

Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

<u>Dispute Codes</u> ET, FFL

<u>Introduction</u>

This hearing dealt with the landlord's application pursuant to the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the *Act*) for:

- an early termination of tenancy and Order of Possession, pursuant to section 56;
 and
- authorization to recover the filing fee from the tenant, pursuant to section 72.

The tenant did not attend this hearing, although I left the teleconference hearing connection open until 11:16 a.m. in order to enable the tenant to call into this teleconference hearing scheduled for 11:00 a.m. The landlord attended the hearing and was given a full opportunity to be heard, to present affirmed testimony, to make submissions and to call witnesses. I confirmed that the correct call-in numbers and participant codes had been provided in the Notice of Hearing. I also confirmed from the teleconference system that the landlord and I were the only ones who had called into this teleconference.

Preliminary Issue- Service

The landlord testified that she served the tenant at the subject rental property with a notice of application for dispute resolution package by regular mail on December 27, 2018.

Section 89 of the *Act* establishes the following Special rules for certain documents, which include an application for dispute resolution:

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89(1) An application for dispute resolution,...when required to be given to one party by another, must be given in one of the following ways:

- (a) by leaving a copy with the person;
- (b) if the person is a landlord, by leaving a copy with an agent of the landlord;
- (c) by sending a copy by registered mail to the address at which the person resides or, if the person is a landlord, to the address at which the person carries on business as a landlord;
- (d) if the person is a tenant, by sending a copy by registered mail to a forwarding address provided by the tenant;
- (e) as ordered by the director under section 71(1) [director's orders: delivery and service of document]...

I find that the landlord did not serve the tenant in a manner required by section 89(1) of the *Act*. At the hearing, I advised the landlord that I was dismissing her application with leave to reapply.

I notified the landlord that if she wished to pursue this matter further, she would have to file a new application. I cautioned her to be prepared to prove service at the next hearing, as per section 89 of the *Act*. I cautioned the landlord regarding the requirements to end a tenancy under section 56 of the *Act*.

Conclusion

I dismiss the landlord's application to recover the \$100.00 filing fee without leave to reapply.

I dismiss the landlord's application for an early termination of tenancy and Order of Possession, 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: January 21, 2019

Residential Tenancy Branch