

News

Expert on Squatters Warns Nation: We're in for a 'Nightmare' Once Illegal Immigrants Discover Housing Law Loopholes



 By [Jack Davis](#) • February 24, 2024 at 2:03pm

America's housing law loopholes are just big enough for illegal immigrants to crawl through, according to one expert who warns that tenants' rights laws make it hard to dislodge squatters.

“We have masses coming in. They're going to be looking for places to live. And if we don't have the housing for them, if they're coming in with no money, they can't rent the traditional way,” Flash Shelton, founder of the United Handyman Association and SquatterHunters.com, said, according to [Fox News](#).

Shelton used innovative tactics to [dislodge squatters](#) from his mother's house in 2019, and has emerged as an advocate to help others facing the difficult chore of ridding a property of people who choose to remain.

The map of tenants' rights laws is varied, because it is a local or state issue. Many states require a civil suit process to [evict](#) someone, which is burdensome and time-consuming.

Once illegal immigrants get wind of the rights they have as squatters, “our squatter situation is going to go beyond control,” Shelton said.

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Shelton said the housing picture will grow worse “when, not only do we have a border issue that we can’t even figure out, but now we have people that are being mentally, financially, physically messed with because they’ve lost their home to all of these people?”

“Regardless of how you feel politically or morally about the situation, put that aside and just think about the masses,” Shelton said.

Almost 7.3 million [illegal immigrants](#) have entered the U.S. since the beginning of 2021, according to Fox News.

Should squatting be illegal?

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“We have irresponsibly opened a door for a whole lot of people to come into this country, and we aren’t prepared to deal with them,” Shelton said.

“What’s the negative for these people to then start taking over these houses?” he said.

Shelton predicted a “nightmare scenario” without laws that crack down on squatters.

“I’m spending all this time trying to bring awareness to squatting and bring awareness to how the law needs to change,” Shelton said. “Is it going to get worse before it gets better? I think it’s already there.”

“I think it’s going to just get beyond repair at some point,” he said.

Atlanta is already reeling with an estimated 1,200 homes taken over by squatters, according to [Fox News](#). Shelton said making squatting a terrorist act might be the next step needed to regain control.

“If we were to criminalize it, that would enable us to send in the National Guard to sweep that whole neighborhood and get those 1,200 houses clear,” he said.

Shelton has posted a petition on [Change.org](#) to support making squatting illegal. He also set up a [GoFundMe](#) appeal that has raised more than \$8,000 toward the cause.

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Jack Davis is a freelance writer who joined The Western Journal in July 2015 and chronicled the campaign that saw President Donald Trump elected. Since then, he has written extensively for The Western Journal on the Trump administration as well as foreign policy and military issues.

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