



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPT, FFT

Introduction

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

- an order of possession of the rental unit pursuant to section 54;
- authorization to recover their filing fee for this application from the landlord pursuant to section 72.

This matter was set for a conference call hearing at 9:30 a.m. on this date. Both parties failed to attend the hearing by way of conference call. I waited until 11 minutes past the start of the scheduled hearing time in order to enable both parties to connect with this teleconference hearing. I confirmed that the correct call-in numbers and participant codes had been provided in the Notice of Hearing. I also confirmed from the teleconference system that I was the only person who had called into this teleconference.

Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure provides that:

7.1 Commencement of the dispute resolution hearing

The dispute resolution hearing will commence at the scheduled time unless otherwise set by the arbitrator.

7.2 Delay in the start of a hearing

In the event of a delay of a start of a conference call hearing, each party must stay available on the line to commence the hearing for 30 minutes after the time scheduled for the start of the hearing.

In the event of a delay of a face-to-face hearing, unless otherwise advised, the parties must remain available to commence the hearing at the hearing location for 30 minutes after the time scheduled for the start of the hearing.

7.3 Consequences of not attending the hearing

If a party or their agent fails to attend the hearing, the arbitrator may conduct the dispute resolution hearing in the absence of that party, or dismiss the application, with or without leave to re-apply.

7.4 Evidence must be presented

Evidence must be presented by the party who submitted it, or by the party's agent. If a party or their agent does not attend the hearing to present evidence, any written submissions supplied may or may not be considered.

Accordingly, in the absence of any evidence or submissions from either party and in the absence of both parties participation in this hearing, I order the application dismissed with leave to reapply. I make no findings on the merits of the matter. Leave to reapply is not an extension of any applicable limitation period.

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: March 16, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch