11bt5 (expected: JPWM)
			Test performed by Respondent Moreno (EO 642902)	PID Count: 44/7/8 (expected: 22)
				eVIN: 2GEC19C071587024 (expected: 1FTRX17L43NA1854)
<u>Vehicle #3</u> July 7, 2021	2000 Ford F250 Super Duty	1L690686C	Test data does not support this vehicle as described above.	Comm. Protocol: ICAN11bt5 (expected: JPWM)
			Test performed by Respondent Moreno (EO 642902)	PID Count: 42 (expected: 18 or 19)

¹ 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.

eVIN:

Respondent Malone Dee Test Only's Automotive Repair Dealer Registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that Respondent committed acts that constitute fraud by issuing an electronic smog certificate of compliance for the 4 vehicles, identified in paragraph 29 above, without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on the vehicle, 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 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Material Violation of Automotive Repair Act)

33. Respondent Malone Dee Test Only'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 it issued electronic certificates of compliance for the 4 vehicles identified in paragraph 29 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 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 34. Respondent Malone Dee Test Only's Smog Check Test Only Station License is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that Respondent failed to comply with provisions of that Code, as follows:
- a. <u>Section 44012</u>: Respondent failed to perform the emission control tests on the 4 vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.
- b. <u>Section 44015</u>: Respondent issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the 4 vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above, without properly testing and inspecting the vehicles to determine if they were in compliance with Health & Saf. Code section 44012.

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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

- 35. Respondent Malone Dee Test Only's Smog Check Test Only Station License is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that Respondent failed to comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. <u>Section 3340.35, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the vehicles identified paragraph 29 above, even though those vehicles had not been inspected in accordance with section 3340.42.
- b. <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent entered false information into the EIS unit by entering vehicle identification information or emission control system identification data for vehicles other than the ones being tested.
- c. <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent failed to conduct the required smog tests on the vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above, in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

36. Respondent Malone Dee Test Only's Smog Check Test Only Station License is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), and 44072.10, subdivision (c) in that Respondent committed dishonest, fraudulent or deceitful acts whereby another is injured by issuing electronic smog certificates of compliance for the vehicles identified in paragraph 29 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 28 through

30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

37. Respondents Poz-Gomez and Moreno's Smog Check Inspector Licenses are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that Respondents failed to comply with section 44012 of that Code in a material respect, as follows: Respondents failed to perform the emission control tests on the vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department. Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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

- 38. Respondents Poz-Gomez and Moreno's Smog Check Inspector Licenses are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that Respondents failed to comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. <u>Section 3340.24, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondents falsely or fraudulently issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for 4 vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above.
- b. <u>Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)</u>: Respondents failed to inspect and test the vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above, in accordance with Health & Saf. Code sections 44012 and 44035, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.
- c. <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondents entered false information into the EIS by entering vehicle identification information or emission control system identification data for vehicles other than the ones being tested.
- d. <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondents failed to conduct the required smog tests on the vehicles identified in paragraph 29 above, in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

Complainant refers to, and by this reference incorporates, the allegations contained in paragraphs 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

39. Respondents Poz-Gomez and Moreno's Smog Check Inspector Licenses are subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), and 44072.10, subdivision (c) in that Respondents committed dishonest, fraudulent or deceitful acts whereby another is injured by issuing electronic smog certificates of compliance for the vehicles identified in paragraph 29 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 28 through 30, above, as though set forth fully herein.

TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonest Conduct - Fraud in Obtaining Smog Check Inspector License)

- 40. Respondent Carballo is subject to disciplinary action under Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (e), and Business and Professions Code sections 498, 9889.3, subdivisions (a) and (e), and 9884.7, and subdivision (a)(4) in that Respondent used fraud and deceit to obtain a Smog Check Inspector license number from the Bureau, when he provided false information in connection with his application for licensure.
- 41. The circumstances are that on or about July 24, 2023, Respondent Carballo applied for a Smog Check Inspector license with the Bureau. The application requested Respondent Carballo to provide his personal information, background history, educational requirements, and work experience. Under the background section, Respondent Carballo marked the box "No" when asked if the Bureau had ever issued him a license. Respondent Carballo signed the application for licensure under penalty of perjury fraudulently representing that the information provided in the application was true and correct. In fact, Respondent Carballo doing business as Malone Dee Test Only was issued an Automotive Repair Dealer Registration on July 12, 2019 and a Smog Check Station license on January 12, 2021.

42. The Bureau relied on the false information contained on the application when it issued to Respondent Carballo Smog Check Inspector license number EO 644542 on September 8, 2023.

OTHER MATTERS

- 43. 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 Julio C. Carballo, Sole Proprietor of Malone Dee Test Only, upon a finding that said Julio C. Carballo has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.
- 44. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Test Only Station License Number TC 294837, issued to Julio C. Carballo, Sole Proprietor of Malone Dee Test Only, is revoked or suspended, 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.
- 45. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 644542, issued to Respondent Carballo, is revoked or suspended, 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.
- 46. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 641248, issued to Respondent Poz-Gomez, is revoked or suspended, 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.
- 47. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 642902, issued to Respondent Moreno, is revoked or suspended, 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.

1	11. Taking such other and further	action as deemed necessary and proper.
2		
3	DATED: As of Digital Signature Date	
4		PATRICK DORAIS Chief
5		Bureau of Automotive Repair Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
6		State of California Complainant
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