

Name of agency/organization:

W. H. Shipman, Ltd

Contact person/phone/email:

Bill Walter

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

1. In your experience, how prevalent is the issue of squatting and adverse possession?
The problem is significant with individuals and groups taking up residence on virtually any unoccupied properties in Puna
2. In what communities and districts do squatting and adverse possession appear most prominent?
All I can report on is Puna
3. When you receive notice or a complaint about these situations, what is your normal course of action?
We check the problem out. If problem is verified we request the squatters to leave. If they do not, we contact the police to assist in eviction.
4. What kinds of complications have arisen in the past that have prevented a successful resolution of the situation?
If the police are otherwise occupied and the squatters are determined it becomes difficult to get them to leave.
5. For those situations that have been successfully resolved, please describe what happened.
Squatters left either at our urging or with the assistance of the police.
6. What happens when you contact or try to contact the owner of record?
Typically we are dealing with our own properties.
7. What solutions would you recommend?
Camping on private land should be made a crime with fines commensurate with apparent length of stay and value of the structures (if any)
8. Are there any other comments you would like to make?
The State of Hawaii and Hawaii County within the State are becoming a "go to" location for homeless and squatters. We need to put in place laws that will act as a brake on this movement