

Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

<u>Dispute Codes</u> MNSD, MNDC, FF

<u>Introduction</u>

This was a hearing with respect to the landlord's application for a monetary award and an order to retain the tenants' security deposit. The hearing was conducted by conference call.. The tenants called in to participate in the hearing. The landlord did not call into the hearing and did not participate although this was the hearing of her application. The hearing was kept open for more than 10 minutes after the scheduled time for the hearing when the hearing was concluded the landlord had not called into the hearing

Issue(s) to be Decided

Is the landlord entitled to a monetary award and if so, in what amount? Is the landlord entitled to retain all or part of the tenants' security deposit?

Analysis and Conclusion

The hearing was scheduled to commence at 1:00 P.M. In the absence of an appearance by the applicant by 1:10 P.M., this application is dismissed without leave to reapply.

The tenants confirmed at the hearing that they paid the landlord a security deposit of \$700.00 and it has not been returned.

Residential Tenancy Policy Guideline 17 provides policy guidance with respect to security deposits and setoffs; it contains the following provision:

RETURN OR RETENTION OF SECURITY DEPOSIT THROUGH ARBITRATION

- 1. The arbitrator will order the return of a security deposit, or any balance remaining on the deposit, less any deductions permitted under the Act, on:
 - a landlord's application to retain all or part of the security deposit, or
 - a tenant's application for the return of the deposit unless the tenant's right to the return of the deposit has been extinguished under the Act. The

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arbitrator will order the return of the deposit or balance of the deposit, as applicable, whether or not the tenant has applied for arbitration for its return.

In this application the landlord requested the retention of the security deposit in partial satisfaction of his monetary claim. Because the claim has been dismissed in its entirety without leave to reapply it is appropriate that I order the return of the tenants' security deposit; I so order and I grant the tenants a monetary order in the amount of \$700.00. This order may be registered in the Small Claims Court and enforced as an order 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: June 24, 2016

Residential Tenancy Branch