



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

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

The landlords submitted two signed Proofs of Service of the Notices of Direct Request Proceeding which declare that on December 19, 2016, the landlords sent the tenants the Notices 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 Numbers to confirm these mailings. Based on the written submissions of the landlords and in accordance with sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenants have been deemed served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on December 24, 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 Proofs of Service of the Notices of Direct Request Proceeding served to the tenants;

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord and Tenant C.B. on February 10, 2016, indicating a monthly rent of \$1,400.00, due on the first day of the month for a tenancy commencing on February 11, 2016;
- 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 December 6, 2016, and personally served to an adult who resides with the tenants on December 6, 2016, with a stated effective vacancy date of December 16, 2016, for \$1,400.00 in unpaid rent.

Documentary evidence filed by the landlords indicates that the 10 Day Notice was personally served to an adult who resides with the tenants at 10:06 am on December 6, 2016. The landlords had the adult who resides with the tenants sign the Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy to confirm personal service. The 10 Day Notice states that the tenants had five days from the date of service to pay the rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end.

Analysis

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.

Paragraph 12 (1) (b) of the Residential Tenancy Regulations establishes that a tenancy agreement is required to “be signed and dated by both the landlord and the tenant.”

I find that the residential tenancy agreement submitted by the landlords is not signed by Tenant C.S., which is a requirement of the direct request process, and that a participatory hearing is necessary in order to protect the procedural rights of Tenant C.S.

For this reason, I dismiss the landlords’ application naming Tenant C.S. with leave to reapply.

However, I have reviewed all documentary evidence and in accordance with section 88 of the *Act*, I find that Tenant C.B. was duly served with the 10 Day Notice on December 6, 2016.

I note that the address indicated on the 10 Day Notice from which the tenant must move is slightly different than the tenant address on the 10 Day Notice where documents are served, the tenancy agreement, the Application for Dispute Resolution and all other documents submitted with the landlords' application. I have amended this address to match all other information provided for the address as per Section 68(1) of the *Act* as it is reasonable to do so under the circumstances.

I find that Tenant C.B. was obligated to pay the monthly rent in the amount of \$1,400.00, as per the tenancy agreement.

I accept the evidence before me that Tenant C.B. has failed to pay the rent owed in full within the 5 days granted under section 46(4) of the *Act* and did not dispute the 10 Day Notice within that 5 day period.

Based on the foregoing, I find that Tenant C.B. is conclusively presumed under section 46(5) of the *Act* to have accepted that the tenancy ended on the effective date of the 10 Day Notice, December 16, 2016.

Therefore, I find that the landlords are entitled to an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order in the amount of \$1,400.00, the amount claimed by the landlords, for unpaid rent owing for December 2016 as of December 19, 2016.

Conclusion

I grant an Order of Possession to the landlords effective **two days after service of this Order** on Tenant C.B. Should Tenant C.B. 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 landlords are entitled to a Monetary Order in the amount of \$1,400.00 for rent owed for December 2016. The landlords are provided with this Order in the above terms and Tenant C.B. must be served with **this Order** as soon as possible. Should Tenant C.B. fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed in the Small Claims Division of the Provincial Court and enforced as an Order of that Court.

The landlords' application naming Tenant C.S. is dismissed 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: December 29, 2016

Residential Tenancy Branch