



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPRM-DR, FFL

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 and a Monetary Order.

The landlord submitted a signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on January 21, 2017, the landlord placed the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding through the mail slot 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.

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*?

Is the landlord entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

Is the landlord entitled to recover the filing fee for this application pursuant to section 72 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 June 16, 2015, indicating a monthly rent of \$1,375.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on July 01, 2015;

- A copy of a Notice of Rent Increase form showing the rent being increased from \$1,375.00 to the current monthly rent amount of \$1,430.00 effective as of March 01, 2018;
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated March 02, 2018, for \$5,300.00 in unpaid rent. 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 February 13, 2018; and
- A Direct Request Worksheet showing the rent owing and paid during the relevant portion of this tenancy.

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.

In this type of matter, the landlord must prove they served the tenant the Notice of Direct Request proceeding with all the required inclusions as indicated on the Notice as per subsections 89 (1) and (2) of the *Act* which permit service by either leaving a copy with the person, sending a copy by registered mail to the address at which the person resides, leaving a copy with an adult who apparently resides with the tenant; or attaching a copy to the door or other conspicuous place at the address at which the tenant resides.

I find that the landlord has served the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding by leaving it in the mail slot of the rental unit, which is not a method of service that is in accordance with section 89 of the *Act*.

Since I find that the landlord has not served the tenant with notice of this application in accordance with section 89 of the *Act*, the landlord's application for an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order for unpaid rent is dismissed, with leave to reapply.

As the landlord was not successful in this application, I find that the landlord is not entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this application.

I note that the landlord did not provide a Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy. If they landlord is not able to prove that they served the tenant with the 10 Day Notice as per Residential Tenancy Policy Guideline # 39, their application will not be suitable for the Direct Request process.

Conclusion

I dismiss the landlord's application for an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order for unpaid rent, with leave to reapply.

I dismiss the landlord's application to recover the filing fee paid for this application without 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: May 30, 2018

Residential Tenancy Branch