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**NATIONAL REAL ESTATE INVESTORS ASSOCIATION**

*A non-profit Trade Association serving the Real Estate Investing Industry for over 20 years.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **National REIA Applauds US District Court Ruling Upholding Fourth Amendment that Protects Property Owners from Unnecessary Gov't Harassment**

(Cincinnati, Ohio) The National Real Estate Investors Association (National REIA) issued a statement today applauding the U.S. District Court's (Southern Ohio) recent decision stating that the city of Portsmouth's (Ohio) occupational licensing requirements, which are imposed upon landlords violates the Fourth Amendment to the United State Constitution.

Charles Tassell, Chief Operating Officer of National REIA said "Today's ruling laid bare the excuses used by local governments to steal the freedoms of property owners."

He further added that "The 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment is still alive and well, and citizens should NOT be forced to have their homes intrusively 'inspected' by warrantless searches. Every local government should take note that warrantless searches are STILL illegal and unconstitutional."

Regarding the ruling itself, Tassell said "The ruling won by the 1851 Center For Constitutional Law was a victory for freedom against a tyranny with which the Founding Fathers were all too familiar. Citizens of the United States have an expectation to live without local, state or federal inspection of their home based on flimsy excuses disguised as law."

Judge Susan Dlott, of the Western Division of the Southern District of Ohio, held as follows: "[T]he Court finds that the Portsmouth [Rental Dwelling Code] violates the Fourth Amendment insofar as it authorizes warrantless administrative inspections. It is undisputed that the [Rental Dwelling Code] affords no warrant procedure or other mechanism for precompliance review . . . the owners and/or tenants of rental properties in Portsmouth are thus faced with the choice of consenting to the warrantless inspection or facing criminal charges, a result the Supreme Court has expressly disavowed under the Fourth Amendment."

*For more information and to read a copy of the the Court's ruling visit [www.realestateinvestingtoday.com](http://www.realestateinvestingtoday.com).*