



# 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 she served the Tenant in person on August 19, 2012 with the Application and Notice of Hearing (the "hearing package"). 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 March 1, 2012. Rent is \$500.00 per month payable in advance on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each month. The Tenant paid a security deposit of \$250.00 at the beginning of the tenancy.

The Landlord's agent said the Tenant did not pay rent for July 2012 and did not pay rent for August 2012 when it was due and as a result on August 7, 2012 she served the Tenant in person with a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities dated August 7, 2012. The Landlord's agent said the Tenant has not paid the rent arrears and now rent for September 2012 is also unpaid.

### 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.

In the absence of any evidence from the Tenant to the contrary, I find that she was served in person on August 7, 2012 with a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities. Consequently, the Tenant would have had to pay the rent arrears stated on the Notice or (if the amount was not owed) apply for dispute resolution to dispute that amount no later than August 13, 2012 (given that the 12<sup>th</sup> fell on a non-business day).

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 2 days after service of it on the Tenant. I also find that the Landlord is entitled to recover rent arrears for July, August and September 2012 in the total amount of \$1,500.00 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 of \$250.00 in partial payment of the monetary award. The Landlord will receive a Monetary Order for the balance owing of \$1,300.00.

### Conclusion

An Order of Possession effective 2 days after service of it on the Tenant and a Monetary Order in the amount of **\$1,300.00** 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*.

Dated: September 19, 2012.

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Residential Tenancy Branch