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1
         BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO
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    In the Matter of the
    Notice of Apparent
    Violation and Intent to : Case No. 10-2493-TR-CVF
5
    Assess Forfeiture Against:
6
    Dimitri A. Ivanov.
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                          PROCEEDINGS
10
    before Mr. Daniel E. Fullin, Hearing Examiner, at the
11
    Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad
12
    Street, Room 11-A, Columbus, Ohio, called at 9:58
    a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2011.
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            Yemc Law Offices
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            By Mr. Michael J. Yemc, Jr.
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            600 South High Street, Suite 204
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                 On behalf of the Respondent.
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1 Thursday Morning Session, 2 June 23, 2011. 3 4 EXAMINER FULLIN: I'm going to begin by 5 saying that the Commission has called for a hearing, at this time and place, Case No. 10-2493-TR-CVF which 6 7 is the Matter of the Notice of Apparent Violation and Intent to Assess Forfeiture against Dimitri A. 9 Ivanov. My name is Daniel E. Fullin. I'm the 10 11 attorney examiner assigned to hear this case. 12 May I have appearances, first on behalf 13 of the staff. MR. LINDGREN: On behalf of the staff of 14 15 the Commission, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and 16 William Wright, Section Chief, of the Public 17 Utilities Section, by Thomas Lindgren and Steven Beeler, Assistant Attorneys General, 180 East Broad 18 19 Street, 6th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215. 20 EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you. 21 And appearing on behalf of the -- what would we call -- well, on behalf of Dimitri Ivanov. 22 23 MR. YEMC: Yes. Thank you, your Honor. 24 EXAMINER FULLIN: Is he the Respondent in

25

the case?

MR. YEMC: Yeah, he's the Respondent.

Michael Yemc on behalf of the Respondent.

Last name is spelled Y-e-m-c. My Supreme Court number is 0065390. And, earlier, I gave the

5 | stenographer my address and information.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay.

MR. YEMC: Thank you.

EXAMINER FULLIN: And the pronunciation

9 is "yemz"?

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MR. YEMC: "yemz."

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay.

Then I'll also begin by allowing either party or both parties, if they wish, to make an opening statement in the case. Again, first the offer is to staff if they wish to make an opening statement.

MR. LINDGREN: Yes, your Honor.

The staff intends to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the driver and Respondent, Dimitri Ivanov, operated his motor vehicle after he had been placed out of service for two defects which were brake lights that were staying on and also an insecure or a hazardous operation due to damage to his trailer. And the evidence will show that the driver drove his vehicle after being placed

out of service and without having the necessary repairs made.

Thank you.

MR. YEMC:

was no problem with the brake lights.

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like.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. Thank you.

And an opening statement if you would

Yes. Thank you, your Honor.

The evidence is going to show that after my client was initially stopped, he was, in fact, transported to a repair shop, it was E & R Trailer Sales and Service, that, at that point, one of the repairmen signed off on a receipt indicating that the brake lights were indeed operational and that there

In addition, even the photographic evidence will show that, although there was damage to the trailer or the rear of the cab, that the issue, and on the report the issue is that there were items initially hanging out of that container compartment, and the subsequent photographs will show that those items were removed and the only thing that was really hanging out there was some trailer lining on the tractor for that actual door.

So I believe that the evidence, today, will show that my client actually complied with the

out-of-service order to the best of his abilities and tried to do the necessary repairs before he operated the vehicle.

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EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you.

I appreciate both opening statements and now we'll move to the presentation of evidence in the case and we'll begin with the presentation of staff's case.

MR. BEELER: Thank you, your Honor.

Before we start our case in chief, the parties had spoke before and we're stipulating to the forfeiture witness in this case. Basically, we stipulated that the fine of \$1,000 in the case is consistent with the recommended fine or penalty scheduled and recommended civil penalty procedure adopted by the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Alliance.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. I'll note that stipulation for the record. Will it suffice the statement that you made today on the record will amount to the stipulation? Is there paperwork to follow or . . .

MR. YEMC: I don't think there's a need for additional paperwork, your Honor. We'll stipulate that that is the correct amount.

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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. Thank you then.
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                 MR. BEELER: Thank you.
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay.
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                 MR. LINDGREN: Thank you.
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                 Your Honor, the staff calls to the stand,
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     Trooper Robert Pargeon.
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: If you would come
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     forward. I'll swear you in.
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                 (Witness sworn.)
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: And if you would begin,
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     I didn't really catch your name, so if you'd repeat
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    that, maybe spell it for the record if you don't mind
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     spelling it for the record.
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                 THE WITNESS: Okay. I'm Trooper Robert
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    L. Pargeon. Last name is P-a-r-g-e-o-n.
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay.
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                 MR. LINDGREN: Thank you.
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                       ROBERT L. PARGEON
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    being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was
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     examined and testified as follows:
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                       DIRECT EXAMINATION
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    By Mr. Lindgren:
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                 Good morning, Trooper Pargeon. Where are
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25
    you employed, sir?
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- A. At the Ohio State Highway Patrol.
- Q. Where is your business address?

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- A. It's North Main Street. 3201 North Main Street in Findlay, Ohio.
- Q. Thank you. And what is your position with the Ohio State Highway Patrol?
- A. I am a trooper with the state patrol. I am in the LCS. I am a commercial motor vehicle trooper. I do truck inspections, DOT.
  - Q. How long have you been in that position?
- A. Been doing DOT inspections, it would be just over six years.
- Q. What sort of training have you had in connection with your position?
- A. I've had the North American training for Level I's on DOT inspections; trained in non -- I'm sorry, non-bulk and bulk and other hazmat inspections for DOT.
- Q. Do you hold any certifications in connection with commercial motor vehicle inspections?
- A. Yes. I've been certified since late '04, first of '05 when I completed all my certifications, and maintained them since then.
- Q. Thank you. What are your duties with the Ohio State Highway Patrol?

A. State trooper and then I do traffic enforcement. With the unit DOT, I'm pretty much focused on commercial enforcement, whether it's state laws and the federal regulations.

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- Q. Thank you. Do you recall inspecting a vehicle driven by the Respondent in this case,
  Dimitri Ivanov, on June 30th of 2010?
- A. Yes. I was working a rural task squad that day, near Van Wert, Ohio, and was called there for an inspection.
  - Q. Can you explain what a task squad is?
- A. We were just working with a group of other DOT motor carrier inspectors and myself. There was, like, I believe, like, four of us focused around the Van Wert area for commercial enforcement that couple of days.
- Q. Thank you. And what prompted you to inspect Mr. Ivanov's vehicle?
- A. Trooper Knebel of Van Wert, he had received a reckless-op call on a semi, and then he stopped the semi, saw the damages, and he called me to come do an inspection once he had him stopped.
  - Q. Where did this inspection take place?
- A. It was on US 30. I can't remember an exact milepost, but it was east of Van Wert. It

would have been somewhat close to Middle Point where he was placed out of service at E & R. He was within a couple miles of there, I believe.

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- Q. Thank you. Do you recall if you found any violations in the course of this inspection?
- A. Yes. I guess the two major ones that stick out was the out-of-service violations. The first one was the damage on the left rear of the sleeper cab. The driver had stated to me that the damage was caused from another commercial vehicle had struck his vehicle in some parking lot in Illinois. But when I asked him if he had any type of police report or any kind of report on it, he couldn't produce any paperwork on it.

And then the other main thing on the trailer was that the brake lights were stuck on.

They weren't properly operational on the back of the trailer. And then -- I believe that's the two main things.

There was a couple other things. I think the low air system didn't -- one of the things didn't properly work on that. He had an ID light on the trailer out. Other than that, I can't remember, without looking at the report, what I have.

Q. Thank you. Did you place the vehicle out

of service after your inspection?

- A. Yes. I told him that I was going to take him, if he wanted to go, E & R was the closest place I could think of. I could take him there. To save him a tow bill, I would escort him to their shop to get the repairs done there for the tractor and the trailer. And I placed him -- I took him there and gave him all his paperwork back, placed both vehicles out of service there at the E & R repair place.
- Q. Did you place an out-of-service sticker on the vehicle?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you. Did you prepare a report that reflects the result of your inspection of Mr.
- 15 | Ivanov's vehicle?
- 16 A. Yes, that's correct.
- MR. LINDGREN: May I approach the
- 18 | witness?

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- 19 EXAMINER FULLIN: Yes.
- 20 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- MR. LINDGREN: Let the record reflect
  that I'm handing the witness what I have marked for
  identification as Staff Exhibit 1.
- Q. Trooper Pargeon, do you recognize this document?

A. Yes.

2.2

- Q. And can you explain what it is?
- A. This is a -- that would be a copy of the inspection report that I would have done with the driver on a Level II walk-around.
- Q. Did you prepare this report immediately following your inspection of Mr. Ivanov's vehicle?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And does the information contained in this report accurately reflect the results of your inspection?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Is this a type of report that's used regularly in the course of your employment with the state patrol?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Thank you. And does this report note the violations that you had explained previously?
- A. Yes. One thing I didn't mention was the -- Trooper Knebel, he wrote him a warning for the first violation that's on the federal code; it's a lane-restriction violation. I put in there he was stopped for marked lane violation by Trooper Knebel out of Van Wert.
  - And then the rest of it's the -- the

- second one is the out of service on the tractor. And then the -- the low air system, it was -- the buzzer was not working but the light was. And the right ID light on the trailer and the stuck brake lights that were stuck on, yes.
- Q. Thank you. Did you enter the information contained in the field labeled "Inspection Notes"?
- A. I had some notes. I don't have those in front of me, but I did make some notes on the inspection.
- Q. Yes. I'm referring to the inspection report in the place where it says "Inspection Notes."

  Do you see that?
  - A. No, I don't see where -- oh, they are right here. I'm sorry. They're right in the middle. Yes. Yes, that's my notes.
  - Q. Thank you. Did you give a copy of this inspection report to Mr. Ivanov?
    - A. Yes.

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- Q. And does this report note that his vehicle was placed out of service?
- A. Yes. On the two -- it's kind of hard to see on the copy. The two out-of-service violations are in bold print in the caption there and on the second page. Okay. I guess it would be on the first

page, excuse me. It's a little different set-up than mine.

Okay. Very bottom, above my name and his name, it states declare vehicle -- vehicles with defects to be out of service. On the bottom of the front page there.

- Q. Thank you. Trooper Pargeon, did you also take some photographs in the course of your inspection of Mr. Ivanov's vehicle?
  - A. Yes.

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MR. LINDGREN: May I approach the witness again?

EXAMINER FULLIN: Yes.

(EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

MR. LINDGREN: Let the record reflect that I'm handing the witness what I have marked for identification as Staff Exhibit 2. Actually, there are multiple pages in this document that I have marked as Staff Exhibit 2A through 2G.

- Q. Trooper Pargeon, have you had a chance to look through Staff Exhibit 2?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. And can you explain what it is?
- A. Okay. The first picture in the stack is the -- it's a picture of the trailer.

- Q. Excuse me. First, did you -- did you take these photographs, yourself?
  - A. Yes.

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- Q. And do these photographs accurately depict the vehicle as it appeared on the date of your inspection?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And do these photographs appear to have been altered in any way since the time that you took them?
  - A. No.
- Q. Thank you. Let me direct your attention to the first page, 2A. Could you explain what that picture shows?
- A. This is the back of the trailer that he was pulling. You can see the light -- all the lights are on the back. The ID's up top. The one that's out is the right -- it would be the top right-center ID light at the top is out. And then the brake lights, in this picture, are on, and they were -- they would stay on. When I did my light check, they were on. It just shows that they were on.
- Q. So were the lights staying on even when the brake was not applied?
  - A. Was released, right. He could be on or

off the brake and they would still stay on on the trailer.

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- Q. Thank you. Let me now direct your attention to Exhibit 2B. Can you explain what that shows?
- A. Okay. That's just to show a little bit closer up of the picture. It shows the plate a little better and just the brake lights with the taillight, itself, there.
- Q. Thank you. Let us now turn to Exhibit 2C. Can you explain what that shows?
- A. The close-up of the ID light that's out. That would be the right top-center ID light that's out on the back of the trailer.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 2D. Can you explain what this picture shows?
- A. This is a picture of the left rear of the sleeper cab. It shows the damage of the floor inside the sleeper with the side box. And you have some chains and other stuff hanging out of the side box and then bungee cords trying to secure the driver-side box door on the back of the cab where it's damaged.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 2E. Can you explain what that is?

- A. Yes. That's just a close-up of the same area of damage on the cab.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 2F. Can you explain that?

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- A. It's just a different angle. Same damage of the left rear of the cab; the tractor cab.
- Q. Thank you. And, finally, please turn to Exhibit 2G. Can you explain what that shows?
- A. This would be the left front of the tractor cab. It was just -- I was just showing that there was some other damage to the bodywork and the taillight -- or the parking-light lens.
- Q. Thank you. Based on your training in commercial motor vehicle inspections, was it your opinion that this vehicle was unsafe to operate in its condition at the time?
- A. Yes. That's why I placed him out of service for the unsafe operation due to the damage of the left rear of the cab and the equipment. The floor was hanging -- was pushed in and hanging down, along with the left rear of the cab, for equipment to be secure in the truck.
- Q. Thank you. Is there anything else that you recall about this inspection that you believe is important to note?

- 1 When I did take him to the E & R repair Α. 2 place, when I gave him his report and his paperwork, he -- when I told him he's been placed out of 3 service, the tractor was placed out of service for 4 5 the damage, he told me that -- that I couldn't take 6 his house, that means referring to his tractor, and 7 he said it was -- he stated that -- made reference that it was unconstitutional to park his house, or to 9 that effect.
  - Q. Thank you. Is there anything else?
  - A. That's it.
- MR. LINDGREN: I have no further questions for this witness.
- 14 EXAMINER FULLIN: All right.

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EXAMINATION

## 17 By Examiner Fullin:

- Q. Before cross-examination, I just have a few that I think I'd like to ask. One is, at the beginning of your testimony, when you identified your title, I think you used the word "LSC." I didn't
- 22 know what that is.
  - A. Oh, LCS.
- Q. Yeah. What does that mean?
- A. It's licensing in the commercial

standards.

- Q. The only other question I have relates to these pictures in Staff Exhibit 2. Were these pictures taken at the very site where the inspection took place, before you escorted him --
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. -- to the repair shop?
  - A. I took them along the roadside, yes.
- Q. So, really, the whole time of the inspection, the truck was -- did it -- you didn't move the truck during the inspection; it was as pictured here.
- A. It was just stopped. Where he was stopped by the other trooper and I came and did the inspection, I took the pictures there. Now, these the out-of-service sticker was applied at E & R, at the actual point where I placed him out of service.
- Q. So the pictures were taken prior to that; where the inspection took place.
- A. These were. I did take pictures of the out-of-service sticker at the repair place.

22 EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. Thank you.

23 Any cross-examination?

MR. YEMC: Yes, your Honor.

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## CROSS-EXAMINATION

By Mr. Yemc:

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- Q. Trooper, you stated you're certified to perform Level I inspections. Do you have your certification with you, today?
  - A. I do not have those with me.
  - Q. Now, you weren't the initial trooper that stopped the Respondent, correct?
    - A. Correct.
    - Q. Where's that trooper at, today?
    - A. He's assigned to the Van Wert post.
- 12 Q. So he's not going to be testifying,
- 13 | today, why he pulled him over?
- A. I don't believe he was subpoenaed for
- 15 that.
- MR. YEMC: Okay. I have no further
- 17 questions.
- 18 EXAMINER FULLIN: All right. Thank you
- 19 for your testimony.
- MR. LINDGREN: Staff next calls H.A.
- 21 | Emnett to the stand.
- 22 (Witness sworn.)
- 23 EXAMINER FULLIN: Again, if you would
- 24 begin by giving your name and spelling it for the
- 25 record.

22 1 THE WITNESS: My name is Harold A. 2 Emnett, spelled E-m-n-e-t-t. 3 EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you. 4 5 HAROLD A. EMNETT 6 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was examined and testified as follows: 7 8 DIRECT EXAMINATION 9 By Mr. Lindgren: 10 Q. Good morning, Mr. Emnett. Sir, where are 11 you employed? 12 Α. I'm employed for the State of Ohio 13 Department of Public Safety and the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the Department of Licensing and 14 Commercial Standards as a motor carrier enforcement 15 16 inspector. 17 Q. So is your title "motor carrier enforcement inspector"? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 And how long have you been a motor Q. 21 carrier enforcement inspector? 2.2 Α. I've been a motor carrier enforcement 23 inspector for 13 years. I've done 12,600 inspections 24 and I've been with the State of Ohio for 13 years. 25 Q. What are your duties as a commercial

motor vehicle inspector?

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- A. I conduct different levels of the North American Safety Alliance inspections. I have certifications in the North American Level I, Level II, Level III, Level IV, Levels V and VII. I also have a North American hazardous materials inspection certification. I have a North American certificate for bulk package hazardous materials inspection. I also have a certification in North American hazardous materials bulk other inspections, and North American certification in motor coach inspection. And I also have certification for the training that I received for state inspector at the Ohio State Highway Patrol.
- Q. Thank you. Do you recall inspecting a vehicle driven by the Respondent in this case,
  Dimitri Ivanov, on June 30th of 2010?
  - A. Yes, I do.
- Q. What were the circumstances that led to this inspection?
- A. I was advised that a truck was placed out of service at the E & R repair service in Middle Point, Ohio, and that he had left the scene, and he may not have had all the repairs done that he was supposed to do on the truck and trailer. And I was

advised that a Lieutenant Hass, the lieutenant at the Van Wert post of the State Highway Patrol, had that vehicle stopped on US 30 at milepost 8 in Allen County and they needed another inspection completed.

- Q. Were you given this information by a dispatcher?
- A. Both by dispatcher and I was given a phone call by my supervisor that was near and around the area that knew what was going on, because I was just coming on duty to work that task squad. I was on the afternoon shift unit that was going to work the task squad. So I just came on duty, so I had a little bit of knowledge what was going on, but not all the knowledge before it happened.
- Q. Thank you. When you arrived on the scene, did you conduct an inspection of Mr. Ivanov's vehicle?
- A. Yes, I did. It was a Level II inspection. Inspection report No. 0H3229007350.
- Q. Did you prepare a report as a result of your inspection?
  - A. Yes, I did. There at the scene.
- Q. Thank you.
- MR. LINDGREN: May I approach the
- 25 | witness?

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EXAMINER FULLIN: Yes.

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2 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

MR. LINDGREN: Let the record reflect that I'm handing the witness what I have marked for identification as Staff Exhibit 3.

- Q. Inspector Emnett, do you recognize Staff Exhibit 3?
- A. Yes. This is the inspection report that I completed at the scene of the stop.
- Q. Thank you. Does the information in this report accurately reflect the results of your inspection?
  - A. Correct. It does.
- Q. And is this a -- is this report a record that you would regularly prepare in the course of your work with the Ohio State Highway Patrol?
  - A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Thank you. Inspector Emnett, does this report note any violations that you found in the course of your inspection?
  - A. Yes, it does.
  - Q. And can you explain what these are?
- A. The first one was operating an

  out-of-service vehicle. The vehicle still had two

  out-of-service stickers on it; one on the windshield

and one on the trailer that plainly stated that the vehicle was out of service. I was able to obtain the report that Trooper Pargeon did. I read over the report and found that the out-of-service items still existed on that vehicle during this inspection.

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I conducted the inspection and found that the left rear corner of the tractor cab where the storage area was damaged and, in my pictures, you can see items still hanging out. I believe it was from the storage area and the floor that were separated on the corner of the cab and the storage box area.

The second thing is we checked the low-air-warning light and buzzer. He pumped down on the brakes or we did. I believe he was too upset to get back up in the truck. And we checked it and we found that the low-air-warning light did work, but the buzzer did not; the audible sound.

We took it clear down, past 55-pounds pressure on the gauge, and the buzzer did not work, and we let the air pressure completely down with the ignition in and the truck running and the ignition key turned on.

We also found that the stop lamps were stuck on; were not properly operable. They stuck on, all the time, while the truck was running. And they

would not go out when you lift your foot off the brake pedal. We found the same ID light, on the rear of the trailer, was inoperative.

And also, during the inspection, the driver became physically ill, three times, and was in no condition to operate a commercial vehicle on a public roadway, because he could not be getting sick and also driving at the same time. That would jeopardize the safety of the other people, the motorists on the roadway, if he did not have complete control of his vehicle.

- Q. Thank you. Did you say that you had reviewed the report prepared by Trooper Pargeon that was introduced previously as Staff Exhibit 1?
  - A. Yes. He had the copy with him.
  - O. Were the defects that --

EXAMINER FULLIN: When you say "he," you mean the driver?

THE WITNESS: Yes. I took a picture of the copy he had with him.

- Q. Were the defects that Trooper Pargeon had found that caused the vehicle to be placed out of service, had those defects been adequately repaired?
  - A. No.

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Q. Thank you. Did the driver, at any time,

provide you with a report that showed a signature of the person who made a -- made a repair?

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- A. Yes. I also had an opportunity to talk to them before I went down to do the inspection. He did show a note that they checked the brake lights.

  I don't know if the note actually said the brake lights actually worked. But he would not sign the inspection report, under the signature of the repairer, because they did not do any repairs or work on the vehicle; that the driver made the repairs, himself.
- Q. Thank you. What happened to the vehicle after you completed your inspection?
- A. Beaverdam Fleet Service, out of Beaverdam, Ohio, came and towed the vehicle back to their shop at I-75 and US 30, and that's where we placed it out of service again.
- Q. Do you know if the vehicle was ultimately repaired after that point?
- A. I don't know if it was completely repaired, but they told me what items they were -- how they were going to repair one of them and they were going to check the electrical system to find out why the brake lights were sticking on when the truck was running.

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1
                 Thank you. Did you provide a copy of
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    this report to Mr. Ivanov after your inspection?
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            Α.
                 Yes, I did.
                 Thank you. Did you take any photographs
 4
            Q.
 5
    during the course of your inspection?
                 Yes. I took a number of photographs at
 6
            Α.
    the scene of the inspection.
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            Q.
                 Thank you.
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                 MR. LINDGREN: May I approach the
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    witness?
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: Yes.
                 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
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                 MR. LINDGREN: Let the record reflect
     that I'm handing the witness what I've marked for
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     identification as Staff Exhibit 4A through 4I.
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                 Inspector Emnett, are these copies of the
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    photographs you just described?
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            Α.
                 Yes.
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                 Have you had an opportunity to review
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A. Yes, just to look through them, real quick.

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them?

Q. And do these photographs accurately
depict the vehicle as it appeared in the -- at the
time of your inspection?

A. Yes.

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- Q. And did you take these photographs, yourself?
  - A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And do these photographs appear to have been altered in any way since the time that you took them?
  - A. No.
- Q. Thank you. Let me direct your attention to Staff Exhibit 4A. Can you explain what that picture shows?
- A. It shows the rear of the vehicle. I did not have the running lights on as Trooper Pargeon did. The "running lights" as in the headlights, taillights, ID lights on. But it shows the rear of the truck with the brake lights stuck on. The running lights weren't turned on at this time; I did that later in the inspection. But I just wanted a picture to show that the brake lights were stuck on.
- Q. So were the lights staying on even when the brake pedal was not applied?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. Thank you. Now, let us turn to Exhibit 4B. Can you explain what that shows?
  - A. That's the same picture of the rear of

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the trailer. I wanted to get a clear picture of the license plate to verify that was the trailer in the inspection and also a picture of the brake lights stuck on.
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- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 4C. Can you explain what that shows?
- A. That shows the rear-corner view of the sleeper-berth area, the storage-box area that was damaged, and the floor hanging down, of this tractor.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 4D. Can you explain what that shows?
- A. That shows a broken driver-side turn-signal lens on the tractor on the front corner.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 4E. Can you explain what that shows?
- A. I took another picture of the storage area and the floor from a different angle because of the sunlight, so I could get the picture of the strap and it appears to be a metal ring and a -- it looks like air tubing and other loose items sticking out of the bottom of the storage box area between the floor and the door.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 4F. What does that show?
  - A. It's just another picture of the wrinkle

- and how far back the damage went on the back of the sleeper. This is a picture from the rear of the cab going toward the front of the tractor.
- Q. Thank you. Now, please turn to Exhibit 4G. What does this show?
- A. That shows the out-of-service sticker that was on the vehicle at the time of the inspection, that Trooper Pargeon placed on the windshield of the driver side of the tractor, showing that this vehicle was out of service.
- Q. Thank you. Can you turn to Exhibit 4H. What does that depict?
- A. That shows this is a copy of the inspection that Trooper Pargeon did that I ran off of my computer that I got off the database that Trooper Pargeon did. This is not the copy that was given to the driver; this is a copy that I printed out for my records.
  - Q. Thank you.

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- A. That shows Trooper Pargeon inspecting the vehicle and his violations.
- Q. Thank you. And, finally, please turn to Exhibit 4I.
- A. That was the note the driver presented to me that showed that the brake lights were checked at

E & R Trailer. I take it it was at E & R Trailer 1 2 because it was on their letterhead or their notepad 3 with their letterhead on it, by Dave, the service manager. He also put down "can not park on private 4 5 property" and will have another facility, I guess, fix it or something like that. I only can go by what 6 7 he wrote on the note. But he just said that he 8 checked the stoplight operation. He didn't say if it 9 was working; he just checked it. I don't know what 10 else the note was supposed to mean.

- Q. Did the driver provide you with any evidence that anyone had actually repaired the defects to the vehicle?
- A. No. Checking on Trooper Pargeon's inspection that the signature-of-the-repairer part of the inspection form had not been filled out; it was still blank at the time of the inspection from Trooper Pargeon's inspection.
- Q. Thank you. Based on your training and experience as a commercial motor vehicle inspector, is it your opinion that this vehicle was still unsafe to operate on the roadways at the time of your inspection?
  - A. Yes.

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Q. Thank you. Is there anything else that

- you recall about this inspection that you think is important to note for the record?
- A. Yes. The driver was very belligerent and was very hard to deal with during this inspection.
  - Q. So was he not cooperative?
- A. He didn't have complete and clear english, but he was argumentative and wanted to argue everything. I don't know cooperative-wise, but I sort of gave up working with him during the inspection and some of the things were done by the towing company.
- Q. Thank you. At what point in this inspection did the driver become ill?
- A. It was during the inspection, itself, as we were checking the vehicle.
  - Q. Thank you.

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- A. And toward the end, I also think he got sick, once, after we told him that we were going to tow the vehicle.
- Q. So was it your determination that he was -- that it would have been unsafe for him to operate the vehicle in that condition?
- A. Correct. It would have been hard for him to operate the vehicle safely and get physically ill at the same time.

Q. Thank you.

2.2

MR. LINDGREN: I have no further questions for this witness.

I'm new to this kind of a case. I don't think I've had this fact pattern with an out-of-service sticker, so I'd like background in terms of how that out-of-service sticker works. Are you going to be providing anything like that in terms of testimony today? In terms of once it's applied, who's allowed to remove it or that kind of thing? I would like more background on how it's supposed to work because I don't -- I don't know that I could --

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$  LINDGREN: I could go ahead and ask the inspector those questions or you can, whichever you prefer.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Well, go -- why don't you do it and then I'll follow up with other questions.

MR. LINDGREN: Thank you.

- Q. (By Mr. Lindgren) Inspector Emnett, can you explain the significance of the out-of-service sticker?
- A. Yes. It's fluorescent orange color. It states on there "out of service," so the driver or

any other drivers or people operating that vehicle knows that vehicle is in out-of-service condition and they need to check further before they drive.

"out of service" on it in big letters, and, also,
"Operation of this vehicle and/or removal of this
notice before repairs are successfully completed is a
violation of law (Chapters 4919, 4921, 4923) as
applicable." Corrective -- correction -- "Correct
all violations as noted on the OSHP Inspection Report
No. OH1" -- after the number, this is what Trooper
Pargeon wrote on it: "OH1554003873" period. And this
is printed on there: "By the order of the Ohio State
Highway Patrol." It has a section for a signature
name which Trooper Pargeon put "Trooper Pargeon" on
it, and the date, 6/30/2010.

We place these on either the windshield if the tractor is out of service, so the driver can plainly see the sticker is still there; or the left front corner of the trailer if the trailer is out of service, so if the driver happens to jump in the truck and starts to take off, he can see that sticker in his window — in his side mirror. So it's plainly visible before he took off with that truck or if he goes to move the truck or hook up to the trailer.

- Q. Thank you. Were there two out-of-service stickers still on the vehicle when you arrived?
- A. Yes, the stickers were still on. The one on the windshield was damaged, I don't know what from, but, yes, there was one on the windshield, and there was one on the left front corner of the -- driver-side front corner of the trailer.
- Q. Thank you. And who is lawfully entitled to remove these stickers?
- A. Usually the person that repairs the vehicle; a certified mechanic or whoever signs off on the inspection form as the repairer.
  - Q. Thank you.

Cross-examination?

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# CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 By Mr. Yemc:

- Q. You said that the repair mechanic is the one who's lawfully allowed to remove that inspection sticker. Can you cite me to that?
  - A. I'm just saying that --
- Q. Or you think that?
  - A. -- whoever made the repairs or signs off

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on this form is usually the one that takes the sticker.
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- Q. It's usually but it's not -- there's no legal requirement with regards to it as you indicated; is that correct?
  - A. That's correct.

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- Q. Okay. Thank you. With regards to your certifications, do you have those with you, here today?
- A. No. They're on file at the Ohio State
  Highway Patrol.
  - Q. But they're not here today?
  - A. They weren't requested.
  - Q. Okay. With regards to -- what is this -- the Exhibit 4I that you had in front of you, can you pull that up again, please?

Now, I don't think you fully read that receipt when you were testifying because I'm reading it as "checked stoplight operation ok." Do you see that "operation ok" on there?

- A. Well, I didn't know what that -- what the circle was.
  - Q. Can you see the "ok" on there?
- A. I see an "o." I guess there is a "k,"

  but . . .

- Q. Okay. So according to the service manager, the stoplights were okay when he checked them.
  - A. He just checked the operation of it.
- Q. Yeah. So according to him, they were okay.
  - A. According to him.

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Q. Okay. Because that's what my client operated his commercial vehicle on, based on the fact that the service manager actually okay'd the brake lights.

MR. LINDGREN: Objection.

- A. I also talked to the service manager and they didn't have an opportunity to work on the truck to verify what was wrong with it.
- Q. Why would he work on something that he indicates was okay?
- A. Because we put it in the inspection.

  And, also, the truck was not running at the time and the key was not on the "on" position and the ignition was turned on.
- Q. But he thought they were okay. Why wouldn't the Respondent think they were okay?
  - A. He wouldn't sign the paper.
  - Q. It's because he didn't do the repair work

because he didn't think he needed to because they were okay.

MR. LINDGREN: Objection.

- A. I don't remember that, because I talked to the repair -- the service repair guy there at the mechanic's location, and he did it just because he was being bugged so much by the driver to have him write a note.
- Q. But he wrote the note, signed it, dated it that he checked the stoplight and the operation was okay.
- A. That's with the key off and the engine not running.
- Q. Okay. I'll refer you back to your photographs that you took. Let's go to 4C if you would, please. That's the picture of the back of the sleeper cab; is that correct?
  - A. That's correct.
- Q. Did you have a chance to look at the first trooper's photographs that he took?
  - A. Yes.

Q. Okay. I'm going to approach you. I don't know if they're up there. They actually may be up there still. If you could look at what's marked as 2D for me, please.

A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Now, there are chains hanging out on 2D and E, correct? Hanging out of the box?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And on 4C, the photograph you took, have those chains been removed?
  - A. Yeah. Those chains are not there.
  - Q. Okay. And what's hanging out, there in 4C? Is that rubber? Is that part of the door?
- A. Yes. In 4C, it's hard to see. I took another picture from another direction to show the other stuff hanging out of the box.
- Q. Okay. Did you try to remove any of those items?
  - A. No. It's not my job to do that.
- Q. Okay. Now, Officer Emnett -- "Emnett";

  17 is that correct?
- 18 A. Correct.
- Q. You indicated you were not the officer that pulled over the Respondent; is that correct?
  - A. That's correct.
  - Q. Once you got there, at what point did the Respondent get ill?
- A. I can't remember the exact times, but it was during the inspection and after the inspection.

Q. Okay. So you don't know if he was actually ill while he was driving the vehicle; is that correct?

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- A. I wasn't in the cab with him.
- Q. Okay. But you chose to cite him for operating a commercial vehicle while ill. Why did you do that when you didn't witness him operate the motor vehicle?
- A. Because he was still on an on-duty status with that vehicle at the time of the stop. He's still the driver. It's like having a person that's under the influence, but I don't let him get back in the truck and drive away.
- Q. Yeah. But you're saying that he was operating it while he was ill. He wasn't operating it while he was ill. He was ill on the side of the roadway. Is it possible he got ill on the side of the roadway because of the stress of the situation?
- A. Might have. I don't know. I'm not a doctor.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. I have no further questions for you.
- EXAMINER FULLIN: Any follow up to the cross-examination?
- MR. LINDGREN: One moment, your Honor.

- 1 Thank you. I have no redirect.
- 2 EXAMINER FULLIN: All right. Thank you.
- 3 Thank you for your testimony.
- 4 MR. LINDGREN: The staff next calls
- 5 Lieutenant Hass to the stand.
- 6 (Witness sworn.)
- 7 EXAMINER FULLIN: Will you begin by
- 8 | giving your name, again, and spelling it for the
- 9 record?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Raymond Frederick Haas.
- 11 Last name is H-a-a-s.
- 12 EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you.
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- 14 RAYMOND F. HAAS
- 15 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was
- 16 | examined and testified as follows:
- 17 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 18 | By Mr. Lindgren:
- 19 Q. Good morning, Lieutenant Hass. Where are
- 20 | you employed?
- 21 A. I'm the post commander of the Van Wert
- 22 post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.
- Q. And what is the address of your post?
- 24 A. 123 -- I'm terrible at remembering that
- 25 | number because we moved there four years ago. 120 --

- 1 12304, I believe, Van Wert Decatur Road, Van Wert,
  2 Ohio.
  - Q. Thank you. How long have you been the commander of that post?
    - A. Two -- it will be two years, July 21st.
  - Q. Thank you. And how long have you been with the Ohio State Highway Patrol?
    - A. Twenty-three and a half years.
  - Q. Thank you. Are you trained as a commercial motor vehicle inspector, yourself?
    - A. No, sir, I am not.
    - Q. So do you simply do traffic enforcement?
    - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. Thank you. Do you recall stopping a vehicle driven by the Respondent in this case, Dimitri Ivanov, on June 30th of 2010?
- 17 A. Yes, I do.

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- Q. And why did you stop this vehicle?
- A. I was returning from Findlay from a meeting I was in, and the dispatch put out a broadcast that the vehicle the way I took the message was that E & R Trailer Sales had reported that the vehicle drove off without the repairs being made; had called the post.
  - Just shortly after that, I saw the

vehicle drive by, eastbound on US 30, near milepost 6 or 7 in Allen County. Very noticeable; matched the description exactly. I'd actually never seen an out-of-service sticker before because I'm not a commercial motor vehicle inspector, but I could see the orange glow on the window as it went by. Heavy damage to the driver-side sleeper area, and extremely noticeable, even in the bright sun, the brake lights were stuck on, on the trailer, as it passed by.

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- Q. Did you follow this trailer after you saw it pass by?
- A. Yes, I did. I proceeded to turn around and chase him down. I initiated a standard traffic stop using my lights on my patrol car.
- Q. Thank you. And did you notice if the brake lights were staying on on the vehicle?
- A. They stayed on the entire time. There was no change to them. And you could tell the difference between the brake lights and the trailer lights because of the inside lights versus the outside lights on the corners.
- Q. Thank you. Did you happen to notice any damage to the cab when you approached the vehicle?
- A. Yes, sir. Heavily damaged. It looked like it had been in an accident not real recently.

It appeared that it had never been repaired. It looked like it maybe jackknifed.

- Q. Thank you. So what happened after you had pulled the vehicle over?
- A. The driver was, for no easier term, had kind of an intimidating personality. He's very aggressive. I've actually been to a lot of the Baltic states in Russia. It's kind of the personality of the men there; they're very aggressive in their nature.

I had to verbally warn him that if he didn't back down, I was going to arrest him. He insisted that he didn't do anything wrong. And he kept trying to show me the inspection from the E & R Trailer Sales. I did look at it. I didn't take it as something that the repairs had been made; I took it as something saying that they checked the lights.

The "ok" that was mentioned earlier, it wasn't really clear that that was an "ok"; I actually thought that was an initial when I looked at it. It looked like whoever had written it, handwritten it, had initialed it, saying that he checked the operation of the brakes.

- Q. Thank you. So what happened after that?
- A. During the process, I had notified the

post that I was making the stop and the location that I was making the stop, and I just confirmed with the post that one of the inspectors were on the way to take over.

Shortly thereafter, Inspector Emnett showed up on the scene. Right around that time, the defendant actually had thrown up just shortly after he arrived, I recall, before he actually started any of the process. But, like I said, to start off with, the defendant was aggressive in his actions, almost to the point where I felt he was trying to intimidate me into letting him go.

- Q. Thank you. Did you say that you observed the Respondent throw up after you stopped him?
- A. Just shortly after Inspector Emnett arrived.
- Q. Thank you. Did you stay on the scene during the course of Inspector Emnett's inspection or did you leave?
- A. I stood by there for -- I couldn't give you a time, but a while, just to make sure that things had stabilized to the point where Inspector Emnett wasn't in danger. After -- I believe after we were there for a while, the defendant calmed down and Inspector Emnett told me that he felt he would be all

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right. At that point, I left.
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- Q. Thank you. Is there anything else about this traffic stop that you recall that you think is important to note for the record?
  - A. No, sir.
  - Q. Thank you.

MR. LINDGREN: I have no further questions for this witness.

EXAMINER FULLIN: I don't have any questions.

11 Cross-examination?

MR. YEMC: No.

13 EXAMINER FULLIN: No cross-examination.

14 Thank you for your testimony.

MR. LINDGREN: Your Honor, first, I'd
like to move for the admission of Staff Exhibits 1,
2, 3, and 4.

EXAMINER FULLIN: All right. Any objection to admission of all four exhibits?

MR. YEMC: No, your Honor.

EXAMINER FULLIN: I will admit them into evidence at this time.

MR. LINDGREN: And, your Honor, as you recall, the parties have stipulated to the amount of the forfeiture recommended in this case, which is

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$1,000.
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EXAMINER FULLIN: And maybe it's not on the record, maybe you don't intend it to be on the record, the 1,000-dollar violation, it's not clear to me even what violations that relates to. Is that something that you want to put on the record?

MR. BEELER: Sure.

EXAMINER FULLIN: From my recollection of the stipulation, I wasn't clear on that.

MR. BEELER: Sure.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Maybe you said it earlier, but I'm not clear on it right now.

MR. BEELER: Yes, your Honor. The calculation for this case was done under -- for operating an out-of-service vehicle and that's under the Ohio Administrative Code. And the other violation -- the 1,000-dollar forfeiture in this case was attributed to that violation, but there was also a cite of CFR 392.3, operating a CMV while ill. And those are the two violations where the total forfeiture amount is \$1,000.

EXAMINER FULLIN: The stipulated amount of \$1,000 is designed to cover both violations or just one of them and the other one's --

MR. BEELER: Yes. The 1,000 is actually

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attributable to the first violation which is an OAC.
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: So the stipulated
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    amount of the violation is designed to cover that
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    violation, the out-of-service violation, rather than
    both of them?
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                 MR. BEELER: Well, you know, the driver
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     in this case, we're arguing, was cited for both
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     sections. However, there's -- the process --
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: So there was a cite for
    both violations and the stipulation is that if there
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     is to be an assessment of a forfeiture, it should be
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     in the amount of $1,000 --
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                 MR. BEELER: That is correct.
                 EXAMINER FULLIN: -- based on the two
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    cited violations?
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                 MR. BEELER: That is correct, your Honor.
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                 EXAMINER FULLIN: Would you agree with
     that?
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                 MR. YEMC: Not really. Not how it was
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    explained to me whenever the guy was up here earlier.
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                 It's my understanding that for operating
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    an out-of-service vehicle, the civil forfeiture
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    amount is 1,000 bucks.
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                 MR. BEELER: Correct.
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MR. YEMC: Period. That's it. There's

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no real civil forfeiture imposed for the operating a commercial vehicle while ill in this case. It's just, you know, we got the first one, we're not going to hit you with more, type of a situation, is my understanding. Because if the second charge wasn't there, it would still be $1,000.
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MR. BEELER: That is correct.

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MR. YEMC: It wouldn't be less.

MR. BEELER: That is correct. Typically, the violation for CFR 392.3 would be \$100. However, there's a cap of \$1,000, so we could not exceed that cap. So the recommended forfeiture in this case is \$1,000.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. So the staff's position in the case is it's recommending the Commission should impose a 1,000-dollar --

MR. BEELER: Correct.

EXAMINER FULLIN: -- forfeiture in the case.

MR. BEELER: Correct.

MR. YEMC: And if there's a finding that he violated that section — if there's a finding that he did not violate the out of service, but did violate the operating a commercial vehicle while ill, then we're looking at \$100; is that correct?

MR. BEELER: Correct.

EXAMINER FULLIN: So if that's the only violation the Commission ends up proposing a forfeiture on, the illness one, then the staff's recommendation is for \$100 forfeiture if that's the only violation the Commission agrees to.

MR. BEELER: Yes.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. I think now I'm clear on that. I just wanted to know, as I drafted this, you know, how the forfeiture applies to the two different violations. I think I'm clear on it now and it sounds like there's agreement of the parties on that, also. Since it's based on a stipulation, I wanted to make sure that was clarified. Thank you.

Anything further?

MR. LINDGREN: No, your Honor. The staff rests its direct case.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. Then we'll allow the presentation of direct by the Respondent.

MR. YEMC: Okay. Thank you, your Honor.

At this time we're going to call our only witness, Dimitri Ivanov.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay.

(Witness sworn.)

EXAMINER FULLIN: I think we already have

your name on the record and spelling on the record.

Thank you for being here.

You can proceed with questions.

MR. YEMC: Okay. Thank you, your Honor.

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### DIMITRI IVANOV

being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was examined and testified as follows:

### DIRECT EXAMINATION

By Mr. Yemc:

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- Q. Mr. Ivanov, what is your occupation?
- A. My occupation is professional driver, CDL driver.
  - Q. And on June 30th of last year, 2010, did you happen to be in the state of Ohio?
    - A. Yes.
    - Q. Okay. And what happened on that day?
  - A. I just crossed the line and probably a little bit about, I'd say about 15/20 miles, I got pulled over by an officer with white hair, about 50 years old. I don't know his name. He told me that I am making kind of an "S" on the route while I'm driving and this is the reason he stopped me. He pulled me over.
    - Q. Then what happened after he pulled you

over?

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- A. Just -- he told me just to be careful and gave me a warning.
- Q. Okay. And then prior to you pulling out, what happened?
- A. Officer -- I don't remember his name -he arrived and started walking around the vehicle and
  he says, "You're not going anywhere." He start
  walking around. And he called, I don't know if she
  was the supervisor, there was a woman with brown
  hair, and they both did the inspection.
- Q. So is it Trooper Pargeon that testified earlier today?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And then there was a female there, as well?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- A. I believe she was the supervisor. I'm not sure because I don't know the staff and who is working with them.
  - Q. Okay. And now, following the inspection, were you advised that you were put out of service?
- A. Yes. He told me that I'll get escorted to a repair shop, E & R, and I have to find out if

they can do the repairs for me.

- Q. Okay. What happened once you got to E & R Trailer Sales and Service?
- A. Yeah. We -- we talked with an officer and I told him that this may be, you know, very rough on me and I'll probably lose my home and everything. I didn't get any aggressive.

Then I went inside the office to talk to a -- talk to a manager, Dave, the one that gave me this document, and I asked him if he can come out.

And I put the key on and I was inside the cab. He was the one inspecting the vehicle all the way around.

- Q. Okay. This Dave looks like, perhaps, Pullman?
- A. I don't remember his name, but I know he's an old man, about 60 years old. I remember how he looks. And I asked him to come out with me. He told me to jump in the vehicle so he can inspect everything. We checked the air. We checked the brakes. He said that he doesn't find anything wrong.
- Q. Okay. And, now, I'm going to refer you back to the State's Exhibit 4I. Since it's no longer up there, I'll walk around and hand it to you.

Do you recognize that document?

- A. Yes. He wrote it in front of me.
- Q. Okay. Is that the service manager that wrote that for you?
  - A. Yes. Yes.

- Q. And what does that note say?
- A. I believe he called -- I believe he called the state trooper. He told them that he doesn't find anything wrong with the vehicle. He was on the phone with somebody at this time. So I can't tell; I thought that everything is fine. I thought because only the problem was only mechanical, that's why I thought that I could go.

And for the body repair, they wanted me, basically, what they wanted me to do is to find a body shop on the highway, somebody who can straighten out my truck --

- Q. Okay.
- A. -- without even waiting for my insurance.
- Q. Mr. Ivanov, let's stop there. Can you read to me what this slip says?
- A. Yeah. He checked stoplight in operation. It says okay. It says David Pullman, store manager.
- Q. Okay. Now, there was some chains hanging out of your side box on your tractor; is that correct?

A. Yes.

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- Q. Let me hand you what's marked as Exhibit 2D.
- A. Yeah. The vehicle had an accident. This was an accident prevention because I had to hit somebody and a truck jackknifed in Pennsylvania on Route 30. I don't have a -- I should be able to provide the case number from there.
- Q. Okay. And, now, when you were initially pulled over, you had those chains hanging out of the side of that box.
  - A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Okay. Now, I'm going to hand you what's been marked as State's Exhibit 4C. I don't see those chains anymore. What happened to them?
- A. Yeah. The officer recommended to me if I can, you know, put them inside the box. And they told me that they shouldn't be hanging over there because this is dangerous. And I explained it to him that because the aluminum frame that you see on, you know, on the down part of the bracket, they were tied up over there and I was not able to to remove them at first. But, you know, once when I got pulled over and put out of service, then I had to do it. And this guy told me that they don't have, basically,

- rubber tape so he can close it up at all, to secure the area.
  - Q. Okay. So you removed the chains and put them in the box; is that correct?
    - A. Yes, this is correct.

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- Q. Now, there's another exhibit there that's a different angle. I think it was 4E. Now, there's still some material hanging out there. What is that material?
- A. That's some bungee cords. I need them for the chains when I go to the west. The fine is \$1,000. This is basically a requirement of the Department of Transportation in the western states, starting from Colorado and, you know, going through the west.
- Q. Okay. Now, there's some rubber lining there. Is that part of the tractor, itself?
- A. Yeah. From, I believe from the box -from the box, but it was tied up inside, so I didn't
  have a knife or anything to cut it.
- Q. So the remaining materials there, could you remove those?
- A. I did everything possible, but because it was on an angle as far as you can see the exhibit, the picture from the exhibit, it was not possible

because, you know, the box is not going that deep.

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- Q. So those items were secure inside that box?
  - A. Yeah, everything was -- everything was secure. I mean, I tried to do the best I could have at this time.
  - Q. Now, you heard testimony, today, from the second officer that came along that did the inspection, that, at some point, you got sick. What happened?
  - A. I would like to start, first, that I realized that probably something is wrong, my lights are not fixed, and I stopped the first time. I was on flashers when he was coming from that meeting and I saw him and he turned around. I don't know if he had a call from somebody, but he turned over and came to the vehicle.

So what happened is sometimes I get this because of depression -- because of depression, because of too many police officers and, you know, I think this was just too much stress for me.

But let me continue on this --

- Q. So it was the stress that made you ill from the second stop?
  - A. Yes, sir. And I was not operating the

vehicle at this time. The vehicle was on flashers in the right-hand lane, in the emergency lane.

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- Q. Okay. Now, Mr. Ivanov, after the second stop, was your vehicle towed?
- A. Yeah. I was separated from Officer

  Emnett. I was handing -- I was handing the document,

  from the shop, to this officer right there. I'm

  sorry, I apologize, I don't remember the name. But

  he says, "I'm not certified, so we have to wait for

  motor vehicle enforcement."
- Q. But after that inspection got done, was your vehicle towed?
- A. Yes, it was towed. I was separated.

  Another police car was --
- Q. You were separated? What does that -- you were separated from your tractor?
- A. They asked me for the key and he says,
  "I'm not going to wait for you because I got some
  other things to do." And there was another officer
  who isn't present over here, he stopped behind my
  vehicle at the time of the tow. And they talked that
  they don't like the condition of this vehicle.
- I told them, "Why you trying to do an additional damage to me," which you can see on the receipt, "to tow my vehicle? I mean, you can escort

me."

- Q. So he towed your vehicle and where did he tow it to?
- A. About 7 miles down, at the Beaverdam -- at the Beaverdam repair shop.

# (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

- Q. Okay. I'm going to just hand you what's going to be marked as Respondent's Exhibit A. Is this a receipt from the Beaverdam Fleet Service shop?
  - A. Yes, it is.
  - Q. What repair work did they do there?
- A. They checked the lights and they charged me for the towing that police officer Emnett requested.
- Q. And then after this, after you went to that repair shop, did you ultimately get this vehicle repaired?
- A. Yeah. I had to wait about two or three hours. I asked them if everything is fine if I can go. They told me that everything they asked me to come over. I mean, I believe that they have everything recorded over there because there's cameras in the shop.
  - Q. Okay.
  - A. So they tell me it is okay.

# (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

- Q. Now I'm going to hand you Respondent's

  Exhibit B. Could you just describe for us what this
  is?
- A. Yeah. This is fixing the -- this is fixing the vehicle.
  - Q. Okay. And that was done in August of last year?
    - A. Yeah.

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- Q. So after all this was done and you got your insurance money, you ultimately got the tractor repaired?
- A. Yeah. Because I didn't have enough money. They were -- all the repair shops were asking for too much money, so I wasn't able to afford it at this time. They were asking numbers like 6,500 to fix that corner.
  - Q. Okay. So the truck's repaired now?
- A. Yeah. It's out of service again. You
- 20 know, I didn't pay because I realized it's too old.
- 21 | I just stopped it forever --
- 22 Q. Okay.
- A. -- because some of the mechanics is, you know, screwed up.
- Q. It's costing too much money to maintain

it.

2.2

- A. Well, I realized, but, you know . . .
- Q. I'm just going to take you back and just ask you a few questions about operating this commercial vehicle after you received the out-of-service order.

So you received the out-of-service order, went to E & R Trailer Sales and Repairs, you had the sales manager go over the brake lights with you, correct?

- A. Yeah. Yeah. I asked the guy from the parts department if they're able to sell me the parts, the body parts. He says, "We don't carry. We don't do such work and you can't stay over here because it's private property." He told me, "Probably a few hours, but no more than that."
- Q. Okay. So then you removed the chains at that point?
- A. Yeah, I removed the chains. I done everything I could have and I told them, "Are you sure everything is okay?"

And he says, "Yes. But still be careful."

I told him, "Okay. I'll try it and if I see some problems, I'll probably go to Beaverdam and

- fix it." Because it wasn't that far.
- 2 Q. And at that point, then, you left E & R?
  - A. Yeah, I left E & R. I tried to go -- not to go on the highway, but it was impossible because the routes are so narrow, and then in some townships, you can't go.
    - Q. Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. YEMC: I have nothing further.

EXAMINER FULLIN: All right. Any

10 cross-examination?

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MR. LINDGREN: Yes, your Honor.

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## CROSS-EXAMINATION

By Mr. Lindgren:

- Q. Mr. Ivanov, I'd like to direct your attention to Respondent's Exhibit A that your counsel had introduced. It notes there that the Beaverdam
- 18 Fleet Service did find a short in your brake
- 19 | lights; is that correct?
- 20 A. 2A?
- MR. YEMC: No. It's one of the exhibits
- 22 | I handed you.
- 23 EXAMINER FULLIN: It looks like this.
- 24 A. Okay.
- 25 Q. This receipt does note that the Beaverdam

Fleet Service people did find a short in your brake lights.

A. Yeah.

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- Q. Is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. So you would agree with me, wouldn't you, that your brakes were not -- brake lights were not working properly?
- A. Yeah. Yeah, I agree with you. The problem was electrical. They were on and off.

  Sometimes it may happen from temperature. I mean, sometimes they happen from the wiring.
- Q. Yeah. But you had not had this problem corrected prior to the second stop. Is that right?
- A. I understand. I agree with you on this, but I had a document -- I had a document from the shop, from the previous shop when I got pulled over the first time, that everything is okay. I mean, you can clearly see that they stated that it's okay, you know, that everything was checked. And I put the chains back. I did the best I could have at this time.
- Q. Okay. Well, you put the chains away, but you didn't make any repairs to the cab other than putting the chains away. Is that right?

A. Yeah. Yes.

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- Q. Sir, what parts were you attempting to buy, then, if the repairs had been made?
  - A. What parts?
- Q. Yeah. I believe you said you were attempting to buy some parts, but found that they were too expensive.
- A. Yeah. I was talking about the body parts because they got two departments. One is the repair department which is, I believe, on the west -- on the west side with three doors, and then the other one is the service department where they sell parts for the vehicle -- for commercial vehicles.

I asked him if they carry body parts or if there is something we can do. And he told me, "No. We don't sell them. No. We just take care of vehicles." I mean, he basically told me they can't fix it over there.

- Q. Okay. But you didn't make any effort to have the vehicle towed to another location where they could do these repairs then?
- A. I mean, I didn't know. I don't know if -- would they do such work over there. I was left in the middle of nowhere, without information, and I didn't have a good signal on my phone. I tried to

- call 411, you know, to get some information. I was breaking up and they told me that there's nothing nearby in the area. I mean, this is -- we talking AT&T directory assistance.
- Q. Thank you. Mr. Ivanov, you were given an inspection report, at the time of your first inspection, by Trooper Pargeon. Is that right?
  - A. Yes.

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- Q. And I actually had introduced that as
  Staff Exhibit 1. Are you aware that there's a place
  for the signature of a repairer on this form?
  - A. Yes, I am.
  - Q. Did you have anyone sign this form?
- A. Yeah. I asked him -- yes, I asked him to sign, but I cannot push him to do it. I told him and he said -- what -- this guy, the manager, he told me, he says, "I think that they'll be enough." I mean, I can't sign myself or I can't put his name on the official document.
- Q. So no one signed on the report under "Signature of Repairer." Is that right?
- A. Yeah. But, you see, we clearly have the receipt where he stated that it's okay and he put the date, the time, and his two names.
  - Q. Mr. Ivanov, if the person at the first

repair shop thought your vehicle was okay, do you know why he would have contacted the highway patrol to advise them that you had driven off?

MR. YEMC: Objection, your Honor. How's he going to know this?

EXAMINER FULLIN: I'll allow the question, but if he doesn't know, he doesn't know.

- A. I don't know because it's like -- just I'm talking, you know, to the person in front of me. He was on the phone with somebody and he says state patrol, you know. I told him everything's fine. I don't know who he talked to, basically. I have no idea.
- Q. Thank you. Mr. Ivanov, do you recall telling Trooper Pargeon that your cab had been damaged in a parking lot in Illinois?
  - A. No, I did not say that.
  - Q. You didn't say that?
- A. I don't recall. I have -- I can provide to you, if you insist, I can provide you with an accident number from Pennsylvania. It jackknifed on highway 30 but in Pennsylvania, because I had to hit the guy. Basically, what happened, it's an intersection, he hit the brakes, and the truck just flew all through the fences, on both sides, which I

couldn't stop at all.

- Q. Did you explain that to Trooper Pargeon at the time of the stop?
- A. I don't remember. I don't recall that he asked such a question. And I told him that we had a conversation about it, if it is legal in the state of Ohio, because I can probably pull some other police reports from other states. I never got pulled over. You know, nobody says anything about it. I mean, there's some way I mean, we drivers should know about what's legal in the state and what's not.
- Q. But you don't recall saying anything at that time about an accident in Illinois?
  - A. I didn't say that, no. I don't recall.
  - Q. Thank you.
- A. There was a jackknife and I do have -- I mean, I can ask my insurance company to provide the pictures so I can hand them back to you, if you want me to.
  - Q. No, thank you.
- Mr. Ivanov, the reason you didn't have the repairs made, as quoted on Respondent's Exhibit B, was that it cost too much and you were waiting on your insurance money. Is that right?
  - A. No. The insurance didn't -- didn't go

over it -- didn't look at it because they told me --1 2 they just gave me a six-thirty number. Just to give them a call and find him and talk to him to make the 3 estimate; how much it's going to cost. And I tell 4 5 them that I was trying to negotiate, you know, just asking him, there, what -- how much the repair will 6 7 cost. But they were asking for about almost 6,500, 8 7,000 dollars; money which I did not have at this 9 time.

- Q. Okay. So the repairs, at that time, were too expensive for you to have made?
  - A. Yes.

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Q. Thank you.

MR. LINDGREN: Thank you. I have no further cross-examination.

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#### EXAMINATION

By Examiner Fullin:

- Q. Let me ask: Are you saying that the damage to the cab that's in these pictures, resulted from the jackknife incident in Pennsylvania?
- A. Yeah. I can provide -- I don't remember if -- it's a five-thirty number, I believe. There's an accident number. I don't remember the county.

  It's right on Route 421, I believe, and Route 30.

1 Do you know when that jackknife incident 0. 2 occurred? 3 About maybe a few months back. A few Α. months back, but you have to wait --4 5 A few months back before this inspection? Q. Yeah. It was the wintertime. I had to 6 7 go back because the trailer was damaged, too. I 8 didn't see the guy. He stopped suddenly. I had to 9 just go. 10 EXAMINER FULLIN: Okay. Any redirect? 11 MR. YEMC: No. 12 EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you for your 13 testimony. 14 Thank you. Thank you. THE WITNESS: 15 MR. YEMC: Your Honor, at this point, 16 we'd just like to have Respondent's Exhibits A and B 17 moved into evidence. EXAMINER FULLIN: Any objection? 18 19 MR. LINDGREN: No objection. 20 EXAMINER FULLIN: Both of those exhibits 21 will be admitted into evidence at this time. Does the Respondent rest? 2.2 23 MR. YEMC: Yes. 24 EXAMINER FULLIN: At this time, I would 25 like to allow both sides to make any closing

arguments or statements that they would like. Again, starting with the staff.

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MR. LINDGREN: Your Honor, the evidence showed that the Respondent's vehicle was stopped initially in Van Wert County and two out-of-service violations were noted; namely, defective brake lights that were staying on, and damage to the cab that made it unsafe to operate.

The evidence also showed that the driver did not have the necessary repairs made at Beaverdam -- or at the E & R facility. While he did introduce an exhibit that purports to show that someone found the brakes to be okay, that does not adequately show that the defects were remedied.

First of all, that person was not provided as a witness today. We don't have him to cross-examine on the stand. So that evidence should not be relied on by the Commission.

Furthermore, we have no signature on the report that notes that the necessary repairs were made.

Also, as Lieutenant Hass and Inspector

Emnett noted, following the first stop and following
the driver leaving the repair facility, the brake
lights were staying on. Also, at the time of the

second inspection, the damage to the cab still existed. The driver may have stowed away the chains, so they were not hanging out, but there were other materials still hanging out and the damage still had not been repaired at all. Apparently, the driver found it was too expensive to make those necessary repairs, but he still chose to drive anyway.

Also the evidence shows that these brake lights were still staying on and, in fact, one of the Respondent's own exhibits shows that, at the second repair facility, they found a short in this vehicle. So at the first facility, apparently they had not adequately checked the brake lights out and found this short, so it was not a repair that was — that qualified the vehicle to be operated. So the evidence shows that the vehicle was operated after it had been placed out of service and without the necessary repairs being made.

Also, as noted by two state patrol officers, the Respondent was -- was vomiting at the time of the second inspection. Now, I agree that it is possible that this was induced by stress; we don't know that. It could have been as a result of a virus or a food poisoning; we just don't know. But, in any case, it would have been unsafe, as Inspector Emnett

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testified, for the driver to be driving down the road and vomiting at the same time. Obviously, that would be a great distraction and hazardous to other vehicles on the roadway.
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In conclusion, I would ask that the Commission find the Respondent to have violated both inspections — or both violations in this case: operating a vehicle out of service and operating a vehicle while ill.

Thank you.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you.

And Mr. -- I'm sorry.

MR. YEMC: That's all right.

EXAMINER FULLIN: I don't want to

mispronounce your name.

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MR. YEMC: Yemc.

EXAMINER FULLIN: If you'd like to make a closing argument.

MR. YEMC: Yes, please.

I think, clearly, the State has failed to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that my client was operating his commercial vehicle while ill. I think the State's closing proves that, that they don't even know when he became ill; was it a result of his stress associated with the stop, the

second stop, or was it some virus. They even said that they don't know.

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So there's -- they have failed to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that he was operating the commercial vehicle while ill because he got sick afterwards; he didn't get sick while he was in the truck. There's no testimony from the first trooper that he was ill when he pulled him over that time, that he had the flu or anything. There was no testimony with regards to that. There's just testimony that after he got stopped the second time, he threw up.

My client testified that he -- because of nerves, he got sick. He wasn't operating the commercial vehicle when he got sick. So I don't think the State's proven, by a preponderance of the evidence, that he operated a commercial vehicle while being ill.

Secondly, I find it odd that the State is objecting to one of its own exhibits in saying that this Court should not take into consideration an exhibit that it introduced into evidence which is Exhibit 4I, showing that the defendant's trailer was checked, stoplights were checked, and the operation was okay. It was signed off by the sales manager or

the service manager at the first service stop that my client went to.

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I think we've lost track of what damage we're really dealing with here and what the issue is. The out-of-service was an issue because his truck — trailer had some damage to it. That's not the issue. You go up and down the roadways, you see cars that are beat to heck and other trucks that have issues on the roadway.

The problem here, as noted in both inspection reports, is that there was exposed — the first report was exposed vehicle accessory equipment; that was the problem. It's not that there was damage to the actual trailer. The problem is that there was, according to the first officer, insecure equipment that was hanging out there.

My client testified that he secured the equipment that was hanging out, which was the chains, the other -- the bungee strap was -- was in the second photograph. And then there was some lining from the trailer cab, itself, that was secured.

He couldn't get the bungee strap out because of how the thing was bent; the trailer was bent. My client testified that it wasn't insecure; it was actually secured. We heard testimony from

Officer Emnett that he didn't check to see if those items were secure or not. However, in his report, he said that there was unsecured equipment on there.

Why wouldn't he check -- pull to see if it was actually secure or not? It was stuff that my client said he couldn't even get out; it's physically impossible.

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So I just want to make sure this Court is aware that we're not dealing with the damage to the trailer. We're just dealing with the equipment that was being exposed and would cause a hazard as he's driving down the roadway and stuff is falling out. Those issues were addressed whenever he was stopped the first time. He took care of the chains; he got those secure. Everything else was secured in that compartment.

As far as the brake lights, he checked the brake lights. He had the service manager come out and check. The service manager is not going to sign off on a repair report when he doesn't do repairs; that's ludicrous. He's not going to sign the repair because he doesn't think the repairs were necessary and that's — that's shown by the, you know, the State's Exhibit, you know, 4I here, that it was checked and operation was okay. That doesn't

look like initials to me. It would make no sense that it would be initials considering he signed it down below. That's clearly an "ok."

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My client operated this vehicle thinking his lights were fine because, yeah, he had the service manager look at them and the service manager says they were fine. And, after he secured the equipment that was insecure, he didn't realize that the lights weren't working when the truck was — when the ignition was turned on; he had no idea. They checked them after they got to the service area. They didn't have to be repaired, so they didn't repair them.

Your Honor, I don't think my client operated this vehicle when it was out of service. In his mind and his belief, the lights were working properly according to what the service manager said. He secured the equipment that was hanging out that he was required to in the inspection report. It doesn't say in your inspection report that he needs to get this bodywork done on the side of the roadway; that's not what the requirements are. He just needs to secure it and that's exactly what he did.

Thank you.

EXAMINER FULLIN: Thank you for your

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     closing argument.
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                 I will bring this hearing to a close.
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                 Thank you.
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                 (Thereupon, the proceedings concluded at
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     11:37 a.m.)
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                           CERTIFICATE
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            I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a
12
    true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken
    by me in this matter on Thursday, June 23, 2011, and
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    carefully compared with my original stenographic
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    notes.
16
                         Carolyn M. Burke, Registered
17
                         Professional Reporter, and
                         Notary Public in and for the
                         State of Ohio.
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    My commission expires July 17, 2013.
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Summary: Transcript Transcript of Dimitri Ivanov hearing held on 06/23/11 electronically filed by Mrs. Jennifer Duffer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Kin, Sandra Ms.