

No. 17-1445

In the Supreme Court of the United States

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PETITIONER

v.

MICHAEL HERROLD

*ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT*

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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QUESTION PRESENTED

Whether a state offense that criminalizes continued unpermitted presence in a dwelling following the formation of intent to commit a crime has “the basic elements of unlawful * * * remaining in * * * a building or structure, with intent to commit a crime,” *Taylor v. United States*, 495 U.S. 575, 599 (1990), thereby qualifying as “burglary” under the Armed Career Criminal Act of 1984, 18 U.S.C. 924(e)(2)(B)(ii).

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PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

The Solicitor General, on behalf of the United States, respectfully petitions for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in this case.

OPINIONS BELOW

The opinion of the court of appeals (App., *infra*, 1a-70a) is reported at 883 F.3d 517. A prior opinion of the court of appeals (App., *infra*, 71a-73a) is not published in the Federal Reporter but is reprinted at 685 Fed. Appx. 302. Another prior opinion of the court of appeals (App., *infra*, 74a-81a) is reported at 813 F.3d 595.

JURISDICTION

The judgment of the court of appeals was entered on February 20, 2018. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

Pertinent statutory provisions are reprinted in the appendix to this petition. App., *infra*, 82a-97a.

STATEMENT

Following a guilty plea in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, respondent was convicted of unlawful possession of a firearm after a previous felony conviction, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(1). Judgment 1. He was sentenced to 211 months of imprisonment, to be followed by two years of supervised release. *Id.* at 2-3. A panel of the court of appeals affirmed, but the en banc court vacated respondent's sentence and remanded for resentencing. App., *infra*, 1a-70a.

1. In November 2012, Dallas police officers stopped respondent for failing to signal a right turn. As one officer approached the car, he spotted, in plain view, the barrel of a gun protruding from underneath the driver's seat. Citing officer safety concerns, the officer asked respondent to leave the vehicle. The officer then recovered from the floorboard a nine-millimeter pistol loaded with eight bullets in the magazine and one bullet in the chamber. A records check revealed that respondent had an outstanding warrant for burglary. Presentence Investigation Report (PSR) ¶ 8; see App., *infra*, 3a.

A federal grand jury indicted respondent on one count of unlawfully possessing a firearm following a prior felony conviction, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(1), and respondent pleaded guilty to that crime. PSR ¶¶ 1, 5; App., *infra*, 3a.

2. Under 18 U.S.C. 924(a)(2), the default term of imprisonment for the offense of unlawful possession of a firearm following a previous felony conviction is zero to 120 months. The Armed Career Criminal Act of 1984

(ACCA), 18 U.S.C. 924(e)(1), increases that penalty to a term of 15 years to life if the defendant has “three previous convictions * * * for a violent felony or a serious drug offense.” The ACCA defines a “violent felony” to include, *inter alia*, any crime punishable by more than one year that “is burglary, arson, or extortion, [or] involves use of explosives.” 18 U.S.C. 924(e)(2)(B)(ii). Although the ACCA does not define “burglary,” this Court in *Taylor v. United States*, 495 U.S. 575 (1990), construed the term to include “any crime, regardless of its exact definition or label, having the basic elements of unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, a building or structure, with intent to commit a crime.” *Id.* at 599.

Taylor instructed courts generally to employ a “categorical approach” to determine whether a prior conviction meets that definition. 495 U.S. at 600. Under that approach, courts examine “the statutory definition[]” of the crime of conviction in order to determine whether the jury’s finding of guilt, or the defendant’s plea, necessarily reflects conduct that constitutes the “generic” form of burglary referenced in the ACCA. *Ibid.* If the statute of conviction consists of elements that are the same as, or narrower than, generic burglary, the prior offense categorically qualifies as a predicate conviction under the ACCA. But if the statute of conviction is broader than the ACCA definition, the defendant’s prior conviction does not qualify as ACCA burglary unless—under what is known as the “modified categorical approach”—(1) the statute is “divisible” into multiple crimes with different elements, and (2) the government can show (using a limited set of record documents) that the jury necessarily found, or the defendant necessarily admitted, the elements of generic

burglary. See *Mathis v. United States*, 136 S. Ct. 2243, 2249 (2016); *Descamps v. United States*, 133 S. Ct. 2276, 2284-2285 (2013); *Shepard v. United States*, 544 U.S. 13, 26 (2005).

3. Before sentencing in this case, the Probation Office prepared a presentence report, which stated that respondent had three prior convictions under Texas law that qualified as either a “violent felony” or “serious drug offense” for purposes of the ACCA: (1) possession with intent to distribute LSD, (2) burglary of a habitation, and (3) burglary of a building. See PSR ¶¶ 24, 31, 33, 34. With respect to the burglary convictions, the relevant Texas statute, Texas Penal Code Annotated § 30.02(a) (West Supp. 2017), provides that a person commits burglary

if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person: (1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault; or (2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault, in a building or habitation; or (3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.

App., *infra*, 5a-6a.¹

¹ Although respondent’s burglary offenses were committed in 1992, see PSR ¶¶ 33, 34, the court of appeals cited the 2017 version of the statute, see App., *infra*, 5a-6a. Both the 1974 version of the statute, which was in effect at the time of respondent’s offenses, and the 2017 version of the statute are included in the appendix to this petition. *Id.* at 95a-97a. Because the changes are immaterial to the question presented, this petition cites the West Supplement 2017 version of the Texas Penal Code Annotated statutes addressed by the court of appeals.

As relevant here, respondent disputed that his prior burglary convictions qualified as “burglary” under the ACCA. Respondent argued that the Texas burglary statute is indivisible and that a burglary conviction under Section 30.02(a)(3) does not constitute generic burglary. Def.’s Objections to the PSR 13-15. He further contended that the Texas burglary statute’s locational element is overbroad because Texas law defines “[h]abitation” to include vehicles adapted for overnight accommodation, see Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.01(1) (West. Supp. 2017). Def.’s Objections to the PSR 8-12.

The district court rejected respondent’s arguments and adopted the presentence report’s determination that respondent qualified for sentencing under the ACCA. Sent. Tr. 52. The court sentenced respondent to 211 months of imprisonment, to be followed by two years of supervised release. *Id.* at 52-53.

4. The court of appeals affirmed. App., *infra*, 74a-81a. As relevant here, the court held that respondent’s prior convictions under Texas Penal Code Annotated § 30.02(a) constitute generic burglary for purposes of the ACCA. App., *infra*, 75a-80a.

Respondent filed a petition for a writ of certiorari. While that petition was pending, this Court decided *Mathis, supra*, which clarified when statutes are divisible and thus subject to the modified categorical approach. The Court then granted respondent’s petition, vacated the Fifth Circuit’s judgment, and remanded the case for further consideration in light of *Mathis*. 137 S. Ct. 310.

On remand, the court of appeals affirmed respondent’s sentence in an unpublished opinion. The court relied on circuit precedent rejecting respondent’s arguments that the Texas burglary statute is indivisible, and

that Texas’s definition of “habitation” renders the statute overbroad. App., *infra*, 71a-73a.

5. The court of appeals granted respondent’s petition for rehearing en banc. Over the dissent of seven of the 15 judges who participated in the proceeding, the en banc majority overturned prior circuit law, concluded that Texas Penal Code Annotated § 30.02(a) is indivisible, and held that Subsection (a)(3) is broader than *Taylor*’s definition of generic burglary. App., *infra*, 5a-37a. Because respondent, on that view, lacked three felony convictions that qualified as ACCA predicate offenses, the court remanded the case for resentencing. *Id.* at 47a.

a. Consulting Texas case law, the majority concluded that Section 30.02(a) lists alternative means of committing the offense, rather than alternative elements that must be proven to a jury. The majority therefore held that the statute is indivisible under this Court’s decision in *Mathis, supra*, meaning that the sentencing judge could not apply the modified categorical approach to determine which subsection provided the basis for respondent’s prior burglary convictions. App., *infra*, 5a-21a.

Turning to the categorical approach, the majority stated that “if either Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) or (a)(3) is broader than generic burglary, then neither of [respondent’s] two burglary convictions may serve as the basis of an ACCA sentence enhancement.” App., *infra*, 25a. The majority compared Section 30.02(a)(3), which “proscribes entry into a building or habitation followed by commission or attempted commission of a felony, theft, or assault,” *ibid.* (citing Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02(a)(3)), to *Taylor*’s definition of burglary,

i.e., the “unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, a building or structure, with intent to commit a crime,” *ibid.* (quoting *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598) (emphasis omitted). The majority interpreted *Taylor* to include “a contemporaneity requirement: to be guilty of generic burglary, a defendant must have the intent to commit a crime *when* he enters or remains in the building or structure.” *Id.* at 25a-26a. Applying that reading of *Taylor*, the majority concluded that Section 30.02(a)(3) “lack[s] * * * a sufficiently tailored intent requirement” to qualify as ACCA “burglary” because it “contains no textual requirement that a defendant’s intent to commit a crime contemporaneously accompany a defendant’s unauthorized entry.” *Ibid.*

The majority acknowledged that generic burglary under *Taylor* encompasses not only “unlawful or unprivileged entry into,” but also “remaining in,” a “building or structure, with intent to commit a crime.” 495 U.S. at 598; see App., *infra*, 27a-36a. But according to the majority, *Taylor*’s reference to “remaining in” refers only to “a discrete event that occurs at the moment when a perpetrator, who at one point was lawfully present, exceeds his license and overstays his welcome,” rather than “a continuous state that begins immediately after unauthorized entrance and lasts until departure.” App., *infra*, 27a (quoting *United States v. McArthur*, 850 F.3d 925, 939 (8th Cir. 2017)). The majority recognized that the latter reading of “remaining in” found “support in decisions issued by the Fourth and Sixth Circuits.” *Id.* at 35a (citing *United States v. Bonilla*, 687 F.3d 188, 194 (4th Cir. 2012), cert. denied, 134 S. Ct. 52 (2013); and *United States v. Priddy*, 808 F.3d 676, 685 (6th Cir. 2015), abrogated on other grounds by *United States v. Stitt*, 860 F.3d 854 (6th Cir. 2017)

(en banc), petition for cert. pending, No. 17-765 (filed Nov. 21, 2017)). But the majority deemed those decisions less persuasive than the Eighth Circuit’s decision in *McArthur*, *supra*. App., *infra*, 35a-36a.

Because its reading of the “remaining in” language in *Taylor*, coupled with its interpretation of Section 30.02(a), required it to conclude that neither of respondent’s prior burglary convictions counted as ACCA predicates, the court of appeals declined to resolve respondent’s additional arguments. App., *infra*, 37a-47a.

b. Judge Haynes, joined by six other judges, dissented. App., *infra*, 48a-70a. She explained that respondent’s prior convictions for burglary under Section 30.02(a) constituted ACCA burglaries regardless of whether the statute is divisible, because each of the statute’s subsections—including Section 30.02(a)(3)—is a generic burglary offense. *Id.* at 53a-58a. Judge Haynes reasoned, in accord with the Fourth and Sixth Circuits, that Section 30.02(a)(3) criminalizes “remaining-in” burglary because “someone who enters a building or structure, and, while inside, commits or attempts to commit a felony will necessarily have remained inside the building or structure to do so.” *Id.* at 56a-57a (quoting *Priddy*, 808 F.3d at 685). Judge Haynes added that a conviction under Section 30.02(a)(3) “actually requires more than the minimum described by the Court in *Taylor* in that it requires an unlawful or unprivileged entry and the actual *commission or attempted commission* of a crime; mere intent is not enough.” *Id.* at 57a (capitalization omitted). Judge Haynes further observed that “[t]he timing of when [the perpetrator’s] intent was formed implicates neither the culpability of the perpetrator nor the extent of danger to victims.” *Id.* at 58a.

Judge Haynes also rejected respondent’s alternative argument that the Texas burglary statute is overbroad because it protects vehicles designed as habitations, such as motor homes. App., *infra*, 59a-70a. Judge Haynes explained that “[c]areful consideration of Supreme Court precedent plus common sense” indicate that a statute does not go beyond *Taylor*’s definition of “burglary” simply because its locational element includes potential overnight accommodations that are also vehicles. *Id.* at 70a.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION

For the reasons explained in the government’s response to the petition for a writ of certiorari in *Quarles v. United States*, No. 17-778 (filed Nov. 24, 2017), the court of appeals erred in holding that “generic” burglary, as defined in *Taylor v. United States*, 495 U.S. 575 (1990), requires that a defendant have the intent to commit a crime at the moment he enters or initially remains in a building or structure without authorization. See Gov’t Br. at 7-10, *Quarles, supra* (No. 17-778). And, also for reasons explained in the government’s response in *Quarles*, the error warrants correction by this Court. *Id.* at 10-12.

This Court has construed “burglary” in the ACCA to encompass any “unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, a building or structure, with intent to commit a crime.” *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 599. As relevant here, Texas law defines burglary as follows:

- (a) A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person:
 - (1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public,

with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault; or

- (2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony, theft or an assault, in a building or habitation; or
- (3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.

Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02(a). The court of appeals appeared to take as a given that under any of these variants, respondent necessarily had to form the intent to commit a felony, theft, or assault, either before he impermissibly entered the building or habitation, or while he was still inside. See, e.g., App., *infra*, 26a, 31a, 36a; see also *United States v. Bonilla*, 687 F.3d 188, 194 (4th Cir. 2012), cert. denied, 134 S. Ct. 52 (2013). Even if the intent was formed after respondent entered, the offense constitutes generic burglary because he entered the building without authorization and “remain[ed]” there “with intent to commit a crime.” *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 599; see Gov’t Br. at 7-9, *Quarles*, *supra* (No. 17-778).

The court of appeals’ contrary determination deepens an existing conflict in the courts of appeals about the scope of the common ACCA predicate of burglary. Gov’t Br. at 10-12, *Quarles*, *supra* (No. 17-778). This Court’s review is accordingly warranted in an appropriate case. This case, like *Quarles*, is a suitable vehicle for resolving the question presented.² Indeed, the en

² In addition to *Quarles*, two other pending petitions for writs of certiorari present the same question. See *Ferguson v. United States*, No. 17-7496 (filed Jan. 17, 2018); *Secord v. United States*, No. 17-7224 (filed Dec. 19, 2017).

banc decision and dissent below represent the fullest airing of the issue; the Texas statute has been considered by both the Fourth and Fifth Circuits, which disagree as to whether it constitutes generic burglary, compare App., *infra*, 5a-37a, with *Bonilla*, 687 F.3d at 194; and the Texas statute is similarly worded to the Tennessee burglary provision, see Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-14-402(a) (2014), on which the courts of appeals also have divided, compare *United States v. Ferguson*, 868 F.3d 514, 514-516 (6th Cir. 2017), petition for cert. pending, No. 17-7496 (filed Jan. 17, 2018), with *United States v. Herrera-Montes*, 490 F.3d 390, 392 (5th Cir. 2007).

The government has suggested that this Court grant the petition for a writ of certiorari in *Quarles*. Gov’t Br. at 13, *Quarles*, *supra* (No. 17-778). If it does so, it should hold the petition in this case pending its disposition of *Quarles*, and then dispose of this petition as appropriate. Alternatively, however, the Court could grant the petition for a writ of certiorari in this case and hold the petition in *Quarles*. Or if it wishes to review the issue in the context of multiple state statutes, it could grant the petitions in both this case and *Quarles* and consolidate them for review.

Finally, this Court may wish to hold the petitions in both *Quarles* and this case pending its disposition of the government’s petition for a writ of certiorari in *United States v. Stitt*, No. 17-765 (filed Nov. 21, 2017). *Stitt* presents the question whether burglary of a nonpermanent or mobile structure adapted or used for overnight accommodation can qualify as “burglary” under the ACCA.³ If the Court grants the petition for a writ of

³ As discussed above, respondent also raised this contention below when challenging the district court’s decision to classify one of

certiorari in *Stitt* and resolves that question, its decision may provide guidance on the proper scope of ACCA burglary and the question presented here and in *Quarles*.

CONCLUSION

The petition for a writ of certiorari should either be granted or held pending the Court's disposition of the petition for a writ of certiorari in *Quarles v. United States*, No. 17-778 (filed Nov. 24, 2017). In the alternative, the petition should be held pending the Court's disposition of the petition for a writ of certiorari in *United States v. Stitt*, No. 17-765 (filed Nov. 21, 2017), and then disposed of as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted.

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his Texas burglary offenses as an ACCA predicate conviction, but the court of appeals declined to resolve it. See App., *infra*, 37a.

APPENDIX A

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT**

No. 14-11317

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

v.

MICHAEL HERROLD, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

[Filed: Feb. 20, 2018]

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Northern District of Texas

Before: STEWART, Chief Judge, and JOLLY, HIGGINBOTHAM, JONES, SMITH, DENNIS, CLEMENT, PRADO, OWEN, ELROD, SOUTHWICK, HAYNES, GRAVES, HIGGINSON, and COSTA, Circuit Judges.*

PATRICK E. HIGGINBOTHAM, Circuit Judge:

Three decades ago, Congress set the courts upon a new course for the sentencing of federal defendants, moving away from a long-in-place system that gave wide discretion to federal judges to impose sentences from nigh no prison time to effective life sentences.

* Judges Willett and Ho joined the court after this case was submitted and did not participate in the decision.

But this discretion was not so wide in practice as in appearance—the judge’s sentence gave way when the prisoner left the court for prison. The total time served by the prisoner was on his arrival determined in the main by a parole commission. The commission determined release dates, and in a rough and crude way—relative to the work of the Sentencing Commission—anticipated the system now in place by using a scoring system that looked in part to a defendant’s criminal history. In response to charges from the Left of disparate and from the Right of anemic sentencing, and thus with the support of both ends of the political spectrum, Congress shifted the focus to a defendant’s individual circumstances on the one hand and mandatory minimum sentences tailored to particular crimes on the other. With much work from its newly erected Sentencing Commission, nourished by reflection, essential empirical study, and judges tasked with applying its regulations, this reform effort appears to now be understood by bench and bar, enjoying a measure of well-earned credibility. Yet its relatively calibrated system of adjustments struggles with rifle-shot statutory efforts deploying an indeterminate calculus for identification of repetitive, sentence-enhancing conduct that add on to the sentence produced by the guidelines, such as the Armed Career Criminal Act. In setting a federal criminal sentence the district judge looks, in part, to both the number and type of a defendant’s prior convictions, a task complicated by the statute’s effort to draw on criminal conduct bearing differing labels and boundaries set by the various states. Today, we continue to refine our efforts.

In this case, we consider questions posed by the use of Texas’s burglary statute, Texas Penal Code § 30.02, to enhance a federal sentence. First, we confront whether two provisions of the statute, Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (3), are indivisible for the purposes of categorical analysis. Second, we consider whether either of these two provisions is broader than the federal generic definition of burglary encoded in the Armed Career Criminal Act, 18 U.S.C. § 924(e)(1). We answer each of these questions in the affirmative, and VACATE the appellant’s sentence and REMAND for resentencing consistent with this decision.

On November 5, 2012, Dallas police officers stopped Michael Herrold for failing to signal a right turn. An officer approaching his car saw a handgun on the floor and arrested him. Herrold pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a former felon.¹ This latest conviction came on top of a series of past felonies, including three convictions for Texas offenses that his PSR listed as making him eligible for the sentence enhancement imposed by the Armed Career Criminal Act (“ACCA”)²: (1) unlawful possession of LSD with intent to distribute; (2) burglary of a building; and (3) burglary of a habitation. Herrold argued that none of these offenses qualified as ACCA-predicate offenses, such that a sentence enhancement was therefore improper. The trial judge disagreed; he adopted the recommendation of the PSR and sentenced Herrold to 211 months in prison, including the ACCA enhancement. The judge observed, however, that Herrold had made “forceful arguments” that the enhancement should not apply, and he requested

¹ See 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) (2016).

² 18 U.S.C. § 924(e).

guidance from our court on the question. Without the enhancement, Herrold faces a statutory maximum of ten years³—the enhancement added at least 91 months to his sentence and subjected him to a statutory minimum of fifteen years.⁴

We considered Herrold’s arguments on direct appeal and affirmed his sentence on the basis of circuit precedent.⁵ The Supreme Court vacated our judgment and remanded for renewed consideration in light of *Mathis v. United States*, 136 S. Ct. 2243 (2016).⁶ On remand, Herrold argued that *Mathis* forecloses the possibility that his two Texas burglary convictions can serve as ACCA predicates.⁷ We affirmed his sentence once again, this time on the basis of an earlier post-*Mathis* decision, *United States v. Uribe*, 838 F.3d 667 (5th Cir. 2016).⁸ We now reconsider this argument en banc and, in doing so, revisit *Uribe* and its progeny as well.

I.

The ACCA enhances the sentences of defendants with at least three previous convictions for certain crimes. Not all convictions trigger the enhancement—the ACCA specifies that a previous conviction must be for a “violent felony” or a “serious drug offense” for it to count as an ACCA predicate.⁹ “Violent felony,” the

³ 18 U.S.C. § 924(a)(2).

⁴ 18 U.S.C. § 924(e).

⁵ *United States v. Herrold*, 813 F.3d 595, 596 (5th Cir. 2016), judgment vacated by 137 S. Ct. 310 (2016).

⁶ *Herrold v. United States*, 137 S. Ct. 310 (2016).

⁷ 685 F. App’x 302, 303 (5th Cir. 2017) (per curiam).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ 18 U.S.C. § 924(e)(1) (2016).

sole category under which Herrold’s burglary convictions could plausibly fall, is defined in part by reference to other crimes, and the ACCA tells us that “burglary, arson, [and] extortion” fit the bill.¹⁰

That said, “burglary” is confined to a federal definition of “generic burglary” unbound by a state’s decision to label criminal conduct by that term.¹¹ The fact that two of Herrold’s convictions arose under a provision of Texas’s burglary statute, Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1), is therefore not dispositive. Labels aside, we must determine whether Texas’s burglary statute sweeps more broadly in its application than the generic form of burglary encoded in the ACCA. Only then may we decide whether Herrold’s convictions qualify as “violent felonies” that trigger an accompanying federal sentence enhancement.

II.

Texas’s burglary statute, Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a), reads:

A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person:

- (1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault; or

¹⁰ 18 U.S.C. § 924(e)(2)(B)(ii).

¹¹ *See Taylor v. United States*, 495 U.S. 575, 588-89 (1990) (“Congress intended that the enhancement provision [of the ACCA] be triggered by crimes having certain specified elements, not by crimes that happened to be labeled ‘robbery’ and ‘burglary’ by the laws of the State of conviction.”).

(2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault, in a building or habitation; or

(3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.¹²

As is evident, Texas’s burglary statute is alternatively phrased, comprised of a list of several disjunctive subsections. Statutes taking this form pose a preliminary question—and its answer switches us to the appropriate analytical track. We must determine whether the statute sets forth alternative means of committing a single substantive crime, or separate elements, effectively defining distinct offenses.¹³ We refer to the former sort of statutes as “indivisible,” and we call the latter “divisible.”¹⁴ If a statute describes alternative means of committing one offense (i.e., if a statute is indivisible), we compare the whole thing to its federal generic counterpart and determine whether any part falls outside the federal template. In other words, we perform the classic categorical approach.¹⁵ If the alternative terms of a statute outline elements of distinct offenses (i.e., if a statute is divisible), we isolate the alternative under which the defendant was convicted and apply the federal template to only that alternative. This second analytical track has come to be known as the modified categorical approach.¹⁶

¹² TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.02(a) (2017).

¹³ *Mathis v. United States*, 136 S. Ct. 2243, 2249 (2016).

¹⁴ *Descamps v. United States*, 133 S. Ct. 2276, 2281 (2013).

¹⁵ *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2248.

¹⁶ *Id.* at 2249.

After the first time we upheld Herrold’s sentence, *Mathis v. United States* provided a more fine-grained trace between statutory means and elements.¹⁷ In doing so, it also offered a typology of the authorities that federal courts may look to in determining whether a statute is divisible or indivisible.

Our first task is to determine whether state law sources resolve the question.¹⁸ If state court decisions dictate that a jury need not unanimously agree on the applicable alternative of the statute, the statute is indivisible and its alternative terms specify different means of committing a single offense.¹⁹ And if state courts have decided a jury must unanimously agree on the alternative, the alternatives describe separate offenses comprised of distinct elements.²⁰ We may also look to the text of the statute. If the statute lists different punishments for each of its alternatives, they must be elements of distinct offenses.²¹ And the statute may also simply tell us “which things must be charged (and so are elements) and which need not be (and so are means).”²²

If one of these authorities resolves the question, our inquiry ends. If state law fails to answer the question, we may look at the record of the defendant’s prior convictions “for the sole and limited purpose of determining whether [the listed items are] element[s] of the

¹⁷ *Id.* at 2256.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Id.*

offense.”²³ The record is relevant because if all statutory alternatives are charged in a single count of an indictment or lumped together in a jury instruction, this is evidence “that each alternative is only a possible means of commission, not an element that the prosecutor must prove to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt.”²⁴ And if an indictment or jury instruction contains only one of the statute’s alternatives, this is evidence that the statute lists elements and is therefore divisible.²⁵

Should our dual forays into state law and the record leave the question of divisibility inconclusive, the tie goes to the defendant—because the ACCA demands certainty that a defendant indeed committed a generic offense,²⁶ any indeterminacy on the question means the statute is indivisible.²⁷

A.

Conducting this inquiry leads us to the conclusion that Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) are indivisible. While the Texas burglary statute itself lacks any trait that the Supreme Court deemed relevant to the divisibility inquiry,²⁸ Texas case law settles the question. Indeed, Texas courts have repeatedly held that a

²³ *Id.* at 2256-57 (quotation omitted).

²⁴ *Id.* at 2257.

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ See *Shepard v. United States*, 544 U.S. 13, 21 (2005) (describing “*Taylor*’s demand for certainty”).

²⁷ See *United States v. Perlaza-Ortiz*, 869 F.3d 375, 390 (5th Cir. 2017) (“In such uncertain circumstances, the Government has not shown that the statute is divisible.”).

²⁸ It does not contain an illustrative list; it does not carry different punishments; and it does not explicitly state which facts must be charged and which need not be. See *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

jury need not unanimously agree on whether Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) or (a)(3) applies in order to sustain a conviction for burglary.²⁹

In *Martinez v. State*,³⁰ the Texas Court of Appeals squarely faced the question of whether jury instructions charging Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) in the alternative foul Texas’s constitutional requirement for jury unanimity. And the Texas Court of Appeals rejected the application of that requirement in crystalline terms: “We must decide whether the legislature intended, through this single substantive distinction between burglary as defined under subsections (a)(1) versus (a)(3), to create two distinct criminal offenses. Guided by the court of criminal appeals’ prior analysis of section 30.02, we conclude it did not.”³¹ Accordingly, said the *Martinez* court, jurors are free to choose between subsections 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) without imperiling a conviction.³² This decision is no outlier

²⁹ See, e.g., *Stanley v. State*, No. 03-13-00390, 2015 WL 4610054, at *7 (Tex. App.-Austin July 30, 2015, pet. ref’d) (“The unauthorized entry with intent to commit a felony [under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1)] or the unauthorized entry and the commission (or attempted commission) of a felony [under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3)] were simply alternative methods of committing the same burglary offense. Hence, the trial court did not err by denying appellant’s requested jury unanimity instruction as no such unanimity was required.”); *Martinez v. State*, 269 S.W.3d 777, 783 (Tex. App.-Austin 2008, no pet.) (rejecting unanimity challenge between Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) because “subsections (a)(1) and (3) are essentially alternative means of proving a single mens rea element and not separate offenses”).

³⁰ *Martinez*, 269 S.W.3d at 783.

³¹ *Id.*

³² *Id.*

—it was neither the first nor last Texas state court decision to come to the clear conclusion that jury unanimity between subsections (a)(1) and (a)(3) of Texas’s burglary statute is not needed.³³ Under *Mathis*, when state law does not require jury unanimity between statutory alternatives, the alternatives cannot be divisible.

The *Uribe* court relied on different Texas state court decisions to reach the contrary conclusion, believing that *Day v. State*³⁴ and *Devaughn v. State*³⁵ compelled its finding that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) is divisible.³⁶ With respect, and aware that their language can mislead, we must disagree. These cases, as we read them, are not “ruling[s] of th[e] kind” deemed

³³ See *Stanley*, No. 03-13-00390, 2015 WL 4610054, at *7; *Washington v. State*, No. 03-11-00428, 2014 WL 3893060, at *4 (Tex. App.-Austin Aug. 6, 2014, pet. ref’d) (“Because the jury charge at issue here reads substantively the same as that determined to be proper in *Martinez*, we overrule appellant’s first issue.”). For earlier decisions, see *Ramos v. State*, No. 04-05-00543, 2006 WL 1624230, at *1 (Tex. App.-San Antonio June 14, 2006, pet. ref’d) (rejecting the argument that “that burglary ‘with intent’ to commit sexual assault [under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1)] and burglary ‘during the commission and attempted commission’ of aggravated assault [under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3)] are two separate criminal acts, and not alternate theories of committing burglary”); *Yates v. State*, No. 05-05-00140, 2005 WL 3007786, at *3 (Tex. App.-Dallas Nov. 10, 2005, no pet.) (“We [] conclude that entering with the intent to commit theft [under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1)] and entering and committing or attempting to commit theft [under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3)] are essentially ‘mere means of satisfying a single mens rea element.’”).

³⁴ 532 S.W.2d 302 (Tex. Crim. App. 1975).

³⁵ 749 S.W.2d 62 (Tex. Crim. App. 1988).

³⁶ *United States v. Uribe*, 838 F.3d 667, 670-71 (5th Cir. 2016), *cert. denied*, 137 S. Ct. 1359 (2017).

relevant by the *Mathis* Court, and they cannot resolve the divisibility question.³⁷

In *Day*, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals described “the *elements* of the three types of burglary” outlined by Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) in comparing them to the offense of criminal trespass.³⁸ However, its choice of the word “elements” is not imbued with any apparent legal significance—its division of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) into different “elements” was in service of determining whether criminal trespass is properly considered a lesser included offense of burglary. The *Day* court’s analysis thus simply speaks to the different kinds of facts necessary to prove each individual burglary variant. In fact, the *Day* court also used language that could be read to suggest that the burglary statute is indivisible.³⁹

Similarly, in *Devaughn*, the Court of Criminal Appeals occasionally used the word “element” in describing the provisions of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a). Under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1), it explained that “[p]roof of the intent to commit either theft or a felony . . . is[] a necessary *element* in the State’s case.”⁴⁰ And it noted that “intent to commit a felony or theft is not an *element* of the offense proscribed by § 30.02(a)(3).”⁴¹ As in *Day*, however, the court’s choice to use the word “element” in this context is of uncertain legal signifi-

³⁷ *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

³⁸ *Day*, 532 S.W.2d at 305 (emphasis added).

³⁹ *Id.* (“[I]t is obvious that burglary can be committed in either one of *three distinct ways*: [Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1), (2), or (3)].” (emphasis added)).

⁴⁰ *Devaughn*, 749 S.W.2d at 65 (emphasis added).

⁴¹ *Id.* at 65 n.4 (emphasis added, quotation omitted).

cance; *Devaughn* ultimately concerns the right of criminal defendants to notice of charges guaranteed under the Texas constitution. The analysis of that right does not turn on a distinction between elements and means.⁴² Once more—and likely for this very reason—the *Devaughn* court also chose to use language describing the different provisions of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) as alternative means of committing a single offense.⁴³

Of course it is true that *Day* and *Devaughn* reflect decisions from Texas’s highest criminal court while *Martinez* and the others come from intermediate courts. But this fact is of no real consequence—*Day* and *Devaughn* are simply concerned with questions that are different in nature from the ones that *Mathis* tells us are relevant. What’s more—and driving this point home—it is not as if the *Martinez* court and the other

⁴² Indeed, the distinction between alternative means and alternative elements maps imperfectly onto state courts’ articulation and development of the Texas constitution’s notice requirement. The *Devaughn* court explicitly drew on *Ferguson v. State*, 622 S.W.2d 846 (Tex. Crim. App. 1980), which held that even where a criminal statute specifies “more than one manner or means to commit [an] act or omission,” an indictment must still adequately “allege the particular manner or means it seeks to establish.” *Id.* at 851. In other words, the Texas constitution’s notice requirement demands sufficient articulation of charges irrespective of whether statutory alternatives are described as means or elements.

⁴³ See, e.g., *Devaughn*, 749 S.W.2d at 64 (“There are *three distinct ways* [i.e., §§ 30.02(a)(1), (2), and (3)] in which one may commit *the offense of burglary* under the present version of the Penal Code.” (emphasis added)); *id.* at 65 (“The gravamen of *the offense of burglary* clearly remains entry of a building or habitation without the effective consent of the owner, accompanied by either the required mental state, under §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (2), [] or the further requisite acts or omissions, under § 30.02(a)(3) [].” (emphasis added)).

Texas courts addressing jury unanimity ignored the existence of *Day* and *Devaughn*. Quite the contrary. The jury unanimity decisions *explicitly and repeatedly invoke* those two cases.⁴⁴ We are not confronted with a situation, then, in which we must manage conflicting state decisions or decide how to deal with a rogue lower court's holding. Instead, we face the utterly workaday situation in which a state's highest court has articulated some principles about the nature of a statute to answer one question, and a series of state lower court decisions has drawn on those principles to answer a different question. Put another way, the lower courts have fleshed out *Day* and *Devaughn* and told us what they mean in this precise context: jury unanimity, the issue that *Mathis* deems dispositive, is not required between Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3).

Besides *Day* and *Devaughn*, the jury unanimity cases draw on the reasoning of another kindred case: the Supreme Court's opinion in *Schad v. Arizona*.⁴⁵ *Schad* recognized and upheld the Arizona Supreme Court's treatment of premeditated murder and felony murder as different means of committing a single offense, such that jury unanimity between those alternatives is not required.⁴⁶ And the *Mathis* Court cited *Schad* as an appropriate example of a federal court looking to state law on jury unanimity for answers on

⁴⁴ See *Stanley*, 2015 WL 4610054, at *7 (citing *Devaughn*); *Martinez*, 269 S.W.3d at 781-83 (citing *Day* and *Devaughn*); *Yates*, 2005 WL 3007786, at *3 (citing *Devaughn*). *Martinez* alone cites *Devaughn* approximately ten times. *Martinez*, 269 S.W.3d at 781-83.

⁴⁵ 501 U.S. 624 (1991); see *Ramos*, 2006 WL 1624230, at *1; *Yates*, 2005 WL 3007786, at *3.

⁴⁶ 501 U.S. at 636-37, 645.

the question of divisibility.⁴⁷ That the Texas courts also cite *Schad* indicates that they saw themselves performing the same role as the Arizona Supreme Court and makes their relevance to our inquiry all the more unmistakable. Under *Mathis*, they must pass muster.

The government argues that the Texas jury unanimity cases are nevertheless wrongly decided, and that we should disregard them. Small wonder—the government conceded at oral argument that if *Martinez* and its ilk accurately describe Texas burglary law, then its position would be “dead in the water.” But *Mathis* does not contemplate federal substantive review of state decisions on jury unanimity for correctness on the merits; it directly informs us that where there is controlling case law, our inquiry is at an end.⁴⁸ Layering an additional level of substantive review on the tasks *Mathis* assigns to sentencing courts would only deepen their descent into what some have described as a “time-consuming legal tangle.”⁴⁹

⁴⁷ 136 S. Ct. at 2249; *see* 501 U.S. at 637 (“[B]y determining that a general verdict as to first-degree murder is permissible under Arizona law, the Arizona Supreme Court has effectively decided that, under state law, premeditation and the commission of a felony are not independent elements of the crime, but rather are mere means of satisfying a single *mens rea* element.”).

⁴⁸ *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256 (“When a ruling of that kind exists, *a sentencing judge need only follow what it says.*” (emphasis added)); *Schad*, 501 U.S. at 636 (“If a State’s courts have determined that certain statutory alternatives are mere means of committing a single offense, rather than independent elements of the crime, we simply are not at liberty to ignore that determination and conclude that the alternatives are, in fact, independent elements under state law.”).

⁴⁹ *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2264 (Breyer, J., dissenting) (“Th[e] research [into state case law contemplated by the majority] will take

These cases all present something of a cautionary tale. Courts may speak of “elements” and “means” in myriad ways; to take just the first word, the cases cited to us contain references to the “element[s] in the State’s case,”⁵⁰ the “main element[s] of burglary,”⁵¹ and the “‘same elements’ test” of *Blockburger v. United States*,⁵² among other variations on that theme. No doubt recognizing these words’ context-shifting nature,⁵³ the *Mathis* Court did not send us on a search for state cases that describe a disjunctively phrased statute using either the word “elements” or “means.”⁵⁴ It demanded certainty. It demanded that we find “ruling[s] of th[e] kind” it relied on—rulings that may “definitively answer[] the question” of divisibility.⁵⁵ Those, it held, are decisions considering whether jury unanimity is required between statutory alternatives. There is Texas case law concerning the need for jury unanimity between Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3), and it points in just one direction—that Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) are indivisible.

time and is likely not to come up with an answer. What was once a simple matter will produce a time-consuming legal tangle.”).

⁵⁰ *Devaughn*, 749 S.W.2d at 65.

⁵¹ *Day*, 532 S.W.2d at 306.

⁵² *Langs v. State*, 183 S.W.3d 680, 685 (Tex. Crim. App. 2006).

⁵³ *Cf. Muscarello v. United States*, 524 U.S. 125, 143 (1998) (Ginsburg, J., dissenting) (articulating the difficulty of pinning down the meaning of “hydra-headed” word without appropriate context).

⁵⁴ *See, e.g., United States v. Lerma*, 877 F.3d 628, 634 n.4 (5th Cir. 2017) (explaining that, in order to be “helpful in the divisibility determination,” an opinion must do more than simply use the word “means”).

⁵⁵ *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

B.

State case law on jury unanimity notwithstanding, the government brings other arguments that the two statutory alternatives should be treated as divisible. These arguments are foreclosed by *Mathis*.

First, the government makes several statutory claims about the nature and structure of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a). It asserts that indivisible statutes should generally be limited to ones that consist of illustrative examples of conduct satisfying a listed offense. For example, a hypothetical indivisible “deadly weapon” offense might proscribe the use of a “knife, gun, bat, *or similar weapon*” to commit a crime.⁵⁶ This assertion reflects misplaced emphasis on a statement in *Mathis*. As we have explained, *Mathis* does suggest that several features of a statute might resolve the question of its divisibility—of relevance here, “if a statutory list is drafted to offer ‘illustrative examples,’ then it includes only a crime’s means of commission.”⁵⁷ The government argues the converse, apparently claiming that statutes describing *anything but* illustrative examples are automatically divisible. This is not the holding of *Mathis*, nor is it logically compelled by what the *Mathis* Court did hold. The presence of an illustrative list of statutory examples may settle the question in one direction, but the absence of such a list is not dispositive in the other.

The government casts its gaze farther afield, pointing to other statutory features unmentioned by the *Mathis* Court but that it nonetheless urges suggest

⁵⁶ *Id.* at 2249 (emphasis added); *see also Uribe*, 838 F.3d at 670.

⁵⁷ *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

divisibility. It would have us read significance into the facts that, for instance, “[e]ach subsection [of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)] is separated by the word ‘or,’” and that “each subsection requires ‘different and separate acts to commit’ the offense enumerated in that subsection.” The extent to which features like this bear on the divisibility question is unclear.⁵⁸ The first point involves a legislative drafting decision of uncertain significance in this context, while the second verges on circularity: disjunctively phrased offenses, by their very nature, involve different kinds of conduct or mens rea requirements.⁵⁹ Disjunction *means* difference. The government may mean that the relevant subsections of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) are *so different* that they ought not be read as different ways of committing a single, indivisible offense, but its argument comes bereft of reasoning and it fails to explain just how different is too different. In fact, a plurality of the Supreme Court has already expressed grave doubt about the ability of a court to examine the factual differences

⁵⁸ There is reason to be quite cautious of this sort of appearance-based reasoning—as we have previously noted, “[s]ome criminal statutes appear divisible but are not.” *United States v. Tanksley*, 848 F.3d 347, 350 (5th Cir. 2017); *cf. Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2255-56 (rejecting the relevance of “fortuity of legislative drafting” to the categorical approach and noting that “a categorical inquiry can produce the same counter-intuitive consequences however a state law is written”).

⁵⁹ In *Schad*, to take just one of myriad examples, the indivisible statute examined by the Court involved two quite different factual ways of committing the single offense of first degree murder—premeditated murder and felony murder. 501 U.S. at 637.

between statutory alternatives and label them elements or means through sheer force of reason.⁶⁰

The arguments along these lines sum to the assertion that the Texas burglary statute does not fit the government’s conception of what an indivisible statute looks like. But the Court has given us a test to apply, and that test is not a Rorschach. We are bound to examine how a state treats its own statute using the materials that the Court said speak with sufficient certainty on the matter. For this reason, we decline to hold that these structural statutory features are sufficient to resolve the question of divisibility when they point in the opposite direction of sources that the *Mathis* Court *did* say were relevant—state decisions on the subject of jury unanimity.⁶¹

⁶⁰ *See id.* at 638 (“Judicial restraint necessarily follows from a recognition of the impossibility of determining, as an *a priori* matter, whether a given combination of facts is consistent with there being only one offense.”).

⁶¹ Nor is the government correct, as a purely descriptive matter, to suggest that Texas’s burglary offense would somehow be an outlier among indivisible statutes. The Supreme Court in *Schad* affirmed the Arizona Supreme Court’s determination that premeditated murder and felony murder are two means of committing the same offense. *Id.* at 645. And the difference between premeditated murder and felony murder is quite similar to the difference between Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) (akin to premeditated murder) and (a)(3) (akin to felony murder).

We have also held statutes containing roughly the same features that the government argues require divisibility to be indivisible in the past. *See Perlaza-Ortiz*, 869 F.3d at 378 (holding Texas Penal Code § 22.05(b) to be indivisible despite the presence of an “or” separating statutory subsections); *United States v. Lobaton-Andrade*, 861 F.3d 538, 539 (5th Cir. 2017) (per curiam) (holding Arkansas Code § 5-10-104 to be indivisible despite the presence of

Next, the government points to several state double jeopardy cases involving Texas’s burglary statute. According to the government, because these decisions reach different outcomes on the question of double jeopardy depending on the statutory alternative charged, the statute must be divisible. The government’s argument, however, shares the same flaw as its previous arguments: the Supreme Court did not list double jeopardy cases when it outlined sources of state law that could answer the question of a statute’s divisibility with sufficient certainty.

And for good reason. As an initial matter, different states apply their own tests for enforcing their own double jeopardy rules, and therefore simply tracking double jeopardy cases would mean using a different test for divisibility based on the rules of the underlying state.⁶² None of the sources that the *Mathis* Court actually pointed to have this flickering quality.⁶³ Fur-

subsections outlining different culpability standards and conduct requirements).

And at least one sister circuit, the Eighth Circuit, has held that a statute containing materially identical terms to Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) is indivisible without so much as a quibble. See *United States v. McArthur*, 850 F.3d 925, 938 (8th Cir. 2017) (“Here, *Mathis* requires us to treat the alternatives in the Minnesota third-degree burglary statute as ‘means’ rather than ‘elements.’”).

⁶² See Susan R. Klein, *Double Jeopardy’s Demise*, 88 CAL. L. REV. 1001, 1012 (“[S]tate courts have developed a number of tests for determining whether offenses are the same for purposes of the state constitution’s double jeopardy clause . . .”).

⁶³ All of the sufficiently “authoritative sources of state law” listed by the Court answer a fixed question about the alternatively phrased offense: for instance, does it require jury unanimity between sections? Does it carry different punishments? See *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

ther, the Fourth Circuit rejected basically the same double jeopardy argument in *United States v. Cabrera-Umanzor*, in the course of holding that a Maryland child abuse statute is indivisible.⁶⁴ It explained that statutory distinctions made by state courts in a double jeopardy analysis do not automatically inform the divisibility analysis.⁶⁵ The *Mathis* Court, in turn, cited *Cabrera-Umanzor* as an example of a federal court properly performing the divisibility inquiry.⁶⁶

There is another, more conceptual reason why the double jeopardy cases provided by the government shed little light on divisibility. Texas state courts have adopted the *Blockburger* test for double jeopardy, which asks courts to determine the facts that must be proven under different statutory alternatives.⁶⁷ When

⁶⁴ 728 F.3d 347 (4th Cir. 2013). The *Cabrera-Umanzor* court determined that an alternatively phrased child abuse statute is indivisible, despite the existence of a Maryland state decision holding that the presence of a double jeopardy violation depended on the particular subsection implicated by a conviction. *See id.* at 353 n.2; *Vogel v. State*, 76 Md. App. 56, 65 (1988) (holding that child abuse statute “proscribes several different types of conduct, which may be treated as separate statutory offenses for double jeopardy purposes”).

⁶⁵ 728 F.3d at 353 n.2; *see also Lerma*, 2017 WL 6379724, at *5 (rejecting the relevance of double jeopardy decision because it did not adequately answer the question of “whether the . . . statute is a divisible statute, setting forth alternative elements and thereby defining multiple crimes”).

⁶⁶ 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

⁶⁷ *See, e.g., Langs*, 183 S.W.3d at 685; *Ex parte Anthony*, 931 S.W.2d 664, 667 (Tex. App.-Dallas 1996, pet. ref’d) (“We will continue to analyze multiple prosecutions under the Texas Constitution’s jeopardy clause by the *Blockburger* same-elements test until a higher court instructs us differently.”).

statutory alternatives require proof of different facts, they lead to different outcomes under the *Blockburger* test.⁶⁸ This means that the Texas courts' inquiry bottoms out in an examination of the factual differences between statutory alternatives in a disjunctively worded statute. But again, all experience suggests that factual differences alone do not cast enough light to answer the divisibility with the needed certainty.⁶⁹ Alternative means and alternative elements *both necessarily* entail factual differences; the decisive question for the purpose of divisibility analysis is not whether factual differences exist, but what legal effect accompanies those factual differences.⁷⁰

In light of Texas case law, we hold that Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) are not distinct offenses, but are rather separate means of committing one burglary offense. To the extent that it is inconsistent with this holding, we also overrule our earlier decision in *United States v. Uribe*.⁷¹

III.

Before considering whether Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) correspond to the Court's generic definition of burglary, we step back to consider the purpose and function of generic burglary. In *Taylor*, when it first interpreted the scope of burglary encoded

⁶⁸ See *Blockburger v. United States*, 284 U.S. 299, 304 (1932) (“[T]he test to be applied to determine whether there are two offenses or only one, is *whether each provision requires proof of a fact which the other does not.*” (emphasis added)).

⁶⁹ See *Schad*, 501 U.S. at 638.

⁷⁰ See *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2256.

⁷¹ 838 F.3d at 670-71.

in the ACCA, the Supreme Court did not read the statute's definition as being pegged to the labels deployed by the various states.⁷² It expressly refused to do so, holding that the ACCA's version of burglary charts a fixed category of conduct independent of state labels, in order to preserve the virtues of uniformity and fairness in sentencing.⁷³

This decision rested on the clear premise that different portions of state definitions would not fall within the generic definition's scope, a reality that the *Taylor* Court acknowledged. But the *Taylor* Court was not animated by the purpose of maximizing the number of states that fall within or without the ACCA's ambit.⁷⁴ It was rather engaged in implementing Congress's intent from the sources it deemed appropriate, and with a burglary definition in service of predictability in sentencing. The idea was to ensure that similar conduct was similarly treated in the enhancement of federal sentences.

The *Taylor* Court's approach was cautious; even after choosing to deploy a generic definition, it could have outlined that definition more broadly. But to do so would increase the risk of sweeping in criminal conduct of disparate character. If the federal definition were slackened too much, a defendant who broke into a building to escape the cold and only once inside decided to pilfer a jacket could be subject to the same enhancement as a defendant who planned an elaborate theft of

⁷² *Taylor v. United States*, 495 U.S. 575 (1990).

⁷³ *See id.* at 590-91.

⁷⁴ *E.g., id.* at 591.

that same building.⁷⁵ Or a defendant who broke into the unoccupied cab portion of a pickup truck could be subject to the same enhancement as a defendant who broke into an occupied family house.⁷⁶ Our reading of the ACCA's scope is against the backdrop of the important congressional goal of treating like conduct alike. The *Taylor* Court clearly recognized this goal when it read the ACCA as containing a narrower scope than it might have, well aware of its significant sentencing force and its potential for unintended sentencing disparity.⁷⁷

Nor does the *Taylor* Court's approach disserve states that opt to extend their burglary definitions broadly. States remain free to define and punish burglary however they like—they can prescribe sentences for their nongeneric burglary statutes that compensate for the ACCA's inapplicability. They can define different offense degrees or tinker with their statutes' divisibility structures to carve out suitably generic forms.⁷⁸ Or states can ignore the existence of the ACCA, mindful that it is a *federal statute* that memorialized Congress's preferred definition of burglary at the time it was enacted. However states ultimately choose to respond, clarity in defining the reach of the ACCA's generic

⁷⁵ *People v. Gaines*, 546 N.E.2d 913 (N.Y. 1989).

⁷⁶ *State v. Buss*, 325 N.W.2d 384 (Iowa 1982).

⁷⁷ See *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598 (“[T]he generic, contemporary meaning of burglary contains *at least* the following elements:” (emphasis added)).

⁷⁸ See, e.g., Rebecca Sharpless, *Finally, a True Elements Test: Mathis v. United States and the Categorical Approach*, 82 BROOK. L. REV. 1275, 1278 (2017) (“States enjoy wide latitude to decide whether terms used to describe a given criminal offense are elements or means.”).

definition enables legislatures to accurately consider federal policy in deciding how to shape their own.⁷⁹

In the hands of the fifty states with their myriad local concerns, the scope of burglary at the state level was a dynamic target when the ACCA was passed and it continues to be one today.⁸⁰ It is for Congress, however, to alter the federal definition if and when it deems appropriate.⁸¹ These principles inform the question of whether a particular state provision qualifies as generic burglary.

⁷⁹ Cf. *McNally v. United States*, 483 U.S. 350, 359 (1987), *superseded by statute as recognized in Skilling v. United States*, 561 U.S. 358 (2010) (“Rather than construe the statute in a manner that leaves its outer boundaries ambiguous and involves the Federal Government in setting standards of disclosure and good government for local and state officials, we read § 1341 as limited in scope to the protection of property rights.”).

⁸⁰ See, e.g., *infra* note 107.

⁸¹ In at least one important sense, the ACCA’s inclusion of burglary has become vestigial. About two years ago, the Sentencing Commission modified the “crime of violence” provision in § 4B1.1—the Sentencing Guidelines’ career criminal provision companion to the one in the ACCA—to exclude “burglary of a dwelling” from the list of enumerated offenses. U.S. SENTENCING GUIDELINES MANUAL §§ 4B1.1, 1.2 (U.S. SENTENCING COMM’N 2015). According to the Sentencing Commission, “burglary offenses rarely result in physical violence” and “historically, career offenders have rarely been rearrested for a burglary offense after release.” United States Sentencing Commission, *Supplement to the 2015 Guideline Manual*, at 11 (Aug. 1, 2016), available at <https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/guidelines-manual/2015/GLMSupplement.pdf>. The Sentencing Commission also relied on the indeterminate nature of burglary in choosing to excise it; as the Commission aptly observed, “courts have struggled with identifying a uniform contemporary, generic definition of ‘burglary of a dwelling.’” *Id.* at 12.

IV.

Because Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) are indivisible, we must use the categorical approach to examine the viability of Herrold’s two burglary convictions under the ACCA. Under the vanilla version of the categorical approach, if either Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) or (a)(3) is broader than generic burglary, then neither of Herrold’s two burglary convictions may serve as the basis of an ACCA sentence enhancement. We begin by evaluating the scope of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3).

A.

Subsection 30.02(a)(3) of Texas’s burglary statute proscribes entry into a building or habitation followed by commission or attempted commission of a felony, theft, or assault.⁸² This formulation renders the provision broader than generic burglary, and it does so for lack of a sufficiently tailored intent requirement. The ACCA’s definition of generic burglary requires “unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, a building or structure, *with intent to commit a crime.*”⁸³ Both the Supreme Court’s language and its sources suggest that this constitutes a contemporaneity requirement: to be guilty of generic burglary, a defendant must have the intent to commit a crime *when* he enters or remains

⁸² “A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person . . . enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.” TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.02(a)(3).

⁸³ *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598 (emphasis added).

in the building or structure.⁸⁴ Subsection 30.02(a)(3) contains no textual requirement that a defendant's intent to commit a crime contemporaneously accompany a defendant's unauthorized entry. And we have repeatedly held that because of this fact, it is broader than the ACCA's generic definition.⁸⁵

The government disagrees. Relying mostly on out-of-circuit precedent, it argues that despite the fact that

⁸⁴ See 2 Wayne R. LaFare & Austin W. Scott, Jr., *Substantive Criminal Law*, § 8.13(e), 473 (1986) (“To have committed the offense of burglary at common law, one must have intended to commit a felony *while fulfilling other requirements*. If the actor when he was breaking and entering only intended to commit a simple trespass, he was not guilty of a burglary although he in fact committed a felony.” (emphasis added)); *id.* at 475 (discussing problems of proof “concerning whether the defendant's intent was formed before or after the unlawful entry”); MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.1 (Am. Law. Inst. 1980) (discussing “purpose that must accompany the intrusion”).

⁸⁵ See, e.g., *United States v. Bernel-Aveja*, 844 F.3d 206, 234 (5th Cir. 2016) (Owen, J., concurring) (“A few other state burglary offenses are defined as involving ‘entry’ without consent, but they do not require intent to commit another crime *at the time of entry*. Intent to commit a crime may be formed after unlawful entry, and therefore they do not constitute generic burglary. These statutes appear to include: . . . Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02(a)(3) (West 2011).”); *United States v. Constante*, 544 F.3d 584, 586-87 (5th Cir. 2008) (per curiam) (“The court has twice specifically concluded that § 30.02(a)(3) does not satisfy the *Taylor* definition of a generic burglary because it lacks the requisite element of intent, but neither opinion was published. . . . [T]his is an appropriate case for this court definitively to conclude that a burglary conviction under § 30.02(a)(3) of the Texas Penal Code is not a generic burglary under the *Taylor* definition because it does not contain an element of intent to commit a felony, theft, or assault at the moment of entry.”).

Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3) only expressly speaks of unauthorized entry,⁸⁶ the “remaining in” portion of the ACCA’s generic burglary definition can save it. According to the reading the government would have us adopt, this is so because “someone who enters a building or structure, and while inside, commits or attempts to commit a felony will necessarily have remained inside the building or structure to do so.”⁸⁷ This reading is made available only by a broad understanding of the Supreme Court’s reference to “remaining in” in *Taylor*. Rather than referring to “a discrete event that occurs at the moment when a perpetrator, who at one point was lawfully present, exceeds his license and overstays his welcome,”⁸⁸ this reading of “remaining in” would define it as a continuous state that begins immediately after unauthorized entrance and lasts until departure.

The breadth of the government’s reading is clear. The *Taylor* Court spoke of “unlawful or unprivileged entry into, *or* remaining in” with the requisite intent as if they were alternative possible acts.⁸⁹ Yet the net effect of the government’s linguistic move puts entry almost entirely out of focus; because all entry is followed by its version of remaining in, and because the remaining in lasts until departure, almost every instance of entry would automatically involve remaining in. For this

⁸⁶ See *United States v. Bonilla*, 687 F.3d 188, 196 (4th Cir. 2012) (Traxler, C.J., dissenting) (“This focus on the remaining-in language, however, obscures a critical point—remaining-in offenses are *not* included in the statute under which *Bonilla* was convicted[, Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3)].”).

⁸⁷ *United States v. Priddy*, 808 F.3d 676, 685 (6th Cir. 2015).

⁸⁸ *McArthur*, 850 F.3d at 939.

⁸⁹ 495 U.S. at 598 (emphasis added).

same reason—and in combination with the accompanying removal of a contemporaneity requirement—statutes that seem to speak only of unlawful entry counterintuitively correspond instead to generic remaining in.

The more natural way of reading the Supreme Court’s reference to “remaining in” in its generic burglary definition—and the way we have chosen to read it in the past⁹⁰—would retain the distinction between the two outlined categories of conduct. Under that reading, the “remaining in” language captures burglars who initially have a license to enter a particular location but who remain there once that license expires in order to commit a crime. Generic burglary would require these defendants to possess the intent to commit a crime while remaining in this narrower sense—that is, at the moment they exceed their license in order to commit a crime.⁹¹

In addition to ensuring that the two types of conduct function as true alternatives, this interpretation has the support of the sources that the *Taylor* Court relied on in crafting its generic burglary definition. After the *Taylor* Court articulated the elements of generic burglary, it directly cited only the then-current edition of the influential LaFave and Scott criminal law treatise.

⁹⁰ See *United States v. Herrera-Montes*, 490 F.3d 390, 392 (5th Cir. 2007).

⁹¹ Subsection 30.02(a)(3) does not contemplate “remaining in” in this narrower sense at all, much less require an intent to commit a crime at that crucial moment. Subsection 30.02(a)(3) makes it an offense to enter without consent and then commit or attempt to commit a felony. One cannot remain in past his or her license when there was no license to enter in the first place. Accordingly, § 30.02(a)(3) does not require an intent to commit a felony at the time that the other requirements of burglary—entering or remaining in past one’s license—are fulfilled.

tise. In that treatise, LaFave and Scott address the remaining in alternative, explaining that the language’s purpose is to capture defendants who lawfully enter a location and then remain, once their license to be there is lost, in order to commit a crime.⁹² Indeed, the treatise’s sole example of this type of burglary describes “a bank customer who hides in the bank until it closes and then takes the bank’s money.”⁹³

LaFave and Scott directly allude to Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3) in this discussion. They opine that Texas enacted § 30.02(a)(3) in order to avoid potential problems of proof “concerning whether the defendant’s intent was formed before or after the unlawful entry or remaining.”⁹⁴ From this, we can gather that LaFave and Scott understand “remaining in” in the narrow sense. To speak of problems of proof associated with possible intent formation “*after* the unlawful . . . remaining”⁹⁵ would be incoherent otherwise—the only way intent can form after “remaining” in the broad sense would be if it formed after the defendant totally left the premises. LaFave and Scott also describe the very statute in this case—Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3)—as an “alternative” to the ordinary “unlawful entry or remaining” forms of burglary, borne out of problems of proof associated with those conventional categories of conduct.⁹⁶

⁹² 2 Wayne R. LaFave & Austin W. Scott, Jr., *Substantive Criminal Law*, § 8.13(b), 468 (1986).

⁹³ *Id.*

⁹⁴ *Id.* at § 8.13(e), 475.

⁹⁵ *Id.* (emphasis added).

⁹⁶ *Id.* LaFave and Scott also speak of intent being necessary “at the time” a defendant unlawfully remains in a location, and they

Thus, the sole source that the *Taylor* Court directly cited for its generic burglary definition both describes “remaining in” narrowly and distinguishes it from Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3).

The *Taylor* Court also mentions the Model Penal Code in its analysis, but the cited edition does not include any “remaining in” language at all.⁹⁷ To the extent the Model Penal Code drafters do discuss the existence of “remaining in” language in *other* burglary statutes, they are in accord with LaFave and Scott about the genre of bad actors whom that language was meant to reach: those who are initially licensed to be on a property but who exceed their license in order to commit a crime.⁹⁸

Finally, the *Taylor* Court noted that its “generic sense” of the offense would have been recognized as burglary by most states at the time *Taylor* was decided.⁹⁹ But not all states used “remaining in” language in their burglary statutes—LaFave and Scott list twenty-five in their treatise.¹⁰⁰ The states that did include the

describe entry and remaining in conduct as “alternative[s].” *Id.* at § 8.13(b), 468.

⁹⁷ MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.1 (Am. Law. Inst. 1980).

⁹⁸ *Id.* at cmt. (3).

⁹⁹ *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598 (“Congress meant by ‘burglary’ the generic sense in which the term is now used in the criminal codes of most States.”).

¹⁰⁰ Wayne R. LaFave & Austin W. Scott, Jr., *Substantive Criminal Law*, § 8.13(b), 468 n.44 (1986). By 2012, that number apparently rose to twenty-nine. Helen A. Anderson, *From the Thief in the Night to the Guest Who Stayed Too Long: The Evolution of Burglary in the Shadow of the Common Law*, 45 IND. L. REV. 629, 645 & n.113 (2012).

language at the relevant time appear to have been split in how they understood its scope.

To lift up just one example, New York’s “remaining in” statute appears to have been particularly influential.¹⁰¹ We know that by the time *Taylor* was decided, New York’s highest court had squarely considered and rejected the broad reading of “remaining in” now urged by the government.¹⁰² Indeed, the New York Court of Appeals recognized that this reading would go too far in sweeping different types of conduct into the ambit of burglary: “A defendant who simply trespasses with no intent to commit a crime inside a building does not possess the more culpable mental state that justifies punishment as a burglar.”¹⁰³ Just so; as we have observed in the past, “teenagers who unlawfully enter a house only to party, and only later decide to commit a crime, are not common burglars.”¹⁰⁴

Not only does the broad version of “remaining in” involve a less culpable mental state on the part of the defendant, it also likely presents less danger to victims. Indeed, the *Taylor* Court’s analysis was partially based

¹⁰¹ MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.1, cmt. (3) (“Most of the recently drafted statutes and proposals that have spoken to the issue have followed the New York provision.”); cf. *Watson v. State*, 439 So. 2d 762, 767-68 (Ala. Crim. App. 1983) (“Alabama’s burglary statutes are virtually identical to the language found in New York Penal Law §§ 140.30 and 140.25.”).

¹⁰² *Gaines*, 74 N.Y.2d at 363 (“In order to be guilty of burglary for unlawful remaining, a defendant must have entered legally, but remain for the purpose of committing a crime after authorization to be on the premises terminates.”).

¹⁰³ *Id.* at 362.

¹⁰⁴ *Herrera-Montes*, 490 F.3d at 392 (5th Cir. 2007).

on the premise that “[t]he fact that an offender enters a building *to commit a crime* often creates the possibility of a violent confrontation.”¹⁰⁵ Scenarios in which a defendant trespasses but does not intend to commit a crime must engender less risk of confrontation than ones in which he enters *just to commit a crime*. The broad reading urged by the government leads to the conflation of this type of conduct with generic burglary, however, undercutting Congress’s goal of treating like conduct alike for the purposes of the ACCA’s sentence enhancement and expanding a harsh sentencing enhancement beyond its natural reach.¹⁰⁶ Further, in light of the lack of consensus that existed at the time *Taylor* was decided,¹⁰⁷ and that apparently persists today,¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁵ 495 U.S. at 588 (emphasis added).

¹⁰⁶ See, e.g., Recent Case, *United States v. McArthur*, 850 F.3d 925 (8th Cir. 2017), 131 HARV. L. REV. 642, 649 (2017) (“Fastidious application of the categorical approach can help minimize overinclusion in a sentencing law with harsh effects.”); Sharpless, *supra* note 78 at 1276 (2017) (“In taking great care to delimit the circumstances in which federal sentencing judges can lengthen sentences based on recidivism, the Court has softened the edges of harsh federal sentencing practices.”).

¹⁰⁷ Among the states that had passed such burglary statutes, case law on the scope of “remaining in” language seems to have been a mixed bag; relatively few jurisdictions squarely addressed the question before *Taylor* was decided. Of those that did, some adopted the narrower view alongside New York. See *Arabie v. State*, 699 P.2d 890, 894 (Alaska App. 1985) (“[T]he [‘remains unlawfully’] provision is intended to cover situations in which a person is privileged to enter a closed building but remains in the building after the privilege has expired; likewise, it applies to the situation where a person enters a building when it is open to the public but remains after the building has closed. Expansion of the meaning of ‘remains unlawfully’ beyond these situations is, we believe, unwarranted.” (citation omitted)); *State v. Belton*, 461 A.2d

973, 976 (Conn. 1983) (footnote omitted) (“To enter unlawfully contemplates an entry which is accomplished unlawfully, while to remain unlawfully contemplates an initial legal entry which becomes unlawful at the time that the actor’s right, privilege or license to remain is extinguished.”); *State v. S.G.*, 438 A.2d 256, 258 (Me. 1981) (“The actual intent to commit a specific crime in the building at the time of unauthorized entry is an essential element of burglary as defined in 17-A M.R.S.A. § 401.”); *People v. Vallero*, 378 N.E.2d 549, 550 (Ill. App. 1978) (“In the instant case the evidence established that the defendant lawfully entered the dairy and it fails to establish that when he made his entry he was possessed with an intent to commit a theft. The intent to steal arose after his entry. Such a situation does not support a burglary charge in our State.”); see also *State v. McBurnett*, 694 S.W.2d 769, 773 (Mo. App. 1985) (“Burglary requires that the unlawful entry have been made for the purpose of committing a crime therein.”); *State v. Wells*, 658 P.2d 381, 389 (Mont. 1983) (“Since burglary is based upon the wrongful entry or remaining with the requisite intent to commit an offense, the burglary occurs at the time of unlawful entrance upon the premises.”); cf. *Matter of T.J.E.*, 426 N.W.2d 23, 24 (S.D. 1988) (“A literal reading of the word ‘remains’ in the statute [] would support this finding and would end the need for further inquiry. . . . To interpret [sic] the word ‘remains’ in SDCL 22-32-3 to hold a person commits second degree burglary whenever he is present in an occupied structure with the intent to commit a crime therein would make every shoplifter a burglar.”).

And some adopted the broader view. See *State v. Mogenson*, 701 P.2d 1339, 1343 (Kan. App. 1985) (holding that intent “can be formed in a ‘remaining within’ form of aggravated burglary after consent is withdrawn” (emphasis added)); *Gratton v. State*, 456 So. 2d 865, 872 (Ala. Crim. App. 1984) (“[U]nder the criminal code definition of burglary, the intent to commit a crime may be concurrent with the unlawful entry or it may be formed after the entry and while the accused remains unlawfully.”); *State v. Embree*, 633 P.2d 1057, 1059 (Ariz. App. 1981) (“[W]e believe that the Arizona legislature clearly intended to include within the burglary statute those who form the intent to commit theft or a felony while inside the nonresidential structure.”); *State v. Papineau*, 630 P.2d 904, 906 (Or. App. 1981) (“[D]efendant entered the victim’s apartment to

commit the crime of theft. He remained on the premises not only to complete the theft but to commit robbery.”).

Other states only issued decisions adopting one or another interpretation of “remaining in” language in their respective statutes after *Taylor* was decided. Compare, e.g., *Cooper v. People*, 973 P.2d 1234, 1241 (Colo. 1999) (en banc) (“Consistent with the New York court’s reading of its [remaining in] statute, we read the plain language of the Colorado burglary statute to require that regardless of the manner of trespass, a conviction for burglary requires proof that the defendant intended to commit a crime inside at the moment he first became a trespasser.”), *superseded by statute as recognized in People v. Wartena*, 296 P.3d 136, 140 (Colo. App. 2012), with *State v. Rudolph*, 970 P.2d 1221, 1229 (Utah 1998) (“[W]e hold that a person is guilty of burglary under section 76-6-202(1) if he forms the intent to commit a felony, theft, or assault at the time he unlawfully enters a building or at any time thereafter while he continues to remain there unlawfully.”). And some states have apparently switched course from their pre-*Taylor* holdings. Compare, e.g., *Papineau*, 630 P.2d at 906, with *State v. White*, 147 P.3d 313, 321 (Or. 2006) (“[T]he legislature included the ‘remains unlawfully’ wording in the burglary statute solely to clarify that burglary could occur by remaining unlawfully *after an initial lawful entry*. It did not intend to provide that a defendant who commits burglary by entering a building unlawfully commits an additional, separate violation of the burglary statute by remaining in the dwelling thereafter.”).

¹⁰⁸ The Supreme Court of Delaware fairly recently surveyed the murk of state authority in this area and it opted to follow New York’s approach, which it evidently believed to be that of the majority of states with “remaining in” statutes. *Dolan v. State*, 925 A.2d 495, 499-500 & nn. 9-10 (Del. 2007). (“There is a split of authority among the states with similar statutes; however, a majority of those states that have addressed this issue have held that a person must form the intent to commit a crime in the dwelling either before entering the premises or contemporaneously upon entering the premises.”).

the narrower reading is more consistent with the Supreme Court's apparent view that its burglary definition would have obtained in most states.¹⁰⁹

The government points out that its reading of *Taylor*'s "remaining in" language finds support in decisions issued by the Fourth and Sixth Circuits. They are not persuasive. In *United States v. Bonilla*, the Fourth Circuit considered the Texas burglary statute at issue here, while in *United States v. Priddy*, the Sixth Circuit considered a similar Tennessee burglary provision. In *Bonilla*, a divided panel concluded that subsection 30.02(a)(3) is generic burglary because "a defendant convicted under section (a)(3) necessarily developed the intent to commit the crime while remaining in the building, if he did not have it at the moment he entered."¹¹⁰ Similarly, in *Priddy*, the Sixth Circuit saw the Tennessee burglary as "a 'remaining-in' variant of generic burglary because someone who enters a building or structure and, while inside, commits or attempts to commit a felony will necessarily have remained inside the building or structure to do so."¹¹¹ With due respect, these statements do not answer, but rather beg, the question of the meaning of the phrase "remaining in."

On the other hand, the most recent treatment of the question by the Eighth Circuit considered an expansive interpretation of "remaining in" before deciding to take the opposite tack. In the relevant case, *United States v. McArthur*, the Eighth Circuit held that a materially identical Minnesota burglary statute is nongeneric be-

¹⁰⁹ *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598.

¹¹⁰ *Bonilla*, 687 F.3d at 194.

¹¹¹ 808 F.3d 676, 685 (6th Cir. 2015).

cause “remaining in,” for the purposes of generic burglary, is “a discrete event that occurs at the moment when a perpetrator, who at one point was lawfully present, exceeds his license and overstays his welcome.”¹¹² The Eighth Circuit recognized that holding otherwise would “would render the ‘unlawful entry’ element of generic burglary superfluous, because every unlawful entry with intent would become ‘remaining in’ with intent as soon as the perpetrator enters.”¹¹³

We decline to retreat from our previous holding that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3)—Texas’s burglary offense allowing for entry and subsequent intent formation—is broader than generic burglary.

B.

Following our initial decision that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3) is not generic, we have, in an effort to cabin fanciful hypothetical readings, issued *United States v. Castillo-Rivera*.¹¹⁴ That decision requires criminal defendants to establish “a realistic probability” that courts will apply a state statute in a posited nongeneric way before a court may hold that it fails the categorical approach.¹¹⁵ We may look to state court decisions to satisfy this requirement. Texas courts have repeat-

¹¹² *McArthur*, 850 F.3d 939.

¹¹³ *Id.*; accord *Cooper*, 973 P.2d at 1241 (refusing to endorse broad view of remaining in burglary “because every unlawful entry would simultaneously become an unlawful remaining unless a defendant instantly left the premises”); cf. *Ray v. State*, 522 So. 2d 963, 965 (Fla. App. 1988) (“The phrase ‘remaining in’ has been interpreted as proscribing an act distinct from that of entering.”).

¹¹⁴ 853 F.3d 218 (5th Cir. 2017) (en banc), *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 501 (2017).

¹¹⁵ *Id.* at 222.

edly held that under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3), a defendant can form the intent to commit a crime after an unauthorized entry.¹¹⁶ For this reason, and under *Castillo-Rivera*, there is nothing speculative about the reach of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3). Because Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3) is plainly broader than generic burglary, and because Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) are indivisible, neither of Herrold's two convictions under the Texas burglary statute may serve as the predicates of a sentence enhancement under the ACCA.

V.

Herrold argues that even if Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (a)(3) *were* divisible, he would still not satisfy the requirements for a sentence enhancement under the ACCA. This is so, according to him, because one of his ACCA-predicate convictions was for burglary of a habitation under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1). There are powerful arguments on both sides of the question; we think it important to describe them in full in order to explain why we ultimately choose not to decide the question of whether the definition of “habitation” applicable in Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) makes it broader than generic burglary.

¹¹⁶ See, e.g., *Rivera v. State*, 808 S.W.2d 80, 93 (Tex. Crim. App. 1991) (en banc) (“The State need neither plead nor prove a burglar’s intent to commit a felony or theft upon entry under (a)(3) of V.T.C.A., Penal Code 30.02.”); *Espinoza v. State*, 955 S.W.2d 108, 111 (Tex. App.-Waco 1997, pet. ref’d) (“[W]hen a defendant is charged under subsection (a)(3), the State is not required to prove that the defendant intended to commit the felony or theft at the time of entry.”).

A.

Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) dictates that a defendant commits burglary if he “enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.”¹¹⁷ “Habitation,” in turn, is defined as “a structure or vehicle that is adapted for the overnight accommodation of persons,” including subportions thereof.¹¹⁸ It is unclear whether this burglary provision’s application to “vehicle[s]” “adapted for the overnight accommodation of persons” renders it broader than the federal, generic definition of burglary.

As a starting point, we know that the generic definition of burglary outlined by the *Taylor* Court extends only to the burglary of “building[s] or other structure[s],” and we know that this category generally excludes vehicles.¹¹⁹ Indeed, we have the Supreme Court’s own language on the subject. In the decisions it has issued after *Taylor*, the Supreme Court has had occasion to consider whether several other state burglary statutes fit within *Taylor*’s generic definition. In holding that these statutes are broader than generic burglary, the Court has suggested that vehicles ordinarily fall outside the scope of generic burglary.

Thus, in *Shepard v. United States*, the Court considered the ACCA viability of a Massachusetts burglary statute that extended to unlawful entry into “a build-

¹¹⁷ TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.02(a)(1) (2017).

¹¹⁸ TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.01(1) (emphasis added).

¹¹⁹ See TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.04 (outlining separate “burglary of vehicles” offense).

ing, ship, vessel or vehicle.”¹²⁰ The Court said that “[t]he [ACCA] makes burglary a violent felony *only if* committed in a building or enclosed space . . . , *not in a boat or motor vehicle.*”¹²¹ More recently, in *Mathis*, the Court considered an Iowa statute extending the scope of burglary to “any building, structure, [or] land, water, or air vehicle . . . adapted for overnight accommodation of persons, or occupied by persons for the purpose of carrying on business or other activity, or for the storage or safekeeping of anything of value.”¹²² The *Mathis* Court held that this definition exceeded the scope of generic burglary, and, as in *Shepard*, it used language to suggest that vehicles are outside of that scope: “Iowa’s statute, by contrast, reaches a broader range of places: ‘any building, structure, [or] land, water, or air vehicle.’”¹²³ The Court paid no attention to the limiting characteristics imposed by the Iowa statute—the requirement that any vehicle be “adapted for overnight accommodation of persons, or occupied by persons for the purpose of carrying on business or other activity, or for the storage or safekeeping of anything of value.” Instead, the Court flatly said that the Iowa statute is overbroad because it reaches “*land, water, or air vehicle[s]*,” full stop. The natural implication of the Court’s repeated language across these cases is that vehicles should generally be treated as falling outside the scope of generic burglary.¹²⁴

¹²⁰ 544 U.S. at 31 (O’Connor, J., dissenting).

¹²¹ *Id.* at 15-16 (emphasis added).

¹²² IOWA CODE § 702.12 (2013).

¹²³ 136 S. Ct. at 2250.

¹²⁴ *See also Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 599 (explaining that “[a] few States’ burglary statutes . . . define burglary more broadly [than

On the question of whether narrower subcategories of vehicles such as RVs and motor homes are generic, the picture gets decidedly blurrier. On one hand, we have the legislative history of the ACCA that the *Taylor* Court found relevant. While the ACCA itself offers no textual definition of burglary, the ACCA's predecessor statute did, and it extended only to buildings.¹²⁵

the ACCA], e.g., . . . by including *places, such as automobiles and vending machines, other than buildings*" (emphasis added)). The dissenters in the recent Sixth Circuit en banc case, *United States v. Stitt*, 860 F.3d 854 (6th Cir. 2017) (en banc), *petition for cert. filed* (U.S. Nov. 21, 2017) (No. 17-765), argued that attending to the Court's language in this way risks "mak[ing] the mistake of reading an opinion . . . like a statute." *Id.* at 878 (Sutton, J., dissenting). But on the other hand, *Mathis* itself indicates that "a good rule of thumb for reading [the Supreme Court's] decisions is that what they say and what they mean are one and the same; and indeed, [the Supreme Court has] previously insisted on that point with reference to ACCA's elements-only approach." 136 S. Ct. at 2254. To hold otherwise would mean not only deciding that the Court did not mean what it said about vehicles being outside the scope of generic burglary, but also that it did not "mean[] what it said about *meaning what it says*." 860 F.3d at 871 (Boggs, J., concurring).

¹²⁵ See Armed Career Criminal Act of 1984, Pub. L. 98-473, § 1803(2), 98 Stat. 1837, 2185 (1984) (defining burglary as "any felony consisting of entering or remaining surreptitiously *within a building* that is property of another with intent to engage in conduct constituting a Federal or State offense" (emphasis added)).

The legislative history of this statute does complicate the picture somewhat. A 1983 Senate Report suggested that the definition of burglary in the predecessor statute was "essentially the offense entitled 'criminal entry' from Section 1712 of the Criminal Code Reform Act." S. Rep. No. 98-190, at 20 (1983). An earlier Senate Report concerning the Criminal Code Reform Act, in turn, offered guidance on the scope of the criminal entry offense. According to *that* Senate Report, the scope of the word "building" in the criminal

The definition was dropped when the statute was updated into its current form, but the *Taylor* Court explained that “[t]he legislative history as a whole suggests that the deletion of the 1984 definition of burglary may have been an inadvertent casualty of a complex drafting process,” and it concluded that “there is there simply is no plausible alternative that Congress could have had in mind.”¹²⁶ As a result, the Court described *Taylor*’s generic burglary definition as “practically identical” to the one deleted from the statute.¹²⁷

We also have the sources that the *Taylor* Court relied on in crafting its generic definition. As explained before, the sole source directly cited by the *Taylor* Court for its generic burglary formulation is LaFave and Scott. On the same page of the treatise edition that the Supreme Court cited for its proposition that generic burglary must occur within “a building or other structure,” the authors explain that some state bur-

entry offense extended to “everything from a warehouse or other structure used to carry on a business to any manner of habitation, including a *vessel, camper, tent or house.*” S. Rep. No. 97-307, at 656 (1981) (emphasis added). However, the Criminal Code Reform Act contained a specific legislative definition of “building” that applied to the criminal entry offense. And this definition rendered the word broader than its ordinary meaning. S. 1630, 97th Cong. § 111 (1982) (defining “building” as “an immovable or movable structure that is at least partially enclosed”). The 1984 statute was enacted without this special legislative definition of “building,” so as a matter of statutory interpretation, it would have likely been given its narrower ordinary meaning. *See, e.g., F.D.I.C. v. Meyer*, 510 U.S. 471, 476 (1994) (“In the absence of [a statutory definition], we construe a statutory term in accordance with its ordinary or natural meaning.”).

¹²⁶ 495 U.S. at 582, 589-90.

¹²⁷ *Id.* at 598.

glary statutes go farther. They write that, in contrast to statutes limited to “buildings” and “structures,” some statutes “extend to still other places, such as all or some types of vehicles.”¹²⁸ And among the statutes listed as extending to “still other places” is the very Texas burglary of a habitation provision at issue in this case.¹²⁹ From this, we can conclude that LaFave and Scott did not consider a vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation to count as “a building or other structure”—the locational category that the *Taylor* Court adopted for its definition.

The weight of federal case law seems to support the conclusion that the federal generic definition of burglary may not extend to any vehicles, even the narrower subset circumscribed by the Texas burglary of a habitation provision. Almost every federal court that has found itself in the position to consider similar burglary statutes has concluded that the inclusion of any vehicles renders a state burglary provision nongeneric.¹³⁰

¹²⁸ 2 Wayne R LaFave & Austin W. Scott, Jr., *Substantive Criminal Law*, § 8.13(c), 471 & n.85 (1986).

¹²⁹ *Id.*; see also *Stitt*, 860 F.3d at 864 (Boggs, J., concurring).

¹³⁰ *Stitt*, 860 F.3d at 860 (holding that because Tennessee burglary statute extends to vehicles adapted for overnight accommodation, it is nongeneric); *United States v. Lamb*, 847 F.3d 928, 931 (8th Cir. 2017), *petition for cert. filed* (U.S. July 10, 2017) (No. 17-5152) (holding that because Wisconsin burglary statute extends to motor homes, it is nongeneric); *United States v. White*, 836 F.3d 437, 445 (4th Cir. 2016) (holding that because West Virginia burglary statute extends to vehicles used as dwellings, it is nongeneric); *United States v. Grisel*, 488 F.3d 844, 851 n.5 (9th Cir. 2007) (en banc) (“To the extent that our precedents suggest that state statutes satisfy the categorical inquiry when they define burglary to include non-buildings adapted for overnight accommodation, they are overruled.”); see also *United States v. Cisneros*, 826 F.3d 1190, 1194

Almost all of the cases that the government cites to the contrary have been overruled¹³¹ or pre-dated *Shepard* and *Mathis*.¹³²

The government appropriately recognizes that vehicles are generally excluded but, on the other hand, it asks that we draw the generic definition’s line for “building[s] or other structure[s]” to include vehicles that double as “dwellings” or “mobile habitations.” It points to several sources that it argues support its choice to read the definition in this way. The government directs us,

(9th Cir. 2016) (holding that because Oregon burglary statute extends to vehicles “which regularly or intermittently [are] occupied by a person lodging therein at night,” it is nongeneric); *accord United States v. Gundy*, 842 F.3d 1156, 1164-65 (11th Cir. 2016), *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 66 (2017) (holding that in part because Georgia burglary statute extends to “vehicle[s] . . . designed for use as the dwelling of another,” it is nongeneric).

¹³¹ *United States v. Sweeten*, 933 F.2d 765, 771 (9th Cir. 1991) (holding that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) is generic), *overruled by Grisel*, 488 F.3d 844.

¹³² *See United States v. Spring*, 80 F.3d 1450, 1462 (10th Cir. 1996) (adopting *Sweeten*’s analysis to hold that § 30.02(a)(1) is generic). In *United States v. Silva*, 957 F.2d 157 (5th Cir. 1992), we too came to the conclusion that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) is generic without considering the vehicle question. *Id.* at 162.

The lone post-*Mathis* exception is the recent Seventh Circuit decision, *Smith v. United States*, 877 F.3d 720 (7th Cir. 2017). The Illinois statute considered in that case is different from the one before us in an important respect—it applies only to “mobile homes” and “trailers,” and the Seventh Circuit concluded that it “does not cover the entry of vehicles (including boats) and tents.” *See id.* at 723. The Seventh Circuit’s decision was consequently fairly incremental in nature. *See, e.g., id.* at 725 (“We grant that, per *Shepard v. United States*, 544 U.S. 13, 15-16, 125 S. Ct. 1254, 161 L.Ed.2d 205 (2005), an unoccupied boat or motor vehicle is not a ‘structure.’”).

for instance, to the Model Penal Code's burglary definition relied upon by the *Taylor* Court. That definition extends to "occupied structures," which is defined to include "vehicle[s] . . . adapted for overnight accommodation" and others.¹³³

The government also argues that all conduct that would have been considered burglary for the purposes of the common law must also be burglary for the purposes of the ACCA. Because "mobile habitations" such as motor homes and RVs would have been valid common law burglary sites,¹³⁴ the argument goes, they must also be valid generic burglary sites; the former is just a subset of the latter.¹³⁵

Finally, the government presents a list of state statutes in effect at the time *Taylor* was decided. Fixing

¹³³ MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.0(1) (Am. Law. Inst. 1980). It is worth noting, however, that unlike the ACCA's predecessor statute and the LaFave and Scott treatise, the *Taylor* Court only said that its definition "approximates" the one in the Model Penal Code. Compare 495 U.S. at 598 n.8 ("[The generic definition] *approximates* that adopted by the drafters of the Model Penal Code." (emphasis added)), with *id.* at 598 ("This generic meaning, of course, is *practically identical* to the 1984 definition that, in 1986, was omitted from the enhancement provision." (emphasis added)). Additionally, the comments to the provision suggest that the locational element is narrower than it may appear to be at first glance: the Model Penal Code definition categorically excludes "freight cars, motor vehicles other than home trailers or mobile offices, ordinary small watercraft, and the like." MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.1 cmt. (3).

¹³⁴ This claim, as well as the major premise that common law burglary is a subset of generic burglary, is of course subject to reasonable contestation. See *Stitt*, 860 F.3d at 870 (Boggs, J., concurring); *id.* at 872-73 (White, J., concurring).

¹³⁵ See *id.* at 876 (Sutton, J., dissenting).

on the *Taylor* Court’s statement that the ACCA’s generic definition of burglary corresponds to “the generic sense in which the term [was then] used in the criminal codes of most States,” it argues that our reading cannot be correct because it would render too many *Taylor*-contemporaneous burglary statutes nongeneric. Indeed, according to the government, “the protection of mobile dwellings was part of the vast majority of state codes when Congress enacted the ACCA.”

There are several problems with at least this final line of argument.¹³⁶ First, the character of the state statutes belies the very limitation the government argues it supports; the “vast majority” of state statutes that expressly considered vehicles seem to have either extended to all vehicles¹³⁷ or extended to some subset of vehicles broader than dwellings and habitations.¹³⁸ Thus, the government’s argument proves too much.¹³⁹ If its approach were correct, it would make no sense to draw the line at vehicles-*cum*-dwellings—the tallying

¹³⁶ *Accord id.* at 859 (rejecting the value of the government’s “own fifty-state survey of the burglary statutes in effect at the time the Court decided *Taylor*”).

¹³⁷ *E.g.*, CONN. GEN. STAT. §§ 53a-100, 53a-103 (1979) (defining “building” for purposes of burglary as including “any watercraft, aircraft, trailer, sleeping car, railroad car, other structure or vehicle”).

¹³⁸ *E.g.*, MONT. CODE ANN. §§ 45-2-101, 45-6-204 (1985) (defining “occupied structure” for purposes of burglary as “building, vehicle, or other place suitable for human occupancy or night lodging of persons or *for carrying on business*” (emphasis added)).

¹³⁹ By our count, well over thirty states included some kinds of vehicles outside just mobile dwellings and habitations in their burglary statutes. Far fewer states—only around seven—drew the line to include only those vehicles that could plausibly be called dwellings or mobile habitations.

would require some larger subcategory of vehicles to count as viable locations for generic burglary. And this would make the Supreme Court’s own articulations of the definition of generic burglary and seemingly categorical disavowals of vehicles somewhat bizarre in context. We also do not read *Taylor* to mean that any feature of a burglary provision in effect in more than half of the states when *Taylor* was decided must *ipso facto* be part of the federal generic definition.¹⁴⁰ The *Taylor* Court seemingly well understood that its generic definition could be underinclusive: “[a]lthough the exact formulations vary, the generic, contemporary meaning of burglary contains *at least the following elements . . .*.”¹⁴¹ Put another way, nowhere in *Taylor* did the Court characterize its definition of generic burglary as the maximum common denominator among then-contemporaneous state burglary statutes. It opted to be more conservative, relying on a set of discrete sources it deemed useful and distilling the set of characteristics it deemed appropriate. *Taylor* offers no invitation to reset the Court’s work.

B.

As we need not decide the question of whether Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) is nongeneric, for the reason that the powerful arguments we have described lie on

¹⁴⁰ See, e.g., Recent Case, *United States v. McArthur*, 850 F.3d 925 (8th Cir. 2017), 131 HARV. L. REV. 642, 648 (2017) (“*Taylor* itself rejected elements that were common to most states and neither relied exclusively on the status of state burglary statutes nor made any suggestion that lower courts should perform such a survey of state burglary statutes each time they apply the categorical approach.”).

¹⁴¹ *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598 (emphasis added).

both sides of it, it is not immediately clear where the Texas burglary of a habitation provision falls. We welcome any additional guidance from the Court.¹⁴²

VI.

To summarize, the burglary provisions encoded in Texas Penal Code §§ 30.02(a)(1) and (3) are indivisible. Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3) is nongeneric because it criminalizes entry and subsequent intent formation rather than entry *with* intent to commit a crime. For these reasons, Herrold's ACCA sentence enhancement cannot stand. We VACATE and REMAND to the district court to resentence him in accordance with our decision today.

¹⁴² See generally *Petition for Writ of Certiorari, Stitt*, 860 F.3d 854 (No. 17-675); *Petition for Writ of Certiorari, United States v. Sims*, 854 F.3d 1037 (8th Cir. 2017) (No. 17-766).

HAYNES, Circuit Judge, joined by JOLLY, JONES, CLEMENT, OWEN, ELROD, and SOUTHWICK, Circuit Judges, dissenting:

The majority opinion upends years of well-settled law. Just over a year ago, this court confirmed that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) is a divisible statute, and the Supreme Court denied certiorari. *United States v. Uribe*, 838 F.3d 667 (5th Cir. 2016), *cert. denied*, 137 S. Ct. 1359 (2017). The effect of the majority opinion, in addition to unsettling established precedent, is to render all burglary convictions in the second-most populous state in the country nullities as far as the ACCA is concerned. That is no small thing. In just a single year, Texans reported 152,444 burglaries, all of which now escape the ACCA's reach. See TEX. DEP'T PUB. SAFETY, CRIME IN TEXAS 2015 6 (2015), <http://www.dps.texas.gov/crimereports/15/citCh2.pdf>. From this misguided determination, I respectfully dissent.

As a general matter, we are all in agreement, as the majority opinion describes, that the quest in cases such as this one is to determine: (1) what are the elements of generic burglary, and (2) does the Texas statute match those elements? *Mathis v. United States*, 136 S. Ct. 2243, 2248 (2016). If part of the statute does match and part does not, we end up in the divisibility quagmire addressed at length in the majority opinion. But if all parts of the statute match the elements for generic burglary, then the conviction “counts” under the ACCA, regardless of any divisibility issues. I conclude that the latter is true here and, therefore, I respectfully disagree about the necessity of deciding the divisibility of Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a).

But analyzing the first question also requires a bit of a step back. Why are we asking what “generic burglary” is in the first place? It is not a law school exam hypothetical but, rather, an attempt to give effect to Congress’s use of the term “burglary” in the ACCA. *See Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2252 (explaining that the first of three reasons for the approach employed by the Court is effectuating the intent of Congress). Since the Supreme Court first implemented the categorical approach to the ACCA, it has defined “burglary” as “the generic sense in which the term is now used in the criminal code of most States.” *Taylor v. United States*, 495 U.S. 575, 598 (1990). Using that measuring stick—and no Supreme Court case suggests we should not—this case becomes much easier.

Both past and present state statutes indicate § 30.02(a) is generic burglary. At the time the ACCA was amended to include the new definition of burglary, 41 states (covering 84% of the population) defined burglary to reach crimes committed in vehicles used or adapted for overnight habitation (some of which involve generic vehicles which I recognize the Court has clearly excluded from ACCA consideration).¹ That pattern

¹ *See* ALA. CODE § 13A-7-1(1) (1983); ALASKA STAT. § 11.81.900 (1984); ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 13-1501(8) (1981); ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-39-101 (1987); CAL. PENAL CODE § 459 (1984); COLO. REV. STAT. § 18-4-101 (1981); CONN. GEN. STAT. § 53a-100 (1979); DEL. CODE ANN. tit. 11, § 222(1) (1981); FLA. STAT. § 810.011 (1983); GA. CODE ANN. § 16-7-1 (1984); HAW. REV. STAT. § 708-800 (1985); IDAHO CODE ANN. § 18-1401 (1981); ILL. REV. STAT. ch. 38, § 2-6 (1983); IOWA CODE § 702.12 (1985); KAN. STAT. ANN. § 21-3715 (1975); KY. REV. STAT. ANN. § 511.010 (1980); LA. REV. STAT. ANN. § 14:62 (1980); ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 17-a, § 2(10), (24) (1980); MINN. STAT. § 609.556 (1984); MO. REV. STAT. § 569.010 (1979);

continues today, with 41 states (covering more than 85% of the population) defining burglary to reach such crimes.² Similarly, as the Supreme Court has recog-

MONT. CODE ANN. § 45-2-101 (1985); NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. § 205.060 (1989); N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. § 635:1 (1980); N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:18-1 (1981); N.M. STAT. ANN. § 30-16-3 (1978); N.Y. PENAL LAW § 140.00(2) (1979); N.D. CENT. CODE § 12.1-22-02 (1973); OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 2909.01 (1982); OKLA. STAT. tit. 21, § 1435 (1961); OR. REV. STAT. § 164.205(1) (1971); 18 PA. CONS. STAT. ANN. § 3501 (1972); S.C. CODE ANN. § 16-11-310(1) (1985); S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-1-2 (1976); TENN. CODE ANN. § 39-3-401 (1982); TEX. PENAL CODE ANN. § 30.01 (1974); UTAH CODE ANN. § 76-6-201(1) (1973); VA. CODE ANN. § 18.2-90 (1985); WASH. REV. CODE § 9A.04.110 (1986); W. VA. CODE § 61-3-11 (1973); WISC. STAT. § 943.10 (1977); WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-301 (1985). This list includes statutes that reach all vehicles, as well as vehicles “adapted” or “used” for habitation and substantially similar statutes. Population numbers are based on the United States Census Bureau’s estimate of the 1986 population. *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1988*, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1987/compendia/statab/108ed.html> (last updated July 23, 2015). “United States census data is an appropriate and frequent subject of judicial notice.” *Hollinger v. Home State Mut. Ins. Co.*, 654 F.3d 564, 571-72 (5th Cir. 2011).

² See ALA. CODE § 13A-7-1(2), (3); ALASKA STAT. § 11.81.900(b)(22); ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 13-1501(8)(11); ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-39-101(4)(A); CAL. PENAL CODE § 459; COLO. REV. STAT. § 18-4-101(1); FLA. STAT. § 810.011(2); GA. CODE ANN. § 16-7-1; HAW. REV. STAT. § 708-800; 720 ILL. COMP. STAT. ANN. 5/19-3; IOWA CODE § 702.12; KAN. STAT. ANN. § 21-3715; KY. REV. STAT. ANN. § 511.010(1)(a); ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 17-a, § 2(10), (24); MINN. STAT. § 609.556(3); MO. REV. STAT. § 556.061(30); MONT. CODE ANN. § 45-2-101(47); N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. § 635:1(III); N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:18-1; N.M. STAT. ANN. § 30-16-3; *State v. Lara*, 587 P.2d 52, 53 (N.M. Ct. App. 1978) (defining “dwelling house” to mean anywhere “customarily used as living quarters”); N.Y. PENAL LAW § 140.00(2); N.D. CENT. CODE. § 12.1-05-12(2); OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 2909.01(C); OR. REV. STAT. § 164.205(1); 18 PA. CONST. STAT. ANN. § 3501; S.C. CODE

nized, at the time of the ACCA's passage numerous states protected individuals from burglaries committed by "remaining in" a structure. *See id.* My tally is more than half the states at the time of the ACCA amendment³ and 30 today.⁴ Texas's § 30.02(a)(2) and

ANN. § 16-11-310(1); S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-1-2; TENN. CODE ANN. § 39-14-401(1); TEX. PENAL CODE ANN. § 30.01; UTAH CODE ANN. § 76-6-201(1), (2); VA. CODE ANN. § 18.2-90; WASH. REV. CODE § 9A.04.110(5), (7); W. VA. CODE § 61-3-11(c); WISC. STAT. § 943.10; WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-1-104(a)(v). This list includes statutes with specific provisions applying burglary to vehicles "adapted" or "used" for habitation and substantially similar statutes. Population estimate is based on the United States Census Bureau's most recent estimate of populations by state. *See County Population Totals Datasets: 2010-2016*, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2016/demo/popest/counties-total.html> (last updated July 25, 2017).

³ *See* W. LAFAVE & A. SCOTT, SUBSTANTIVE CRIMINAL LAW § 8.13(b) n.44 (1986) (listing the following 25 "remaining in" statutes at that time: ALA. CODE § 13A-7-5 (1983); ALASKA STAT. ANN. 11.46.310 (1984); ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 13-1506 (1981); ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-39-201 (1987); COLO. REV. STAT. § 18-4-202 (1981); CONN. GEN. STAT. § 53a-101 (1979); FLA. STAT. § 810.02 (1983); GA. CODE ANN. § 16-7-1 (1984); HAWAII REV. STAT. § 708-810 (1985); ILL. REV. STAT. ch. 38 § 19-1 (1983); Iowa Code § 713.5 (1985); KAN. STAT. ANN. 21-3715 (1975); KY. REV. STAT. ANN. § 511.020 (1980); ME. STAT. tit. 17-A, § 401 (1980); MINN. STAT. § 609.582 (1984); MO. REV. STAT. § 569.160 (1979); MON. CODE ANN. § 45-6-204 (1985); N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:18-2 (1981); N.Y. PENAL LAW § 140.20 (McKinney 1979); OR. REV. STAT. § 164.215 (1971); S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-32-1 (1976); TEX. PENAL CODE ANN., § 30.02 (West 1974); UTAH CODE ANN. § 76-6-202 (1973); WASH. REV. CODE § 9A.52.020 (1986); WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-301 (1985)); *see also* 11 DEL. CODE ANN. tit. 11, § 825 (1981) (second-degree burglary occurs where person knowingly enters or remains unlawfully in a building and when, in effecting entry or while in the building or in immediate flight therefrom, causes physical injury to any person who is not a participant in the crime); *see generally*

Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2911.12 (1974) (burglary statute prohibited, “by force, stealth, or deception, . . . trespass in an occupied structure,” while defining “trespass” to include “knowingly enter[ing] or remain[ing] on the land or premises of another” (emphasis added)).

The majority opinion particularly relies on the New York Court of Appeals decision in *People v. Gaines*, 74 N.Y.2d 358 (1989) for its interpretation of the New York “remaining in” statute. Maj. Op. at 24. This reliance is undue. As an initial point, I do not today address the manner in which each individual state has defined “remaining in” within its statute. But as to *Gaines* specifically, it was not decided until 1989. To say that Congress meant burglary to encompass only the view expressed in *Gaines* is not logical, because *Gaines* was not written until after 1986, which is when the ACCA was amended. Also important is that the statute interpreted in *Gaines* was different from the Texas statute in question as it lacked the requirement that the Texas statute has of unlawful entry coupled with actual commission or attempted commission of a crime.

⁴ See ALA. CODE § 13A-7-5; ALASKA STAT. § 11.46.310; ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 13-1506; ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-39-201; COLO. REV. STAT. § 18-4-202; CONN. GEN. STAT. § 53a-101; DEL. CODE ANN. tit. 11, § 824; FLA. STAT. ANN. § 810.02; GA. CODE ANN. § 16-7-1; HAW. REV. STAT. ANN. § 708-810; 720 ILL. COMP. STAT. ANN. 5/19-1; IOWA CODE ANN. § 713.1; KAN. STAT. ANN. § 21-5807; KY. REV. STAT. ANN. § 511.020; ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 17-A, § 401; MICH. COMP. LAWS SERV. ANN. § 750.110a; MINN. STAT. ANN. § 609.582; MO. REV. STAT. § 569.160; MONT. CODE ANN. § 45-6-204; N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. § 635:1; N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:18-2; N.D. CENT. CODE § 12.1-22-02; OR. REV. STAT. ANN. § 164.215; S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-32-1; TENN. CODE ANN. § 39-14-402; TEX. PENAL CODE ANN. § 30.02; UTAH CODE ANN. § 76-6-202; VT. STAT. ANN. tit. 13, § 1201; WASH. REV. CODE ANN. § 9A.52.020; WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-301.

The statutes of Michigan and Minnesota, like Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3), provide that a person may commit a “home invasion” or “burglary,” respectively, by entering without consent and committing a crime while inside.

(a)(3) fit firmly within the ambit of the “remaining in” statutes that constitute generic burglary.

None of the above matters, of course, if clear Supreme Court precedent binds us to the outcome described in the majority opinion. Our role as a lower court is to faithfully apply the law as interpreted by the Supreme Court. However, I conclude that the majority opinion goes awry in deciding that § 30.02(a)(3) is not “generic burglary.” I also conclude that defining “habitation” to include vehicles adapted for overnight accommodation does not remove this subsection from the class of “generic burglary.” Accordingly, Herrold’s convictions should count for ACCA purposes.

I begin with § 30.02(a)(3). We have longstanding precedent holding that this subsection is not “generic burglary.” See *United States v. Emeary*, 794 F.3d 526 (5th Cir. 2015); *United States v. Castaneda*, 740 F.3d 169 (5th Cir. 2013) (per curiam); *United States v. Constante*, 544 F.3d 584 (5th Cir. 2008) (per curiam). However, since the majority of the en banc court has determined to reassess precedent concerning § 30.02(a), we can and should reassess this particular precedent as well.

Subsection (a)(3) provides: “(a) A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person: . . . (3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.” Thus, (a)(3) requires unprivileged entry into the building or habitation, as required for “generic burglary.” Herrold argues, however, that (a)(3) differs from “generic burglary” because it does not require the intent to commit the “felony, theft, or assault” to have been formed before or at the time of the unprivileged entry. Our court agreed with this

overall argument in *United States v. Herrera-Montes*, 490 F.3d 390, 392 (5th Cir. 2007) (analyzing Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-14-402), and in *Constante* we applied it to (a)(3), *see* 544 F.3d at 587.

As subsequent decisions from other circuits have demonstrated, the analysis of *Constante* wholly overlooks that unlawfully “remaining in” a building with intent to commit a crime also qualifies as “generic burglary.” *United States v. Priddy*, 808 F.3d 676, 684-85 (6th Cir. 2015), *abrogated on other grounds by United States v. Stitt*, 860 F.3d 854 (6th Cir. 2017) (en banc), *petition for cert. filed*, (U.S. Nov. 24, 2017) (No.17-765) (analyzing the same Tennessee burglary statute as *Herrera-Montes* and coming to a different result); *United States v. Bonilla*, 687 F.3d 188, 193-94 (4th Cir. 2012); *see also United States v. Reina-Rodriguez*, 468 F.3d 1147, 1155-56 (9th Cir. 2006), *overruled on other grounds by United States v. Grisel*, 488 F.3d 844, 851 n.5 (9th Cir. 2007) (en banc). *Bonilla* explained that excluding statutes such as (a)(3) is based upon a “too rigid” reading of *Taylor* “given that a defendant convicted under [§] (a)(3) necessarily developed the intent to commit the crime while remaining in the building, if he did not have it at the moment he entered.” 687 F.3d at 194.

In *Taylor*, the Court determined that the restrictive common-law definition of burglary could not have been what Congress intended when it deleted a definition of burglary from the ACCA. 495 U.S. at 593-95. The Court reasoned that many states had moved beyond the common-law definition, and “construing ‘burglary’ to mean common-law burglary would come close to nullifying that term’s effect in the statute, because few

of the crimes now generally recognized as burglaries would fall within the common-law definition.” *Id.* at 594. Instead, the Court explained that “generic burglary” contains “*at least* the following elements: an unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, a building or other structure, with intent to commit a crime.” *Id.* at 598 (emphasis added). In light of the Court’s express rejection of the common-law definition, and the criminal codes of nearly half the states at the time, the *Taylor* definition plainly does not require intent to commit an additional crime at the time of entry, as at common law.

In adopting this generic definition, the Court recognized that “exact formulations” of the elements may vary among the states, and so for ACCA purposes, a state statute need only correspond “in substance to the generic meaning of burglary.” *Id.* at 598-99. *Taylor* is therefore not concerned with definitional technicalities but, rather, with substantively enforcing Congress’s policy of singling out a property crime that bears “inherent potential for harm to persons.” *Id.* at 588. Indeed, the omission of a definition for burglary following the 1986 ACCA amendments suggests “that Congress did not wish to specify an exact formulation that an offense must meet in order to count as ‘burglary’ for enhancement purposes.” *Id.* at 598-99.

The Fourth and Sixth Circuits have accordingly concluded that unlawful entry combined with an attempted or completed felony or theft therein qualifies as generic burglary under *Taylor*.⁵ Indeed, the only

⁵ The Eighth Circuit appears to have issued conflicting decisions on this issue. Compare *United States v. McArthur*, 836 F.3d 931, 943-44 (8th Cir. 2016) (concluding that the Minnesota provision is

other federal circuit to determine whether a prior conviction under (a)(3) constitutes generic burglary has come to the opposite conclusion than this court has today. See *Bonilla*, 687 F.3d at 193. In doing so, the Fourth Circuit reasoned that because (a)(3) only applies where a defendant's presence in a building is unlawful, a completed or attempted felony therein necessarily requires intent to commit the felony either prior to unlawful entry or while unlawfully remaining in the building, which is all *Taylor* requires. *Id.* In other words, (a)(3) substantively contains the requisite intent element because to attempt or complete a crime requires intent to commit the crime. Similarly, in *Priddy*, the Sixth Circuit considered a Tennessee statute essentially identical to (a)(3) and found that it substantially corresponds to *Taylor's* definition of generic burglary. 808 F.3d at 684-85; see also *United States v. Ferguson*, 868 F.3d 514, 515-16 (6th Cir. 2017) (affirming the continued vitality of *Priddy*). The Sixth Circuit reasoned that unlawful entry combined with an attempted or committed felony or theft therein is a “‘remaining-in’ variant of generic burglary because

not generic burglary where it defined burglary as including entering without consent and stealing or committing a felony or gross misdemeanor inside), with *United States v. Pledge*, 821 F.3d 1035, 1037 (8th Cir. 2016) (concluding that burglary under TENN. CODE ANN. § 39-14-403, which is “burglary of a habitation as defined in §§ 39-14-401 and 39-14-402” qualifies as generic burglary, where § 39-14-402 defines burglary as including entry without consent and committing or attempting a felony, theft, or assault) and *United States v. Eason*, 643 F.3d 622, 624 (8th Cir. 2011) (concluding that the TENN. CODE. ANN. § 39-14-402 subpart defining burglary as an entry without consent and committing or attempting a felony, theft, or assault “plainly set[s] forth the elements of generic burglary as defined by the Supreme Court in *Taylor*”).

someone who enters a building or structure and, while inside, commits or attempts to commit a felony will necessarily have remained inside the building or structure to do so.” *Priddy*, 808 F.3d at 685. Even though the statute does not use the words “remaining in,” it nonetheless contains that element because a person must remain in a building to commit a crime inside of it.

Bonilla, *Priddy*, and this case each illuminate an important aspect of § 30.02(a)(3): It actually requires more than the minimum described by the Court in *Taylor* in that it requires an unlawful or unprivileged entry AND the actual *commission or attempted commission* of a crime; mere intent is not enough.⁶ There is nothing overbroad or overblown about considering as “generic burglary” an offense that involves an unlawful entry into a structure, plus the intent to commit a crime formed while remaining in the structure as evidenced by the actual commission or attempted commission of the crime. These are not mere irrelevancies a defendant would have no reason to challenge. *Cf. Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2253 (explaining one of the reasons for an “elements-focus approach” is to avoid the unfairness to defendants who had no reason to dispute facts that were unnecessary to sustain the prior conviction). Thus, the “basic elements” of burglary as established in *Taylor* are present: 1) unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, 2) a building or structure, 3) with intent to commit a—here as evidenced by the actual commission or attempted commission of the

⁶ By stating this, I do not imply that having a more severe requirement in one part can make up a deficit in another part and “add up” to generic burglary. I am simply making the point that the Texas statute meets and exceeds the *Taylor* definition.

crime, not mere intent. *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598. A contrary reading undercuts the very concept of “generic” burglary adopted in *Taylor*, where the Court said Congress aimed to prevent “offenders from invoking the arcane technicalities of the common-law definition of burglary to evade the [ACCA’s] sentence-enhancement provision.” *Id.* at 589.

The majority opinion contends that defining “remaining in” broadly both “involve[s] a less culpable mental state on the part of the defendant” and “presents less danger to victims.” Maj. Op. at 24. I respectfully disagree on both counts. The timing of when intent was formed implicates neither the culpability of the perpetrator nor the extent of danger to victims. If a perpetrator forms intent prior to entering a home but, once inside, discovers nothing worth taking, is he or she somehow less culpable or dangerous than a perpetrator who initially *unlawfully*⁷ enters without intent to commit an additional crime but, once inside, discovers something worth taking or, surprised by a resident in the home, commits an assault? The fact that (a)(3) requires commission or attempted commission of the crime implicates an even higher degree of culpability than one who commits burglary simply by forming the requisite intent prior to physical entry.

Consequently, because (a)(3) represents “generic burglary,” its inclusion in § 30.02 does not render the statute overbroad, even assuming *arguendo* § 30.02(a) is indivisible.

⁷ Thus, there is already a crime committed upon entry, not merely a decision to commit a crime later.

This conclusion leads me to turn to an issue addressed, but not decided, in the majority opinion, which Herrold asserts—whether the definition of “habitation” is overbroad because it includes “a vehicle that is adapted for the overnight accommodation of persons.” TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.01(1). The majority opinion ultimately does not decide the issue, noting there are “powerful arguments” on both sides of the debate. Maj. Op. at 35. However, because my outcome does not depend on the divisibility of § 30.02(a), I engage in such debate. Herrold appears to argue that a vehicle, regardless of purpose, is overbroad under §30.02(a). This leaves open the potentially drastic outcome that generic burglary excludes all vehicles. Thus, I carefully consider the practical limitations and real-world applications of Texas’s statute in analyzing whether a “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation” is overbroad.

As an initial note, it is important to remember that Texas draws a distinction between burglary of vehicles that become “habitations” and ordinary “vehicles.” See TEX. PENAL CODE §§ 30.01(3), 30.02, 30.04. Texas Penal Code § 30.04 criminalizes “burglary of vehicles,” which a person violates when, “without the effective consent of the owner, he breaks into or enters a vehicle or any part of a vehicle with intent to commit any felony or theft.” A “vehicle” is defined as “any device in, on, or by which any person or property is or may be propelled, moved, or drawn in the normal course of commerce or transportation, *except such devices as are classified as ‘habitation.’*” TEX. PENAL CODE § 30.01(3) (emphasis added). Texas draws a clear line between ordinary “vehicles,” which are prosecuted under § 30.04 and defined by § 30.01(3), and a “vehicle that is adapted for the overnight accommodation of persons,” as de-

fined under § 30.01(1) and prosecuted under § 30.02. Thus, a person who burglarizes an ordinary vehicle not adapted for overnight accommodation of persons cannot be prosecuted under § 30.02.

Despite these distinct statutes, Herrold argues that § 30.02(a) is prosecuted in Texas “to its full, non-generic extent.” To find that application of a state statute is applied in a non-generic manner, we require “that a defendant must ‘at least’ point to an actual state case.” *United States v. Castillo-Rivera*, 853 F.3d 218, 223 (5th Cir. 2017) (en banc) (citing *Gonzales v. Duenas-Alvarez*, 549 U.S. 183, 193 (2007)). But “even pointing to [a case where a statute has been applied non-generically] may not be satisfactory.” *Id.* Herrold brings to our attention an indictment, sentencing documents, and news articles related to a single case where charges were brought against multiple defendants under § 30.02 relating to mobile homes Herrold claims were “warehoused.” Frankly, that Herrold searched high and low among hundreds of thousands of Texas burglary convictions over the years and could find only this example supports rather than contradicts the position that the statute is applied only generically. In any event, as the case involves a plea of guilty to the offense after indictment with little facts and no precedential opinion, this case is not an example of a non-generic application of § 30.02, even assuming arguendo that the “warehousing” point matters.⁸ To the extent

⁸ The determination of whether a building or structure qualifies as a “habitation” is a fact-intensive, multifactor inquiry. *Blankenship v. State*, 780 S.W.2d 198, 209 (Tex. Crim. App. 1988) (en banc). The factors in *Blankenship*, such as considering whether “someone was using the . . . vehicle as a residence at the time”

Herrold argues other hypothetical scenarios will be non-generically treated, it is well-established that “clever hypotheticals” are not the basis upon which to judge a statute in question. *Id.* at 224. Stated simply, a Texas prosecutor bears the burden of proving that a “habitation” was burglarized; if insufficient or incredible evidence is put forward that a vehicle is a “habitation” as Texas defines it, the vehicle will not be treated as such. *See Blankenship v. State*, 780 S.W.2d 198, 209 (Tex. Crim. App. 1988) (en banc). Therefore, I focus on the non-hypothetical, practical applications of (a)(1) rather than implausible and unlikely “what ifs.”

The Supreme Court in discussing “automobiles” in *Taylor* or generic “vehicles” in the Iowa statute in *Mathis* was not faced with and did not address the question of whether, for purposes of determining what “generic burglary” involves, Congress would have intended to exclude mobile homes or similar vehicles adapted for overnight use. Rather, *Taylor* expressed concern about generic burglary encompassing crimes such as “shoplifting and theft of goods from a ‘locked’ but unoccupied automobile,” which were not clearly violent felonies, and subjecting citizens of different states to different sentencing enhancement requirements under the ACCA. 495 U.S. at 591 (citing CAL. PENAL CODE ANN. § 459 (1990)). Therefore, the Court determined the three elements of generic burglary, described above, to standardize the definition of generic

and “whether the . . . vehicle contained bedding, furniture, utilities, or other belongings common to a residential structure,” indicate to a reasonable juror the important considerations in determining whether a vehicle is adapted for overnight accommodation under § 30.02. *Id.*

burglary. *Id.* at 598. The Court never expressly considered a vehicle that is not only used as a home but particularly adapted for that use and, therefore, did not foreclose debate on the issue.

An understanding of *Taylor* is critical to resolving this issue. That being said, the term “vehicle” does not appear in the ACCA and only becomes an issue as the statute was interpreted by *Taylor* and applied to state statutes.⁹ We do not read cases like statutes,¹⁰ and therefore, we take “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation” to mean “the interpretation that best fits within” *Taylor*’s framework. See *Vance v. Ball State Univ.*, 133 S. Ct. 2434, 2446 (2013); *Stitt*, 860 F.3d at 881 (Sutton, J., dissenting). Herrold focuses on the use of the term “vehicles,” arguing that in *Taylor*, the Court concluded that “vehicles” are outside the definition of the generic burglary, so, he says, that’s it. The Government, on the other hand, points out that the Texas statute distinguishes between “vehicles” and “habitations” and that the latter—defined to encompass brick and mortar as well as mobile homes—is in keeping with the majority of state statutes protecting structures. The Government provided an appendix describing at least 25 states where, at the time of the ACCA’s enactment, structural burglary would have included vehi-

⁹ Interestingly, *Taylor* actually used the term “automobiles” and never used the word “vehicle.” Nonetheless, for purposes of this analysis, I take the terms to be interchangeable.

¹⁰ Of course, we carefully read Supreme Court precedents and follow their clear meaning. My point is simply that the notion of “textualism” is a statutory interpretation concept, not a case-application concept. Here, we lack clear Supreme Court precedent on the particular question, so we strive to apply the Court’s precedents to this situation.

cles expressly adapted for overnight accommodation of persons, like the Texas statute.¹¹ Combining those statutes with statutes that include vehicles broadly (which would thus be considered non-generic for ACCA purposes), occupied vehicles would have been included in the burglary statutes of at least 43 states.¹² As noted earlier, *Taylor* explicitly stated that what Congress “meant by ‘burglary’ [is] the generic sense in which the term is now used in the criminal codes of most States.” 495 U.S. at 598. *Taylor* also repeatedly spoke of a “building or structure,” capturing the idea that the location of the burglary could be a “structure” that was not a “building.” That idea captures well the “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation of persons,” which Texas includes within its definition of a habitation, as distinct from “automobiles,” which are not included.

¹¹ *See, e.g.*, ARK. CODE ANN. §§ 5-39-101, 5-39-201 (1987) (burglary includes an “occupiable structure” such as “a vehicle . . . where any person lives or . . . which is customarily used for overnight accommodation of persons”); GA. CODE ANN. § 16-7-1 (1984) (burglary includes any “vehicle . . . designed for use as the dwelling of another”); ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 17-A, §§ 2(24), 401 (1980) (burglary does not include “vehicles and other conveyances whose primary purpose is transportation of persons or property unless such vehicle or conveyance, or a section thereof, is also a dwelling place”).

¹² *See, e.g.*, CONN. GEN. STAT. §§ 53a-100, 53a-103 (1979) (burglary includes any building, “watercraft, aircraft, trailer, sleeping car, railroad car, other structure or vehicle”); LA. REV. STAT. ANN. § 14:62 (1980) (burglary includes “any dwelling, vehicle, watercraft, or other structure, movable or immovable”); S.D. CODIFIED LAWS §§ 22-1-2, 22-32-1, 22-32-3, 22-32-8 (1976) (defining burglary to involve a “structure,” which includes “any house, building, outbuilding, motor vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, railroad car, trailer, tent, or other edifice, vehicle or shelter, or any portion thereof”).

The *Taylor* Court’s understanding of Congress’s intent when enacting the ACCA further supports the conclusion that burglary of a “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation” is generic burglary. The Court noted that Congress did not limit ACCA predicate offense burglaries to those that may be especially dangerous, as “Congress apparently thought that all burglaries serious enough to be punishable by imprisonment for more than a year” were potentially violent and “likely to be committed by career criminals.” *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 588. Congress included burglary “because of its inherent *potential* for harm to persons.” *Id.* (emphasis added). A person would likely be present where the person is living, irrespective of whether that is a traditional home or a “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation.” Any other understanding could lead to anomalies, such as a sentencing enhancement for burglarizing an unoccupied building, but no sentencing enhancement if an occupied mobile home is burglarized. This would be inconsistent with Congress’s intent to protect individuals from harm. Again, there will be some structures of any kind that are unoccupied, but it is the potential for harm that the *Taylor* court addressed; the burglar may have no way to know whether the particular structure is currently occupied so including both occupied and unoccupied structures in the definition makes sense.

Further, Congress desired to prevent criminals from “invoking the arcane technicalities of the common-law definition of burglary to evade the sentence-enhancement provision.” *Id.* at 589. Would excluding a dwelling on the basis of whether it has (or, at some time, had) wheels not be invoking one of those very “arcane technicalities”? *Taylor* drew the line at the potential pre-

sence of people, not wheels.¹³ To say a traditional home is protected by ACCA enhancements whereas a mobile home is not simply does not comport with Congress's intent and *Taylor*'s reasoning.

In determining the “contemporary meaning of burglary,” the Government notes that the *Taylor* Court relied on Model Penal Code provisions that explicitly included “vehicles adapted for overnight accommodation” as an ACCA predicate crime. *See id.* at 598 n.8. At that time, the Model Penal Code stated that “[a] person is guilty of burglary if he enters a building or occupied structure, or separately secured or occupied portion thereof, with purpose to commit a crime therein.” *Id.* (quoting MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.1 (AM. LAW. INST. 1980)). The Model Penal Code defined an “occupied structure” as “any structure, *vehicle*, or place adapted for overnight accommodation of persons, or for carrying on business therein, whether or not a person is actually present.” MODEL PENAL CODE § 221.0 (AM. LAW. INST. 1980) (emphasis added); *see also* § 221.1 cmt. 3 at 73. Notably, this definition mirrors the language in the Texas burglary statute, and numerous other states' burglary statutes. *See* TEX. PENAL CODE ANN. § 30.01. The identity of definitions shows that the *Taylor* Court understood the exact language at issue today to constitute generic burglary, and Herrold's argument would narrow *Taylor* and the Model Penal Code definition on which it based its holding.

¹³ The analysis here is limited to the statutory construction question under the circumstances of ACCA enhancement. There are other areas of the law where distinguishing on the basis of whether a dwelling is mobile may be appropriate, but we need not address such situations here.

Subsequent Supreme Court decisions have not contradicted this understanding. In *Shepard v. United States*, 544 U.S. 13 (2005), the Court addressed a Massachusetts burglary statute that included vehicles and vessels in general. *Id.* at 15-16. The *Shepard* Court was principally faced with determining the permissible documents to be used to narrow a statute of conviction following a guilty plea, and therefore was not presented with, and did not address, the narrow subset of “vehicles adapted for overnight accommodation.” *Id.* at 26. Indeed, the Massachusetts statutes said nothing about “overnight accommodation.” See MASS. GEN. LAWS ANN., ch. 266, §§ 16, 18 (2000). Meanwhile, in *Mathis*, the Court analyzed an Iowa burglary statute that included two prongs, one of which criminalized, inter alia, burglary of any “land, water, or air vehicle,” and the second which focused on its use—“overnight accommodation, business or other activity, or the storage or safekeeping of anything of value.” See *State v. Dixon*, 826 N.W.2d 516, 2012 Iowa App. LEXIS 1043 *6 (Iowa App. 2012) (not designated for publication) (citing *State v. Pace*, 602 N.W.2d 764, 769 (Iowa 1999)); see also *State v. Rooney*, 862 N.W.2d 367, 376-78 (Iowa 2015) (discussing the two prongs). Because it concluded that statute was indivisible, it did not have to determine whether a vehicle adapted for overnight use as an accommodation by itself would qualify, as the Iowa statute also included vehicles used for storage and, thus, encompassed more than generic burglary.¹⁴ See *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2250 (emphasis omitted).

¹⁴ Indeed, the Solicitor General in that case had conceded the non-generic character of Iowa’s statute and argued only statutory divisibility to the Court. See *Mathis*, 136 S. Ct. at 2250. There-

Because the Supreme Court’s precedents do not answer the question directly, we are left to analyze whether burglary of a “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation” in a state distinguishing such burglaries from those of regular vehicles is more like “generic burglary” of a habitation, which is an ACCA burglary, or more like a burglary of a regular vehicle, which is not.

Our sister circuits have divided on this issue while analyzing the versions of their statutes in effect at the time of the case. The Tenth Circuit has directly assessed the Texas burglary statute at issue here, holding that it encompasses only generic burglary. *United States v. Spring*, 80 F.3d 1450, 1461-62 (10th Cir. 1996) (noting that Texas’s statute was “not analogous to the theft of an automobile or to the other property crimes whose relative lack of severity the *Taylor* Court (and presumably, Congress) meant to exclude from its generic definition” (quoting *United States v. Sweeten*, 933 F.2d 765, 771 (9th Cir. 1991), *overruled by Grisel*, 488 F.3d at 851 n.5 (en banc)). Most recently, the Seventh Circuit construed the Illinois residential burglary statute to determine that the inclusion of burglary of a “mobile home [or] trailer . . . in which at the time of the alleged offense the owners or occupants actually reside” did not preclude the statute from being considered generic burglary. *Smith v. United States*, 877 F.3d 720, 722, 724 (7th Cir. 2017). Regarding a mobile home, the court noted that, under Illinois law, a “mobile home” is nothing more than a “prefabricated house,” easily dismissing the argument that a mobile home is

fore, *Mathis* does not help us determine whether breaking and entering a “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation” as a standalone definition is generic burglary.

not a “building or structure.” *Id.* at 722-23. Although including the word “trailer” was a closer call, the court looked to the purposes of *Taylor* to hold that the Illinois residential burglary statute defined generic burglary, despite the fact that it included “[t]railers used as dwellings.” *Id.* at 724-25 (“We think it unlikely that the Justices set out in *Taylor* to adopt a definition of generic burglary that is satisfied by no more than a handful of states—if by any. Statutes should be read to have consequences rather than to set the stage for semantic exercises.”).

While other circuits have held that statutes with language akin to “vehicle adapted for overnight accommodation” do not encompass generic burglary, this determination has not been without debate and dissent. *See, e.g., Grisel*, 488 F.3d at 849-51 (holding that the Oregon burglary statute was broader than generic burglary, based upon the assumption, questioned by the dissent, that “in the criminal codes of most states, the term ‘building or structure’ does not encompass objects that could be described loosely as structures but that are either not designed for occupancy or not intended for use in one place”). Some of these circuits did not entertain much, if any, debate on the issue. *See, e.g., United States v. Sims*, 854 F.3d 1037, 1040 (8th Cir. 2017), *petition for cert. filed*, (U.S. Nov. 24, 2017) (No. 17-766); *United States v. Lamb*, 847 F.3d 928, 931 (8th Cir. 2017), *petition for cert. filed*, (U.S. July 10, 2017) (No. 17-5152); *United States v. Gundy*, 842 F.3d 1156, 1165 (11th Cir. 2016), *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 66 (2017); *United States v. White*, 836 F.3d 437, 445-46 (4th Cir. 2016).

An excellent example of the debate associated with this issue is *Stitt*. In *Stitt*, the court concluded that *Taylor* proscribed “all things mobile or transitory” from generic burglary. 860 F.3d at 859. Judge Sutton, writing for himself and five other judges in dissent, disagreed with this characterization of *Taylor*. *Id.* at 876 (Sutton, J., dissenting). Judge Sutton replied that the “no-vehicles-or-tents rule implies that *every state’s basic burglary statute is non-generic*,” essentially “render[ing] generic burglary a null set.” *Id.* at 880-81. He argued that this result is not required; “we should give the Court and Congress more credit” than understanding *Taylor* and the ACCA to mandate an essentially toothless statute. *Id.* at 881. As Judge Sutton so aptly put it, “[i]t’s a strange genus that doesn’t include any species.” *Id.* at 880.

Lacking a clear consensus, we are thus brought back to our analysis of *Taylor*, mindful that we need not leave common sense at the door. Both Congress’s and *Taylor*’s intent seem clear—to protect the public from career criminals that commit or have committed potentially violent felonies. Even setting aside the statutes that (a) are likely considered overbroad due to the inclusion of routine vehicles or (b) are potentially divisible, 25 states’ statutes include provisions protecting vehicles adapted or used for habitation.¹⁵ The number mushrooms when you add back in the potentially di-

¹⁵ Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.

visible statutes (7 states¹⁶) and the statutes already overbroad due to the inclusion of vehicles, or a state court's reading of the statute in a way that is overbroad (9 states¹⁷). This is not, of course, a binding declaration as to whether those statutes are non-generic or divisible; additional analysis would have to be done. But that so many states' statutes would be in question ought to give us pause. We should not impute to Congress such a jarring outcome in the absence of a clear requirement under the law to do so. Careful consideration of Supreme Court precedent plus common sense dictate that this cannot be the result.

Accordingly, I would affirm, and I respectfully dissent from the court's determination not to do so.

¹⁶ Arizona, Georgia, Kansas, South Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

¹⁷ California, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Wyoming.

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APPENDIX B

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

No. 14-11317

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

v.

MICHAEL HERROLD, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

[Filed: Apr. 11, 2017]

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Northern District of Texas
USDC No. 3:13-CR-225-1

ON REMAND FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF
THE UNITED STATES

Before: HIGGINBOTHAM, SOUTHWICK, and HIGGINSON,
Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:*

On November 5, 2012, Dallas police pulled over Michael Herrold as part of a routine traffic stop. During the encounter, the officers observed a handgun in plain view. Because he was a convicted felon, Herrold's

* Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.

possession of the firearm was illegal under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1), a charge to which he subsequently pled guilty without a plea agreement. Under the enhanced penalty provisions of the Armed Career Criminal Act (“ACCA”), 18 U.S.C. § 924(e), Herrold faced a statutory minimum of fifteen years’ imprisonment.

Herrold’s previous felony offenses were: (1) possession of lysergic acid diethylamide (“LSD”) with intent to deliver, (2) burglary of a habitation, and (3) burglary of a building, all under Texas law. Herrold argued to the district court that none of his prior convictions qualified as predicate offenses under the ACCA. The district judge disagreed and sentenced Herrold to 211 months in prison. Without the enhancement, Herrold would have faced a maximum penalty of ten years.¹ He timely appealed his sentence.

We held that all three of Herrold’s convictions qualified as ACCA predicates and affirmed his sentence.² Herrold appealed to the United States Supreme Court, which granted certiorari, vacated our judgment, and remanded for reconsideration in light of *Mathis v. United States*.³ On remand, we will affirm.

Herrold’s supplemental briefing on remand concedes that his conviction for possession of LSD with intent to deliver is unaffected by *Mathis*. His argument instead centers on his two prior burglary convictions. First, he argues that his conviction for burglary of a habitation is not an ACCA predicate because *Mathis* makes clear

¹ 18 U.S.C. § 924(a)(2).

² *United States v. Herrold*, 813 F.3d 595 (5th Cir. 2016).

³ *Herrold v. United States*, 137 S. Ct. 310 (2016) (citing 136 S. Ct. 2243 (2016)).

that burglary statutes like Texas's, which define "habitation" to include recreational vehicles,⁴ are broader than generic burglary. Second, he argues neither of his burglary convictions is an ACCA predicate because *Mathis* compels the conclusion that Texas's burglary provision, Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a), is indivisible.

Herrold's arguments are foreclosed. In *United States v. Uribe*, this court held that Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a) remained divisible after *Mathis*.⁵ Herrold admits that *Uribe* forecloses his second argument. With respect to his first argument, *Uribe* concerned a conviction for Texas burglary of a habitation, and the court held that such a conviction continued to support a Sentencing Guidelines enhancement as generic burglary after *Mathis*, which means that Texas burglary of a habitation also continues to support an ACCA enhancement as generic burglary after *Mathis*.⁶ This forecloses Herrold's first argument.

* * * *

Upon remand, we find that *Uribe* mandates the result that we originally reached.⁷ We again affirm the sentence of the district court.

⁴ Tex. Penal Code § 30.01(1).

⁵ 838 F.3d 667, 671 (5th Cir. 2016).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Uribe's petition for rehearing en banc was denied without a poll, and the Supreme Court denied his petition for certiorari. *Uribe v. United States*, No. 16-7969, 2017 WL 661924 (U.S. Mar. 20, 2017).

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APPENDIX C

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

No. 14-11317

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

v.

MICHAEL HERROLD, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

[Filed: Feb. 12, 2016]

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Northern District of Texas

Before: HIGGINBOTHAM, SOUTHWICK, and HIGGINN-
SON, Circuit Judges.

PATRICK E. HIGGINBOTHAM, Circuit Judge:

On November 5, 2012, Dallas law enforcement pulled over Michael Herrold as part of a routine traffic stop. During the encounter, the officers observed a handgun in plain view. Because he was a convicted felon, Herrold's possession of the firearm was illegal under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1), a charge to which he subsequently pled guilty without a plea agreement. Under the enhanced penalty provisions of the Armed Career Criminal Act ("ACCA"), 18 U.S.C. § 924(e), Herrold faced a statutory minimum of fifteen years imprisonment.

Herrold’s previous felony offenses included: (1) possession of lysergic acid diethylamide (“LSD”) with intent to deliver, (2) burglary of a building, and (3) burglary of a habitation. In the court below, Herrold argued that none of his prior convictions qualify as predicate offenses under the ACCA. The district judge disagreed, and sentenced Herrold to 211 months in prison. Without the enhancement, Herrold would have faced a maximum penalty of ten years.¹ He timely appealed his sentence.

This Court reviews the application of an ACCA sentencing enhancement de novo.² Because we hold that each of Herrold’s prior offenses qualify as predicate offenses under ACCA, we affirm.

I.

First, Herrold argues that his conviction for burglary of a building³ should not qualify as generic burglary, one of the enumerated predicate offenses in ACCA.⁴ But his argument is foreclosed by our holding in *Conde-Castenada*, in which we held that burglary of a building under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1)

¹ 18 U.S.C. § 924 (a)(2).

² *United States v. Constante*, 544 F.3d 584, 585 (5th Cir. 2008); see also *United States v. Fuller*, 453 F.3d 274, 278 (5th Cir. 2006); *United States v. Munoz*, 150 F.3d 401, 419 (5th Cir. 1998).

³ In 1992, he confessed to “knowingly and intentionally enter[ing] a building . . . with intent to commit theft” under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1). R. 263. The statute reads: “(a) A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person: (1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault[. . .]”

⁴ See 18 U.S.C. 924 § (e)(2)(B)(ii).

qualifies as generic burglary.⁵ “It is a firm rule of this circuit that in the absence of an intervening contrary or superseding decision by this court sitting en banc or by the United States Supreme Court, a panel cannot overrule a prior panel’s decision.”⁶ Herrold has cited no intervening authority under which to reconsider *Conde-Castaneda*. His conviction for burglary of a building qualifies as a predicate offense for ACCA sentence enhancement.

II.

Herrold next argues that his conviction for burglary of a habitation cannot qualify as a predicate offense under ACCA because Texas law defines “habitation” to include “vehicles adapted for overnight use.”⁷ This definition, Herrold claims, covers offenses outside the scope of generic burglary, defined by the Supreme Court in *Taylor v. United States* as “an unlawful or unprivileged entry into, or remaining in, a building or

⁵ *United States v. Conde-Castaneda*, 753 F.3d 172, 174 (5th Cir. 2014); see also *United States v. Fearance*, 582 F. App’x 416, 416-17 (5th Cir. 2014) (applying this holding to an ACCA case, *cert. denied* 135 S. Ct. 311 (2015)).

⁶ See *United States v. Lipscomb*, 299 F.3d 303, 313 n.34 (5th Cir. 2002) (quoting *Burge v. Parish of St. Tammany*, 187 F.3d 452, 466 (5th Cir. 1999)).

⁷ Tex. Penal Code § 30.01(1). In determining that Herrold’s burglary of a habitation conviction qualified for enhancement, the district court declined to specify whether it fell within the ACCA as a generic burglary or as covered by the residual clause. After *Johnson v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 2551 (2015), in which the Supreme Court held that the residual clause is unconstitutionally vague, we can only affirm if Texas burglary of habitation is generic burglary. Of course, we may affirm on any basis supported by the record. *United States v. McGee*, 460 F.3d 667, 669 n.3 (5th Cir. 2006).

other structure, with intent to commit a crime.”⁸ Herold further contends that this Court’s decision in *United States v. Silva*⁹ does not foreclose his argument. We disagree.

In *Silva*, this Court affirmed the defendant’s enhanced sentence under ACCA based on three prior convictions under Texas Penal Code § 30.02, two for burglary of a habitation and one for burglary of a building.¹⁰ We concluded that burglary as defined by § 30.02 is generic burglary, explaining that

[t]he Supreme Court in *Taylor* stated that “if the defendant was convicted of burglary in a State where the generic definition has been adopted, with minor variations in terminology, then the trial court need find only that the state statute corresponds to the generic meaning of burglary.” . . . Section 30.02 of the Texas Penal Code is a generic burglary statute, punishing *nonconsensual entry into a building with intent to commit a crime*. Under the reasoning of *Taylor*, Silva’s burglary convictions clearly indicate that he was found guilty of all the essential elements comprising generic burglary. Accordingly, Silva’s three Texas burglary convictions were sufficient predicate convictions for enhancement of his sentence pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 924(e).¹¹

Our reasoning admittedly never explicitly stated which provision of 30.02 we were classifying as generic

⁸ 495 U.S. 575, 598 (1990).

⁹ 957 F.2d 157 (1992).

¹⁰ *Id.* at 161.

¹¹ *Id.* at 162 (emphasis added).

burglary.¹² Section 30.02(a) describes three different courses of conduct:

(a) A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person:

(1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault; or

(2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault, in a building or habitation; or

(3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.

Under *Taylor*, generic burglary requires both entry and specific intent, which are not present in subsections 2 and 3, respectively.¹³ Subsection 1 is the only provision that includes both. As we later clarified, *Silva* “could have only been referring to § 30.02(a)(1)” in holding that Texas burglary qualifies as generic bur-

¹² Although *Silva* does not specify any subsection of § 30.02, the italicized language in the excerpt above most closely tracts (a)(1), providing further support for the argument that we addressed that provision.

¹³ *Taylor*, 495 U.S. at 598; see also *Constante*, 544 F.3d at 586 (“Since § 30.02(a)(3) does not include the element of specific intent, *Silva* cannot support the district court’s conclusion that a conviction under § 30.02(a)(3) is a violent felony for purposes of 18 U.S.C. § 924(e).”).

glary.¹⁴ This Court has consistently affirmed this interpretation of *Silva* in a series of unpublished opinions.¹⁵

Herrold maintains that the court in *Silva* never considered the argument that Texas’s definition of habitation—by including vehicles adapted for the overnight accommodation of persons—broadens the statute beyond generic burglary. He reasons that we are not “bound to follow our dicta in a prior case in which the point now at issue was not fully debated.”¹⁶ But the holding in *Silva*, however imprecisely phrased, is not dictum. Our affirmance of *Silva*’s sentence necessarily required the determination that Texas burglary of a habitation qualified as generic burglary for purposes of ACCA. Without those two convictions, he would have had only a single qualifying previous offense. That the court in *Silva* did not consider the argument that Herrold now advances does not make the holding any less binding.¹⁷

¹⁴ *Constante*, 544 F.3d at 586.

¹⁵ See, e.g., *United States v. Wallace*, 584 F. App’x 263, 264-65 (5th Cir. 2014), *cert. denied*, 135 S. Ct. 1512 (2015) (“We have previously held that a conviction under § 30.02(a)(1) qualifies as a generic burglary for purposes of the ACCA.”); *United States v. Hageon*, 418 F. App’x 295, 298 (5th Cir. 2011) (“The Texas crime of burglary as defined in § 30.02(a)(1) therefore qualifies as a violent felony under the ACCA.”); *United States v. Cantu*, 340 F. App’x 186, 190-91 (5th Cir. 2009) (“[T]he Government has shown that Cantu’s burglary . . . violated Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1) and was therefore a violent felony.”).

¹⁶ *Cent. Va. Cmty. Coll. v. Katz*, 546 U.S. 356, 363 (2006) (citing *Cohens v. Virginia*, 19 U.S. (6 Wheat.) 264, 399-400 (1821) (Marshall, C.J.)).

¹⁷ See *Sykes v. Tez. Air Corp.*, 834 F.2d 488, 492 (5th Cir. 1987) (“The fact that in [the prior decision] no litigant made and no judge considered the fancy argument advanced in this case does not authorize us to disregard our Court’s strong rule that we cannot over-

Silva therefore forecloses Herrold’s argument that his conviction for burglary of a habitation does not qualify as a predicate offense under ACCA.

III.

Finally, Herrold argues that his conviction for possession of LSD with intent to deliver is not “a serious drug offense” under ACCA. We disagree.

The ACCA definition of a “serious drug offense” includes “an offense under State law, involving manufacturing, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture or distribute, a controlled substance . . . for which a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years or more is prescribed by law.”¹⁸ In 1992, Herrold pled guilty to “unlawful possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance” under Texas Health & Safety Code § 481.112(a). Herrold suggests that the least culpable conduct covered by the statute is the possession of drugs with intent to offer them for sale without actually offering them for sale;¹⁹ he argues that such possession does not “involve” the distribution of drugs, meaning that his conviction under § 481.112(a) is not a “serious drug offense.”

rule the prior decision.”); *see also Crowe v. Smith*, 151 F.3d 217, 233 (5th Cir. 1998) (“Whatever we might think of this reasoning as a de novo matter, we are of course bound by our prior circuit precedent [. . .]”).

¹⁸ 18 U.S.C. § 924(e)(2)(A)(ii).

¹⁹ Because ACCA requires a “categorical approach” that evaluates the breadth of the defendant’s statute of conviction rather than his conduct, *see United States v. Allen*, 282 F.3d 339, 342 (5th Cir. 2002), we look to the statute’s “least culpable means” of commission to see if that conduct constitutes a “serious drug offense.” *United States v. Houston*, 364 F.3d 243, 246 (5th Cir. 2004).

Herrold’s argument is unpersuasive. “The word ‘involving’ has expansive connotations,”²⁰ and by using it, “Congress intended the category of convictions considered a ‘serious drug offense’ to be expansive.”²¹ For example, in *United States v. Vickers*, we held that a conviction for “delivery of a controlled substance” was a serious drug offense,²² despite the fact that someone could have been guilty by “solely . . . offering to sell a controlled substance” without possessing any drugs.²³ We reasoned that “[b]eing in the drug marketplace as a seller—even if, hypothetically, the individual did not possess any drugs at that time” was the kind of criminal history that “Congress was reaching by the ACCA.”²⁴

Like *Vickers*, Herrold was in the drug market as a seller. The next step in his conduct, one he intended to take, was the completion of a drug transaction. The least culpable conduct covered by Herrold’s statute of conviction is arguably closer to the distribution chain than *Vickers*’s because Herrold necessarily possessed the drugs he intended to distribute. Even if he never offered the drugs for sale, Herrold’s conduct “involve[d] . . . possessing with intent to . . . distribute.”²⁵ His conviction is therefore a serious drug offense under ACCA.

AFFIRMED.

²⁰ *United States v. Winbush*, 407 F.3d 703, 707 (5th Cir. 2005) (quoting *United States v. King*, 325 F.3d 110, 113-14 (2d Cir. 2003)).

²¹ *United States v. Vickers*, 540 F.3d 356, 365 (5th Cir. 2008).

²² *Id.* at 363.

²³ *Id.* at 364.

²⁴ *Id.* at 365-66.

²⁵ 18 U.S.C. § 924(e)(2)(A).

APPENDIX D

1. 18 U.S.C. 924 provides:

Penalties

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, subsection (b), (c), (f), or (p) of this section, or in section 929, whoever—

(A) knowingly makes any false statement or representation with respect to the information required by this chapter to be kept in the records of a person licensed under this chapter or in applying for any license or exemption or relief from disability under the provisions of this chapter;

(B) knowingly violates subsection (a)(4), (f), (k), or (q) of section 922;

(C) knowingly imports or brings into the United States or any possession thereof any firearm or ammunition in violation of section 922(l); or

(D) willfully violates any other provision of this chapter,

shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(2) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (a)(6), (d), (g), (h), (i), (j), or (o) of section 922 shall be fined as provided in this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(3) Any licensed dealer, licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed collector who knowingly—

(A) makes any false statement or representation with respect to the information required by the

provisions of this chapter to be kept in the records of a person licensed under this chapter, or

(B) violates subsection (m) of section 922, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

(4) Whoever violates section 922(q) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the term of imprisonment imposed under this paragraph shall not run concurrently with any other term of imprisonment imposed under any other provision of law. Except for the authorization of a term of imprisonment of not more than 5 years made in this paragraph, for the purpose of any other law a violation of section 922(q) shall be deemed to be a misdemeanor.

(5) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (s) or (t) of section 922 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

(6)(A)(i) A juvenile who violates section 922(x) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both, except that a juvenile described in clause (ii) shall be sentenced to probation on appropriate conditions and shall not be incarcerated unless the juvenile fails to comply with a condition of probation.

(ii) A juvenile is described in this clause if—

(I) the offense of which the juvenile is charged is possession of a handgun or ammunition in violation of section 922(x)(2); and

(II) the juvenile has not been convicted in any court of an offense (including an offense under section 922(x) or a similar State law, but not including

any other offense consisting of conduct that if engaged in by an adult would not constitute an offense) or adjudicated as a juvenile delinquent for conduct that if engaged in by an adult would constitute an offense.

(B) A person other than a juvenile who knowingly violates section 922(x)—

(i) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both; and

(ii) if the person sold, delivered, or otherwise transferred a handgun or ammunition to a juvenile knowing or having reasonable cause to know that the juvenile intended to carry or otherwise possess or discharge or otherwise use the handgun or ammunition in the commission of a crime of violence, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(7) Whoever knowingly violates section 931 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.

(b) Whoever, with intent to commit therewith an offense punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, or with knowledge or reasonable cause to believe that an offense punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year is to be committed therewith, ships, transports, or receives a firearm or any ammunition in interstate or foreign commerce shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

(c)(1)(A) Except to the extent that a greater minimum sentence is otherwise provided by this subsection or by any other provision of law, any person who, dur-

ing and in relation to any crime of violence or drug trafficking crime (including a crime of violence or drug trafficking crime that provides for an enhanced punishment if committed by the use of a deadly or dangerous weapon or device) for which the person may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, uses or carries a firearm, or who, in furtherance of any such crime, possesses a firearm, shall, in addition to the punishment provided for such crime of violence or drug trafficking crime—

(i) be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years;

(ii) if the firearm is brandished, be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 7 years; and

(iii) if the firearm is discharged, be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 10 years.

(B) If the firearm possessed by a person convicted of a violation of this subsection—

(i) is a short-barreled rifle, short-barreled shotgun, or semiautomatic assault weapon, the person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 10 years; or

(ii) is a machinegun or a destructive device, or is equipped with a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, the person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 30 years.

(C) In the case of a second or subsequent conviction under this subsection, the person shall—

(i) be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 25 years; and

(ii) if the firearm involved is a machinegun or a destructive device, or is equipped with a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, be sentenced to imprisonment for life.

(D) Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(i) a court shall not place on probation any person convicted of a violation of this subsection; and

(ii) no term of imprisonment imposed on a person under this subsection shall run concurrently with any other term of imprisonment imposed on the person, including any term of imprisonment imposed for the crime of violence or drug trafficking crime during which the firearm was used, carried, or possessed.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term “drug trafficking crime” means any felony punishable under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46.

(3) For purposes of this subsection the term “crime of violence” means an offense that is a felony and—

(A) has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person or property of another, or

(B) that by its nature, involves a substantial risk that physical force against the person or property of another may be used in the course of committing the offense.

(4) For purposes of this subsection, the term “brandish” means, with respect to a firearm, to display all or

part of the firearm, or otherwise make the presence of the firearm known to another person, in order to intimidate that person, regardless of whether the firearm is directly visible to that person.

(5) Except to the extent that a greater minimum sentence is otherwise provided under this subsection, or by any other provision of law, any person who, during and in relation to any crime of violence or drug trafficking crime (including a crime of violence or drug trafficking crime that provides for an enhanced punishment if committed by the use of a deadly or dangerous weapon or device) for which the person may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, uses or carries armor piercing ammunition, or who, in furtherance of any such crime, possesses armor piercing ammunition, shall, in addition to the punishment provided for such crime of violence or drug trafficking crime or conviction under this section—

(A) be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not less than 15 years; and

(B) if death results from the use of such ammunition—

(i) if the killing is murder (as defined in section 1111), be punished by death or sentenced to a term of imprisonment for any term of years or for life; and

(ii) if the killing is manslaughter (as defined in section 1112), be punished as provided in section 1112.

(d)(1) Any firearm or ammunition involved in or used in any knowing violation of subsection (a)(4), (a)(6), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), or (k) of section 922, or know-

ing importation or bringing into the United States or any possession thereof any firearm or ammunition in violation of section 922(l), or knowing violation of section 924, or willful violation of any other provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder, or any violation of any other criminal law of the United States, or any firearm or ammunition intended to be used in any offense referred to in paragraph (3) of this subsection, where such intent is demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence, shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture, and all provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 relating to the seizure, forfeiture, and disposition of firearms, as defined in section 5845(a) of that Code, shall, so far as applicable, extend to seizures and forfeitures under the provisions of this chapter: *Provided*, That upon acquittal of the owner or possessor, or dismissal of the charges against him other than upon motion of the Government prior to trial, or lapse of or court termination of the restraining order to which he is subject, the seized or relinquished firearms or ammunition shall be returned forthwith to the owner or possessor or to a person delegated by the owner or possessor unless the return of the firearms or ammunition would place the owner or possessor or his delegate in violation of law. Any action or proceeding for the forfeiture of firearms or ammunition shall be commenced within one hundred and twenty days of such seizure.

(2)(A) In any action or proceeding for the return of firearms or ammunition seized under the provisions of this chapter, the court shall allow the prevailing party, other than the United States, a reasonable attorney's fee, and the United States shall be liable therefor.

(B) In any other action or proceeding under the provisions of this chapter, the court, when it finds that such action was without foundation, or was initiated vexatiously, frivolously, or in bad faith, shall allow the prevailing party, other than the United States, a reasonable attorney's fee, and the United States shall be liable therefor.

(C) Only those firearms or quantities of ammunition particularly named and individually identified as involved in or used in any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any rule or regulation issued thereunder, or any other criminal law of the United States or as intended to be used in any offense referred to in paragraph (3) of this subsection, where such intent is demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence, shall be subject to seizure, forfeiture, and disposition.

(D) The United States shall be liable for attorneys' fees under this paragraph only to the extent provided in advance by appropriation Acts.

(3) The offenses referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2)(C) of this subsection are—

(A) any crime of violence, as that term is defined in section 924(c)(3) of this title;

(B) any offense punishable under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.);

(C) any offense described in section 922(a)(1), 922(a)(3), 922(a)(5), or 922(b)(3) of this title, where the firearm or ammunition intended to be used in any such offense is involved in a pattern of activities which includes a violation of any offense described

in section 922(a)(1), 922(a)(3), 922(a)(5), or 922(b)(3) of this title;

(D) any offense described in section 922(d) of this title where the firearm or ammunition is intended to be used in such offense by the transferor of such firearm or ammunition;

(E) any offense described in section 922(i), 922(j), 922(l), 922(n), or 924(b) of this title; and

(F) any offense which may be prosecuted in a court of the United States which involves the exportation of firearms or ammunition.

(e)(1) In the case of a person who violates section 922(g) of this title and has three previous convictions by any court referred to in section 922(g)(1) of this title for a violent felony or a serious drug offense, or both, committed on occasions different from one another, such person shall be fined under this title and imprisoned not less than fifteen years, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the court shall not suspend the sentence of, or grant a probationary sentence to, such person with respect to the conviction under section 922(g).

(2) As used in this subsection—

(A) the term “serious drug offense” means—

(i) an offense under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46 for which a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years or more is prescribed by law; or

(ii) an offense under State law, involving manufacturing, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture or distribute, a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)), for which a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years or more is prescribed by law;

(B) the term “violent felony” means any crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, or any act of juvenile delinquency involving the use or carrying of a firearm, knife, or destructive device that would be punishable by imprisonment for such term if committed by an adult, that—

(i) has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person of another; or

(ii) is burglary, arson, or extortion, involves use of explosives, or otherwise involves conduct that presents a serious potential risk of physical injury to another; and

(C) the term “conviction” includes a finding that a person has committed an act of juvenile delinquency involving a violent felony.

(f) In the case of a person who knowingly violates section 922(p), such person shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(g) Whoever, with the intent to engage in conduct which—

(1) constitutes an offense listed in section 1961(1),

(2) is punishable under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46,

(3) violates any State law relating to any controlled substance (as defined in section 102(6) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802(6))), or

(4) constitutes a crime of violence (as defined in subsection (c)(3)),

travels from any State or foreign country into any other State and acquires, transfers, or attempts to acquire or transfer, a firearm in such other State in furtherance of such purpose, shall be imprisoned not more than 10 years, fined in accordance with this title, or both.

(h) Whoever knowingly transfers a firearm, knowing that such firearm will be used to commit a crime of violence (as defined in subsection (c)(3)) or drug trafficking crime (as defined in subsection (c)(2)) shall be imprisoned not more than 10 years, fined in accordance with this title, or both.

(i)(1) A person who knowingly violates section 922(u) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(2) Nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed as indicating an intent on the part of Congress to occupy the field in which provisions of this subsection operate to the exclusion of State laws on the same subject matter, nor shall any provision of this subsection be construed as invalidating any provision of State law unless such provision is inconsistent with any of the purposes of this subsection.

(j) A person who, in the course of a violation of subsection (c), causes the death of a person through the use of a firearm, shall—

(1) if the killing is a murder (as defined in section 1111), be punished by death or by imprisonment for any term of years or for life; and

(2) if the killing is manslaughter (as defined in section 1112), be punished as provided in that section.

(k) A person who, with intent to engage in or to promote conduct that—

(1) is punishable under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46;

(2) violates any law of a State relating to any controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 802); or

(3) constitutes a crime of violence (as defined in subsection (c)(3)),

smuggles or knowingly brings into the United States a firearm, or attempts to do so, shall be imprisoned not more than 10 years, fined under this title, or both.

(l) A person who steals any firearm which is moving as, or is a part of, or which has moved in, interstate or foreign commerce shall be imprisoned for not more than 10 years, fined under this title, or both.

(m) A person who steals any firearm from a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(n) A person who, with the intent to engage in conduct that constitutes a violation of section 922(a)(1)(A), travels from any State or foreign country into any other State and acquires, or attempts to acquire, a firearm in such other State in furtherance of such purpose shall be imprisoned for not more than 10 years.

(o) A person who conspires to commit an offense under subsection (c) shall be imprisoned for not more than 20 years, fined under this title, or both; and if the firearm is a machinegun or destructive device, or is equipped with a firearm silencer or muffler, shall be imprisoned for any term of years or life.

(p) PENALTIES RELATING TO SECURE GUN STORAGE OR SAFETY DEVICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE; CIVIL PENALTIES.—With respect to each violation of section 922(z)(1) by a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer, the Secretary may, after notice and opportunity for hearing—

(i) suspend for not more than 6 months, or revoke, the license issued to the licensee under this chapter that was used to conduct the firearms transfer; or

(ii) subject the licensee to a civil penalty in an amount equal to not more than \$2,500.

(B) REVIEW.—An action of the Secretary under this paragraph may be reviewed only as provided under section 923(f).

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES.—The suspension or revocation of a license or the imposition of a civil penalty under paragraph (1) shall not preclude any administrative remedy that is otherwise available to the Secretary.

2. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02 (West 1974) provides:

Burglary

(a) A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, he:

(1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony or theft; or

(2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony or theft, in a building or habitation; or

(3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony or theft.

(b) For purposes of this section, “enter” means to intrude:

(1) any part of the body; or

(2) any physical object connected with the body.

(c) Except as provided in Subsection (d) of this section, an offense under this section is a felony of the second degree.

(d) An offense under this section is a felony of the first degree if:

(1) the premises are a habitation; or

(2) any party to the offense is armed with explosives or a deadly weapon; or

(3) any party to the offense injures or attempts to injure anyone in effecting entry or while in the building or in immediate flight from the building.

3. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02 (West Supp. 2017) provides:

Burglary

(a) A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person:

(1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault; or

(2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault, in a building or habitation; or

(3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.

(b) For purposes of this section, “enter” means to intrude:

(1) any part of the body; or

(2) any physical object connected with the body.

(c) Except as provided in Subsection (c-1) or (d), an offense under this section is a:

(1) state jail felony if committed in a building other than a habitation; or

(2) felony of the second degree if committed in a habitation.

(c-1) An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree if:

(1) the premises are a commercial building in which a controlled substance is generally stored, including a pharmacy, clinic, hospital, nursing facility, or warehouse; and

(2) the person entered or remained concealed in that building with intent to commit a theft of a controlled substance.

(d) An offense under this section is a felony of the first degree if:

(1) the premises are a habitation; and

(2) any party to the offense entered the habitation with intent to commit a felony other than felony theft or committed or attempted to commit a felony other than felony theft.