TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES CASE NO. 22-0006804 CAF

JENNIFER LILES,	§	DEFODE THE OFFICE
Complainant	§	BEFORE THE OFFICE
V.	§	OF
	§	
	§	
AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR	§	
COMPANY, INC.,	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Respondent	§	

DECISION AND ORDER

Jennifer Liles (Complainant) filed a complaint with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (Department) seeking relief pursuant to Texas Occupations Code §§ 2301.601-2301.613 (Lemon Law) for alleged warrantable defects in her vehicle (ATV) manufactured by American Honda Motor Company, Inc (Respondent). A preponderance of the evidence does not show that the subject vehicle has a warrantable defect. Consequently, the Complainant's vehicle does not qualify for repurchase/replacement or warranty repair.

I. Procedural History, Notice and Jurisdiction

Matters of notice of hearing¹ and jurisdiction were not contested and are discussed only in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. The hearing in this case convened on August 17, 2022, by videoconference, before Hearings Examiner Andrew Kang. The subject vehicle was inspected on September 21, 2022, and the record closed on the same day. The Complainant, represented herself. Abigail Mathews, attorney, represented the Respondent.

¹ TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.051.

II. Discussion

A. Applicable Law

1. Repurchase/Replacement Relief Requirements

Repurchase and replacement relief only apply to new vehicles.² A vehicle qualifies for repurchase or replacement if the respondent cannot "conform a motor vehicle to an applicable express warranty by repairing or correcting a defect or condition that creates a serious safety hazard or substantially impairs the use or market value of the motor vehicle after a reasonable number of attempts."³ In other words, (1) the vehicle must have a defect covered by an applicable warranty (warrantable defect); (2) the defect must either (a) create a serious safety hazard or (b) substantially impair the use or market value of the vehicle; and (3) the defect must currently exist after a "reasonable number of attempts" at repair.⁴ In addition, the Lemon Law imposes other requirements for repurchase/replacement relief, including (1) a written notice of the defect to the respondent, (2) an opportunity to cure by the respondent, and (3) a deadline for filing a Lemon Law complaint.

a. Serious Safety Hazard

The Lemon Law defines "serious safety hazard" as a life-threatening malfunction or nonconformity that: (1) substantially impedes a person's ability to control or operate a vehicle for ordinary use or intended purposes, or (2) creates a substantial risk of fire or explosion.⁵

b. Substantial Impairment of Use or Value

i. Impairment of Use

The Department applies a reasonable purchaser standard for determining whether a defect substantially impairs use. Under this standard, the factfinder considers "whether a defect or nonconformity hampers the intended normal operation of the vehicle" from the perspective of a reasonable prospective purchaser. For instance, "while a vehicle with a non-functioning air

⁴ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.604(a).

² TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.603.

³ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.604(a).

⁵ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.601(4).

conditioner would be available for use and transporting passengers, its intended normal use would be substantially impaired."⁶

ii. Impairment of Value

The Department applies a reasonable purchaser standard for determining whether a defect substantially impairs the value of a vehicle. The reasonable purchaser standard "does not require an owner to present an expert witness or any technical or market-based evidence to show decreased value." Instead, under this standard, "factfinders should put themselves in the position of a reasonable prospective purchaser of the subject vehicle and determine (based on the evidence presented) if the current condition of the vehicle would deter them from buying the vehicle or substantially negatively affect how much they would be willing to pay for the vehicle."⁷

c. Reasonable Number of Repair Attempts

Generally, a rebuttable presumption is established that the vehicle had a reasonable number of repair attempts if:

[T]he same nonconformity continues to exist after being subject to repair four or more times by the manufacturer, converter, or distributor or an authorized agent or franchised dealer of a manufacturer, converter, or distributor and the attempts were made before the earlier of: (A) the date the express warranty expires; or (B) 24 months or 24,000 miles, whichever occurs first, following the date of original delivery of the motor vehicle to the owner.⁸

Alternatively, for serious safety hazards, a rebuttable presumption is established that the vehicle had a reasonable number of repair attempts if:

[T]he same nonconformity creates a serious safety hazard and continues to exist after causing the vehicle to have been subject to repair two or more times by the manufacturer, converter, or distributor or an authorized agent or franchised dealer of a manufacturer, converter, or distributor and the attempts were made before the earlier of: (A) the date the express warranty expires; or (B) 24 months or 24,000

⁶ Dutchmen Manufacturing, Inc. v. Texas Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division, 383 S.W.3d 217, 228 (Tex. App.—Austin 2012).

⁷ Dutchmen Manufacturing, Inc. v. Texas Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division, 383 S.W.3d 217, 228 (Tex. App.—Austin 2012) ("We find that this interpretation of the standard required for demonstrating substantial impairment is reasonable and consistent with the statute's plain language which requires a showing of loss in market value. . . . [T]he Division's interpretation that expert testimony or technical or market-based evidence is not required to show diminished value or use is consistent with the statute's goal of mitigating manufacturers' economic advantages in warranty-related disputes.").

⁸ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.605(a)(1)(A) and (B).

miles, whichever occurs first, following the date of original delivery of the motor vehicle to the owner.⁹

Additionally, for vehicles out of service at least 30 days, a rebuttable presumption may be established that the vehicle had a reasonable number of repair attempts if:

[A] nonconformity still exists that substantially impairs the vehicle's use or market value, the vehicle is out of service for repair for a cumulative total of 30 or more days, and the attempts were made before the earlier of: (A) the date the express warranty expires; or (B) 24 months or 24,000 miles, whichever occurs first, following the date of original delivery of the motor vehicle to the owner.¹⁰

The 30 days described above does not include any period when the owner has a comparable loaner vehicle provided while the dealer repairs the subject vehicle.¹¹

The existence of a statutory rebuttable presumption does not preclude otherwise finding a reasonable number of attempts to repair the vehicle based on different circumstances and fewer attempts.¹² Furthermore, the Department adopted a decision indicating that if a consumer presents the vehicle to a dealer for repair and the dealer fails to repair the vehicle, then that visit would constitute a repair attempt unless the consumer was at fault for the failure to repair the vehicle.¹³

d. Other Requirements

Even if a vehicle satisfies the preceding requirements for repurchase/replacement relief, the Lemon Law prohibits repurchase or replacement unless: (1) the owner or someone on behalf of the owner, or the Department has provided written notice of the alleged defect or nonconformity to the respondent;¹⁴ (2) the respondent was given an opportunity to cure the defect or

¹³ DaimlerChrysler Corporation v. Williams, No. 03-99-00822-CV (Tex. App.—Austin, June 22, 2000, no writ) (not designated for publication) (Repair attempts include "those occasions when the fault for failing to repair the vehicle rests with the dealership." Conversely, "those occasions when failure to repair the vehicle was the fault of the consumer would not be considered a repair attempt under the statute.").

¹⁴ 43 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 215.204 provides that "[u]pon receipt of a complaint for lemon law or warranty performance relief, the department will provide notification of the complaint to the appropriate manufacturer, converter, or distributor." The Department's notice of the complaint to the Respondent satisfies the requirement to provide notice of the defect or nonconformity to the Respondent. TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.606(c)(1).

⁹ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.605(a)(2).

¹⁰ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.605(a)(3).

¹¹ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.605(c).

¹² Ford Motor Company v. Texas Department of Transportation, 936 S.W.2d 427, 432 (Tex. App.—Austin 1996, no writ) ("[T]he existence of statutory presumptions does not forbid the agency from finding that different circumstances or fewer attempts meet the requisite 'reasonable number of attempts."").

nonconformity;¹⁵ and (3) the Lemon Law complaint was filed within six months after the earliest of: the warranty's expiration date or the dates on which 24 months or 24,000 miles had passed since the date of original delivery of the motor vehicle to an owner.¹⁶

2. Warranty Repair Relief

If repurchase or replacement relief does not apply, a vehicle may still qualify for warranty repair if the vehicle has a "defect . . . that is covered by a manufacturer's, converter's, or distributor's . . . warranty agreement applicable to the vehicle"; the vehicle owner provided written notice of the defect to the manufacturer, converter, distributor, or its authorized agent before the warranty's expiration; and the owner filed a complaint with the Department specifying the defect.¹⁷ The manufacturer, converter, or distributor has an obligation to "make repairs necessary to conform a new motor vehicle to an applicable . . . express warranty."¹⁸

3. Burden of Proof

The law places the burden of proof on the Complainant.¹⁹ The Complainant must prove <u>all</u> <u>facts</u> required for relief by a preponderance of the evidence. That is, the Complainant must present sufficient evidence to show that <u>every required fact</u> more likely than not exists.²⁰ Accordingly, the Complainant cannot prevail where the existence of any required fact appears unlikely or appears equally likely or unlikely.

¹⁵ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.606(c)(2). A respondent may delegate its opportunity to cure to a dealer. A repair visit to a dealer may satisfy the opportunity to cure requirement when the respondent authorizes a dealer to attempt repair after written notice to the respondent. *Dutchmen Manufacturing, Inc. v. Texas Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Division*, 383 S.W.3d 217, 221 and 226 (Tex. App.—Austin 2012); Texas Department of Transportation, *Kennemer v. Dutchman Manufacturing, Inc.*, MVD Cause No. 09-0091 CAF (Motor Vehicle Division Sept. 25, 2009) (Final Order Granting Chapter 2301, Subchapter M Relief). An opportunity to cure does not require an actual repair attempt but only a valid opportunity. *Id* at 2. A respondent forgoes its opportunity to repair by replying to a written notice of defect with a settlement offer instead of arranging a repair attempt. *Id* at 2.

¹⁶ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.606(d)(2).

¹⁷ Tex. Occ. Code § 2301.204; 43 Tex. Admin. Code § 215.202(b)(3).

¹⁸ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.603(a).

¹⁹ 43 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 215.66(d); *see Vance v. My Apartment Steak House, Inc.*, 677 S.W.2d 480, 482 (Tex. 1984) ("[A] civil litigant who asserts an affirmative claim for relief has the burden to persuade the finder of fact of the existence of each element of his cause of action.").

²⁰ E.g., Southwestern Bell Telephone Company v. Garza, 164 S.W.3d 607, 621 (Tex. 2005).

4. The Complaint Identifies the Relevant Issues in this Case

The complaint identifies the relevant issues and limits what may be addressed in this case.²¹ The complaint must state "sufficient facts to enable the department and the party complained against to know the nature of the complaint and the specific problems or circumstances forming the basis of the claim for relief under the lemon law."²² Because the complaint determines the relevant issues, the Department cannot order relief for an issue not included in the complaint unless tried by consent.²³ The parties may expressly or impliedly consent to hearing issues not included in the complaint.²⁴ Implied consent occurs when a party introduces evidence on an unpleaded issue without objection.²⁵

5. Incidental Expenses

When repurchase or replacement is ordered, the Lemon Law provides for reimbursing the Complainant for reasonable incidental expenses resulting from the vehicle's loss of use because of the defect.²⁶ Reimbursable expenses include, but are not limited to: (1) alternate transportation; (2) towing; (3) telephone calls or mail charges directly attributable to contacting the manufacturer, distributor, converter, or dealer regarding the vehicle; (4) meals and lodging necessitated by the vehicle's failure during out-of-town trips; (5) loss or damage to personal property; (6) attorney fees, if the complainant retains counsel <u>after</u> notification that the respondent is represented by counsel; and (7) items or accessories added to the vehicle at or after purchase, less a reasonable allowance for use. The expenses must be reasonable and verifiable (for example, through receipts

²¹ "In a contested case, each party is entitled to an opportunity: (1) for hearing after reasonable notice of not less than 10 days; and (2) to respond and to present evidence and argument on each issue involved in the case." TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.051; "Notice of a hearing in a contested case must include . . . either: (A) a short, plain statement of the factual matters asserted; or (B) an attachment that incorporates by reference the factual matters asserted in the complaint or petition filed with the state agency." TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.052. *See* TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.204(b) ("The complaint must be made in writing to the applicable dealer, manufacturer, converter, or distributor and must specify each defect in the vehicle that is covered by the warranty."); TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.204(d) ("A hearing may be scheduled on any complaint made under this section that is not privately resolved between the owner and the dealer, manufacturer, converter, or distributor.").

²² 43 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 215.202(a)(3).

²³ See TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.141(b)-(c), 2001.051-2001.052; TEX. R. CIV. P. 301.

²⁴ 43 Tex. Admin. Code § 215.42; Tex. R. Civ. P. 67.

²⁵ See Gadd v. Lynch, 258 S.W.2d 168, 169 (Tex. Civ. App.—San Antonio 1953, writ ref'd).

²⁶ TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.604.

or similar written documents).²⁷ However, the Department's rules expressly exclude compensation for "any interest, finance charge, or insurance premiums."²⁸

B. Summary of Complainant's Evidence and Arguments

On September 5, 2020, the Complainant, purchased a new 2021 Honda TRX520 from Cycle Shack North, an authorized dealer of the Respondent, in Conroe, Texas. The vehicle had one mile on the odometer at the time of purchase. The vehicle's limited warranty provides bumper to bumper coverage for one year.

On or about December 9, 2021, the Complainant provided a written notice of defect to the Respondent. On January 26, 2022, the Complainant filed a complaint with the Department alleging problems in third gear, including noise, jumping out of and skipping third gear; no-start and failure to select gears; shifting from neutral to reverse and back to neutral; reverse light blinking and not shifting into reverse; and failure to shift.

The Complainant testified that the transmission was skipping and not engaging/not going into gear. The transmission would always go into neutral but then would not move. Additionally, the dealer did not replace the drain plug but every other issue involved the transmission. After repair, the ATV would do the same thing and fail to start. After sitting, the ATV would start but the other issues continued. On cross-examination, the Complainant noted the ATV would not go into gear even after rocking the ATV.

C. Inspection

The inspection of the subject vehicle was held on September 21, 2022. The Complainant noted that the ATV stopped while riding it and could not get it back on. However, the ATV started after sitting overnight. The errors did not occur when starting but when riding. The same error occurred twice after the last repair. Mr. Anderson pointed out that the ATV includes a tool to physically shift the gears when stuck between gears. He added that a screw driver could be used to engage second gear. The ATV had 2,260 miles on the odometer. Mr. Anderson test drove the ATV. The vehicle operated normally. The Complainant described that the ATV went from "D" to

²⁷ 43 Tex. Admin. Code § 215.209(a).

²⁸ 43 Tex. Admin. Code § 215.208(b)(1).

a dash while moving. Mr. Anderson explained that typically, cycling the key, rocking the ATV, or using the included tool would resolve the issue. He pointed out that the ATV did not have any diagnostic trouble codes (DTCs). He elaborated that DTCs are set if the transmission fails to shift after three attempts. He would expect a shifting issue due to a manufacturing defect to set a DTC.

D. Summary of Respondent's Evidence and Arguments

Mr. Anderson testified that the 3rd gear was repaired. He explained that the ATV has a constant mesh transmission that sometimes binds. Turning the engine off and rocking back and forth unbinds the transmission. Rocking the ATV to get it in gear was not a defect. The ATV operated without a problem when Mr. Anderson test drove it previously. All electric shift program parts, including ECU and all internal transmission parts, had been replaced. The transmission sticking between gears was a design characteristic. Mr. Anderson confirmed that not having adequate lubrication could cause shifting issue since the dual clutch system was an oil operated, electronically controlled system.

E. Analysis

As further explained below, the complained of issues appear as likely to be unwarranted design issues as opposed to manufacturing defects. To qualify for any relief, whether warranty repair or repurchase/replacement, the law requires the vehicle to have a defect covered by the Respondent's warranty (warrantable defect) that continues to exist after repairs. The Lemon Law does not require that a respondent provide any particular warranty coverage nor does the Lemon Law impose any specific standards for vehicle characteristics. The Lemon Law only requires a respondent to conform its vehicles to whatever coverage the warranty provides. In part, the warranty generally states that Respondent will: "repair or replace, at its option, any part that is proven to be defective in material or factory workmanship under normal use during the applicable warranty period." The warranty also specifies that: "These Warranties Do Not Cover • Failures or required services that are not due to a defect in material or factory workmanship." According to these terms, the warranty only applies to defects in materials or workmanship (manufacturing defects).

A defectively manufactured vehicle has a flaw so that it does not conform to the manufacturer's specifications, and is not identical to other same model vehicles.²⁹ A manufacturing defect occurs when the vehicle varies from the manufacturer's design standards, causing that vehicle to differ from other vehicles of the same kind.³⁰ In other words, a manufacturing defect is an isolated aberration, an unintended configuration occurring only in those vehicles not produced according to the manufacturer's specifications.³¹ Stated another way, a defectively manufactured vehicle has a flaw because of some error in making it, such as incorrect assembly or the use of a broken part. Accordingly, manufacturing defects occur during manufacturing and exist when the vehicle leaves the manufacturing plant. In contrast, design issues result from the manufacturer's design of the vehicle, even though manufactured without any flaws.³² Design characteristics, including design defects, exist in the vehicle's specifications and do not arise from any error during manufacturing.³³ Accordingly, a design characteristic exists in all vehicles of the same design, but the vehicle's intended configuration may produce unintended and unwanted results.³⁴ Unlike manufacturing defects, issues that do not arise from manufacturing, such as the vehicle's design characteristics or improper dealer repairs, are not warrantable defects.

³² Ford Motor Co. v. Pool, 688 S.W.2d 879, 881 (Tex. App.--Texarkana 1985), aff'd in part on other grounds, rev'd in part on other grounds, 715 S.W.2d 629 (Tex. 1986) ("Defective design cases, however, are not based on consumer expectancy, but on the manufacturer's design of a product . . . even though not flawed in its manufacture.").

³³ In contrast to manufacturing defects, "[a] design defect exists where the product conforms to the specification but there is a flaw in the specifications themselves." *Torres v. Caterpillar, Inc.*, 928 S.W.2d 233, 239 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 1996), *writ denied*, (Feb. 13, 1997).

²⁹ Ford Motor Co. v. Pool, 688 S.W.2d 879, 881 (Tex. App.--Texarkana 1985), aff'd in part on other grounds, rev'd in part on other grounds, 715 S.W.2d 629 (Tex. 1986) ("Manufacturing defect cases involve products which are flawed, i.e., which do not conform to the manufacturer's own specifications, and are not identical to their mass-produced siblings.").

³⁰ *Ridgway v. Ford Motor* Co., 82 S.W.3d 26, 31-32 (Tex. App.—San Antonio 2002), *rev'd on other grounds*, 135 S.W.3d 598 (Tex. 2004) ("A manufacturing defect may be distinguished from a design defect. A manufacturing defect occurs when the product varies from the manufacturer-established design standards, causing that product to deviate from the normal safety of other products of its kind.).

³¹ Harduvel v. Gen. Dynamics Corp., 878 F.2d 1311, 1317 (11th Cir. 1989) ("This distinction between 'aberrational' defects and defects occurring throughout an entire line of products is frequently used in tort law to separate defects of manufacture from those of design.... Stated another way, the distinction is between an unintended configuration [a manufacturing defect], and an intended configuration that may produce unintended and unwanted results [a design defect].").

³⁴ Harduvel v. Gen. Dynamics Corp., 878 F.2d 1311, 1317 (11th Cir. 1989) ("This distinction between 'aberrational' defects and defects occurring throughout an entire line of products is frequently used in tort law to separate defects of manufacture from those of design... Stated another way, the distinction is between an unintended configuration [a manufacturing defect], and an intended configuration that may produce unintended and unwanted results [a design defect].").

Because the warranty only covers manufacturing defects, the Lemon Law does not provide relief for design characteristics, design defects, or any other non-manufacturing problem. Even though an issue may be unintended and unwanted, the Lemon Law provides no relief unless the issue constitutes a manufacturing defect.

Although the Complainant has had problems with the subject vehicle, the Complainant has the burden of proving by a preponderance that the issues arise from a manufacturing defect. Here, the evidence of a manufacturing defect is equally compelling as the evidence of a unwarranted issue, so the burden of proof has not been met. The complaint described issues with problems in third gear, including noise, jumping out of and skipping third gear; no-start and failure to select gears; shifting from neutral to reverse and back to neutral; reverse light blinking and not shifting into reverse; and failure to shift. The 3rd gear issues appears to have been resolved by repair. The failure to shift into gear appears as likely to be a characteristic of the ATV's design as a warrantable defect. In particular, the evidence shows that the manufacturer anticipates this will occur because of the design and actually provides instructions and tools to address this characteristic.

The evidence reflects that the lack of oil may cause shifting issues. However, the lack of oil resulted from the dealer's failure to properly reinstall the drain plug. As explained above, the warranty only covers manufacturing defects and not non-manufacturing issues like dealer negligence. Consequently, the warranty does not cover any shifting problems due to the dealer's failure to reinstall the drain plug.

III. Findings of Fact

- On September 5, 2020, the Complainant, purchased a new 2021 Honda TRX520 from Cycle Shack North, an authorized dealer of the Respondent, in Conroe, Texas. The vehicle had one mile on the odometer at the time of purchase.
- 2. The warranty generally states that Respondent will: "repair or replace, at its option, any part that is proven to be defective in material or factory workmanship under normal use during the applicable warranty period." The warranty also specifies that: "These Warranties Do Not Cover Failures or required services that are not due to a defect in material or factory workmanship."
- 3. The vehicle's limited warranty provides coverage for one year.

- 4. On or about December 9, 2021, the Complainant provided a written notice of defect to the Respondent.
- 5. On January 26, 2022, the Complainant filed a complaint with the Department alleging problems in third gear, including noise, jumping out of and skipping third gear; no-start and failure to select gears; shifting from neutral to reverse and back to neutral; reverse light blinking and not shifting into reverse; and failure to shift.
- 6. On April 4, 2022, the Department's Office of Administrative Hearings issued a notice of hearing directed to all parties, giving them not less than 10 days' notice of hearing and their rights under the applicable rules and statutes. The notice stated the time, place and nature of the hearing; the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing was to be held; particular sections of the statutes and rules involved; and the factual matters asserted.
- 7. The hearing in this case convened on August 17, 2022, by videoconference, before Hearings Examiner Andrew Kang. The subject vehicle was inspected on September 21, 2022, and the record closed on the same day. The Complainant, represented herself. Abigail Mathews, attorney, represented the Respondent.
- 8. The vehicle's odometer displayed 2,260 miles at the time of the hearing.
- 9. The warranty expired on September 5, 2021.
- 10. The vehicle operated normally during the test drive at the hearing inspection.
- 11. The transmission sticking between gears is a design characteristic.

IV. Conclusions of Law

- The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles has jurisdiction over this matter. TEX. OCC. CODE §§ 2301.601-2301.613 and 2301.204.
- 2. A hearings examiner of the Department's Office of Administrative Hearings has jurisdiction over all matters related to conducting a hearing in this proceeding, including the preparation of a decision with findings of fact and conclusions of law, and the issuance of a final order. TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.704.

- The Complainant filed a sufficient complaint with the Department. 43 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 215.202.
- The parties received proper notice of the hearing. TEX. GOV'T CODE §§ 2001.051, 2001.052. 43 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 215.206(2).
- 5. The Complainant bears the burden of proof in this matter. 43 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 206.66(d).
- 6. The Complainant's vehicle does not qualify for replacement or repurchase. The Complainant did not prove that the vehicle has a defect covered by the Respondent's warranty. TEX. OCC. CODE §§ 2301.603 and 2301.604(a).
- 7. The Complainant's vehicle does not qualify for warranty repair. The Complainant did not prove that the vehicle has a defect covered by the Respondent's warranty. TEX. OCC. CODE §§ 2301.204 and 2301.603.
- 8. The Respondent remains responsible to address and repair or correct any defects that are covered by the Respondent's warranty. TEX. OCC. CODE § 2301.603.

V. Order

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is **ORDERED** that the Complainant's petition for relief pursuant to Texas Occupations Code §§ 2301.601-2301.613 is **DISMISSED**.

SIGNED January 27, 2023

ANDREW KANG HEARINGS EXAMINER OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES