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2 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
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8 Attorneys for Petitioner
9 South Coast Air Quality Management District

10
11 **BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE**
12 **SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
13

14 In the Matter of
15 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY
16 MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,
17
18 Petitioner,
19
20 vs.
21 RYAN CLEANERS and RAY TOROSIAN, an
22 individual,
23 [Facility ID #198006]
24 Respondents.

CASE NO. 6252-1

**PETITION FOR AN ORDER FOR
ABATEMENT**

District Rules 201, 203, and 209

Hearing Date: February 29, 2024
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Hearing Board
South Coast Air Quality
Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

25 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, (hereinafter referred to as
26 “District” or “Petitioner”), petitions the District Hearing Board for an Order for Abatement directed
27 to Respondents, RYAN CLEANERS and RAY TOROSIAN, as an individual (hereinafter referred
28 to as “Respondents”), located at 9512 Sepulveda Boulevard, Sepulveda, CA 91343, with regards to
the operation of petroleum solvent dry cleaning equipment, and alleges as follows:

1 1. Petitioner is a body corporate and politic established and existing pursuant to Health
2 and Safety Code §40000, *et seq.* and §40400, *et seq.*, and is the sole and exclusive local agency with
3 the responsibility for comprehensive air pollution control in the South Coast Basin.

4 2. Respondents operate petroleum solvent dry cleaning equipment at its facility located
5 within the District’s jurisdiction and subject to the District’s regulations, Facility ID No. 198006
6 (hereinafter “Facility”).

7 3. **District Rule 201** states in, pertinent part, that a person shall not build, erect, install,
8 alter, or replace any equipment or agricultural permit unit, the use of which may cause the issuance
9 of air contaminants or the use of which may eliminate, reduce, or control the issuance of air
10 contaminants without first obtaining written authorization for such construction from the Executive
11 Officer. A permit to construct shall remain in effect until the permit to operate the equipment or
12 agricultural permit unit for which the application was filed is granted or denied, or the application
13 is canceled.

14 4. **District Rule 203(a)** states, in pertinent part, that a person shall not operate or use
15 any equipment or agricultural permit unit, the use of which may cause the issuance of air
16 contaminants, or the use of which may reduce or control the issuance of air contaminants, without
17 first obtaining a written permit to operate from the Executive Officer or except as provided in Rule
18 202.

19 5. **District Rule 209** states, in pertinent part, that a permit shall not be transferable from
20 one person to another.

21 6. Respondents are currently in violation of District Rules 201 and 203, in that
22 Respondents installed and operate equipment which causes or controls the issuance of air
23 contaminants into the atmosphere without obtaining a District permit.

24 7. During a compliance inspection of Respondent’s Facility on August 26, 2022, a
25 District inspector observed the operation of a PM60 petroleum dry-cleaning machine. The operator,
26 Mr. Luis Alvaro, was asked how long the Facility had been operating the PM60, to which he
27 responded, “about 2 years” when the business got a new owner. A picture of the manufacturing
28 specifications plate on the machine is attached as **Exhibit 1**. After a review of District records, the

1 District inspector found that the last permit held at this location was for a different petroleum solvent
2 dry cleaning machine in 2010, under Facility ID# 145136. Following the inspector, Respondents
3 were issued Notice of Violation (“NOV”) P62783 for violations of District Rules 201 and 203(a).
4 The NOV was personally served to Mr. Luis Alvaro, operator. A true and correct copy of NOV
5 P62783 is attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**. At the time of service, the Facility owner, Ray Torosian,
6 was telephoned and informed by the District inspector that he had issued an NOV for installing and
7 operating a petroleum solvent dry-cleaning machine without a valid District permit at the Facility.

8 8. On August 4, 2023, the District inspector conducted a follow-up compliance
9 inspection. He again observed the PM60 petroleum dry-cleaning machine in operation. It was in
10 cool-down mode, but still warm to the touch. He asked Mr. Alvaro if the equipment had been
11 operated that day, to which he replied, “Yes. One load”. NOV P62792 was issued for violation of
12 District Rule 203(a). The NOV was personally served to Mr. Alvaro, operator, and the Respondent,
13 Ray Torosian, was telephoned by the District inspector and notified that NOV P62792 had been
14 issued. A true and correct copy of NOV P62792 is attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**.

15 9. Despite receiving two NOVs for the same rule violations, Respondents continue to
16 operate in violation of District rules.

17 10. The District is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Respondents are and
18 will continue to operate in violation of District Rules 201 and 203(a).

19 11. The District, by this petition, seeks an Order for Abatement to require Respondents
20 to cease violating District rules by discontinuing the operation of the petroleum solvent dry-cleaning
21 equipment at the Facility, or in the alternative, comply with all requirements of District Rule 203(a).

22 12. It is not unreasonable to require Respondents to comply with District rules and
23 regulations.

24 13. The issuance of an Order for Abatement upon a fully noticed hearing would not
25 constitute the taking of property without due process of law.

26 14. This Order for Abatement is not intended to be, nor does it act as a variance, and
27 Respondent is subject to all rules and regulations of the District, and to all applicable provisions of
28 California law.

1 15. The issuance of the Order for Abatement is not expected to result in the closing or
2 elimination of an otherwise lawful business, but if it does result in such closure or elimination, it
3 would not be without a corresponding benefit in reducing air contaminants.


4 16. It is the District’s intention to file proposed Findings and Decision a few days in
5 advance of the hearing.

6 **WHEREFORE**, the District requests for an Order for Abatement as follows:

7 1. That this Hearing Board issue an Order for Abatement requiring Respondent to
8 cease and desist operating the Lindus PM60 petroleum dry cleaning machine at its Facility in
9 violation of District Rule 203(a), or, in the alternative, order Respondents to comply with
10 conditions that will be developed and submitted to Respondents and the Hearing Board prior to the
11 scheduled hearing on this matter.

12 2. For such other and further relief that this Board deems just and proper.

13
14 Dated: February 2, 2024 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
15 OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
16 Stacey M. Pruitt, Senior Deputy District Counsel

17 By: 
18 _____
19 Stacey M. Pruitt
20 Attorney for Petitioner

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Exhibit 1



Attachment 1

AMALIND S.p.A.
Via C. Bonazzi, 2 - 40013 - Castel Maggiore (BO) ITALY
Serial Number : T.1153
Manufacturing Year : 2004
Gas Type : R22
Compressor Type : ZR 61
Braid : COPELAND
Max gas quantity : 5 Kg 11 Lbs
Max pressure : 18 bar 265 psi
Testing pressure : 25 bar 368 psi

Exhibit 2



NOTICE OF VIOLATION

DATE OF VIOLATION		
Month:	Day:	Year:
8	26	22

Facility Name: RYAN CLEANERS, SAMUEL KALACHYAN	Facility ID#: 145135	Sector: VC
Location Address: 9512 SEPULVEDA BLVD	City: SEPULVEDA	Zip: 91343
Mailing Address: SAME	City:	Zip:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE BEEN CITED FOR ONE OR MORE VIOLATIONS OF THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (SCAQMD) RULES, STATE LAW OR FEDERAL LAW. IF PROVEN, SUCH VIOLATION(S) MAY RESULT IN THE IMPOSITION OF CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

EACH DAY A VIOLATION OCCURS MAY BE HANDLED AS A SEPARATE OFFENSE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT ADDITIONAL NOTICES OF VIOLATION ARE ISSUED.

DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATIONS

#	Authority*	Code Section or Rule No.	SCAQMD Permit to Operate or CARB Registration No.	Condition No. (If Applicable)	Description of Violation
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR	201			FACILITY OPERATING AND INSTALLED PETROLEUM SOLVENT DRYCLEANING MACHINE WITHOUT PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR	203(G)			FACILITY OPERATING A PETROLEUM SOLVENT DRYCLEANING MACHINE WITHOUT PERMIT TO OPERATE
3	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				
4	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				
5	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				

RAY TOROSIAN OWNER

Served To: LUIS ALVARO	Phone: 818 893 5908	Served By: JOHN ECKERT	Date Notice Served: 8-26-22
Title: OPERATOR	Email: N/A	Phone No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 909-396-2424 <input type="checkbox"/> 310-233-	Email: JECKERT @ aqmd.gov

*Key to Authority Abbreviations: SCAQMD - South Coast Air Quality Management District CH&SC - California Health and Safety Code CCR - California Code of Regulations	Method of Service: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Person <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail
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Exhibit 3



NOTICE OF VIOLATION

DATE OF VIOLATION		
Month:	Day:	Year:
8	4	23

Facility Name: RYAN CLEANERS		Facility ID#: 198006	Sector: VC
Location Address: 9512 SE PULVEDA BLVD		City: SE PULVEDA	Zip: 91343
Mailing Address: SAME		City:	Zip:

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1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR	203(a)			FACILITY OPERATING A PETROLEUM SOLVENT DRY CLEANING MACHINE
2	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				WITHOUT A PERMIT TO OPERATE.
3	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				
4	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				
5	<input type="checkbox"/> SCAQMD <input type="checkbox"/> CH&SC <input type="checkbox"/> CCR <input type="checkbox"/> CFR				

Max TOROSIAN OWNER

Served To: LUIS ALVARO	Phone: 818 893 5508	Served By: JOHN ECKEM	Date Notice Served: 8-4-23
Title: OPERATOR	Email: N/A	Phone No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 909-396-2424 <input type="checkbox"/> 310-233-	Email: JECKEM @ aqmd.gov

*Key to Authority Abbreviations: SCAQMD – South Coast Air Quality Management District CCR – California Code of Regulations	CH&SC – California Health and Safety Code CFR – Code of Federal Regulations	Method of Service: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Person <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail
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