



# Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch  
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding ROYAL LEPAGE PARKSVILLE-QUALICUM BEACH REALTY  
LT and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

## **DECISION**

Dispute Codes      ET

### Introduction

This hearing dealt with the Landlord's Application filed under the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "Act") for an early end of tenancy pursuant to section 56 of the *Act*. The matter was set for a conference call.

The Landlord's Agent (the "Landlord") and the Tenant attended the hearing and were each affirmed to be truthful in their testimony. The Landlord and Tenant were provided with the opportunity to present their evidence orally and in written and documentary form and to make submissions at the hearing.

I have reviewed all oral and written evidence before me that met the requirements of the Rules of Procedure. However, only the evidence relevant to the issues and findings in this matter are described in this decision.

### Issue to be Decided

- Is the Landlord entitled to an early end of tenancy and an Order of Possession, under section 56 of the *Act*?

### Background and Evidence

The Landlord testified that they had received several complaints about the Tenant negatively affecting the quiet enjoyment of their neighbour. The Landlord testified that they have issued two warning letters to the Tenant but that the tenant has continued to disturb their neighbour.

The Landlord testified that they are seeking an order of possession for the rental unit due to the Tenant's breach of section 28 of the *Act*.

### Analysis

Based on the above, the testimony and evidence, and on a balance of probabilities, I find as follows:

An application for an early end of tenancy is an exceptional measure, to be taken only when a landlord can show that it would be unreasonable or unfair for the landlord or other occupants to allow the tenancy to continue until a notice to end tenancy for cause can take effect or be considered by way of an application for dispute resolution.

Section 56 of the *Act* establishes the grounds whereby a landlord may make an application for dispute resolution to request an end to tenancy and an Order of Possession on a date that is earlier than the tenancy would end if notice to end the tenancy were given under section 47 for a landlord's notice for cause. Section 56 states the following:

#### ***Application for order ending tenancy early***

**56 (1)** *A landlord may make an application for dispute resolution to request an order*

*(a) ending a tenancy on a date that is earlier than the tenancy would end if notice to end the tenancy were given under section*

*47 [landlord's notice: cause], and*

*(b) granting the landlord an order of possession in respect of the rental unit.*

**(2)** *The director may make an order specifying an earlier date on which a tenancy ends and the effective date of the order of possession only if satisfied, in the case of a landlord's application,*

*(a) the tenant or a person permitted on the residential property by the tenant has done any of the following:*

*(i) significantly interfered with or unreasonably disturbed another occupant or the landlord of the residential property;*

*(ii) seriously jeopardized the health or safety or a lawful right or interest of the landlord or another occupant;*

*(iii) put the landlord's property at significant risk;*

- (iv) engaged in illegal activity that*
  - (A) has caused or is likely to cause damage to the landlord's property,*
  - (B) has adversely affected or is likely to adversely affect the quiet enjoyment, security, safety or physical well-being of another occupant of the residential property, or*
  - (C) has jeopardized or is likely to jeopardize a lawful right or interest of another occupant or the landlord;*
- (v) caused extraordinary damage to the residential property, and*
- (b) it would be unreasonable, or unfair to the landlord or other occupants of the residential property, to wait for a notice to end the tenancy under section 47 [landlord's notice: cause] to take effect.*
- (3) If an order is made under this section, it is unnecessary for the landlord to give the tenant a notice to end the tenancy.*

In order to end a tenancy early and issue an Order of Possession under section 56, I must be satisfied that the tenant has done any of the following.

- Significantly interfered with or unreasonably disturbed another occupant or the landlord of the residential property;
- Seriously jeopardized the health or safety or a lawful right or interest of the landlord or another occupant;
- Put the landlord's property at significant risk;
- Engaged in illegal activity that has caused or is likely to cause damage to the landlord's property,
- Engaged in illegal activity that has adversely affected or is likely to adversely affect the quiet enjoyment, security, safety, or physical well-being of another occupant of the residential property, or
- Engaged in illegal activity that has jeopardized or is likely to jeopardize a lawful right or interest of another occupant or the landlord;
- Engaged in illegal activity that caused extraordinary damage to the residential property.

In this case, while the Tenants conduct may have been disturbing to others, I find the circumstance of this case are not so significant or severe that it would have been unreasonable for the Landlord to have to wait for a One Month Notice to take effect if there was sufficient cause to end the tenancy. Therefore, I find that the Landlord has

fallen short of the standard required to obtain an early end of tenancy under section 56 of the *Act*.

Consequently, I dismiss the Landlord's application for an early end of tenancy under section 56 of the *Act*, as I find it neither unreasonable nor unfair that the Landlord would need to wait for a One Month Notice to take effect and for the required hearing process under that notice.

### Conclusion

I dismiss the Landlord's application for an early end of tenancy. This tenancy continues until ended in accordance with the *Act*.

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: October 14, 2020

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Residential Tenancy Branch