



Dispute Resolution Services

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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's agent said he served the Tenant with the Application and Notice of Hearing (the "hearing package") on July 20, 2012 by registered mail. Section 90(a) of the Act says a document delivered by mail is deemed to be received by the recipient 5 days later even if they refuse to pick up the mail. 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.

Issue(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 keep the Tenant's security deposit?

Background and Evidence

This month-to-month tenancy started on October 8, 2004. Rent is \$621.00 per month payable in advance on the 1st calendar day of each month. The Tenant paid a security deposit of \$262.50 on June 3, 2004.

The Landlord's agent said the Tenant had accumulated rent arrears of \$609.00 as of July 1, 2012 and as a result, on July 6, 2012, the Landlord's building manager served the Tenant in person with a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities dated July 6, 2012. The Landlord's agent said the Tenant made two payments of \$500.00 on August 1st and 9th, 2012 respectively for which he was given receipts "for use and occupancy only." The Landlord's agent said the Tenant currently has outstanding rent for August, 2012 in the amount of \$230.00.

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 either pay the overdue rent or (if they believe the amount is not owed) apply for dispute resolution. If a 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 will end on the effective date of the Notice and they must vacate the rental unit at that time.

I find that the Tenant was served in person on July 6, 2012 with a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities. Consequently, the Tenant would have had to pay the amount alleged to be in arrears on the Notice or apply to dispute that amount no later than July 11, 2012. I find that the Tenant did not pay the overdue rent within the 5 days granted under s. 46(4) of the Act 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 2 days after service of it on the Tenant.

I also find that the Landlord is entitled to recover rent arrears for August 2012 in the amount of \$230.00 as well as 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 plus accrued interest in partial payment of the rent arrears. The Landlord will receive a Monetary Order for the balance owing as follows:

Rent arrears:	\$230.00
Filing fee:	<u>\$50.00</u>
Subtotal:	\$280.00
Less: Security Deposit:	(\$262.50)
Accrued Interest:	<u>(\$9.29)</u>
Balance Owing:	\$8.21

Conclusion

An Order of Possession effective 2 days after service of it on the Tenant and a Monetary Order in the amount of **\$8.21** 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*.

Dated: August 14, 2012.

Residential Tenancy Branch