

Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding HO GOON HOLDINGS LTD and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

DECISION

Dispute Codes 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 landlords for an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent and a Monetary Order.

The landlords submitted a signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on August 3, 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 August 8, 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;

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- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord and the tenant on February 2, 2015, indicating a monthly rent of \$1,000.00, due on the first day of the month for a tenancy commencing on March 1, 2015;
- 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 29, 2016, and sent to the tenant by registered mail on July 20, 2016, with a stated effective vacancy date of July 29, 2016, for \$2,000.00 in unpaid rent.

Documentary evidence filed by the landlords indicates that the 10 Day Notice was sent to the tenant by Canada Post Xpress Post on July 20, 2016. The landlords provided a copy of the Canada Post Customer Receipt containing the Tracking Number to confirm this mailing. 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.

Section 52 of the Act provides the following with respect to a notice to end tenancy:

52 In order to be effective, a notice to end a tenancy must be in writing and must

- (a) be signed and dated by the landlord or tenant giving the notice,
- (b) give the address of the rental unit,
- (c) state the effective date of the notice,
- (d) except for a notice under section 45 (1) or (2) [tenant's notice], state the grounds for ending the tenancy, and
- (e) when given by a landlord, be in the approved form.

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The 10 Day Notice includes an incorrect address for the rental unit, which effectively gives notice to the tenant to move out of an address that is not the correct address of the rental unit as established in the tenancy agreement. I find this sufficiently invalidates the 10 Day Notice. Therefore, I find the 10 Day Notice is not in accordance with section 52 of the *Act*.

As a result of the above-noted deficiency, I dismiss the landlords' application for an Order of Possession without leave to reapply. It remains open to the landlords to issue a new 10 Day Notice if the landlords so wish.

For the reasons identified in the 10 Day Notice, I also dismiss the landlords' application for a Monetary Order for unpaid rent, with leave to reapply.

Conclusion

I dismiss the landlords' application for an Order of Possession based on the 10 Day Notice of July 29, 2016 without leave to reapply.

I dismiss the landlords' application for a Monetary Order with leave to reapply.

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: August 09, 2016

Residential Tenancy Branch