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

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 79/25-13743

13 **LA SMOG CHECK, CESAR AUGUSTO**
14 **LARIOS, OWNER**
15 **2307 Whittier Blvd Unit C**
16 **Los Angeles, CA 90023**

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

[Gov. Code, §11520]

17 **Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No.**
18 **ARD 306077**
19 **Smog Check, Test-Only, Station License No.**
20 **TC 306077**

21 **and**

22 **HERNAN MOLINA LOPEZ**
23 **5134 Ithaca Ave**
24 **Los Angeles, CA 90032**

25 **Mailing Address:**
26 **6046 Romaine St Apt 3**
27 **Los Angeles, CA 90038**

28 **Smog Check Inspector License No. EO**
640564

Respondents.

FINDINGS OF FACT

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2 1. On or about October 29, 2025, Complainant Patrick Dorais, in his official capacity as
3 the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair, Department of Consumer Affairs, filed Accusation
4 No. 79/25-13743 against Cesar Augusto Larios, dba LA Smog Check and Hernan Molina Lopez
5 (Respondents) before the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs. (Accusation attached
6 as Exhibit A.)

7 2. On or about June 14, 2023, the Bureau of Automotive Repair (Bureau) issued
8 Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 306077 to Respondent Cesar Augusto Larios,
9 dba LA Smog Check. The Automotive Repair Dealer Registration was in full force and effect at
10 all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 79/25-13743 and will expire on June
11 30, 2026, unless renewed.

12 3. On or about August 17, 2023, the Bureau issued Smog Check, Test-Only, Station
13 License No. TC 306077 to Respondent Cesar Augusto Larios, dba LA Smog Check. The Smog
14 Check, Test-Only, Station License expired on June 30, 2025, and has not been renewed.

15 4. On or about September 8, 2017, the Bureau issued Smog Check Inspector License
16 Number EO 640564 to Hernan Molina Lopez. The Smog Check Inspector License was in full
17 force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 79/25-13743 but
18 expired on April 30, 2025, and has not been renewed.

19 5. On or about October 31, 2025, Respondent was served by Certified and First-Class
20 Mail copies of the Accusation No. 79/25-13743, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense,
21 Request for Discovery and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and
22 11507.7) at Respondents' addresses of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code
23 section 136, are required to be reported and maintained with the Bureau. Respondents' addresses
24 of record were and are: LA Smog Check, Cesar Augusto Larios, Owner, 2307 Whittier Blvd Unit
25 C, Los Angeles, CA 90023 and Hernan Molina Lopez, 5134 Ithaca Ave Los Angeles, CA 90032,
26 Mailing Address: 6046 Romaine St Apt 3, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

27 6. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of
28 Government Code section 11505(c) and/or Business and Professions Code section 124.

7. Government Code section 11506(c) states, in pertinent part:

(c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense . . . and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the accusation . . . not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense . . . shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing.

8. The Bureau takes official notice of its records and the fact that Respondents failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service upon them of the Accusation, and therefore waived their right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 79/25-13743.

9. California Government Code section 11520(a) states, in pertinent part:

(a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense . . . or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent

10. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Director after having reviewed the proof of service dated October 31, 2025, signed by Ron Quijada, finds Respondents are in default. The Director will take action without further hearing and, based on the relevant evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this matter, finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 79/25-13743, are separately and severally, found to be true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Cesar Augusto Larios, dba LA Smog Check has subjected his Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 306077 and Smog Check, Test-Only, Station License Number TC 306077 to discipline.

2. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Hernan Molina Lopez has subjected his Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 640564 to discipline.

3. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.

4. The Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs is authorized to revoke Respondent's Automotive Repair Dealer Registration based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case:

Respondent Cesar Augusto Larios, dba LA Smog Check

- a. Untrue or Misleading Statements – Business and Professions Code section 9884.7(a)(1);
- b. Fraud – Business and Professions Code section 9884.7(a)(4);
- c. Material Violation of Automotive Repair Act - Business and Professions Code section 9884.7(a)(6);
- d. Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program - Health and Safety Code section 44072.2 (a), in conjunction with sections 44012, 44015(b), and 44059;
- e. Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program – Health and Safety Code section 44072.2(c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 3340.24(c), 3340.35(c), 3340.41(c), 3340.42, and 3373;
- f. Dishonesty, Fraud, or Deceit - Health and Safety Code section 44072.2(d), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 44072.10(c);

Respondent Hernan Molina Lopez

- g. Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program - Health and Safety Code section 44072.2(a), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code sections 44012(a); 44012(f), 44032, and 44059;
- h. Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program - Health and Safety Code section 44072.2(c), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 3340.24(c), 3340.30(a), 3340.41(c), and 3340.42; and
- i. Dishonesty, Fraud, or Deceit - Health and Safety Code section 44072.2(d), in conjunction with Health and Safety Code section 44072.10(c).

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ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED that Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 306077 and Smog Check, Test-Only, Station License Number TC 306077, issued to Respondent Cesar Augusto Larios, dba LA Smog Check, are revoked.

IT IS SO ORDERED that Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 640564 issued to Respondent Hernan Molina Lopez, is revoked.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The motion should be sent to the Bureau of Automotive Repair, ATTN: Patrick Lutfi, 10949 North Mather Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on February 26, 2026.

It is so ORDERED February 12, 2026

Signed copy on file

GRACE ARUPO RODRIGUEZ
Assistant Deputy Director
Division of Legal Affairs
Department of Consumer Affairs

68125413
DOJ Matter ID:LA2025604109

Attachment:
Exhibit A: Accusation