



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute codes OPR MNR FF

Introduction

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

- an order of possession for unpaid rent and utilities pursuant to section 55;
- a monetary order for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67;
- authorization to recover the filing fee for this application pursuant to section 72.

This application was originally heard by way of a Direct Request Proceeding and on February 5, 2020 an interim decision was issued adjourning the application to be reconvened at a participatory hearing.

The hearing was conducted by conference call. The tenant J.R. did not attend this hearing, although I waited until 10:00 a.m. to enable the tenant to connect with this teleconference hearing scheduled for 9:30 a.m. The landlord attended the hearing and was given a full opportunity to provide affirmed testimony, present evidence and make submissions.

The landlord testified that on February 6, 2020, a copy of the Application for Dispute Resolution including the Notice of Hearing and Interim Decision was sent to the tenant J.R. by registered mail. The landlord provided a registered mail tracking number in support of service.

Based on the above evidence, I am satisfied that the tenant J.R. was deemed served with the Application for Dispute Resolution, Notice of Hearing and Interim Decision pursuant to sections 89 & 90 of the Act. The hearing proceeded in the absence of the tenant.

Preliminary Issue – Removal of respondent and Amendment to Landlord's Application

The former co-tenant S.P. was also originally named as a respondent in this hearing. S.P. attended at the outset of the hearing and submitted that she should not be a respondent as she vacated the rental unit in December 2019 and advised the landlord of this by e-mail. S.P. also advised that J.R. is not in attendance for this conference call as he was recently arrested and is currently in prison.

The landlord agreed that S.P. could be removed as a respondent. The landlord's application is therefore amended to remove the respondent S.P. S.P. exited the conference call after the landlord agreed she could be removed as a party.

Paragraph 64(3)(c) of the Act allows me to amend an application for dispute resolution.

At the hearing, the landlord testified that the tenant J.R. appears to have abandoned the rental unit at the beginning of April 2020. The landlord was still seeking an order of possession to be sure. The landlord requested to amend the monetary portion of the application to include outstanding rent for February and March 2020. Although the tenant did not have prior notice of this claim, I find that the tenant should reasonably have known that the landlord would suffer this loss if the tenant neither paid rent nor vacated the rental unit. I therefore allowed the landlord's request for an amendment.

Issues

Is the landlord entitled to an order of possession pursuant to a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for unpaid rent (the 10 Day Notice)?

Is the landlord entitled to a monetary award for unpaid rent and for the recovery of the filing fee?

Background and Evidence

The tenancy began on May 3, 2019. The monthly rent was \$1800.00 payable on the 1st day of each month. The landlord testified that a security deposit was not paid at the start of the tenancy.

The landlord submitted a copy of a 10 Day Notice dated December 18, 2019. The 10 Day Notice indicates an outstanding rent amount of \$1800.00 which was due on December 1, 2019. The 10 Day Notice provides that the tenant had five days from the

date of service to pay the outstanding rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end on the stated effective date of the Notice.

The landlord testified that on December 20, 2019 the tenant was served with the 10 Day Notice by posting a copy to the door of the rental premises. A witnessed proof of service of the 10 Day Notice was provided with the application.

The landlord testified the outstanding rent was not paid within 5 days and no rent has been paid since.

The landlord's amended monetary claim is for outstanding rent in the amount of \$7200.00. The landlord testified that this includes unpaid rent as per below:

Item	Amount
December 2019	1800.00
January 2020	1800.00
February 2020	1800.00
March 2020	1800.00
Total Monetary Order Sought	\$7200.00

Analysis

Section 46 of the Act requires that upon receipt of a 10 Day Notice the tenant must, within five days, either pay the full amount of the arrears indicated on the 10 Day Notice or dispute the notice by filing an Application for Dispute Resolution with the Residential Tenancy Branch. If, as in the present case, the tenant does neither of these two things, the tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted that the tenancy ended on the effective date of the 10 Day Notice.

I am satisfied that the tenant was deemed served with the 10 Day Notice on December 23, 2019, three days after its posting, pursuant to sections 88 & 90 of the Act. The tenant would have had until December 28, 2019 to pay the outstanding amount as per the 10 Day Notice which they failed to do.

I find that the 10 Day Notice issued by the landlord complies with the requirements of Section 52 of the Act, accordingly, the landlord is granted an Order of Possession pursuant to section 55 of the Act.

Section 26 of the Act requires that a tenant must pay rent when it is due under the tenancy agreement, whether or not the landlord complies with this Act, the regulations or the tenancy agreement, unless the tenant has a right under this Act to deduct all or a portion of the rent.

I accept the landlord's uncontested evidence and claim for outstanding rent of \$7200.00 plus the \$100.00 filing fee for a total monetary award of \$7300.00.

Conclusion

I grant an Order of Possession to the landlord effective **two days after service of this Order** on the tenant. Should the tenant(s) fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed and enforced as an Order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

Pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*, I grant the landlord a Monetary Order in the amount of \$7300.00. Should the tenant fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed in the Small Claims Division of the Provincial Court and enforced as an Order of that Court.

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: April 14, 2020

Residential Tenancy Branch