

Dispute Resolution Services

Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes CNC, FF

Introduction

This hearing dealt with an application by the tenants for an order setting aside a notice to end this tenancy. Both parties were represented at the conference call hearing.

Issue to be Decided

Should the notice to end tenancy be set aside?

Background and Evidence

The parties agreed that on March 23, 2013, the landlord served on the tenants a one month notice to end tenancy for cause (the "Notice"). The Notice states that the rental unit must be vacated to comply with a government order.

The landlord provided a copy of a letter which she had received from a bylaw enforcement officer in which the officer stated that the residential property was not zoned to allow a secondary suite. The landlord testified that she spoke with the officer who told her to arrange for the tenants to move out.

<u>Analysis</u>

In order to establish grounds to end this tenancy for the reason listed on the Notice, the landlord has the burden of proving that she has been *ordered* to ensure the rental unit is vacant. I am not satisfied that such an order has been made at this point, although one may be forthcoming.

I find that the landlord had not yet been served with an enforceable order at the time she issued the Notice and I find that the Notice cannot therefore be effective to end the tenancy. I order that the Notice be set aside and of no force or effect. The tenancy will therefore continue. As the tenants have been successful in their application, I find that they should recover the \$50.00 filing fee. The tenants may deduct \$50.00 from a future rental payment.

Conclusion

The Notice is set aside and the tenants may deduct \$50.00 from a future rental payment.

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: May 01, 2013

Residential Tenancy Branch