### BEFORE THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

BAR Inv. No. 79/16-40 A SELMA SMOG (formerly A Smog Master & Repair); SUNDIP SINGH OAH No. 2016040712 SANGHA, OWNER Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 268718 Smog Check Station License No. RC 268718 and ALBERT NAVARRO

Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 634573 Smog Check Repair Technician License No. El 634573

Respondents.

# DECISION

The attached Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is hereby accepted and adopted by the Director of Consumer Affairs as the Decision in the aboveentitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective <u>Dctober 14, 2016</u>

DATED: 9/2/16

DOR**E**ATHEA JOHN Deputy Director Division of Legal Affairs Department of Consumer Affairs

### BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOR THE BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

A SELMA SMOG (formerly A Smog Master & Repair); SUNDIP SINGH SANGHA, OWNER Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 268718 Smog Check Station License No. RC 268718

and

ALBERT NAVARRO Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 634573 Smog Check Repair Technician License No. EI 634573 BAR Inv. No. 79/16-40

OAH No. 2016040712

Respondents.

## **PROPOSED DECISION**

Administrative Law Judge Tiffany L. King, Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), State of California, heard this matter in Sacramento, California, on July 20, 2016.

Deputy Attorney General Lorrie M. Yost appeared on behalf of complainant Patrick Dorais, Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair (Bureau), Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

There was no appearance by or on behalf of respondent Sundip Singh Sangha, owner, doing business as A Selma Smog, formerly known as A Smog Master & Repair (respondent).<sup>1</sup>

Respondent Albert Navarro (Navarro) is deceased. At the hearing, the Bureau submitted its Notice of Withdrawal of the Accusation as against Navarro only. Accordingly,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All charges in the Accusation relate to when respondent's business was named A Smog Master & Repair and was located in Sanger, California. On June 29, 2015, respondent changed the business name to A Selma Smog and moved its location to Selma, California.

this Proposed Decision pertains only to respondent Sangha, individually and as owner of A Selma Smog, and all future references to "respondent" refer only to him, unless otherwise stated.

Evidence was received, the record was closed, and the matter was submitted for decision on July 20, 2016.

### FACTUAL FINDINGS

1. On April 12, 2012, the Bureau issued Automotive Repair Dealer License Number ARD 268718 to respondent for the facility, A Smog Master & Repair, located in Sanger, California (facility). On June 12, 2012, the Bureau also issued Smog Check Station License Number RC 268718 to respondent. Both the registration and license were in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges in the Accusation. Both expired on April 30, 2016, and have not been renewed.

2. At all times relevant to the Accusation, Navarro was licensed by the Bureau as a Smog Check Inspector and Repair Technician (License Nos. EO/EI 634573). In June 2014, Navarro was an employee at respondent's facility.

3. On October 27, 2015, complainant filed the Accusation in his official capacity against respondent. Respondent timely filed a notice of defense.

4. Neither respondent nor anyone on his behalf appeared at the noticed hearing. Complainant established that respondent was properly served with the notice of hearing. Accordingly, the noticed hearing proceeded as a default hearing pursuant to Government Code section 11520.

### Clean Piping

5. Under the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program (Health & Saf. Code, §§ 44000 et seq.), the Bureau is responsible for monitoring licensed smog check stations and smog check technicians, to ensure that they are properly performing their duties under the smog control laws of the State of California. As part of its enforcement mission, the Bureau conducts undercover operations and surveillance operations at licensed smog check stations to ensure that its licensees are working in compliance with what is commonly referred to as the smog check program

6. There are three parts to a California Emissions Inspection Test (also called a smog inspection, smog check or smog test): (1) a tailpipe emissions test to ensure that the vehicle's emissions are reading at or below acceptable levels; (2) a visual inspection of the vehicle's emission control components to ensure that they are present, properly connected, and in good working condition; and (3) a functional test of each component that is required to be functionally tested, depending on the make and model of the vehicle. A vehicle must

pass all three parts before an Emissions Inspection Certificate of Compliance may be issued. (Cal. Code Regs., §§ 3340.35, 3340.42.)

7. Only licensed smog technicians are authorized to conduct smog inspections. Each licensed smog technician is issued an individually-assigned computer access code that enables him to access the smog station's emissions inspection system (EIS). For each smog test, the licensed technician must scan his badge and enter his access code. The EIS measures the vehicle's emissions levels from a probe or "sniffer" which the licensed technician inserts into the vehicle's tailpipe. The licensed technician also inputs pertinent information into the EIS for the vehicle being tested, including the make, model, license number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), as well as the results of the visual and functional tests performed on the vehicle.

8. If a vehicle passes all three components of the smog inspection, a certificate of compliance is issued and immediately transmitted to the Vehicle Information Database (VID) maintained by the Bureau. The licensed technician also prints out a Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) to provide to the vehicle's owner.

9. Clean piping is defined as "the use of a substitute exhaust emissions sample in place of the actual test vehicle's exhaust in order to cause the EIS to issue a certificate of compliance for the test vehicle." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 3340.1.) In many instances, the vehicle being "tested" is not present at the smog test facility at the time of the inspection.

10. As set forth in more detail below, on June 2, 2014, Navarro performed three smog inspections using the "clean pipe" method, and fraudulently issued three smog certificates of compliance to vehicles which were not tested.

### Surveillance Operation – June 2, 2014

11. Enrique Lopez (Lopez) is a Program Representative II in the Bureau's Fresno office. He has worked for the Bureau since October 2000. Lopez's duties include conducting inspections and investigations of smog technicians and smog test stations. Lopez has been a licensed smog technician since 1986 and previously worked in the private sector as a smog technician and smog referee. Through his experience as a licensed technician and a Bureau employee, Lopez is familiar with California's smog check program.

12. In the early morning of June 2, 2014, Lopez parked a surveillance vehicle near respondent's facility and set up three video cameras and one video recorder aimed at respondent's facility. Lopez then visually confirmed that each camera had a clear, unobstructed view of the facility's smog test service bay. Lopez activated the cameras and recorder and left the vehicle in its position for the remainder of the day.

13. Prior to beginning video surveillance, Lopez had obtained a photograph of Navarro from the Bureau's VID. While the video surveillance was ongoing, he went to

respondent's facility and used the photograph to identify Navarro as the licensed technician performing smog inspections that day.

14. Later that same evening, June 2, 2014, Lopez returned to the surveillance vehicle and retrieved the video recordings. Lopez then downloaded test data information from the Bureau's VID for the entire surveillance period, including the BAR97 Test Summaries and BAR97 Test Detail Reports. These records included pertinent information relating to each individual smog inspection conducted at respondent's facility, including the license number of the technician who conducted the smog test, date of the test, start and end times of the test, vehicle type and vehicles tested identified by vehicle year, vehicle make, test type, license number, VIN, test results, and certificate number.

15. Lopez then compared the test data to the video recording of the 15 vehicle smog inspections performed at respondent's facility during the surveillance period on June 2, 2014. The comparison revealed that certificates of compliance were issued to three vehicles which were not present at the facility during the times of inspection.

16. <u>1990 Nissan 240SX</u>: Between 3:41 p.m. and 3:52 p.m., Navarro used his badge and unique access code to input vehicle data and issue Certificate of Compliance Number YF817296C for a 1990 Nissan 240SX, license number 3DVD683. However, the video surveillance revealed Navarro inserting a sniffer into the tailpipe of a Toyota pickup truck that was in the smog test bay throughout the inspection. The Nissan 240SX was not at respondent's facility at any point during the inspection.

17. <u>1992 Honda Civic</u>: Between 4:51 p.m. and 5:02 p.m., Navarro used his badge and unique access code to input vehicle data and issue Certificate of Compliance Number YF817299C for a 1992 Honda Civic, license number 2ZRX127. However, the video surveillance depicted Navarro inserting a sniffer into the tailpipe of a Nissan Sentra that was in the smog test bay throughout the inspection. The Honda Civic was not at respondent's facility at any point during the inspection.

18. <u>2002 Chevrolet Avalanche</u>: Between 5:07 p.m. and 5:16 p.m., Navarro used his badge and unique access code to input vehicle data and issue Certificate of Compliance Number YF817300C for a 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche, license number 8T72975. However, the video surveillance shows Navarro inserting a sniffer into the tailpipe of a GMC Yukon that was in the smog test bay throughout the inspection. The Chevrolet Avalanche was not at respondent's facility at any point during the inspection.

19. On June 14, 2014, Lopez and another Bureau program representative made a field visit to respondent's facility and obtained copies of the facility's invoices and VIR's for the three vehicles fraudulently certified by Navarro on June 2, 2014.

Costs of Enforcement

20. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, complainant has requested recovery of its enforcement costs in the amount of \$4,365. At hearing, the Bureau introduced a Certification of Prosecution Costs and supporting declaration of Laurie M. Yost. Attached to the declaration is a Department of Justice (DOJ) printout entitled "Matter Time Activity by Professional Type" from June 4, 2015 through July 15, 2016. The declaration and supporting documents establish that DOJ billed the Bureau a total of \$3,727.50 for 18.75 hours of attorney services, and 4.5 hours of paralegal services through July 15, 2016. Ms. Yost estimated spending an additional 3.75 hours (\$637.50) to prepare the case before hearing, raising the estimated total enforcement costs to \$4,365. The total enforcement cost requested by complainant is reasonable.

#### LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

1. Complainant bears the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the charges in the Accusation are true and that the requested discipline against respondent's station license and automotive repair dealer registration should be imposed. (Evid. Code, § 115; *Imports Performance v. Dept. of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Automotive Repair* (2011) 201 Cal.App.4th 911, 916-17.)<sup>2</sup>

2. California's Motor Vehicle Inspection Program (Health & Saf, Code section 44000, et seq.) is an "enforcement program [intended to be] vigorous and effective and includes monitoring of the performance of the smog check test or repair stations and technicians, as well as the monitoring of vehicle emissions as vehicles are being driven." (Health & Saf. Code, § 44001, subd. (b)(5)(E).) The Bureau's chief is responsible for enforcing and administering the Program. (§§ 44001.5, 44002.) Laws and regulations governing the duties and discipline of Program licensees are set forth in Health and Safety Code section 44072 et seq. and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3300 et seq.

3. Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivisions (a)(1) and (4), provide:

(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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The requirements to obtain a smog check station license and an automotive repair dealer registration are minimal, and do not require extensive education, training or testing. They are therefore nonprofessional or occupational licenses and proceedings to revoke or suspend them are governed by a preponderance of the evidence rather than the higher clear and convincing evidence standard. (*Imports Performance, supra*, at p. 916-17.)

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.

[¶] ... [¶]

(c) ... the director may suspend, revoke or place on probation the registration for all places of business operated in this state by an automotive repair dealer upon a finding that the automotive repair dealer has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of this chapter, or regulations adopted pursuant to it.

4. Smog check stations and smog check technicians are required to conduct tests and inspections in accordance with the Bureau's emissions inspections specifications. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 3340.42.) A licensed station shall only issue a certificate of compliance 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." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 3340.35, subd. (c).)

5. Emission control tests at smog check stations "shall be performed in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department..." (Health & Saf. Code, § 44012.) A smog test station shall not issue certificates of compliance for vehicles that do not meet the testing requirements in accordance with Section 44012." (Health & Saf. Code, § 44015.)

6. Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, provides in relevant part:

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 director thereof, does any of the following:

(a) Violates any section of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to it, which related to the licensed activities.

[¶] ... ¶]

(c) Violates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to this chapter.

(d) Commits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured.

7. Health and Safety Code section 44072.10, subdivision (c) provides the Bureau "shall revoke the license of any smog check technician or station license who fraudulently certifies the vehicles or participates in the fraudulent inspection of vehicles." A fraudulent inspection includes clean piping. (Health & Saf. Code, § 44072.10, subd. (c)(1).)

8. The expiration of a valid registration or license does not deprive the Bureau of jurisdiction to discipline them. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 9884.13; Health & Saf. Code, § 44072.6.) Moreover, "when a license has been revoked or suspended following a hearing under this article, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of the licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended..." (Health & Saf. Code, § 44072.8.)

9. The owner of a license is obligated to see that the license is not used in violation of the law. If a licensee elects to operate his business through employees he must be responsible to the licensing authority for their conduct, and he is responsible for the acts of his agents or employees done in the course of his business. A licensee may not insulate himself from regulation by electing to function through employees or independent contractors. (*Rob-Mac, Inc. v. Dept. of Motor Vehicles* (1983) 148 Cal.App.3d 793, 797.)

## Cause for Discipline

10. Cause exists to revoke Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 268718 issued to respondent for violations of Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1). Respondent, by and through his employee, engaged in clean piping and made untrue and misleading statements by issuing false certificates of compliance for vehicles which were not tested or inspected as required by Health and Safety Code section 44012.

11. Cause also exists to revoke respondent's registration for violations of Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4). Respondent, by and through his employee, engaged in clean piping – a dishonest and fraudulent act – by issuing certificates of compliance for vehicles for which he did not perform a bona fide smog inspection.

12. Cause exists to revoke Smog Check Station License Number RC 268718 issued to respondent for violations of Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a). Respondent, by and through his employee, failed to ensure that emissions control tests were performed on the subject vehicles and yet issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for those vehicles. (Health & Saf. Code, §§ 44012, 44015.) 13. Cause also exists to revoke respondent's smog check station license for violations of Health and Safety Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c). Respondent, by and through his employee, failed to comply with the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program by issuing electronic smog certificates of compliance without ensuring the certified vehicles were actually smog tested. (Cal. Code Regs., §§ 3340.35, subd. (c), 3340.42.)

14. Respondent, by and through his employee, failed to properly perform tests of emissions control systems, fraudulently issued certificates of compliance without properly testing and inspecting vehicles, and failed to ensure bona fide inspections were performed on the emissions control devices and systems of the vehicles which were certified as being compliant. Accordingly, cause exists to discipline his smog check station license pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 44072, subdivision (d).

15. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, cause also exists to revoke any other license issued to respondent under Chapter 5 of the Health and Safety Code. However, there was insufficient evidence to establish that respondent's vicarious actions, as set forth in Factual Findings 11 through 18, constitutes a "course of repeated and willful violations of the licensing laws." Therefore, cause does not exist to revoke any registration for any other place of business respondent has within this state under Business and Professions Code section 9884.7, subdivision (c).

16. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, respondent is directed to pay the reasonable costs of investigation and enforcement of the action against him. As set forth in Factual Finding 20, the Bureau established that the reasonable cost of prosecution of this matter is \$4,365.

#### ORDER

1. Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 268718, issued to respondent is hereby REVOKED.

2. Smog Check Station License Number RC 268718 issued to respondent, as well as any additional license issued to him under Chapter 5 of the Health and Safety Code, are hereby REVOKED.

3. Within 60 days of the effective date of this Decision, respondent shall pay \$4,365 to complainant for the reasonable costs of enforcement of this matter.

DATED: July 28, 2016

DocuSigned by E4650D5DE8FE46C

TIFFANY L. KING Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings

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8	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMEI	
9	FOR THE BUREAU OF AUTOMO STATE OF CALIFORN	
10		
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 79/16-40
12	A SELMA SMOG (formerly A Smog Master & Repair)	
13	SUNDIP SINGH SANGHA, OWNER 2373 W. Front Street	ACCUSATION
14	Selma, CA 93662	(Smog Check)
15	Automotive Repair Dealer Reg. No. ARD 268718 Smog Check Station License No. RC 268718	
16	and	
17	ALBERT NAVARRO	
18	270 Orit Avenue Parlier, CA 93648	
19 20	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 634573	
20	Smog Check Repair Technician License No. EI 634573 (formerly Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License No. EA 634573)	
22	Respondents.	
23		
24	Complainant alleges:	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
25	PARTIES	
26	1. Patrick Dorais ("Complainant") brings this Accu	sation solely in his official capacity
27	as the Chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair ("Bureau"),	Department of Consumer Affairs.
28		
	1	
		( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION

1	A Selma Smog; Sundip Singh Sangha, Owner	
2	2. On or about April 12, 2012, the Director of Consumer Affairs ("Director") issued	
3	Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 268718 ("registration") to Sundip Singh	
4	Sangha ("Respondent Sangha"), owner of A Selma Smog, formerly A Smog Master & Repair.	
5	The registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and	
6	will expire on April 30, 2016, unless renewed.	
7	3. On or about June 12, 2012, the Director issued Smog Check Station License Number	
8	RC 268718 to Respondent Sangha. The smog check station license was in full force and effect at	
9	all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2016, unless renewed	
10	Albert Navarro	
11	4. On or about July 30, 2012, the Director issued Advanced Emission Specialist	
12	Technician License Number EA 634573 to Albert Navarro ("Respondent Navarro").	
13	Respondent's advanced emission specialist technician license expired on December 31, 2014.	
14	Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.28, subdivision (e), the license	
15	was renewed, pursuant to Respondent's election, as Smog Check Inspector License Number EO	
16	634573 and Smog Check Repair Technician License Number EI 634573 ("technician licenses"),	
17	effective January 2, 2015. <sup>1</sup> The technician licenses will expire on December 31, 2016, unless	
18	renewed.	
19	JURISDICTION	
20	5. Business and Professions Code ("Bus. & Prof. Code") section 9884.7 provides that	
21	the Director may revoke an automotive repair dealer registration.	
22	6. Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.13 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a	
23	valid registration shall not deprive the Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary	
24	proceeding against an automotive repair dealer or to render a decision temporarily or permanently	
25	invalidating (suspending or revoking) a registration.	
26	<sup>1</sup> Effective August 1, 2012, California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 3340.28,	
27 28	3340.29, and 3340.30 were amended to implement a license restructure from the Advanced Emission Specialist Technician (EA) license and Basic Area (EB) Technician license to Smog Check Inspector (EO) license and/or Smog Check Repair Technician (EI) license.	
20	2	
	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION	

1		
1	7. Health and Safety Code ("Health & Saf. Code") section 44002 provides, in pertinent	
2	part, that the Director has all the powers and authority granted under the Automotive Repair Act	
3	for enforcing the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.	
4	8. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.6 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration or	
5	suspension of a license by operation of law, or by order or decision of the Director of Consumer	
6	Affairs, or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of the license shall not deprive the Director	
7	of jurisdiction to proceed with disciplinary action.	
8	9. 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	10. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.28, subdivision (e), states that	
12	"[u]pon renewal of an unexpired Basic Area Technician license or an Advanced Emission	
13	Specialist Technician license issued prior to the effective date of this regulation, the licensee may	
14	apply to renew as a Smog Check Inspector, Smog Check Repair Technician, or both.	
15	STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS	
16	11. Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7 states, in pertinent part:	
17	(a) The director, where the automotive repair dealer cannot show there	
18	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	
19	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,	
20	officer, or member of the automotive repair dealer.	
21	(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	
22	by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading.	
23		
24	(4) Any other conduct that constitutes fraud.	
25	• • • • •	
26	(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the director may suspend, revoke or place on probation the registration for all places of business operated in this state by	
27	an automotive repair dealer upon a finding that the automotive repair dealer has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of this chapter, or regulations	
28	adopted pursuant to it.	
	3	
	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION	

1	12. Bus. & Prof. Code section 22, subdivision (a), states:
2	"Board" as used in any provision of this Code, refers to the board in
3	which the administration of the provision is vested, and unless otherwise expressly provided, shall include "bureau," "commission," "committee," "department,"
4	"division," "examining committee," "program," and "agency."
5	13. Bus. & Prof. Code section 477, subdivision (b), states, in pertinent part, that a
6	"license" includes "registration" and "certificate."
7	14. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2 states, in pertinent part:
8	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
9	director thereof, does any of the following:
10 11	(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.
12	· · · · ·
13	(c) Violates any of the regulations adopted by the director pursuant to this
14	chapter.
15	(d) Commits any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit whereby another is injured
16	15. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.10 states, in pertinent part:
17	
18	(c) The department shall revoke the license of any smog check technician or station licensee who fraudulently certifies vehicles or participates in the fraudulent
19	inspection of vehicles. A fraudulent inspection includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
20	(1) Clean piping, as defined by the department
21	
22	16. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340, states, in pertinent part, that
23	"'[c]lean piping' for the purposes of Health and Safety Code section 44072.10(c)(1), means the
24	use of a substitute exhaust emissions sample in place of the actual test vehicle's exhaust in order
25	to cause the EIS to issue a certificate of compliance for the test vehicle".
26	
27	
28	
1	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION

1		COST RECOV	ERY	
2	17. Bus. &	Prof. Code section 125.3 provides,	in pertinent part, that a Boa	rd may reques
3	the administrative l	the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or		
4	violations of the lic	ensing act to pay a sum not to excee	ed the reasonable costs of th	ne investigatio
5	and enforcement of	the case.		
6	<b>VIDEO SURVEILLANCE OPERATION OF JUNE 2, 2014</b>			
7	18. On June 2, 2014, at approximately 06:25 hours, Bureau Representative E. L.			
8	commenced a video surveillance operation of Respondent Sangha's smog check facility. At			
9	approximately 16:2	5 hours, E. L. visited the facility an	d spoke to Respondent Nav	arro
10	("Navarro"). The s	urveillance operation was conclude	d at approximately 17:53 h	ours. Later,
11	E. L. reviewed the	surveillance video and information of	obtained from the Bureau's	vehicle
12	information databas	se ("VID"). The VID data showed t	that Navarro issued electron	ic smog
13	certificates of comp	pliance on behalf of Respondent San	ngha, certifying that he had	tested and
14	inspected the three vehicles identified below and that the vehicles were in compliance with			
15	applicable laws and regulations. In fact, Navarro conducted the inspections using clean piping			
6	methods, resulting in the issuance of fraudulent certificates of compliance for the vehicles.			
17	Further, none of the vehicles were in the vicinity of the smog testing area at the time of the			
18	inspections.	inspections.		
9				
	Time of Inspection	Vehicle Certified & License No.	Vehicle Actually	Certificate
20	Time of Inspection 15:41 to 15:52	1990 Nissan 240SX; License No.	Vehicle Actually Tested Toyota pickup truck	Certificate No. YF817296C
20 21		1990 Nissan 240SX; License No. 3DVD683 1992 Honda Civic; License No.	Tested Toyota pickup truck Nissan Sentra; License No.	No.
20 21 22	15:41 to 15:52	1990 Nissan 240SX; License No. 3DVD683 1992 Honda Civic; License No. 2ZRX127 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche; License	Tested Toyota pickup truck	<b>No.</b> YF817296C
20 21 22 23	15:41 to 15:52 16:51 to 17:02 17:07 to 17:16	1990 Nissan 240SX; License No. 3DVD683 1992 Honda Civic; License No. 2ZRX127 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche; License No. 8T72975	Tested Toyota pickup truck Nissan Sentra; License No. 6TK Y055 GMC Yukon	No. YF817296C YF817299C YF817300C
20 21 22 23 24	15:41 to 15:52 16:51 to 17:02 17:07 to 17:16 19. On c	1990 Nissan 240SX; License No. 3DVD683 1992 Honda Civic; License No. 2ZRX127 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche; License No. 8T72975 or about June 12, 2014, E. L. and Bu	TestedToyota pickup truckNissan Sentra; License No.6TK Y055GMC Yukon	No. YF817296C YF817299C YF817300C nade a field
20 21 22 23 24 25	15:41 to 15:52 16:51 to 17:02 17:07 to 17:16 19. On o visit to the facility a	1990 Nissan 240SX; License No. 3DVD683 1992 Honda Civic; License No. 2ZRX127 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche; License No. 8T72975 or about June 12, 2014, E. L. and Bu and obtained copies of various docu	Tested         Toyota pickup truck         Nissan Sentra; License No.         6TKY055         GMC Yukon         ureau Representative A. L. t         ments, including vehicle in:	No. YF817296C YF817299C YF817300C nade a field
20 21 22 23 23 24 25 26	15:41 to 15:52 16:51 to 17:02 17:07 to 17:16 19. On o visit to the facility a ("VIR") for the three	1990 Nissan 240SX; License No. 3DVD683 1992 Honda Civic; License No. 2ZRX127 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche; License No. 8T72975 or about June 12, 2014, E. L. and Bu	Tested         Toyota pickup truck         Nissan Sentra; License No.         6TKY055         GMC Yukon         ureau Representative A. L. t         ments, including vehicle in:	No. YF817296C YF817299C YF817300C nade a field
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1	FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
2	(Untrue or Misleading Statements)
3	20. Respondent Sangha's registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Bus: &
4	Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that Respondent made or authorized statements
5	which he knew or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known to be untrue or
6	misleading, as follows: Respondent Sangha's smog check technician, Respondent Navarro,
7	certified under penalty of perjury on the VIR's that the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above,
8	had passed inspection and were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In fact,
9	Navarro used clean piping methods in order to issue certificates for the vehicles and did not test
10	or inspect the vehicles as required by Health & Saf. Code section 44012.
11	SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
12	(Fraud)
13	21. Respondent Sangha's registration is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Bus. &
14	Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that Respondent committed acts that constitute
15	fraud by issuing electronic smog certificate of compliance for the vehicles, identified in paragraph
16	18 above, without ensuring that bona fide inspections were performed of the emission control
17	devices and systems on the vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the
18	protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.
19	THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
20	(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)
21	22. Respondent Sangha's smog check station license is subject to disciplinary action
22	pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that Respondent failed to
23	comply with provisions of that Code, as follows:
24	a. <u>Section 44012</u> : Respondent failed to ensure that the emission control tests were
25	performed on the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, in accordance with procedures
26	prescribed by the department.
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	6
	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION

1	b. <u>Section 44015</u> : Respondent issued electronic smog certificates of compliance for the
2	vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, without ensuring that the vehicles were properly tested
3	and inspected to determine if they were in compliance with Health & Saf. Code section 44012.
4	FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
5	(Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant
6	to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)
7	23. Respondent Sangha's smog check station license is subject to disciplinary action
8	pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that Respondent failed to
9	comply with provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
10	a. <u>Section 3340.35, subdivision (c)</u> : Respondent issued electronic smog certificates of
11	compliance for the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, though the vehicles had not been
12	inspected in accordance with section 3340.42.
13	b. <u>Section 3340.42</u> : Respondent failed to ensure that the required smog tests were
14	conducted on the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, in accordance with the Bureau's
15	specifications.
16	FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
17	(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)
18	24. Respondent Sangha's smog check station license is subject to disciplinary action
19	pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that Respondent committed
20	dishonest, fraudulent or deceitful acts whereby another is injured by issuing electronic smog
21	certificates of compliance for the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, without ensuring that
22	bona fide inspections were performed of the emission control devices and systems on the
23	vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the
24	Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.
25	SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
26	(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)
27	25. Respondent Navarro's technician licenses are subject to disciplinary action pursuant
28	to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that Respondent failed to comply with
	7
	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION

1	section 44012 of that Code in a material respect, as follows: Respondent failed to perform the
2	emission control tests on the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, in accordance with
3	procedures prescribed by the department.
4	SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
5	(Failure to Comply with Regulations Pursuant
6	to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)
7	26. Respondent Navarro's technician licenses are subject to disciplinary action pursuant
8	to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that Respondent failed to comply with
9	provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
10	a. <u>Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)</u> : Respondent failed to inspect and test the vehicles,
11	identified in paragraph 18 above, in accordance with Health & Saf. Code sections 44012 and
12	44035, and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.42.
13	b. <u>Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)</u> : Respondent entered false information into the
14	Emissions Inspection System by entering vehicle identification information or emission control
15	system identification data for vehicles other than the ones being tested.
16	c. <u>Section 3340.42</u> : Respondent failed to conduct the required smog tests on the
17	vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.
18	EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
19	(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)
20	27. Respondent Navarro's technician licenses are subject to disciplinary action pursuant
21	to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that Respondent committed dishonest,
22	fraudulent or deceitful acts whereby another is injured by issuing electronic smog certificates of
23	compliance for the vehicles, identified in paragraph 18 above, without performing bona fide
24	inspections of the emission control devices and systems on the vehicles, thereby depriving the
25	People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection
26	Program.
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li li	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION

1	OTHER MATTERS	
2	28. Pursuant to Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (c), the Director may	
3	suspend, revoke, or place on probation the registration for all places of business operated in this	
4	state by Respondent Sundip Singh Sangha, owner of A Selma Smog, formerly A Smog Master &	
5	Repair, upon a finding that Respondent has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful	
6	violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.	
7	29. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Station License	
8	Number RC 268718, issued to Respondent Sundip Singh Sangha, owner of A Selma Smog,	
9	formerly A Smog Master & Repair, is revoked or suspended, any additional license issued under	
10	this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the Director.	
11	30. Pursuant to Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8, if Smog Check Inspector License	
12	Number EO 634573 and Smog Check Repair Technician License Number EI 634573, issued to	
13	Respondent Albert Navarro, are revoked or suspended, any additional license issued under this	
14	chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the Director.	
15	PRAYER	
16	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,	
17	and that following the hearing, the Director of Consumer Affairs issue a decision:	
18	1. Revoking or suspending Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD	
19	268718, issued to Sundip Singh Sangha, owner of A Selma Smog, formerly A Smog Master &	
20	Repair;	
21	2. Revoking or suspending any other automotive repair dealer registration issued to	
22	Sundip Singh Sangha;	
23	3. Revoking or suspending Smog Check Station License Number RC 268718, issued to	
24	Sundip Singh Sangha, owner of A Selma Smog, formerly A Smog Master & Repair;	
25	4. Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health	
26	and Safety Code in the name of Sundip Singh Sangha;	
27	5. Revoking or suspending Smog Check Inspector License Number EO 634573 and	
28	Smog Check Repair Technician License Number El 634573, issued to Albert Navarro;	
	9	
	( A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION	

6. Revoking or suspending any additional license issued under Chapter 5 of the Health and Safety Code in the name of Albert Navarro; Ordering Sundip Singh Sangha, owner of A Selma Smog, formerly A Smog Master & 7. Repair, and Albert Navarro to pay the Director of Consumer Affairs the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; 8. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. DATED: October 27, 2015 PATRICK DORAIS Chief Bureau of Automotive Repair Department of Consumer Affairs State of California Complainant SA2015103872 (A SELMA SMOG) ACCUSATION