



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### LOS ANGELES SMOG CHECK STATION'S LICENSE SUSPENDED

*Bureau of Automotive Repair alleges "clean piping" by Suzies Smog*

LOS ANGELES – A Los Angeles Smog Check station and one of its technicians, accused of illegal "clean piping," have had their licenses suspended, pending a revocation hearing, as a result of an investigation by the Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair (DCA/BAR).

An administrative law judge granted BAR's request for Interim Suspension Orders (ISO) to suspend immediately the Automotive Repair Dealer registration and the Smog Check Test Only Station license of Suzie Perez, owner of Suzie's Smog, 9210 South Main St., Unit A in Los Angeles, and the Advanced Emission Specialist Technician license of David M. Perez.

BAR's investigation of Suzie's Smog revealed multiple instances of "clean piping," in which a technician or other employee uses a clean exhaust sample from a vehicle that is compliant with smog laws but enters the data for another vehicle that is not qualified for a certificate of compliance or is not on the premises.

"Clean piping is a serious problem that undermines the integrity of the Smog Check Program and adversely impacts the air we breathe," said BAR Chief Sherry Mehl. "BAR is committed to taking swift action against Smog Check station owners and technicians who engage in these practices."

In this case nine (9) electronic certificates of compliance were issued using the Smog Check Technician license and personal access code of David M. Perez. However, during the surveillance, Perez was never observed on the premises. Two individuals who were not licensed were observed performing "clean piping."

"The goal of California's Smog Check Program is to reduce air pollution by bringing vehicles into compliance with emissions standards," said DCA Acting Director Brian Stiger. "When a shop illegally certifies vehicles that do not meet emissions standards, it only makes the problem worse."

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BAR sought the ISOs to shut down Suzie's Smog and prevent David M. Perez from being able to work as a licensed Smog Check technician while BAR proceeds with its enforcement case. BAR is seeking to permanently revoke both licenses.

An administrative hearing will be held at a later date to address the violations found during the investigation. Additionally, BAR has submitted the results of the investigation to the Office of the Los Angeles County District Attorney for criminal prosecution.

The Department of Consumer Affairs promotes and protects the interests of California consumers. Consumers who wish to file a complaint against an auto repair facility can contact the Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair at (800) 952-5210. Consumers can also file a complaint online at [www.autorepair.ca.gov](http://www.autorepair.ca.gov).

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