Dispute Resolution Services

Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR

Introduction

On July 5, 2019, the Landlord applied for a Dispute Resolution proceeding seeking an Order of Possession based on a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the "Notice") pursuant to Section 46 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "Act").

The Landlord attended the hearing; however, the Tenant did not make an appearance. All in attendance provided a solemn affirmation.

The Landlord advised that the Tenant was served the Notice of Hearing and evidence package by registered mail on July 5, 2019 and he provided a registered mail tracking number, which confirmed that this package was signed for (the registered mail tracking number is on the first page of this decision). Based on this undisputed evidence, and in accordance with Sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I am satisfied that the Tenant was served the Notice of Hearing and evidence package.

All parties were given an opportunity to be heard, to present sworn testimony, and to make submissions. I have reviewed all oral and written submissions before me; however, only the evidence relevant to the issues and findings in this matter are described in this Decision.

Issue(s) to be Decided

• Is the Landlord entitled to an Order of Possession for unpaid rent?

Background and Evidence

While I have turned my mind to the accepted documentary evidence and the testimony of the parties, not all details of the respective submissions and/or arguments are reproduced here.

The Landlord stated that the tenancy started on March 24, 2017 and rent was currently established at \$922.50 per month, due on the first day of each month. A security deposit of \$450.00 was also paid. The Landlord submitted a copy of the written tenancy agreement as documentary evidence for consideration.

He testified that the Notice was served by posting it on the Tenant's door on May 2, 2019. He advised that the Notice indicated that \$922.50 was outstanding on May 1, 2019 and that the Tenant did not pay the rent or dispute the Notice within five days of being deemed to have received the Notice. He advised that rent has not been paid for May, June, July, or August 2019. The effective end date of the tenancy on the Notice was May 12, 2019.

<u>Analysis</u>

Upon consideration of the evidence before me, I have provided an outline of the following Sections of the *Act* that are applicable to this situation. My reasons for making this decision are below.

I have reviewed the Landlord's 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent to ensure that the Landlord has complied with the requirements as to the form and content of Section 52 of the *Act*. I am satisfied that the Notice meets all of the requirements of Section 52.

Section 26 of the *Act* states that rent must be paid by the Tenant when due according to the tenancy agreement, whether or not the Landlord complies with the tenancy agreement or the *Act*, unless the Tenant has a right to deduct all or a portion of the rent.

Should the Tenant not pay the rent when it is due, Section 46 of the *Act* allows the Landlord to serve a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid rent. Once this Notice is received, the Tenant would have five days to pay the rent in full or to dispute the Notice. If the Tenant does not do either, the Tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted that the tenancy ends on the effective date of the Notice, and the Tenant must vacate the rental unit.

The undisputed evidence before me is that the Tenant was deemed to have received the Notice on May 5, 2019, three days after it was posted to the door. According to Section 46(4) of the *Act*, the Tenant has 5 days to pay the overdue rent or to dispute this Notice. Section 46(5) of the *Act* states that "*If a tenant who has received a notice under this section does not pay the rent or make an application for dispute resolution in accordance with subsection (4), the tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted that the tenancy ends on the effective date of the notice, and must vacate the rental unit to which the notice relates by that date."*

As the fifth day fell on Friday May 10, 2019, the Tenant must have paid the rent in full or made an Application to dispute the Notice by this date at the latest. As outlined above, the undisputed evidence is that the rent was not paid in full when it was due, nor was it paid within five days of the Tenant being deemed to have received the Notice. Furthermore, there is no evidence before me that the Tenant had a valid reason for withholding the rent pursuant to the *Act*. In addition, the Tenant did not dispute the Notice either. Ultimately, I am satisfied that the Tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted the Notice.

As the Landlord's Notice is valid, as I am satisfied that the Notice was served in accordance with Section 88 of the *Act*, and as the Tenant has not complied with the *Act*, I uphold the Notice and find that the Landlord is entitled to an Order of Possession pursuant to Section 46 of the *Act*.

Conclusion

The Landlord is provided with a formal copy of an Order of Possession effective **two days after service of this Order** on the Tenant. Should the Tenant or any occupant on the premises fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed and enforced as an Order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

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: August 23, 2019

Residential Tenancy Branch