1	KAMALA D. HARRIS					
2	Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO					
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General ALVARO MEJIA					
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 216956					
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013					
6	Telephone: (213) 897-0083 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804					
7	Attorneys for Complainant					
8	BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS					
9	FOR THE BUREAU OF AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR STATE OF CALIFORNIA					
10		1				
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 79/14-87				
12	FAST EDDIES SMOG; EDWARD RICHARD ORTIZ, Owner					
13	9519 E. Alondra Blvd, Unit C Bellflower, CA 90706	ACCUSATION				
14	Mailing Address	(Smog Check)				
15	11228 Adoree Street Norwalk, CA 90650	a de la companya de l				
16	Automotive Repair Dealer Registration					
17	No. ARD 266412, Smog Check Test Only Station License No. TC 266412,					
18	PETER NGOC DIEP					
19	1110 E. Carson Street, #6 Long Beach, CA 90807					
20	Advanced Emission Specialist Technician					
21	License No. EA 635057 (to be redesignated upon renewal as EO 635057 and/or EI 635057)					
22	and					
23	MINH QUANG TRAN					
24	13071 Dunklee Avenue Garden Grove, CA 92840					
25	Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 147492					
26	and Smog Check Repair Technician License No. EI 147492 (formerly Advanced Emission	* United States				
27	Specialist Technician License No. EA 147492)					
28	Respondents.					
	1					

8 9

10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

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.

Fast Eddies Smog

- On or about August 29, 2011, the Director of Consumer Affairs (Director) issued Automotive Repair Dealer Registration Number ARD 266412 to Fast Eddies Smog: Edward Richard Ortiz, Owner (Respondent Fast Eddies Smog). The Automotive Repair Dealer Registration was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2014, unless renewed.
- 3. On or about August 8, 2012, the Director issued Smog Check Test Only Station License Number TC 266412 to Respondent Fast Eddies Smog. 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 August 31, 2014, unless renewed.

Peter Ngoc Diep

On or about December 20, 2012, the Director issued Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License Number EA 635057 to Peter Ngoc Diep (Respondent Diep). The Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein. Respondent Diep's technician license is due to expire on October 31, 2014. Upon timely renewal of the license, the license will be redesignated as EO 635057 and/or EI 635057. ¹

111

///

III

///

Effective August 1, 2012, California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 3340.28, 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.

.7

Minh Quang Tran

5. In or about 2003, the Director issued Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License Number EA 147492 to Minh Quang Tran (Respondent Tran). Respondent Tran's advanced emission specialist technician license was due to expire on April 30, 2013. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 3340.28, subdivision (e), the license was renewed, pursuant to Respondent Tran's election, as Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 147492 and Smog Check Repair Technician License No. EI 147492, effective June 24, 2013. Respondent Tran's Smog Check Inspector and Smog Check Repair Technician licenses will expire on April 30, 2015, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 6. This Accusation is brought before the Director of Consumer Affairs (Director) for the Bureau of Automotive Repair, under the authority of the following laws.
- 7. Business and Professions Code ("Bus. & Prof. Code") section 9884.7 provides that the Director may revoke an automotive repair dealer registration.
- 8. Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.13 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a valid registration shall not deprive the director or chief of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against an automotive repair dealer or to render a decision invalidating a registration temporarily or permanently.
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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.
 - 11. Health & Saf. Code section 44072.8 states:

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 by the director.

Table 1 (August 15, 2013)

Test No.	Test Times	Vehicle in EIS Data (License Plate #)	Vehicle Tested (License Plate #)	Certificate Issued
1	1748-1806	2007 Lexus ES350 (5WDR498)	2007 Lexus ES350 (5WDR498)	None
2	1810-1815	2007 Lexus ES350 (5WDR498)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458983C
3	1819-1825	1995 Ford Mustang (3LCS526)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458984C
4	1830-1835	1999 Lincoln Navigator (EDERRI)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458985C
5	1839-1845	1999 Honda Civic (6MAR802)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458986C
6	1850-1854	2005 BMW 645Ci (6RCZ364)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458987C
7	1857-1901	1996 Ford Mustang (6TVN208)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458988C
8	1907-1912	2001 Ford Mustang Coupe (6HYG093)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458989C
9	1917-1922	2000 Nissan Xterra 4WD (4GUN674)	2008 Honda Civic (6EAW508)	XX458990C
10	1927	1996 Chevrolet Impala (5JEF981)	1994 Chevrolet C1500 pickup (56441C1)	None

19. In fact, on or about August 15, 2013, Respondents performed the smog inspections using the clean piping method by utilizing the tail pipe emissions of vehicles other than the vehicles being certified in order to issue the electronic certificates of compliance. The vehicles certified were not in the test bay at the time of the smog inspections. Specifically, Respondents used the clean piping method to certify and issue certificates of compliance for vehicles by using Respondent Diep's Smog Check Technician confidential access code knowing that Respondent Diep was the only Smog Check Technician assigned at Respondent Fast Eddies Smog's station. Respondent Tran did not use his assigned Smog Check Inspector access code to perform any of these inspections, and could not use his assigned access code because he was not assigned to Respondent Fast Eddies Smog's station. Respondent Tran did use his personal vehicle, a 2008 Honda Civic, for the clean piping of eight (8) of the vehicles listed in Table 1, above.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Misleading Statements)

20. Respondent Fast Eddies Smog has subjected his registration to discipline under Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(1), in that on or about August 15, 2013, he made statements which he knew or which by exercise of reasonable care he should have known were untrue or misleading when he issued electronic certificates of compliance for the vehicles set forth in Table 1, above, certifying that those vehicles were in compliance with applicable laws and regulations when, in fact, the vehicles had been clean piped.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Fraud)

21. Respondent Fast Eddies Smog has subjected his registration to discipline under Bus. & Prof. Code section 9884.7, subdivision (a)(4), in that on or about August 15, 2013, he committed acts which constitute fraud by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for the vehicles set forth in Table 1, 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.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 22. Respondent Fast Eddies Smog has subjected his station license to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about August 15, 2013, regarding the vehicles set forth in Table 1, above, he violated sections of that Code, as follows:
- a. **Section 44012, subdivision (a)**: Respondent Fast Eddies Smog failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly in accordance with test procedures.
- b. **Section 44012, subdivision (f):** Respondent Fast Eddies Smog failed to perform emission control tests on those vehicles in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.

///

- c. **Section 44015, subdivision (b)**: Respondent Fast Eddies Smog issued electronic certificates of compliance without properly testing and inspecting the vehicles to determine if they were in compliance with section 44012 of that Code.
- d. **Section 44059**: Respondent Fast Eddies Smog willfully made false entries for the electronic certificates of compliance by certifying that those vehicles had been inspected as required when, in fact, they had not.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 23. Respondent Fast Eddies Smog has subjected his station license to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about August 15, 2013, regarding the vehicles set forth in Table 1, above, he violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. Section 3340.24, subdivision (c): Respondent Fast Eddies Smog falsely or fraudulently issued electronic certificates of compliance without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles as required by Health & Saf. Code section 44012.
- b. Section 3340.35, subdivision (c): Respondent Fast Eddies Smog issued electronic certificates of compliance even though those vehicles had not been inspected in accordance with section 3340.42 of that Code.
- c. **Section 3340.42**: Respondent Fast Eddies Smog 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)

24. Respondent Fast Eddies Smog subjected his station license to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about August 15, 2013, regarding the vehicles set forth in Table 1, above, he 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 those

vehicles, thereby depriving the People of the State of California of the protection afforded by the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program.

SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 25. Respondent Tran has subjected his Smog Check Inspector and Smog Check Repair Technician licenses to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (a), in that on or about August 15, 2013, regarding the vehicles set forth in Table 1, he violated sections of that Code, as follows:
- a. **Section 44012, subdivision (a)**: Respondent Tran failed to determine that all emission control devices and systems required by law were installed and functioning correctly in accordance with test procedures.
- b. **Section 44012, subdivision (f)**: Respondent Tran failed to perform emission control tests on those vehicles in accordance with procedures prescribed by the department.
- c. Section 44032: Respondent Tran failed to perform tests of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles in accordance with section 44012 of that Code, in that those vehicles had been clean piped.
- d. **Section 44059**: Respondent Tran willfully made false entries for the electronic certificates of compliance by certifying that those vehicles had been inspected as required when, in fact, they had not.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 26. Respondent Tran has subjected his Smog Check Inspector and Smog Check Repair Technician licenses to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about August 15, 2013, regarding the vehicles set forth in Table 1, he violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. Section 3340.24, subdivision (c): Respondent Tran falsely or fraudulently issued electronic certificates of compliance without performing bona fide inspections of the emission control devices and systems on those vehicles as required by Health & Saf. Code section 44012.

- b. **Section 3340.30, subdivision (a)**: Respondent Tran failed to inspect and test those vehicles in accordance with Health & Saf. Code section 44012.
- c. Section 3340.41, subdivision (b): Respondent Tran used the confidential access code issued to Respondent Diep which permitted the Emission Inspection System ("EIS") to be accessed and the clean piping of the vehicles set forth in Table 1, above.
- d. **Section 3340.41, subdivision (c)**: Respondent Tran entered false information into the EIS for the electronic certificates of compliance by entering vehicle emission control information for vehicles other than the vehicles being certified.
- e. **Section 3340.42**: Respondent Tran failed to conduct the required smog tests and inspections on those vehicles in accordance with the Bureau's specifications.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonesty, Fraud or Deceit)

27. Respondent Tran has subjected his Smog Check Inspector and Smog Check Repair Technician licenses to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (d), in that on or about August 15, 2013, he committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit whereby another was injured by issuing electronic certificates of compliance for the vehicles set forth in Table 1, 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.

NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violations of Regulations Pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program)

- 28. Respondent Diep has subjected his technician license(s) to discipline under Health & Saf. Code section 44072.2, subdivision (c), in that on or about August 15, 2013, regarding the vehicles set forth in Table 1, he violated sections of the California Code of Regulations, title 16, as follows:
- a. **Section 3340.41, subdivision (b)**: Respondent Diep allowed another person, to wit, Respondent Tran, to use his confidential personal access code, which permitted the EIS to be accessed and the clean piping of the vehicles set forth in Table 1, above.

d. Section 3340.45: Respondent Diep failed to safeguard his confidential access code and/or allowed another person to use his access code to perform Smog Check inspections, and therefore failed to follow the procedures prescribed in the Bureau's Smog Check Inspection Procedures Manual, dated August 2009, section 1.1.0, which required that each technician must maintain the security of his access code and prohibits the disclosure of one's access code to another.

OTHER MATTERS

- 29. Under Code section 9884.7, subdivision (c), the director may invalidate temporarily or permanently or refuse to validate, the registrations for all places of business operated in this state by Edward Richard Ortiz, including, but not limited to Fast Eddies Smog (ARD 266412) upon a finding that he has, or is, engaged in a course of repeated and willful violations of the laws and regulations pertaining to an automotive repair dealer.
- 30. Under Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, if Station License No. TC 266412, issued to Edward Richard Ortiz is revoked or suspended, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee, including, but not limited to Fast Eddies Smog (TC 266412) may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.
- 31. Under Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, if Respondent Diep's Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License No. EA 635057 (to be redesignated upon renewal as EO 635057 and/or EI 635057) is revoked or suspended, any additional license issued under this chapter in the name of said licensee may be likewise revoked or suspended by the director.
- 32. Under Health and Safety Code section 44072.8, if Respondent Tran's Smog Check Inspector License No. EO 147492 and/or Smog Check Repair Technician License No. EI 147492 are revoked or suspended, any additional license issued under this chapter 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 Consumer Affairs issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Automotive Repair Dealer Registration No. ARD 266412,

DOJ Matter ID: LA2013510403

51435644.docx

28