

# **Dispute Resolution Services**

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding LEADER VICTORY INVESTMENT CO LTD and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

# **INTERIM DECISION**

Dispute Codes OPR

#### <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 landlords for an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent.

The landlords submitted a signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on July 26, 2016, the landlords sent the tenant the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding by registered mail to the rental unit. The landlords provided a copy of the Canada Post Customer Receipt containing the Tracking Number to confirm this mailing. Based on the written submissions of the landlords 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 July 31, 2016, the fifth day after their registered mailing.

# Issue(s) to be Decided

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

Are the landlords entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

# Background and Evidence

The landlords submitted the following evidentiary material:

 A copy of the Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding served to the tenant; Page: 2

 A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by a landlord who is not one of the applicants and the tenant on February 10, 2015, indicating a monthly rent of \$720.00, due on the first day of the month for a tenancy commencing on July 15, 2013;

- A Monetary Order Worksheet showing the rent owing and paid during the relevant portion of this tenancy; and
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated July 13, 2016, and posted to the tenant's door on July 13, 2016, with a stated effective vacancy date of July 23, 2016, for \$498.00 in unpaid rent.

Witnessed documentary evidence filed by the landlords indicates that the 10 Day Notice was posted to the tenant's door at 12:00 pm on July 13, 2016. The 10 Day Notice states that the tenant had five days from the date of service to pay the rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end.

# <u>Analysis</u>

In an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, the onus is on the landlord to ensure that all submitted evidentiary material is in accordance with the prescribed criteria and that such evidentiary material does not lend itself to ambiguity or give rise to issues that may need further clarification beyond the purview of a Direct Request Proceeding. If the landlord cannot establish that all documents meet the standard necessary to proceed via the Direct Request Proceeding, the application may be found to have deficiencies that necessitate a participatory hearing, or, in the alternative, the application may be dismissed.

I have reviewed all documentary evidence and I find that the landlord's name on the residential tenancy agreement does not match either of the landlord's names on the Application for Dispute Resolution, the 10 Day Notice or any other documentation submitted with the Application for Dispute Resolution. There is also no documentation referring to the transfer of responsibilities from the landlord named on the residential tenancy agreement to the landlords applying for dispute resolution.

I find that the discrepancy in the landlord's name raises a question that can only be answered by addressing the issue through a participatory hearing.

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# Conclusion

I order that the direct request proceeding be reconvened in accordance with section 74 of the *Act*. I find that a participatory hearing to be conducted by an arbitrator appointed under the *Act* is required in order to determine the details of the landlord's application.

Notices of Reconvened Hearing are enclosed with this interim decision for the applicant to serve, with all other required documents, upon the tenant within three (3) days of receiving this decision in accordance with section 89 of the *Act*.

Each party must serve the other and the Residential Tenancy Branch with any evidence that they intend to reply upon at the new hearing.

For more information see our website at: gov.bc.ca/landlordtenant

If either party has any questions they may contact an Information Officer with the Residential Tenancy Branch at:

**Lower Mainland**: 604-660-1020 **Elsewhere in BC**: 1-800-665-8779

This interim 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: August 02, 2016

Residential Tenancy Branch