



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 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 July 5, 2018, the landlords personally served each of the tenants the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding. The landlords had a witness sign the Proofs of Service of the Notices of Direct Request Proceeding to confirm personal service. Based on the written submissions of the landlords and in accordance with section 89 of the *Act*, I find that the tenants have been duly served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on July 5, 2018.

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*?

Are the landlords entitled to recover the filing fee for this application pursuant to section 72 of the *Act*?

Background and Evidence

The landlords submitted the following evidentiary material:

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlords on May 25, 2018 and the tenants on May 26, 2018, indicating a monthly rent of

\$950.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on June 1, 2018;

- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated June 22, 2018, for \$950.00 in unpaid rent. The 10 Day Notice provides 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 on the stated effective vacancy date of July 1, 2018;
- A copy of a witnessed Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy form which indicates that the 10 Day Notice was posted to the tenants' door at 1:00 pm on June 22, 2018; and
- A Direct Request 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 tenants were deemed served with the 10 Day Notice on June 25, 2018, 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 tenants to have either paid the rent or disputed the notice was June 30, 2018, which was a Saturday. The Residential Tenancy Branch is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, meaning that the latest day on which the tenants could have disputed the 10 Day Notice was on Tuesday, July 3, 2018.

I further find that the landlords applied for dispute resolution on July 2, 2018, the day before the tenants' last day to dispute the 10 Day Notice, and that the earliest date that the landlords could have applied for dispute resolution was July 4, 2018. The landlords made their application for dispute resolution too early.

Therefore, I dismiss the landlords' application to end this tenancy and obtain an Order of Possession on the basis of the 10 Day Notice of June 22, 2018, with leave to reapply.

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

As the landlords were not successful in this application, I find that the landlords are not entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this application.

Conclusion

The landlords' application for an Order of Possession on the basis of the 10 Day Notice of June 22, 2018 is dismissed, with leave to reapply.

The landlords' application for a Monetary Order for unpaid rent is dismissed with leave to reapply.

The landlords' application to recover the filing fee paid for this application is dismissed 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: July 06, 2018

Residential Tenancy Branch