

# **Dispute Resolution Services**

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

# **DECISION**

<u>Dispute Codes</u> OPR, MNR

## <u>Introduction</u>

This matter proceeded by way of an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, pursuant to section 55(4) of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "*Act*"), and dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution by the landlord for an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent and a monetary Order.

The landlord submitted a signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on August 28, 2015, the landlord's agent "CS" served the tenant with the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding via registered mail. The landlord provided a copy of the Canada Post Customer Receipt containing the Tracking Number to confirm this mailing. Section 90 of the *Act* determines that a document served in this manner is deemed to have been received 5 days after service.

The Canada Post website provides details associated with the tracking number which demonstrates that the registered mail item was received by the tenant on September 1, 2015. The tenant acknowledged receipt of the registered mail item by providing his signature. The tenant's electronic signature is included as part of the tracking history to confirm receipt of the registered mail item on September 1, 2015

Based on the foregoing, and based on the written submissions of the landlord, I find that the tenant has been deemed served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on September 1, 2015.

#### Issue(s) to be Decided

Is the landlord entitled to an Order of Possession for unpaid rent pursuant to sections 46 and 55 of the *Act*?

Is the landlord entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

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# Background and Evidence

The landlord submitted the following evidentiary material:

 A copy of the Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding served to the tenant;

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord's agent and the tenant on February 1, 2015, indicating a monthly rent of \$850.00 due on the first day of the month for a tenancy commencing on February 1, 2015;
- A Monetary Order Worksheet showing the rent owing during the portion of this tenancy in question, on which the landlord establishes a monetary claim in the amount of \$850.00 for outstanding rent owing for August 2015;
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the Notice) dated August 7, 2015, which the landlord states was served to the tenants on August 7, 2015, for \$875.00 in unpaid rent due on August 1, 2015, with a stated effective vacancy date of August 20, 2015. The landlord has indicated on the Notice that the amount of \$875.00 includes a \$25.00 late fee. Reimbursement for additional fees, such as late fees, cannot be sought by way of the Direct Request process, and the landlord's monetary worksheet demonstrates that only the balance of unpaid rent, in the amount of \$850.00, is being claimed via the monetary order request;
- A copy of the Proof of Service of the Notice showing that the landlord's agent "CS" served the Notice to the tenant by way of posting it to the door of the rental unit on August 7, 2015. The Proof of Service form establishes that the service was witnessed by "WS" and a signature for "WS" is included on the form.

The Notice restates section 46(4) of the *Act* which provides that the tenant had five days to pay the rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end on the effective date of the Notice. The tenant did not apply to dispute the Notice within five days from the date of service and the landlord alleged that the tenant did not pay the rental arrears.

### <u>Analysis</u>

I have reviewed all documentary evidence provided by the landlord. Section 90 of the *Act* provides that because the Notice was served by posting the Notice to the door of the rental unit, the tenant is deemed to have received the Notice three days after its posting. In accordance with sections 88 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenant is deemed to have received the Notice on August 10, 2015, three days after its posting.

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I find that the tenant was obligated to pay monthly rent in the amount of \$850.00, as established in the tenancy agreement. I accept the evidence before me that the tenant has failed to pay \$850.00 in rent for the month of August 2015. I find that the tenant received the Notice on August 10, 2015. I accept the landlord's undisputed evidence and find that the tenant did not pay the rent owed in full within the 5 days granted under section 46 (4) of the *Act* and did not apply to dispute the Notice within that 5-day period.

Based on the foregoing, I find that the tenant is conclusively presumed under section 46(5) of the *Act* to have accepted that the tenancy ended on the effective date of the Notice, August 20, 2015.

Therefore, I find that the landlord is entitled to an Order of Possession and a monetary Order of \$850.00 for unpaid rent owing for August 2015, as of August 26, 2015.

## Conclusion

I grant an Order of Possession to the landlord effective **two days after service of this**Order on the tenant. Should the tenant(s) fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed and enforced as an Order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

Pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*, I find that the landlord is entitled to a monetary Order in the amount of \$850.00 for unpaid rent owing for August 2015, as of August 26, 2015. The landlord is provided with these Orders in the above terms and the tenant must be served with **this Order** as soon as possible. Should the tenant fail to comply with these Orders, these Orders may be filed in the Small Claims Division of the Provincial Court and enforced as Orders of that Court.

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 02, 2015

Residential Tenancy Branch