

N.C. Supreme Court Says No To Chapel Hill's Cell Phone Ban

By Administrator

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RALEIGH, (AP) — The North Carolina Supreme Court says the state's first local ordinance banning people from using cellphones while driving is invalid.

The high court on Thursday ruled unanimously that state laws regulate highways and roads and that prohibits the town's enforcement of the cellphone ban. The court also struck down parts of a separate town ordinance regulating towing. Judges said the town could not cap towing fees or prevent towing companies from passing credit card fees to consumers.

George King runs a Chapel Hill towing business and sued the town challenging both laws. King said he could not obey the town's towing laws without breaking its cellphone ban. The town had required tow-truck operators to notify police before moving a vehicle and returning calls from vehicle owners within 15 minutes.