

Judge says Fresno broke the law in destroying property of homeless

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FRESNO, Calif.—A judge says Fresno's past policy of sending out city workers to raid homeless camps and destroy whatever personal property they found there violated the U.S. Constitution.

U.S. District Judge Oliver W. Wanger ruled Monday that the city's "clean up" policy in homeless tent cities violated the Fourth Amendment, which bars unreasonable searches and seizures.

Fresno faces a class-action lawsuit brought by homeless people who claim police and sanitation workers violated their constitutional rights in at least 20 different sweeps from 2004 to 2006.

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