

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY • GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUREAU FOR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834

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# **AFFIRMED CITATION ORDER**

Citation Issued To:	Citation Number:
P. Steve Ramirez Vocational Training Centers 1300 W. Shaw Ave., Suite 1A	25260042
Fresno, CA 93711	Total Fine Amount: \$15,000.00
Institution Code: 2701161	Order of Abatement Included: Yes

Elizabeth Elias issues this affirmed citation in her official capacity as Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement at the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, California Department of Consumer Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the "Bureau").

### LICENSING HISTORY

1. On or about March 25, 2020, the Bureau renewed an Approval to Operate a Private Postsecondary Institution, Institution Code 2701161, to P. Steve Ramirez Vocational Training Centers hereinafter referred to as the "Institution". This Approval to Operate expired on or about March 25, 2025. An application for renewal of the Institution's Approval to Operate a Private Postsecondary Institution was received on March 24, 2025, and is under review.

## **DISCIPLINE HISTORY**

- 2. The Institution has the following discipline history:
  - Citation No. 1920068, issued on September 5, 2019
    - o Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied November 27, 2019
  - Citation No. 1920246, issued on March 6, 2020
    - Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied June 3, 2020
  - Citation No. 23240219, issued on March 14, 2024
    - o Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied June 17, 2024
  - Citation No. 24250147, issued on January 15, 2025
    - o Evidence of compliance; citation satisfied May 14, 2025

#### CITATION JURISDICTION

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Institution Code: 2701161

3. This administrative citation is issued to the Institution pursuant to the statutory provisions of California Education Code (CEC) section 94936; and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (5 CCR) section 75020 et seq. for the violation(s) described below.

### CITATION HISTORY

4. On or about September 18, 2025, the Bureau issued Citation No. 25260042. On or about September 23, 2025, the Bureau received an appeal with a request for an informal conference. The informal conference was held on October 13, 2025. No new substantive facts were presented during the informal conference; therefore, the Bureau affirms Citation No. 25260042.

## CAUSE FOR CITATION & ASSESSMENT OF FINE AND/OR ORDER OF ABATEMENT

5. The Institution is in violation of the following Bureau laws and regulations:

### Violation #1:

5 CCR section 71730(g) – Administration and 5 CCR section 71730(a) - Administration

Cause for Citation: On or about April 14, 2025, the Bureau completed an investigation based on a complaint received. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that the Institution's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Academic Officer (CAO) was convicted of a felony under Penal Code section 549 on January 23, 2023. Therefore, the Bureau determined that the Institution employed administrative personnel who were adjudicated in a judicial proceeding, a violation of 5 CCR section 71730(g).

**Administrative Fine:** Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

**Order of Abatement:** Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Bureau orders the Institution to ensure all administrative personnel are compliant with the Bureau's laws and regulations, specifically 5 CCR section 71730. The Institution shall submit a statement of attestation they will not employ or continue to employ any administrative personnel who were

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adjudicated in a judicial or administrative proceeding as having violated any provision of the Act or this chapter or as having committed any act that would constitute grounds for the denial of a license under Section 480 of the Business and Professions Code in accordance with 5 CCR section 71730(g). The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

### Violation #2:

## CEC section 94934.5(a) – Notice of Investigation of Institution

**Cause for Citation:** On or about April 14, 2025, the Bureau completed an investigation based on a complaint received. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that the Institution's CEO/CAO was convicted of a felony under Penal Code section 549 on January 23, 2023.

The Bureau determined the Institution failed to report the investigation, including the nature of that investigation, to the bureau within 30 days of the Institution's first knowledge of the investigation pursuant to CEC 94934.5.

**Administrative Fine:** Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

**Order of Abatement:** Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Institution shall submit a statement of attestation stating they will notify the Bureau of any future investigation, including the nature of the investigation within 30 days of the Institutions first knowledge in accordance with CEC section 94934.5. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

## Violation #3:

5 CCR section 71640 – Application for Ownership, Control, or Business Organization Form, CEC 94894(b) – Substantive Change Defined and CEC 94893 – Authorization Required for Substantive Change

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**Cause for Citation:** On or about April 14, 2025, the Bureau completed an investigation based on a complaint received. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that the Institution failed to obtain prior authorization from the Bureau before making a substantive change to its person in control.

**Administrative Fine:** Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75030, the Bureau has determined this to be a "Class A" violation. The Institution is issued a fine of \$5,000.00.

**Order of Abatement:** Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75020, the Bureau issues the following order of abatement:

The Institution shall submit a statement of attestation stating they will notify the Bureau of any future substantive changes in accordance with 5 CCR 71640 and CEC sections 94893 and 94894. The statement of attestation must be dated and signed by an authorized representative of the Institution.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER OF ABATEMENT**

- 6. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936 and 5 CCR sections 75020 and 75040, the Bureau issues the order(s) of abatement described above. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement must be submitted to the Bureau within 30 days from the date of issuance of this affirmed citation. Evidence of compliance with the order of abatement may sent by mail or email to:
  - Mail: Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Nicole Pedersen 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834
  - Email: bppe.discipline@dca.ca.gov
    - In the subject line, please include the Institution name and citation number.

### **COMPLIANCE WITH ASSESSMENT OF FINE**

7. In accordance with the provisions of CEC section 94936, and 5 CCR section 75020 et seq., the Bureau hereby orders this assessment of fines in the total amount of \$15,000.00 for the violations described above.

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Payment of the fines must be made to the Bureau within <u>30 days</u> from the date of issuance of this affirmed citation. To assist the Bureau in processing the payment of fines, please submit the enclosed *Payment of Fine – Waiver of Appeal* form.

Payment must be sent to the Bureau by mail at:

 Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education Attn: Discipline Unit – Nicole Pedersen 1747 North Market, Blvd., Suite 225 Sacramento, CA 95834

### NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

8. Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75040(d), the affirmed decision is considered final, unless a request for a hearing was filed timely.

If the Institution requested a hearing and no longer chooses to proceed with the hearing, the Institution may request to withdraw the request for a hearing. If the Institution has not requested to withdraw the hearing, a hearing will be set to hear the matter.

### COMPLIANCE WITH FINE AND/OR ORDER OR ABATEMENT DISCLOSURE

9. Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75050, payment of fine and/or compliance with any order of abatement does not constitute an admission of the violation charged and shall be represented as satisfactory resolution of the matter for the purposes of public disclosure.

Pursuant to 5 CCR section 75050, failure to comply with this citation order, its order of abatement, and/or administrative fine by the required due date is grounds for denial or discipline of an approval to operate. Where a citation is not contested and fine is not paid, the full amount of the assessed fine shall be added to the fee for renewal of the approval to operate. An approval to operate shall not be renewed without payment of the renewal fee and fine. The Bureau may also enforce the administrative fine as if it were a money judgment pursuant to CEC section 94936.

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## **BUREAU CONTACT INFORMATION**

10. If you have any questions regarding this Citation, please contact Nicole Pedersen, Citation Analyst by email at <a href="Nicole.Pedersen@dca.ca.gov">Nicole.Pedersen@dca.ca.gov</a> or by phone at (916) 232-0510.

"Original Signature on File"	11/4/2025
Elizabeth Elias	Citation Date of Issuance
Deputy Bureau Chief of Enforcement	

## Enclosures:

- > Payment of Fine
- > Declaration of Service by Certified and First-Class Mail