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8 **THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**  
9 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ**

10 **People of the State of California,** )

11 )  
12 ) Plaintiff;

13 vs. )

14 **Richard J. Quigley,** )

15 )  
16 ) Defendant. )

**Case #: 3WMO18538**

**NOTICE OF  
DEMUR HEARING  
AND  
DEMUR TO  
COMPLAINT  
(Penal Code § 1004)**

**DATE: November 13, 2003**

**TIME: 10:00 a.m.**

**PLACE: Dept. 12**

17 COMES NOW THE DEFENDANT, and demurs to an alleged violation  
18 of CVC §27803(b), and unspecified subsection of §40610, as follows:

19 **I. BACKGROUND**

20 **A. THE MYTHS**

21 On January 1, 1992, California's mandatory helmet law rode in on  
22 the fraud perpetrated by its author, Assemblyman Dick Floyd (claiming  
23 an annual "public burden" expense of at least \$66 million), and has been  
24 an embarrassment to both the Legislature and the Courts ever since –  
25 the Legislature because they are credited with greater wisdom than the  
26 statute demonstrates, and the California Courts because they have stead-  
27 fastly sidestepped their duty to follow the law, denying reality of the  
28 unconstitutionality of the statute, in the name of politics, ever since.

1 From time to time, honorable jurists have stood against the politi-  
2 cal tide and either admitted, or at the least acknowledged, the defect in  
3 the statute – the vagueness aspect resulting from the absence of an ob-  
4 jective standard to define the requirement of the statute. (Offer to Prove)

5 However, the higher courts, in playing politics with the issue, have  
6 abandoned those most honorable jurists in favor of yielding to the politi-  
7 cal pressures – the “wisdom of the Legislature” – resulting from un-  
8 founded myths.

9 **1. The “public burden” myth.**

10 As earlier stated, the lies told to the Legislature by the author of  
11 the helmet law, relied on the “common sense” belief that motorcyclists  
12 constitute an unreasonable or extraordinary burden on society, over  
13 other citizens, by riding motorcycles without wearing a “safety helmet”  
14 (whatever that is). In truth, no competent, objective evidence exists that  
15 would support such a contention, “common sense” notwithstanding.

16 Do motorcycles afford less protection in case of a crash than tradi-  
17 tional transportation, like a car or a truck? Yes. However, motorcycles  
18 are also smaller and more maneuverable, which means a rider has a  
19 better chance of avoiding some types of accidents that an automobile  
20 driver couldn't.

21 Besides, if using a vehicle that is not as capable as others of pro-  
22 tecting operators or occupants is a legitimate determining factor in  
23 whether or not the occupants are equally protected, virtually all family  
24 car drivers should be required to additionally protect themselves against  
25 the operators of SUVs – which the Insurance Institute on Highway  
26 Safety have found 16 times more likely to kill the occupants of a family  
27 car in a collision, than if they were stuck by another family car.

28 / / /

1 **2. The “helmets save lives” myth.**

2 Again, although “common sense” might support the contention  
3 that wearing helmets save lives, a little research into the subject leaves a  
4 lot to be desired by way of empirical data to support the claim. In fact,  
5 the one statistic that stands out as definitive evidence of the error in the  
6 claim, is that number of deaths per 100 accidents analysis – which even  
7 “common sense” cannot ignore.

8 In 1991, the year before enactment of the helmet law, with an  
9 estimated 50% of riders not wearing helmets, the number of deaths per  
10 100 motorcycle collisions was just over 2.8%. The latest numbers, from  
11 the year 2000, indicated the number has reached 3.7% – almost a full  
12 percentage point higher than prior to enactment of the helmet law. (Of-  
13 fer to prove)

14 There is no way this or any other court can legitimately find that  
15 motorcyclists have received an important “safety benefit” from a statute  
16 that has raised the number of motorcyclists killed in motorcycle crashes  
17 by close to 1 biker in 100 crashes.

18 Add to those statistics, the studies that show that the percentage of  
19 riders killed in collisions in states with a mandatory helmet use law, is  
20 consistently higher than in those states without a mandatory helmet use  
21 law, and the picture is clear. Helmets (whatever they are) do not, of  
22 themselves, represent a “safety benefit” to motorcyclists in all, or even  
23 most, circumstances.

24 **3. The “helmets are not dangerous” myth.**

25 There is no doubt that in some circumstances a motorcyclist will  
26 benefit from wearing some sort of protective headgear. But the facts  
27 also show that the exact opposite is also true. (Offer to prove) And  
28 that’s without addressing the number of crashes actually caused by the

1 so-called helmet itself (which cannot be measured - “dead men tell no  
2 tales”).

3 To find, or even say, that the distracting properties of a helmet  
4 have not contributed to collisions at one time or another, is pure denial  
5 (in the psychological sense).

6 The defendant finds the distractions of the most common helmet  
7 styles beyond minimal, which is why he has chosen to wear the helmet  
8 styles he has chosen. The defendant is a rider with over 40 years of  
9 experience, who attributes his survival to making his own safety choices  
10 throughout that time. There is no compelling state interest to justify  
11 overruling his decision, especially since it is his life at stake. (The “rea-  
12 sonable regulations” justified in exercising the police powers over road-  
13 way users, surely does not extend to jeopardizing the life of a citizen –  
14 if “reasonable regulation” cannot include “confiscatory,” it surely can-  
15 not include life-threatening.)

#### 16 **4. The “DOT approved helmet” myth**

17 The most obnoxious barrier to exposing the vagueness of manda-  
18 tory helmet use law statutes stems from the pervasive belief in what is  
19 commonly referred to a “DOT approved helmet.” There is no such  
20 thing.

21 Included in the evidence package with this pleading is the text of  
22 18 letters (marked Exhibits “A-1” through “A-18”) from the General  
23 Counsel’s Office at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
24 (downloaded from the internet), written to various recipients, explaining  
25 that the Department of Transportation does not approve items of motor  
26 vehicle equipment, that the phrase “DOT approved” has no meaning,  
27 and that, as a matter of fact and law, should not be used.

28 / / /

1 Contrary to this reality, the California Police Officers Standards  
2 and Training curriculum explains: “Helmets must be of an approved  
3 type.” (see Exhibit “B” – page 1-28 from the P.O.S.T. curriculum  
4 “Chapter 1: Introduction to Traffic Law”) Although there is no direct  
5 reference to the Department of Transportation or “DOT”, the implica-  
6 tion is that the Department of Transportation, or someone, “approves”  
7 helmets, which has no basis in law or fact.

8 The “Quick Code” (Published by LawTech Publishing) that the  
9 citing officer used to issue the at-issue citation, which states under the  
10 section 27808(b): “**HELMET: Approved type: Not worn** by driver or  
11 passenger as per (a)” (**emphasis** in original – See Exhibit “C”), again  
12 without explaining “approved” by whom (with the prevailing presump-  
13 tion that it must be the Department of Transportation). (Offer to Prove  
14 – In several recorded traffic stops with officers throughout the county,  
15 evidence of the expectation expressed by the various citing officers that  
16 the defendant is required to wear a “DOT approved” helmet, abounds.)

17 The following conversation is transcribed from the traffic stop that  
18 led to this case (“Q” = defendant, and “R” = Officer Ridgway, the citing  
19 officer):

20 Q: . . . And we’re in agreement that you have seen the Vehicle Code  
21 on this? You worked outta, you worked outta your Quik Code.

22 R: Yes. Well, I have read the Vehicle Code on it.

23 Q: Yeah, I know, but you’re working out . . .

24 R: I can’t repeat it verbatim, it’s a pretty long section.

25 Q: Right, but you’re citing me out of the Quik Code.

26 R: Certainly.

27 Q: Yeah. That’s all I wanted, to make sure, because I’m getting ready  
28 to sue POST believe it or not.

1 R: Oh good.

2 Q: They're training their officers to believe that helmets must be of  
3 an approved type. **And the problem that they have is, to my**  
4 **knowledge, who would approve them? There's no approval**  
5 **system. The only person authorized to approve a helmet is the**  
6 **rider.**

7 R: Oh, no kidding?

8 Q: Yeah.

9 R: All this time, I've been living in a . . . I've been living a lie.

10 Q: Well my guess is that you believe D-O-T approves them.

11 R: When them . . . you would assume so. They generally approve  
12 anything vehicle related.

13 Q: No.

14 R: Safety belts and what have you.

15 Q: Nope. As a matter of fact, they approve nothing.

16 Watsonville Police Officer Ridgway is as fine, polite and intelli-  
17 gent an officer as one could reasonably expect to encounter, who's  
18 inadvertant violation of the defendant's 4<sup>th</sup> amendment rights was ulti-  
19 mately the result of a good faith belief that "anything vehicle related" is  
20 "DOT approved."

21 The myth is so pervasive that the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals in  
22 *Easyriders v. Hannigan* wrote "...there are some helmets that are DOT  
23 approved..." addressing the reasonable suspicion element of a traffic  
24 stop, when, as shown, there is no such thing. (Although the excerpt  
25 from the 9<sup>th</sup>'s opinion is somewhat out of context – in that it was ad-  
26 dressing the *appearance* of a "DOT approved" helmet, not the fact of  
27 "DOT approved helmet" – it is not misleading as to that court's base  
28 belief in the myth.)

1 Even this court, at arraignment, indicated an understanding that  
2 the Department of Transportation is somehow involved in approving  
3 one helmet over another. And there's nothing unreasonable about that.  
4 In fact, unless someone actually seeks to discover if anyone approves  
5 helmets, there's no reason to believe otherwise. After all, if the letters  
6 "DOT" on the back of a helmet does not signify that the Department of  
7 Transportation approves helmets, what else could it be intended to  
8 mean? (Defendant asserts that NHTSA – the agency that is responsible  
9 for perpetuating the myth of a "DOT approved helmet" – knew full well  
10 the misleading effect of requiring the "DOT" symbol placement on  
11 helmets sold or offered for sale throughout the United States, and that  
12 they did so to create the illusion of a standard that could be applied to  
13 consumers, avoiding their inability to write an actual objective standard  
14 that the average person could understand.)

15 The evidence is clear. Not only does the Department of Transpor-  
16 tation NOT "approve" helmets, but neither does anyone else (save per-  
17 haps the motorcyclist when they choose one style over another.)

18 Therefore, there is no practical, never mind legal, foundation for  
19 deciding the defendant's guilt or innocence of an alleged violation of CVC  
20 §27803(b) based on the belief in a "DOT approved helmet" standard.

## 21 **B. THE STATUTE(S)**

22 CVC §27803(b) references §27803(a), which in turn references  
23 §27802 to ascertain the requirements for compliance with §27803(b)  
24 (and around and around we go).

25 CVC §27803(b) states:

- 26 (b) It is unlawful to operate a motorcycle, motordriven cycle, or  
27 motorized bicycle if the driver or any passenger is not wearing  
28 a safety helmet as required by subdivision (a).

1 CVC §27803(a) states:

2 (a) A driver and any passenger shall wear a safety helmet meeting  
3 requirements established pursuant to Section 27802 when  
4 riding on a motorcycle, motordriven cycle, or motorized bi-  
5 cycle.

6 CVC §27802 states:

7 (a) A driver and any passenger shall wear a safety helmet meeting  
8 requirements established pursuant to Section 27802 when  
9 riding on a motorcycle, motordriven cycle, or motorized  
10 bicycle.“(a) The department may adopt reasonable regulations  
11 establishing specifications and standards for the safety helmets  
12 *offered for sale, or sold*, for use by drivers and passengers of  
13 motorcycles and motorized bicycles as it determines are neces-  
14 sary for the safety of those drivers and passengers. The regula-  
15 tions shall include, but are not limited to, the requirements  
16 imposed by Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218  
17 (49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.218) and may include compliance with that  
18 federal standard by incorporation of its requirements by refer-  
19 ence. Each helmet *sold or offered for sale* for use by drivers  
20 and passengers of motorcycles and motorized bicycles shall be  
21 conspicuously labeled in accordance with the Federal Standard  
22 which shall constitute the manufacturers certification that the  
23 helmet conforms to the applicable Federal Motor Vehicle  
24 Safety Standards.” (*emphasis added*)

25 (b) No person shall *sell, or offer for sale*, for use by a driver or  
26 passenger of a motorcycle or motorized bicycle any safety  
27 helmet which is not of a type meeting requirements established  
28 by the department.” (*emphasis added*)



1 CVC §27802 – where whatever requirements of the helmet law  
2 are eventually found – directs both consumers and enforcement officers  
3 to “regulations adopted by the department” (“department” meaning the  
4 Department of the California Highway Patrol [although the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit  
5 Court of Appeals later wrote they thought it meant “California Depart-  
6 ment of Transportation”]) which has reportedly adopted FMVSS-218,  
7 and no other (at least not officially).

8 Even if such a progression – from §27803(b) to §27803(a) to  
9 §27802 to FMVSS218 – were not of itself confusing beyond what a  
10 person of normal intelligence could reasonably ascertain about what is  
11 proscribed by the statute, FMVSS 218 proscribes requirements designed  
12 to be imposed civilly on manufacturers and sellers of motorcycle safety  
13 helmets, not criminally against consumers.

14 Taking all these references and cross-references of the statutes into  
15 account, there is still no objective standard for compliance within the  
16 four corners of the statute itself (unless one accepts the requirement that  
17 the “helmet” bear a certification of compliance, which the defendant’s  
18 “helmet” did and does).

19 For certain, nothing in the statute says anything that would support  
20 the legal contention that a helmet cannot look like a “baseball cap,”  
21 even exactly like a “baseball cap.” In fact, there is absolutely nothing in  
22 either the statute or the Federal standard, that says anything definitive  
23 about the appearance of a helmet at all – except perhaps within the pro-  
24 visions of FMVSS 218 relative to labeling, which no part of the statute  
25 contends is the responsibility of the user to maintain (the labeling re-  
26 quirements of FMVSS-218 are no more required to stay on a helmet  
27 than the certification label is required to stay on the window of a car).

28 / / /

1 Absent of list of helmets that comply with this complex statute,  
2 there is only one way for anyone to actually *prove* that a given helmet is  
3 in compliance (or not in compliance, for that matter) with the technical  
4 Federal Standard (FMVSS-218) referenced in §27802, and that is to test  
5 it. However, when you take into account that the FMVSS-218 test is a  
6 destructive test, there's no way at all to *prove* that essential element of  
7 the charge either way.

8 What's more, any application of FMVSS-218 must, as a matter of  
9 law, be imposed on manufacturers – there is no authority or jurisdiction  
10 that would authorize FMVSS-218 tests, except and unless the "helmet"  
11 is being offered for sale.

### 12 C. DECISIONS OF THE COURTS

13 The problem with these statutes is further exacerbated by the fact  
14 that the California Appellate Courts have steadfastly refused to address  
15 the vagueness problem head on.

16 The first appellate court to rule on the vagueness issue, *Buhl v.*  
17 *Hannigan*, 16 Cal. App. 4th 1612, 20 Cal. Rptr. 2d 740 (1993), essen-  
18 tially side-stepped the strength of the appellant's constitutional chal-  
19 lenge, stating that the *only* requirement of the statute was that the hel-  
20 met bear a certification of compliance. . . notably, without defining the  
21 term "helmet." A "helmet" is a "helmet bearing a certification of com-  
22 pliance"? How was that supposed to work?

23 It didn't.

24 The *Buhl* court specifically stated that the appellant's vagueness  
25 arguments (See Exhibit "D") that the Federal Standards were so techni-  
26 cal that one would have to be an scientist or engineer to determine of a  
27 given helmet met the standard, failed – writing that the “proposition that  
28 the statute would require the consumer or enforcement officer to decide

1 if a helmet is properly fabricated,” was “absurd.” But, tens of thousands  
2 of citations written, and convictions had, over the first three years of the  
3 helmet law alone, proved that not only was the proposition NOT absurd,  
4 but exactly what the trial courts would use as evidence of guilt – time  
5 and again finding that the officer could merely look at a “helmet” and  
6 somehow know whether or not it met the requirements of the helmet  
7 law, the presence of a “certification of compliance” notwithstanding

8 Immediately following the *Buhl* decision, the petitioner in *Bianco*  
9 *v. California Highway Patrol*, 24 Cal. App. 4th 1113, 29 Cal. Rptr. 2d  
10 711 (1994), Steve Bianco of Vista, California – who had been cited and  
11 convicted for wearing a “helmet” bearing the “certification of compli-  
12 ance” referenced in *Buhl* – filed a mandamus action against CHP Bulle-  
13 tin #34 (the CHP enforcement ultimately enjoined by the Federal  
14 Court). The Superior Court held, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Appellate Court affirmed,  
15 that Mr. Bianco had “actual knowledge” that his “helmet” had been  
16 tested and found not to be in compliance with the requirements of  
17 FMVSS-218, and was therefore not compliance with §27802, through  
18 §27803(a) and then ultimately §27803(b). (Defendant would be happy  
19 to discuss the fallacious basis of the courts’ finding in this regard.)

20 The *Buhl* court’s decision dealt with the statute *as written*. *Bianco*  
21 came close, but didn’t quite reach the point of dealing with the statute  
22 *as enforced*. Although both courts agreed (if only by co-declaring) that  
23 the statute was not unconstitutionally vague, the violations of constitu-  
24 tional rights resulting from the enforcement problems continued.

25 This policy of citing, and conviction, for violation of the statute  
26 based on the officers’ subjective opinion of whether or not a “helmet”  
27 was “properly fabricated” – without regard for whether or not the “hel-  
28 met” bore a certification of compliance pursuant in *Buhl*, or for the “ac-

1 tual knowledge” required in *Bianco* – based on nothing more than the  
2 *appearance* of the “helmet” otherwise, continued up to this day, even  
3 and in spite of a Federal injunction issued against such practices in 1995  
4 – upheld by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals in *Easyriders v. Hannigan*  
5 in 1996.

6 Whether or not the statute is constitutional, *as enforced*, has not  
7 yet been addressed directly by the higher California courts of record.  
8 The Federal Courts have also managed to avoid the issue, relative to  
9 taking out the statute, relying on the decisions of the California Courts  
10 to have been fairly made.

11 However, the Federal Court did rule on whether or not the prac-  
12 tices exercised against riders similarly situated to the defendant in the  
13 instant case, violated motorcyclists’ 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights, which they  
14 found that it did.

15 Judge Napoleon Jones, who issued the original injunction in the  
16 *Easyriders* case (See Exhibit "E"), did so very reluctantly, and then only  
17 after reviewing stacks and stacks of evidence, together with hours of  
18 depositions of the California Highway Patrol’s helmet law enforcement  
19 expert, Sergeant Michael Nivens, and of Commissioner Hannigan him-  
20 self.

21 It was no small decision for Jones to issue the first injunction ever  
22 issued by the Federal Court against an enforcement policy of the Cali-  
23 fornia Highway Patrol in their then 75-year history. Even without lodg-  
24 ing all the documents Judge Jones reviewed in making such a decision,  
25 it is fair to say that the evidence of the problems with the statute was  
26 unavoidable or the injunction would not have issued, much less have  
27 been upheld by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.

28 / / /

1           It is also important to note that in arguing against the injunction  
2 being upheld by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals, the Attorney General  
3 stated that upholding any portion of the injunction would render the  
4 helmet law unenforceable (Offer to Prove), which it did. The current  
5 state of the law, as interpreted by the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals, virtu-  
6 ally requires a confession – which this defendant is not likely to make.

7           The one point that the Federal Court did make, relative to the  
8 phrase “determination of noncompliance” with the Federal Standard,  
9 was that such a determination had to be reached by the manufacturer or  
10 NHTSA, and that such determination had to come as the result of test-  
11 ing of a similar model and style of helmet by an independent testing  
12 laboratory – not through visual inspection by a police officer on the side  
13 of the road. Other than that statement in the original injunction, the  
14 scienter acknowledged by the 9<sup>th</sup> – the “actual knowledge” require-  
15 ment, and how such knowledge was to be served on a motorcyclist, im-  
16 posed by the *Bianco* court – is no more defined than is the term “safety  
17 helmet.”

18           Reasonably, any statute should state the regulation it imposes with  
19 sufficient certainty and clarity that persons of ordinary intelligence will  
20 be able to understand and ascertain from the statute itself what it means,  
21 and thus be enabled to comply with its requirements. Moreover, it  
22 should not delegate the legislative function to an agency such as “the  
23 department” so that it might, by its own ukase, set arbitrary or unreason-  
24 able standards which are neither known nor made reasonably accessible  
25 to the people they affect. Beyond this, even if such an arbitrary proce-  
26 dure were accepted as proper, there certainly should be provision made  
27 for some method of publicizing, or otherwise advising or making avail-  
28 able to the public, information concerning the standard set. And all of

1 the foregoing should be ascertainable within the four corners of the  
2 statute itself. The helmet law statute does not meet that test and is unen-  
3 forceable for vagueness.

## 4 **II. DEMUR TO COMPLAINT**

5 To withstand demur, the complaint must provide a defendant with  
6 the information necessary to both enter a plea and mount a defense. In  
7 that the complaint in the above-entitled action does not proscribe the  
8 required conduct in terms a normal person can understand, demur is  
9 appropriate.

### 10 **A. The complaint fails to state a cause of action.**

11 “If offense is not stated with sufficient clarity to enable defendant to  
12 present his defense, he should demur on one or more of grounds set forth  
13 in this section (PC 1004).” *People v Randazzo* (1957) 48 C2d 484, 310  
P2d 413.

14 “While many offenses may now be charged in strict language of statute,  
15 defendant is still entitled to be apprised with reasonable certainty of  
16 nature and particulars of crime charged against him, that he may prepare  
17 his defense, and on acquittal or conviction, plead his jeopardy against  
further prosecution.” *People v Plath* (1913) 166 C 227, 135 P 954.

18 The charging document alleges, initially, an alleged violation of  
19 CVC §27803, alleging the defendant was not wearing a “helmet.” De-  
20 fendant has no reasonable way to know how to present at defense to the  
21 allegations in that the term “helmet” is not defined in the statute, nor in  
22 any other objective standard that could be considered binding on a de-  
23 fendant.

### 24 **B. Violation of Constitutional Rights constitutes a legal bar to pros- 25 ecution.**

26 Penal Code §1004, subsection 5, provides: “The defendant may  
27 demur to the accusatory pleading at any time prior to the entry of a plea,  
28 when it appears upon the face thereof . . . (t)hat it contains matter

1 which, if true, would constitute a . . . legal bar to the prosecution.”

2 Issuance of the citation, without the elements required by  
3 *Easyriders*, constitutes a violation of the defendant’s 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment  
4 Rights, therefore, ipso facto, constitutes a bar to prosecution.

5 **C. The complaint does not specify allegations of a “public offense”**  
6 **in ordinary and concise language.**

7 Penal Code §1004, subsection 4, provides: “The defendant may  
8 demur to the accusatory pleading at any time prior to the entry of a plea,  
9 when it appears upon the face thereof . . . (t)hat the facts stated do not  
10 constitute a public offense.”

11 Penal Code §952. Charging public offense;

12 “In charging an offense, each count shall contain, and shall be  
13 sufficient if it contains in substance, a statement that the ac-  
14 cused has committed some public offense therein specified.

15 Such statement may be made in ordinary and concise language  
16 without any technical averments or any allegations of matter  
17 not essential to be proved. It may be in the words of the enact-  
18 ment describing the offense or declaring the matter to be a pub-  
19 lic offense, or in any words sufficient to give the accused notice  
20 of the offense of which he is accused. In charging theft it shall  
21 be sufficient to allege that the defendant unlawfully took the  
22 labor or property of another.”

23 In the instant case, the defendant is accused of violating two sepa-  
24 rate statutes in one – Vehicle Code §27803(b) together with an unspeci-  
25 fied subsection of Vehicle Code §40610.

26 Vehicle Code §27803 is found in Division 12 of the vehicle code,  
27 and therefore constitutes an equipment violation, dismissible upon proof  
28 of correction, and not a public offense, to wit:

1 §40522. Dismissal of charge on proof of correction; Notation on notice  
2 to appear.

3 "Whenever a person is arrested for violations specified in Sec-  
4 tion 40303.5 and none of the disqualifying conditions set forth  
5 in subdivision (b) of Section 40610 exist, and the officer issues  
6 a notice to appear, the notice shall specify the offense charged  
7 and note in a form approved by the Judicial Council that the  
8 charge shall be dismissed on proof of correction. If the arrested  
9 person presents, by mail or in person, proof of correction, as  
10 prescribed in Section 40616, on or before the date on which the  
11 person promised to appear, the court shall dismiss the violation  
12 or violations charged pursuant to Section 40303.5."

13 § 40303.5. Promise to correct violation; Disqualifying conditions.

14 "Whenever any person is arrested for any of the following of-  
15 fenses, the arresting officer shall permit the arrested person to  
16 execute a notice containing a promise to correct the violation in  
17 accordance with the provisions of Section 40610 unless the  
18 arresting officer finds that any of the disqualifying conditions  
19 specified in subdivision (b) of Section 40610 exist:

20 . . .

21 (d) Any infraction involving equipment set forth in Division 12  
22 (commencing with Section 24000), Division 13 (commencing  
23 with Section 29000), Division 14.8 (commencing with Section  
24 34500), Division 16 (commencing with Section 36000), Divi-  
25 sion 16.5 (commencing with Section 38000), and Division 16.7  
26 (commencing with Section 39000)."

27 / / /

28 / / /



1 **D. The complaint charges more than one offense.**

2 Penal Code §1004, subsection 4, provides: “The defendant may  
3 demur to the accusatory pleading at any time prior to the entry of a plea,  
4 when it appears upon the face thereof . . . (t)hat more than one offense is  
5 charged, . . .”

6 In order that the charge of violation VC §27803 be brought against  
7 the defendant as a public offense, rather than a correctable equipment  
8 violation, one of the disqualifying conditions of VC §40610(b), (1), (2)  
9 or (3) must be alleged, to wit:

10 § 40610. Notice to correct violation; Disqualifying conditions

11 "(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), if, after an arrest,  
12 accident investigation, or other law enforcement action, it  
13 appears that a violation has occurred involving a registration,  
14 license, or mechanical requirement of this code, and none of the  
15 disqualifying conditions set forth in subdivision (b) exist and  
16 the investigating officer decides to take enforcement action, the  
17 officer shall prepare, in triplicate, and the violator shall sign, a  
18 written notice containing the violator’s promise to correct the  
19 alleged violation and to deliver proof of correction of the viola-  
20 tion to the issuing agency.

21 "(2) If any person is arrested for a violation of Section 4454,  
22 and none of the disqualifying conditions set forth in subdivision  
23 (b) exist, the arresting officer shall prepare, in triplicate, and the  
24 violator shall sign, a written notice containing the violator’s  
25 promise to correct the alleged violation and to deliver proof of  
26 correction of the violation to the issuing agency. In lieu of issu-  
27 ing a notice to correct violation pursuant to this section, the  
28 officer may issue a notice to appear, as specified in Section

1 40522.

2 (b) Pursuant to subdivision (a), a notice to correct violation  
3 shall be issued as provided in this section or a notice to appear  
4 shall be issued as provided in Section 40522, unless the officer  
5 finds any of the following:

6 (1) Evidence of fraud or persistent neglect.

7 (2) The violation presents an immediate safety hazard.

8 (3) The violator does not agree to, or cannot, promptly  
9 correct the violation.

10 (c) If any of the conditions set forth in subdivision (b) exist, the  
11 procedures specified in this section or Section 40522 are inap-  
12 plicable, and the officer may take other appropriate enforce-  
13 ment action.

14 (d) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (a), the notice  
15 to correct violation shall be on a form approved by the Judicial  
16 Council and, in addition to the owner's or operator's address  
17 and identifying information, shall contain an estimate of the  
18 reasonable time required for correction and proof of correction  
19 of the particular defect, not to exceed 30 days.

20 Therefore, it is clear that the complaint alleges two violations —  
21 one of VC §27803, and the other, an unstated subdivision of VC  
22 §40610(b) — and demur to the complaint must be sustained if only on  
23 the grounds that the complaint charges more than one offense in one.

24 As described above, the complaint currently before the court con-  
25 tains two allegations; one, a violation of VC §27803 — a correctable  
26 equipment violation and not a public offense; and two, a violation of  
27 VC §40610, with no indicator on the citation as to which provision of  
28 the section was allegedly violated.

1 In that the allegation of VC §40610 indicated on the complaint  
2 does not specify which of the varied subdivisions the defendant is al-  
3 leged to have violated, and is therefore grounds for demur to the com-  
4 plaint.

5 **E. The citing officer carried and used the *Quik-Code* (published by**  
6 **LawTech Publishing) in issuing the citation.**

7 The language used by LawTech Publishing in the *Quik-Code* does  
8 not accurately reflect the statute as written by the California Legislature,  
9 or as interpreted by the California Courts, and is therefore false and  
10 misleading.

11 Specifically, the *Quik-Code* indicates that a rider must wear a  
12 “helmet” of an “approved type” without stating “approved” by whom or  
13 what. This interpretation of the statute has no foundation in California  
14 law, and should be ignored.

15 **III. CONCLUSION**

16 WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the defendant respectfully  
17 requests that this court sustain defendant’s demur to the allegation of  
18 violation of CVC §27803(b) (and the unspecified subsection of CVC  
19 §40610(b)), with prejudice.

20  
21 \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Quigley, defendant, pro se

22 **VERIFICATION**

23 I, Richard Quigley, the defendant in the above-captioned matter,  
24 do swear under penalty of perjury that the forgoing is true and correct,  
25 except to those things offered on information and belief, and as to those  
26 things, I believe them to be true.

27  
28 \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Quigley, defendant, pro. se.