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8	BEFOR	
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOR THE BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR	
10	STATE OF C	ALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. <b>79/25-2293</b>
12	ABRAHAM RODRIGUEZ CHAVARRIA DBA MILL ST SMOG CHECK	
13	8958 Sierra Avenue Unit 300 Fontana, CA 92335	ACCUSATION
14	Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No.	
15	ARD 308354 Smog Check, Test-Only, Station License No.	
16	TC 308354,	
17	ABRAHAM RODRIGUEZ CHAVARRIA 708 W Mill St Suite J	
18	San Bernardino, CA 92410	
19	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 645094,	
20	and	
21	KEVIN GABRIEL PATINO	
22	3700 Avalon St., Unit B19 Jurupa Valley, CA 92509	
23	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO	
24	645061	
25	Respondents.	
26		
27		
28		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 February 26, 2024, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 308354 to Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria dba Mill St Smog Check (Respondent Mill St Smog Check). The Automotive Repair Dealer Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on February 28, 2026, unless renewed.
- 3. On or about June 12, 2024, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check, Test-Only, Station License Number TC 308354 to Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria dba Mill St Smog Check. 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 February 28, 2026, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about July 8, 2024, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 645094 to Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria (Respondent Chavarria). The Smog Check Inspector License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on October 31, 2026, unless renewed.
- 5. On or about June 21, 2024, the Bureau of Automotive Repair issued Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 645061 to Kevin Gabriel Patino (Respondent Patino). 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**

- 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.
- 7. Section 9884.7 of the Business and Professions Code<sup>1</sup> provides that the Director may revoke an ARD registration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All statutory references herein shall be to the Business and Professions Code unless specifically stated otherwise.

1	(Health and Saf. Code, ' 44000, et seq.)] and the regulations adopted pursuant to it,		
2	which related to the licensed activities.		
3			
4	(c) Violates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to this		
5	chapter.		
6	(d) Commits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured.		
7	injurea.		
8			
9	13. Section 44072.10 of the Health and Safety Code states, in pertinent part:		
10	• • •		
11	(c) The department shall revoke the license of any smog check technician or station license who fraudulently certifies vehicles or participates in the fraudulent		
12	inspection of vehicles. A fraudulent inspection includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:		
13			
14	(1) Clean piping, as defined by the department.		
15			
16	(4) Intentional or willful violation of this chapter or any regulation, standard, or procedure of the department implementing this chapter.		
17			
18			
19	REGULATORY PROVISIONS		
20	14. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.24, subdivision (c), states:		
21	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		
22	of compliance or a certificate of noncompliance.		
23	15. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.30, states:		
24	A smog check technician shall comply with the following requirements at all times while licensed.		
25			
26	(a) A licensed technician shall inspect, test and repair vehicles in accordance with section 44012 of the Health and Safety Code, section 44035 of the Health and		
27	Safety Code, and section 3340.42 of this article"		
28			

16. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.35, states, in pertinent part:

. . .

- (c) A licensed 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. . . .
- 17. 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**

18. 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

19. 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.

- 20. 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.
- 21. 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>2</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).

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<sup>2</sup> Not all vehicles include both MAP and MAF parameters. Many vehicles will have either MAP or MAF parameters separately.

- 22. 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 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.
- 23. 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.
- 24. 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.
- 25. 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.

- 26. 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.
- 27. 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 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 Respondents. The investigation revealed that the data related to certain vehicles certified by Respondents 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 Respondents during the smog inspection using the "clean plugging" method as follows:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</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.

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## Fraudulent Inspection #1 (Patino)

- 28. Bureau Program Representative Koch (Koch) reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on July 11, 2024, a 2001 Toyota Tacoma Xtracab, CA license 63989P2, VIN 5TEVL52NX1Z838749 (2001 Tacoma), was tested and Smog Check certificate # TY974029C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645061, Patino.
- 29. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2001 Tacoma shows between time stamp 138 and 19771 engine speed is steady at approximately 725 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 14.1% opening, MAF is fixed at 2.26 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 9 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 19771 the engine speed accelerates to approximately 1825 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 14.1% opening, MAF is fixed at the same 2.26 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 9 degrees BTDC.
- 30. 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 2001 Tacoma being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

## **Previous Failing Test: 2001 Tacoma**

31. A previous failing test was performed on the 2001 Tacoma at another station on July 6, 2024. The 2001 Tacoma failed the test for incomplete OBDII readiness monitors. No Dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the inspection.

## Fraudulent Inspection #2 (Patino)

32. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on July 15, 2024, a 2003 BMW 325 IT, CA license 5DQF149, VIN WBAAX13423PJ00629 (2003 325), was tested and Smog Check certificate # TY974040C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645061, Patino.

- 33. The Dynamic OBDII PID Chart for the 2003 325 shows between time stamp 171 and 23737 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at .4% opening, MAF is fixed at 3.66 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 2.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 23737 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 .4% opening, MAF is fixed at the same 3.66 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is also still fixed at the same 2.5 degrees BTDC.
- 34. 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 325 being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Check Certificate of Compliance.

## Fraudulent Inspection #3 (Patino)

- 35. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on July 18, 2024, a 2003 GMC Savana G1500, CA license 35435B2, VIN 1GTEG15X031149651 (2003 Savana), was tested and Smog Check certificate # TY974046C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645061, Patino.
- 36. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2003 Savana shows between time stamp 28 and 24542 engine speed is steady at approximately 700 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 0% opening, the MAF is fixed at 6.6 gps, the MAP is fixed at 42 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 10 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 24542 the engine speed increases to approximately 1625 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 0% opening, the MAF is fixed at the same 6.6 gps, the MAP is fixed at the same 42 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at the same 10 degrees BTDC.
- 37. During the 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 Savana being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

## Fraudulent Inspection #4 (Patino)

- 38. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on August 19, 2024, a 2004 Honda Civic EX, CA license 8ZKS962, VIN 1HGEM22904L076244 (2004 Civic), was tested and Smog Check certificate # UC439813C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645061, Patino.
- 39. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2004 Civic shows between time stamp 128 and 19268 engine speed is steady at approximately 750 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 9% opening, the MAP is fixed at 27 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 6 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 19268 the engine speed increases to approximately 2000 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 9% opening, the MAP is fixed at the same 27 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at the same 6 degrees BTDC.
- 40. During the 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 2004 Civic being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

#### **Previous Failing Test: 2004 Civic**

41. A previous failing test was performed on the 2004 Civic at another station on October 14, 2023. The 2004 Civic failed the test for an illuminated MIL, and confirmed OBD DTC's P0141, P0705, P0741, and P1456. No Dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the inspection.

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#### Fraudulent Inspection #5 (Patino)

- 42. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on September 14, 2024, a 2005 Chevrolet Silverado C1500, CA license 54255U1, VIN 2GCEC19V751354336 (2005 Silverado), was tested and Smog Check certificate # UC829965C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645061, Patino.
- 43. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2005 Silverado shows between time stamp 28 and 19168 engine speed is steady at approximately 600 RPM. During this time the throttle is fixed at 4.7% opening, the MAF is fixed at 4.9 gps, the MAP is fixed at 32 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at 17.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 19168 the engine speed increases to approximately 2100 RPM. From the time the engine RPM increases off idle to the higher RPMs, the throttle is fixed at the same 4.7% opening, the MAF is fixed at the same 4.9 gps, the MAP is fixed at the same 32 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is fixed at the same 17.5 degrees BTDC.
- 44. During the 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 2005 Silverado being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

### **Previous Failing Test: 2005 Silverado**

45. A previous failing test was performed on the 2005 Silverado at another station on August 30, 2024. The 2005 Silverado failed the test for Visual: Tampered catalyst. The Dynamic OBDII PID data shows the expected change in the throttle, MAF, MAP, and ignition timing advance parameters as characteristic or expected for normal engine operation.

## Fraudulent Inspection #6 (Chavarria)

46. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on January 6, 2025, a 2000 Chevrolet Silverado C1500, CA license 20950G2, VIN

2GCEC19V2Y1202243 (2000 Silverado), was tested and Smog Check certificate # UI338987C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645094, Chavarria.

- 47. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2000 Silverado shows between time stamp 89 and 16251 engine speed is steady at approximately 600 RPM. During this time the throttle is varying between 0 and 5.1% opening, the MAF is varying between 5.82 gps and 7.6 gps, the MAP is varying between 48 kPa and 61 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between at 16.5 and 22.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 16251 the engine speed decreases to 0 RPM, then increases to a steady RPM of approximately 1775 RPM between time stamp 23107 and time stamp 33014. During the steady increased RPMs between time stamp 23107 and time stamp 33014, the throttle is varying between .4% opening and 2.7% opening, the MAF is varying between 5.49 gps and 7.6 gps, the MAP is varying between 49 kPa and 61 kPa, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 16.5 degrees and 22.5 degrees BTDC.
- 48. The steady idle and steady elevated engine speeds with the associated unusual varying throttle positions, varying MAF readings, varying MAP readings and varying timing 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 Silverado being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

## Previous Failing Test: 2000 Silverado

49. A previous failing test was performed on the 2000 Silverado at another station on November 8, 2024. The 2000 Silverado failed the test for incomplete OBDII readiness monitors. The Dynamic OBDII PID data shows the expected change in the throttle, MAF, MAP, and ignition timing advance parameters as characteristic or expected for normal engine operation.

## Fraudulent Inspection #7 (Chavarria)

50. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on February 5, 2025, a 2002 BMW 325 CI, no plate, VIN WBABN33402JW52816 (2002 325 CI), was tested and Smog Check certificate # JD021309C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645094, Chavarria.

- 51. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2002 325 CI shows between time stamp 176 and 19690 engine speed is steady at approximately 600 RPM. During this time the throttle is varying between .4 and 3.5% opening, the MAF is varying between 2.94 gps and 4.66 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 1 and 5.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 19690 the engine speed increases to approximately 1725 RPM. During the steady increased RPMs, the throttle is varying between 1.6% opening and 3.9% opening, the MAF is varying between 2.85 gps and 4.5 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 1 degree and 7 degrees BTDC.
- 52. The steady idle and steady elevated engine speeds with the associated unusual varying throttle positions, varying MAF readings, and varying timing readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the OIS Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2002 325 CI being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

## **Previous Failing Test: 2002 325 CI**

53. A previous failing test was performed on the 2002 325 CI at another station on May 4, 2024. The 2002 325 CI failed the test for Visual: Tampered EVAP system and Tampered Air Injection System, incomplete OBDII readiness monitors, and confirmed OBDII DTC P1345. The vehicle also had pending OBDII DTC's P0305, P0306, and P1342. No dynamic OBDII PID data was collected during the inspection.

#### Fraudulent Inspection #8 (Chavarria)

- 54. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on April 23, 2025, a 2003 Ford Mustang GT, CA license 5BBC047, VIN 1FAFP42X73F358470 (2003 Mustang), was tested and Smog Check certificate # UK958322C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645094, Chavarria.
- 55. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2003 Mustang shows between time stamp 38 and 21391 engine speed is steady at approximately 825 RPM. During this time the throttle is varying between 13.3% and 18% opening, the MAF is varying between 5.32 gps and 7.62 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 32 and 39 degrees BTDC.

After time stamp 21391 the engine speed increases to approximately 2000 RPM. During the steady increased RPMs, the throttle is varying between 12.5% opening and 18% opening, the MAF is varying between 5.31 gps and 7.6 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 32 degree and 37.5 degrees BTDC.

56. The steady idle and steady elevated engine speeds with the associated unusual varying throttle positions, varying MAF readings, and varying timing readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the OIS Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2003 Mustang being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

## Fraudulent Inspection #9 (Chavarria)

- 57. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on April 26, 2025, a 2001 Toyota Tacoma Double Cab Prerunner, CA license 58133W1, VIN 5TEGN92N51Z798431 (2001 Tacoma), was tested and Smog Check certificate # UK958324C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645094, Chavarria.
- 58. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2001 Tacoma shows between time stamp 137 and 18004 engine speed is steady at approximately 725 RPM. During this time the throttle is varying between 6.3% and 10.2% opening, the MAF is varying between 2.95 gps and 4.54 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 8 and 13 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 18004 the engine speed increases to approximately 2425 RPM, then decreases to approximately 2000 RPM between time stamp 21002 and time stamp 34607. During the steady increased RPMs, the throttle is varying between 6.3% opening and 11.8% opening, the MAF is varying between 2.92 gps and 4.91 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 8 degree and 14.5 degrees BTDC.
- 59. The steady idle and steady elevated engine speeds with the associated unusual varying throttle positions, varying MAF readings, and varying timing readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the OIS Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2001 Tacoma being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

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## **Previous Failing Test: 2001 Tacoma**

60. A previous failing test was performed on the 2001 Tacoma at another station on October 20, 2024. The 2001 Tacoma failed the test for incomplete OBDII readiness monitors. The vehicle also had confirmed OBDII DTC's P0128 and P0770. The Dynamic OBDII PID data shows the expected change in the throttle, MAF, and ignition timing advance parameters as characteristic or expected for normal engine operation.

## Fraudulent Inspection #10 (Chavarria)

- 61. Koch reviewed the OIS Test Data for Mill St Smog Check. The review indicates on April 26, 2025, a 2006 Nissan 350Z Coupe, CA license 8EVR017, VIN JN1AZ34D56M307273 (2006 350Z), was tested and Smog Check certificate # UK958326C was issued under licensed Smog Check inspector #EO645094, Chavarria.
- 62. The Dynamic data and PID Charts for the 2006 350Z shows between time stamp 196 and 17511 engine speed is steady at approximately 750 RPM. During this time the throttle is varying between 0% and 4.3% opening, the MAF is varying between 3.99 gps and 4.9 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 8.5 and 14.5 degrees BTDC. After time stamp 17511 the engine speed increases to approximately 2100 RPM, then decreases to approximately 1625 RPM between time stamp 23313 and time stamp 34211. During the steady increased RPMs, the throttle is varying between .4% opening and 4.3% opening, the MAF is varying between 3.1 gps and 4.86 gps, and the ignition timing advance for #1 cylinder is varying between 10 degree and 13.5 degrees BTDC.
- 63. The steady idle and steady elevated engine speeds with the associated unusual varying throttle positions, varying MAF readings, and varying timing readings are not characteristic or expected for normal engine operation. The discrepancies in the OIS Test Data prove the OIS Data Acquisition Device was not connected to the 2006 350Z being certified, causing the issuance of a fraudulent Smog Certificate of Compliance.

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## FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Untrue or Misleading Statements - Respondent Mill St Smog Check)

64. Respondent Mill St Smog Check's registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that Respondents made or authorized statements which they knew or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known to be untrue or misleading, as follows: Respondents certified that the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 28-30, 32-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54-59, and 61-63, had passed inspection and were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In fact, Respondents conducted the inspections on those vehicles using the clean plugging method in order to issue smog certificates of compliance, and did not test or inspect the vehicles as required by Health and Safety Code section 44012.

## **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

## (Fraud - Respondent Mill St Smog Check)

65. Respondent Mill St Smog Check's registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that Respondent Mill St Smog Check's employees committed acts which constitute fraud by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for the vehicles set forth above in paragraphs 28-30, 32-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54-59, and 61-63, 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 Mill St Smog Check)

66. Respondent Mill St Smog Check'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 28-30, 32-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54-59, and 61-63, Respondents failed to comply with the following sections of the Health and Safety Code:

- (a) <u>Section 44012</u>: Respondent Mill St Smog Check'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 Mill St Smog Check'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 Mill St Smog Check)

- 67. Respondent Mill St Smog Check'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 28-30, 32-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54-59, and 61-63, Respondents 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 Mill St Smog Check'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 Mill St Smog Check'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 Mill St Smog Check)

68. Respondent Mill St Smog Check'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 28-30, 32-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54-59, and 61-63, Respondents employees committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by

## EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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

71. Respondent Chavarria'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 46-48, 50-52, 54-59, and 61-63, Respondent Chavarria 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 Patino)

72. Respondent Patino'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 28-30, 32-40 and 42-44, Respondent Patino failed to comply with section 44012 and 44032 of the Health and Safety Code in a material respect, as follows: Respondent Patino 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 Patino)

- 73. Respondent Patino'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 28-30, 32-40 and 42-44, Respondent Patino failed to comply with provisions of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- (a) <u>Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)</u>: Respondent Patino failed to inspect and test those vehicles in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 44012.

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- (b) <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u>: Respondent Patino entered false information into the OIS.
- (c) <u>Section 3340.42</u>: Respondent Patino 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 Patino)

74. Respondent Patino'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 28-30, 32-40 and 42-44, Respondent Patino 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 Mill St Smog Check upon a finding that Respondent Mill St Smog Check 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 308354 issued to Respondent Mill St Smog Check 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 645094, issued to Respondent Chavarria, 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 645061, issued to Respondent Patino, 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.

### **PRAYER**

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 decision:

- Revoking or suspending Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD
   308354, issued to Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria dba Mill St Smog Check;
- 2. Revoking or suspending any other Automotive Repair Dealer Registration issued to Respondent Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria;
- 3. Revoking or suspending Smog Check, Test-Only, Station License Number TC 308354, issued to Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria dba Mill St Smog Check;
- 4. Revoking or suspending Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 645094, issued to Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria;
- 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 Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria;
- 6. Revoking or suspending Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 645061, issued to Kevin Gabriel Patino;
- 7. 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 Kevin Gabriel Patino;
- 8. Ordering Abraham Rodriguez Chavarria, and Kevin Gabriel Patino to pay the Bureau of Automotive Repair the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 and if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and,

1	9. Taking such other and furt	ther action as deemed necessary and proper.
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3	DATED: As Of Digital Signature Date	DATDICK DODAIC
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5		Bureau of Automotive Repair Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
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