



Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding CASCADIA APARTMENT RENTALS LTD. and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

# **DECISION**

Dispute Codes CNC, OLC, FFT

### Introduction

On July 22, 2020, the Tenant applied for a Dispute Resolution proceeding seeking to cancel a One Month Notice to End Tenancy for Cause (the "Notice") pursuant to Section 47 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "*Act*"), seeking an Order for the Landlord to Comply pursuant to Section 62 of the *Act*, and seeking to recover the filing fee pursuant to Section 72 of the *Act*.

The Tenant attended the hearing; however, the Landlord did not make an appearance during the 22-minute teleconference call. All parties in attendance provided a solemn affirmation.

The Tenant advised that Canada Post was no longer offering registered mail service, so he served the Landlord the Notice of Hearing package by some form of expedited mail service on or around July 24, 2020. However, he did not have any proof of this service as he was currently in the hospital. The address that he sent this package to was the same address the Landlord listed for service on the Notice. He stated that he called the Landlord's office on or around July 25, 2020 and was advised that the package was "more or less" received. Based on this solemnly affirmed testimony, and in accordance with Sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I am satisfied that the Landlord was served the Notice of Hearing package.

During the hearing, I advised the Tenant that as per Rule 2.3 of the Rules of Procedure, claims made in an Application must be related to each other and that I have the discretion to sever and dismiss unrelated claims. As such, I advised the Tenant that this hearing would primarily address the Landlord's One Month Notice to End Tenancy for Cause, that his other claims would be dismissed, and that he is at liberty to apply for these claims under a new and separate Application.

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.

I note that Section 55 of the *Act* requires that when a Tenant submits an Application for Dispute Resolution seeking to cancel a notice to end tenancy issued by a Landlord, I must consider if the Landlord is entitled to an Order of Possession if the Application is dismissed and the Landlord has issued a notice to end tenancy that complies with the *Act*.

## Issue(s) to be Decided

- Is the Tenant entitled to have the Notice cancelled?
- If the Tenant is unsuccessful in cancelling the Notice, is the Landlord entitled to an Order of Possession?
- Is the Tenant entitled to recover the filing fee?

## 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 Tenant advised that the tenancy started on March 1, 2005, that rent is currently established at \$864.00 per month, and that it is due on the first day of each month. A security deposit of around \$269.00 was also paid. A signed copy of part of the tenancy agreement was submitted as documentary evidence.

He advised that he found the Notice inside his rental unit when he returned on July 17, 2020. The Notice was dated July 17, 2020 and it indicated that the effective end date of the tenancy was July 28, 2020.

#### <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.

The onus is on the party issuing the Notice to substantiate the reasons for service of the Notice. As the Landlord has not appeared at the hearing, I am not satisfied that the Landlord has properly substantiated the grounds for ending the tenancy. As such, I am not satisfied of the validity of the Notice, and I find that the Notice of July 17, 2020 is of no force and effect.

As the Tenant was successful in this Application, I find that the Tenant is entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this Application. The Tenant is permitted to withhold this amount from the next month's rent.

#### **Conclusion**

Based on the above, I hereby Order that the One Month Notice to End Tenancy for Cause of July 17, 2020 to be cancelled and of no force or effect.

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 27, 2020

Residential Tenancy Branch