Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes MNRL-S, MNDCL-S, FFL

Introduction

This hearing dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution filed by the Landlords under the Residential Tenancy Act (the "*Act*") for a monetary order for unpaid rent or utilities, for a monetary order for damages, permission to retain the security deposit and an order to recover the cost of filing the application. The matter was set for a conference call.

The Landlords' Agent attended the hearing was affirmed to be truthful in his testimony. As the Tenant did not attend the hearing, service of the Notice of Dispute Resolution Hearing documents was considered. Section 59 of the *Act* and the Residential Tenancy Branch Rules of Procedure states that the Respondent must be served with a copy of the Application for Dispute Resolution and Notice of Hearing within three days of the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding Package being made available to the applicant by the Residential Tenancy Branch.

Documents that must be served with the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding Package

"The applicant must, within **three days** of the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding Package being made available by the Residential Tenancy Branch, serve each respondent with copies of all of the following:

a) the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding provided to the applicant by the Residential Tenancy Branch, which includes the Application for Dispute Resolution;

b) the Respondent Instructions for Dispute Resolution;

c) the dispute resolution process fact sheet (RTB-114) or direct request process fact sheet (RTB-130) provided by the Residential Tenancy Branch; and

d) any other evidence submitted to the Residential Tenancy Branch directly or through a Service BC Office with the Application for Dispute Resolution, in accordance with Rule 2.5 [Documents that must be submitted with an Application for Dispute Resolution]."

The Agent testified that the Application for Dispute Resolution and Notice of Hearing documents were served on the Tenant by Canada Post Registered mail sent in October 2020, but that the mailed documents were returned "Unknown Address".

I accept the Agent's testimony, and I find that the Tenant had not been duly served in accordance with sections 3.1 of the Residential Tenancy Branch rules of procedure. Therefore, I dismiss the Landlord's application with leave to reapply. This decision does not extend any legislated timelines pursuant to the *Act*.

Conclusion

I dismiss the Application for Dispute Resolution with leave to reapply; however, this does not extend any applicable time limits under the legislation. I have not made any findings of fact or law with respect to the Application.

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 26, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch