

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

10949 North Mather Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
P (916) 403-8600 F (916) 464-3424 | www.bar.ca.gov



January 31, 2019

Mr. Martin Kim, President
Platinum Auto Trends, Inc.
14434 Best Avenue
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

RE: OEM Crash Parts

Dear Mr. Kim,

Thank you for your December 11, 2018 letter to the Bureau of Automotive Repair (Bureau). Your letter states that there is confusion regarding Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) crash parts and asks whether the Bureau could help clarify the definition of OEM crash parts, particularly if those OEM crash parts are also in the original manufacturer packaging, sold by third-party vendors, and covered by their own limited lifetime warranty.

As you note in your letter, the definition of an OEM crash part is in Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 3303(p), which states:

“Original Equipment Manufacturer crash part” or “OEM crash part” means a crash part made for or by the original vehicle manufacturer that manufactured, fabricated or supplied a vehicle or a component part.

The definition does not include the part’s newness, packaging, seller, or warranty. The definition only includes whether it is made for or by the original manufacturer. Therefore, regardless of whether it is sold by a third-party vendor, or in new packaging, or has its own warranty, if the part is made for or by the original vehicle manufacturer pursuant to § 3303(p), then it would be an OEM crash part.

The Bureau regulates automotive repair dealers and does not have jurisdiction over vendors of automotive parts. The Bureau does not have regulations addressing crash part warranties, including those offered by third-party vendors. For more information on the guidance the Bureau provides its licensed automotive repair dealers, please refer to the Bureau’s Write It Right guide at the following link: <https://bar.ca.gov/pdf/WriteltRight.pdf>.

Thank you for your interest in this issue and the opportunity to respond to your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Patrick Dorais'.

PATRICK DORAIS
Chief
Bureau of Automotive Repair