



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR, MNR, MNSD, FF

Introduction

This matter dealt with an application by the Landlord for an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order for unpaid rent, to recover the filing fee for this proceeding and to keep the Tenant's security deposit in partial payment of those amounts.

The Landlord said he served the Tenant with the Application and Notice of Hearing (the "hearing package") by registered mail on December 22, 2012. Based on the evidence of the Landlord, I find that the Tenant was served with the Landlord's hearing package as required by s. 89 of the Act and the hearing proceeded in the Tenant's absence.

Issues(s) to be Decided

1. Does the Landlord have grounds to end the tenancy?
2. Are there rent arrears and if so, how much?
3. Is the Landlord entitled to compensation for unpaid rent and if so how much?
4. Is the Landlord entitled to keep the Tenant's security deposit?

Background and Evidence

This tenancy started on March 1, 2011 as a 1 year fixed term tenancy with an expiry date of February 29, 2012. Rent is \$1,023.00 per month payable in advance of the 1st day of each month. The Tenant paid a security deposit of \$500.00 on or before March 1, 2011.

The Landlord said that the Tenant did not pay \$1,733.00 of back rent for when it was due and as a result, on December 7, 2011, he posted a 10 day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities dated December 7, 2011 on the Tenant's door of the rental unit. The Landlord said the Tenant has made a number of small payments and now the unpaid rent balance including January, 2012 rent is \$481.00 in unpaid rent. The Landlord requested an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order for the unpaid rent as he wants to end this tenancy.

The Landlord further indicated that the Tenant is living at the rental unit and the Landlord does not know what the Tenant's plans are.

The Landlord also sought to recover the \$50.00 filing fee for this proceeding.

Analysis

Section 46(4) of the Act states that **within 5 days of receiving** a Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities, a Tenant must pay the overdue rent or apply for dispute resolution. If the Tenant fails to do either of these things, then under section 46(5) of the Act, they are conclusively presumed to have accepted that the tenancy ends on the effective date of the Notice and they must vacate the rental unit at that time.

Under s. 90 of the Act, the Tenant is deemed to have received the Notice to End Tenancy three days after the Notice was posted on the Tenant's door, or on December 10, 2011. Consequently, the Tenant would have had to pay the amount stated on the Notice or apply to dispute that amount no later than December 15, 2011.

I find that the Tenant has not paid the overdue rent and has not applied for dispute resolution. Consequently, I find pursuant to s. 55(2)(b) of the Act that the Landlord is entitled to an Order of Possession to take effect 48 hours after service of it on the Tenant.

I also find that the Landlord is entitled to recover unpaid rent for January, 2012 in the amount of \$481.00.

As the Landlord has been successful in this matter, he is also entitled to recover from the Tenant the \$50.00 filing fee for this proceeding. I order the Landlord pursuant to s. 38(4) and s. 72 of the Act to keep the Tenant's security deposit in the amount of \$500.00 as partial payment of the rent arrears. The Landlord will receive a monetary order for the balance owing as following:

	Rent arrears:	\$ 481.00	
	Recover filing fee	\$ 50.00	
	Subtotal:		\$ 531.00
Less:	Security Deposit	\$500.00	
	Accrued Interest	\$ 0.00	
	Subtotal:		\$ 500.00
	Balance Owing		\$ 31.00



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 3

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Conclusion

An Order of Possession effective 2 days after service of it on the Tenant and a Monetary Order in the amount of \$31.00 have been issued to the Landlord. A copy of the Orders must be served on the Tenant: the Order of Possession may be enforced in the Supreme Court of British Columbia and the Monetary Order may be enforced in the Provincial (Small Claims) Court of British Columbia.

This decision is made on authority delegated to me by the Director of the Residential Tenancy Branch under Section 9.1(1) of the *Residential Tenancy Act*.
