

Name of agency/organization: _____

Contact person/phone/email: _____

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

1. In your experience, how prevalent is the issue of squatting and adverse possession?

We live in Ainaloa Subdivision at 16-2088 Kuhio Drive. The house across the street was foreclosed on 2 1/2 years ago and there have been various squatters in the house for about the last 1 1/2 years. During that time there have been problems with drugs, domestic disturbances between the occupants, destruction of the property itself. This house, which at one time very nice is now little more than a shell. People still continue to live there even though the power has been shut off and the house stinks to high heaven because of people letting their dogs urinate on the carpet and they themselves have used the carpet in one of the back bedrooms as a bathroom. It's disgusting! They also throw their garbage all over the road after it piles up in the backyard. This is ruining our property values! When the wind blows we can smell that house and I will tell you that it is not pleasant!

2. In what communities and districts do squatting and adverse possession appear most prominent?

I know that Ainaloa has several vacant houses. In fact one burned down just this last January on the street down from us on Tradewind. I've been told that there are some in Hawaiian Acres, and Edon Roc.

3. When you receive notice or a complaint about these situations, what is your normal course of action?

Call the police

4. What kinds of complications have arisen in the past that have prevented a successful resolution of the situation?

The police can only take a report and then tell us that unless the owner makes a formal complaint, they can do nothing.

5. For those situations that have been successfully resolved, please describe what happened.

When the people were in that were actively selling and cooking meth, the police and detectives were able to get them out, but after they were out another couple moved in and there were problems with them fighting all of the time. They were both using drugs.

6. What happens when you contact or try to contact the owner of record?

The bank took 2 1/2 years to complete the foreclosure and when we contacted the owner of record he came and moved the squatters out and tried to clean the place up. He hauled off 6 pickup truck loads of garbage from the house and the yard! He had plans to renovate the house but the bank would not work with him because he lived and worked on Oahu after losing his employment here. The bank, however, does not seem to care about these vacant properties and it is fruitless to contact them.

7. What solutions would you recommend?

I think that the county should take possession of these vacant homes, bulldoze the worse ones and renovate the not so bad ones. Give people a chance that are truly in need a legal path to live in these homes. They would have to keep the property in good repair and they would be subject to county inspections to prove that they are doing what they agreed to.

8. Are there any other comments you would like to make?

These squatters are ruining the value of the property for homeowners. We have to put up with the increased noise, garbage on the street, and the smell. It is not fair that they don't pay taxes or anything, not even HOA dues. Our taxes should be reduced to \$0.00. What is fair for one should be fair for all!