



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR, MNR

Introduction

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 April 14, 2016, the landlord’s agent “JH” 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 five days after service. The Proof of Service form also establishes that the service was witnessed by “SA” and a signature for “SA” is included on the form.

Based on the written submissions of the landlord, and in accordance with sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenant has been deemed served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on April 19, 2016, the fifth day after their registered mailing.

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*?

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 October 13, 2015, indicating a monthly rent of \$950.00 due on the first day of the month for a tenancy commencing on November 01, 2015;
- A Monetary Order Worksheet showing the rent owing and paid during the portion of this tenancy in question, on which the landlord establishes a monetary claim in the amount of \$2,200.00 for outstanding rent, comprised of the balance of unpaid rent owing for the period of February 2016 to April 2016. The landlord indicates that monthly rent in the amount of \$950.00 was owed for each of February 2016, March 2016, and April 2016. The landlord indicates that a partial payment of \$650.00 was received on March 03, 2016;
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the Notice) dated March 23, 2016, which the landlord states was served to the tenant on March 23, 2016, for \$1,250.00 in unpaid rent due on March 01, 2016, with a stated effective vacancy date of April 05, 2016; and
- A copy of the Proof of Service of the Notice showing that the landlord's agent "JH" served the Notice to the tenant by way of posting it to the door of the rental unit on March 23, 2016. The Proof of Service form establishes that the service was witnessed by "RA" and a signature for "RA" 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.

Analysis

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 March 26, 2016, three days after its posting.

I find that there is a discrepancy in the amount of outstanding rent listed on the landlord's monetary order worksheet and the amount indicated on the Notice issued to the tenant. The sum of the rent owed, as indicated on the monetary worksheet, results in a balance of rent outstanding in the amount of \$2,200.00, comprised of the balance of unpaid rent owing for the months of February 2016, March 2016, and April 2016.

However, the Notice issued to the tenant on March 23, 2016 is in the amount of \$1,250.00 for unpaid rent due by March 01, 2016. In a Direct Request proceeding, a landlord cannot pursue unpaid rent owed for a period beyond the date on which the Notice was issued to the tenants, in this case, March 23, 2016. Therefore, within the purview of the Direct Request process, I cannot consider the portion of the rental arrears arising from unpaid rent owed for April 2016 and will therefore make a determination based on the amount of unpaid rent indicated on the Notice provided to the tenant.

Based on the foregoing, I dismiss the portion of the landlord's monetary claim for unpaid rent owing for April 2016, with leave to reapply. I will only consider the landlord's application for a monetary Order related to unpaid rent arising from the March 23, 2016 Notice issued to the tenant, which alerted the tenant to unpaid rent, in the amount of \$1,250.00, which was due on March 01, 2016.

I find that the tenant was obligated to pay monthly rent in the amount of \$950.00, as established in the tenancy agreement. I accept the evidence before me that the tenant has failed to pay outstanding rental arrears in the amount of \$1,250.00, comprised of the balance of unpaid rent owed for the months of February 2016 and March 2016. I find that the tenant received the Notice on March 26, 2016. I accept the landlord's undisputed evidence and find that the tenant did not pay the rent owed in full within the five days granted under section 46 (4) of the *Act* and did not apply to dispute the Notice within that five-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, April 05, 2016.

Therefore, I find that the landlord is entitled to an Order of Possession and a monetary Order of \$1,250.00, comprised of the balance of unpaid rent owed for the months of February 2016 and March 2016.

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 \$1,250.00 for unpaid rent. 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: April 20, 2016

Residential Tenancy Branch