



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DIRECT REQUEST DECISION

Dispute Codes : OPR, MNR

Introduction

The Hearing proceeded by way of Direct Request Proceeding, pursuant to section 55(4) of the Act, and dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution by the landlord for an Order of Possession and a monetary order for rental arrears based on a Ten Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent.

The landlord submitted a signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on August 15, 2012, the landlord served each co-tenant, (KF) and (JD), with the Notice of Direct Request by registered mail. Registered mail is deemed to be served in five days.

Based on the written submissions of the landlord, I find the tenant has been duly served with the Dispute Resolution Direct Request Proceeding documents.

Issue(s) to be Decided

The issues to be decided are whether the landlord is entitled to an Order of Possession and a monetary Order for rental arrears pursuant to 55 and 67 of the *Residential Tenancy Act (the Act)*. I have reviewed all documentary evidence.

Proof of Service of 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy

The landlord submitted a copy of the Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent and a "Proof of Service" form stating that the Ten Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent was served on August 7, at 3:32 p.m. "*by leaving it personally with*" (KP), who is a person not named as respondent nor as a party to the tenancy agreement.

The purpose of serving documents under the *Act* is to notify the person of a failure to comply with the Act and of their rights in response. The landlord, seeking to end the tenancy has the burden of proving that the tenant was served with the Notice to End Tenancy.

Section 88 of the Act requires that all documents, other than those referred to in section 89 [*special rules for certain documents*], must be given or served in one of the following ways:

- (a) by leaving a copy with the person;

- (b) if the person is a landlord, by leaving a copy with an agent of the landlord;
- (c) by sending a copy by ordinary mail or registered mail to the address at which the person resides or, if the person is a landlord, to the address at which the person carries on business as a landlord;
- (d) if the person is a tenant, by sending a copy by ordinary mail or registered mail to a forwarding address provided by the tenant;
- (e) by leaving a copy at the person's residence with an adult who apparently resides with the person;
- (f) by leaving a copy in a mail box or mail slot for the address at which the person resides or, if the person is a landlord, for the address at which the person carries on business as a landlord;
- (g) by attaching a copy to a door or other conspicuous place at the address at which the person resides or, if the person is a landlord, at the address at which the person carries on business as a landlord;
- (h) by transmitting a copy to a fax number provided as an address for service by the person to be served;
- (i) as ordered by the director under section 71 (1) [*director's orders: delivery and service of documents*];
- (j) by any other means of service prescribed in the regulations.

As the Ten Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent naming the co-tenants (KF) and (JD) as recipients was served to a person, (KP), whose name does not appear as a respondent on the landlord's application, nor does it appear on the tenancy agreement as a party to the agreement, I find that more information is required to establish that the Notice was properly served. I find that the service of the document to a person, other than one of those named as respondent in the application, would require further clarification to ensure that the person who was served met the criteria under section 88(e) "by leaving a copy at the person's residence with an adult who apparently resides with the person".

As this critical data is missing, I find that the landlord has not sufficiently proven that the Ten Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent was served in accordance with the Act.

Conclusion

Given the above, I hereby dismiss the landlord's application with leave to reapply for a participatory hearing .

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 20, 2012.

Residential Tenancy Branch



Residential Tenancy Branch

RTB-136

Now that you have your decision...

All decisions are binding and both landlord and tenant are required to comply.

The RTB website (www.rto.gov.bc.ca) has information about:

- How and when to enforce an order of possession:
Fact Sheet RTB-103: *Landlord: Enforcing an Order of Possession*
- How and when to enforce a monetary order:
Fact Sheet RTB-108: *Enforcing a Monetary Order*
- How and when to have a decision or order corrected:
Fact Sheet RTB-111: *Correction of a Decision or Order*
- How and when to have a decision or order clarified:
Fact Sheet RTB-141: *Clarification of a Decision or Order*
- How and when to apply for the review of a decision:
Fact Sheet RTB-100: *Review Consideration of a Decision or Order*
(Please Note: Legislated deadlines apply)

To personally speak with Residential Tenancy Branch (RTB) staff or listen to our 24 Hour Recorded Information Line, please call:

- Toll-free: 1-800-665-8779
- Lower Mainland: 604-660-1020
- Victoria: 250-387-1602

Contact any Service BC Centre or visit the RTB office nearest you. For current information on locations and office hours, visit the RTB web site at www.rto.gov.bc.ca