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7 **BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE**
8 **SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

9 **In The Matter Of**

10 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY
11 MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,

12 Petitioner,

13 vs.

14 C&O MANUFACTURING, INC.

15 [Facility ID No. 196757]

16 Respondent.
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Case No. Case No. 6289-1

**[PROPOSED] FINDINGS AND
DECISION OF THE HEARING BOARD
FOR AN ORDER OF ABATEMENT**

District Rule 203

Date: October 8, 2026

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Hearing Board Room
South Coast Air Quality
Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

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19 **[PROPOSED] FINDINGS AND DECISION OF THE HEARING BOARD**

20 This Petition for an Order for Abatement was heard on October 8, 2026, pursuant to notice
21 in accordance with the provisions of California Health and Safety Code sections 40823 and 42451(a).
22 The following members of the Hearing Board were present: Micah Ali, Chair; Robert Pearman, Vice
23 Chair; Mohan Balagopalan, Cynthia Verdugo Peralta; and, Dr. Jerry P. Abraham, MD, MPH, CMQ.
24 Petitioner Executive Officer ("Petitioner" or "District") "was represented by Mary Reichert, Senior
25 Deputy District Counsel. Respondent C&O Manufacturing ("Respondent" or "C&O
26 Manufacturing"), located at 9640 Beverly Road, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, was represented by Cesar
27 Gonzales. The Hearing Board heard testimony, accepted evidence, gave the public an opportunity to
28 testify, and finds and decides as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

2. Respondent manufactures custom metal fixtures (Facility ID No. 196757) located at 9640 Beverly Road, Pico Rivera, CA 90660 (“Facility”), within and subject to the jurisdiction of the District.

3. Respondent owns and operates the following equipment (collectively “laser cutters”):

TABLE 1

Manufacturer	Model	Manufacture Year	Machine/Serial No.	Power Rating
Bystronic	Bylaser 4400	2006	R0611244	4400 Watts
Bystronic	Bylaser 2200	2007	R0710479	2200 Watts
BLM	LC5	2018	S082180118081	6000 Watts

4. **District Rule 203(a)** provides, in relevant part, that District Rule 203(a) reads in relevant part:

A person shall not operate or use any equipment or agricultural permit unit, the use of which may cause the issuance of air contaminants, or the use of which may reduce or control the issuance of air contaminants, without first obtaining a written permit to operate from the Executive Officer or except as provided in Rule 202.

5. On January 28, 2022, a District inspector arrived at the Facility to conduct a compliance inspection and observed the unpermitted equipment identified in Table 1 in operation during the inspection of the Facility. Because the laser cutters are rated at greater than 400 watts, they do not qualify for an exemption under Rule 219(e)(8).

6. The District issued Notice of Violation P74464 on or about January 28, 2022, for violation of District Rule 203(a). Despite receiving a Notice of Violation, Respondent continues to operate in violation of the District rule.

CONCLUSION

1. Respondent is in violation of South Coast AQMD Rule 203(a) for operating the equipment identified in Table 1 without a permit to operate.

2. The issuance of this Order for Abatement will not constitute a taking of property without due process of law.

3. If the issuance of this Order for Abatement results in the closing or elimination of an otherwise lawful business, it would not be without a corresponding benefit in reducing air contaminants.

4. This Order for Abatement is not intended to be, nor will it act as, a variance. Respondent is subject to all rules and regulations of the District and to all applicable provisions of California law. Nothing herein shall be deemed or construed to limit the authority of the District to issue Notices of Violation, to seek civil penalties or injunctive relief, or to other administrative or legal relief.

ORDER

Therefore, in reliance on the evidence presented, the aforesaid statements and good cause appearing, Respondent is hereby ordered to immediately cease operating the equipment identified in Table 1 or, in the alternative, submit permit applications for this equipment no later than **October 15, 2026** including all required application fees.

October __, 2026.

FOR THE BOARD: _____

DATED: _____