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Bedbug\$ (bedbugs) bite B'klyn renter awarded 300G

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The whole city will be itching for payouts like this.

A Brooklyn renter scored a \$300,000 judgment against his landlord over a bedbug infestation - because the owner ignored repeated requests to get rid of the parasites, he and his lawyer said Friday.

But the tenant, 35-year-old Luis Cotto, has paid dearly for his win.

Until now, he hasn't had the cash to move or hire his own exterminator, so he still lives in the still-buggy apartment on Willoughby Avenue in Bushwick a year after filing suit in January 2017.

"You can clean, clean, but they hide and they'll come back," he said Friday. "They expand by the dozens."

Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Andrew Borrok awarded the payout Thursday, hitting landlord Gouramety Jackson.

"She failed to comply with anything," Cotto fumed.

Now his skin is mottled with bites from his unwanted roommates.

"It did damage to my skin - it did so many things," Cotto told The Post, lifting his shirt to reveal the chunks of darkened, raised flesh, resembling acne scars.

The scars, some of which he says will be permanent, were most prominent across his back.

"I had perfect skin," he said. "From that to this . . . I look like a monster."

The payout is one of the state's highest ever in a bedbug case, said his lawyer, **Bruce Baron**.

"This sends a clear message to landlords," Baron said. "Don't neglect your legal and moral obligation to protect occupants on your property from physical harm, or be held responsible."

Jackson, who represented herself, could not be reached for comment.

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