



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR-DR

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.

The landlord submitted a signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on December 15, 2017, the landlord posted the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding to the door of the rental unit. The landlord had a witness sign the Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding to confirm this service. Based on the written submission of the landlord and in accordance with sections 89(2) and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenant is deemed to have been served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on December 18, 2017, the third day after their posting.

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*?

Background and Evidence

The landlord submitted the following evidentiary material:

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord and the tenant on May 15, 2015, indicating a monthly rent of \$600.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on May 15, 2015;
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent dated November 18, 2017 for \$1,600.00 in unpaid rent (the 10 Day Notice). The 10 Day Notice provides 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 on the stated effective vacancy date of November 28, 2017;

- A copy of a witnessed Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy form which indicates that the 10 Day Notice was posted to the tenant's door at 4:30 pm on November 18, 2017; and
- A Monetary Order Worksheet showing the rent owing and paid during the relevant portion of this tenancy.

Analysis

I have reviewed all documentary evidence and in accordance with sections 88 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenant was deemed served with the 10 Day Notice on November 21, 2017, three days after its posting.

Section 46 (4) of the *Act* states that, within five days of a tenant receiving the 10 Day Notice, the tenant may either pay the rent or dispute the 10 Day Notice.

The definition of days in the Residential Tenancy Branch Rules of Procedure states that: "If the time for doing an act in a business office falls or expires on a day when the office is not open during regular business hours, the time is extended to the next day that the office is open".

I find that the fifth day for the tenant to have either paid the rent or disputed the notice was November 26, 2017, which was a Sunday. The Residential Tenancy Branch is closed on Saturdays and Sundays, meaning that the latest day on which the tenant could have disputed the 10 Day Notice was on Monday, November 27, 2017.

I further find that the landlord applied for dispute resolution on November 27, 2017, the last day that the tenant had to dispute the 10 Day Notice, and that the earliest date that the landlord could have applied for dispute resolution was November 28, 2017. The landlord made their application for dispute resolution one day too early.

Therefore, I dismiss the landlord's application to end this tenancy and obtain an Order of Possession on the basis of the 10 Day Notice of November 18, 2017, with leave to reapply.

Conclusion

The landlord's application for an Order of Possession on the basis of the 10 Day Notice of November 18, 2017 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 19, 2017

Residential Tenancy Branch