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Supreme Court Rules in Beatrice Junk Car Case

BEATRICE, Neb. (AP) - Backed by a Nebraska Supreme Court ruling, officials say Beatrice will vigorously pursue \$25,000 in fines levied against the owner of a parcel where junked vehicles were parked.

The Beatrice Daily Sun says the court on Friday backed an earlier ruling by the Nebraska Appeals Court that the city didn't violate the rights of the property owner. The landowner, Daniel Meints, had said a city officer needed a warrant to come onto Meints' property to gather information about 10 junk vehicles that were parked there in 2011.

The Appeals Court said the city didn't violate Meints' rights because the vehicles were seen in an open field, so the officer had probable cause to investigate violations of the city's code concerning junk vehicles.

Associated Press