



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR-DR, OPRM-DR, FFL

Introduction

This matter proceeded by way of an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, pursuant to section 55(4) of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the *Act*), and dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution by the landlords for an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent and a Monetary Order.

The landlords submitted a signed Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on February 25, 2021, the landlords personally served the tenants the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding. The landlords had a witness sign the Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding to confirm this service.

Issue(s) to be Decided

Are the landlords entitled to an Order of Possession for unpaid rent pursuant to sections 46 and 55 of the *Act*?

Are the landlords entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

Are the landlords entitled to recover the filing fee for this application pursuant to section 72 of the *Act*?

Background and Evidence

I have reviewed all written submissions and evidence before me; however, only the evidence and submissions relevant to the issues and findings in this matter are described in this decision.

The landlords submitted the following relevant evidentiary material:

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement indicating a monthly rent of \$2,350.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on November 15, 2020

- A copy of a two-page 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated February 4, 2021, for \$2,350.00 in unpaid rent. The 10 Day Notice provides that the tenants had five days from the date of service to pay the rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end on the stated effective vacancy date of February 15, 2021
- A copy of a witnessed Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy form which indicates that the 10 Day Notice was personally served to the tenants at 1:00 pm on February 5, 2021
- A Direct Request Worksheet showing the rent owing and paid during the relevant portion of this tenancy

Analysis

In an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, the onus is on the landlord to ensure that all submitted evidentiary material is in accordance with the prescribed criteria and that such evidentiary material does not lend itself to ambiguity or give rise to issues that may need further clarification beyond the purview of a Direct Request Proceeding. If the landlord cannot establish that all documents meet the standard necessary to proceed via the Direct Request Proceeding, the application may be found to have deficiencies that necessitate a participatory hearing, or, in the alternative, the application may be dismissed.

Section 52 of the *Act* provides the following requirements regarding the form and content of notices to end tenancy:

52 In order to be effective, a notice to end a tenancy must be in writing and must
(a) be signed and dated by the landlord or tenant giving the notice,
(b) give the address of the rental unit,
(c) state the effective date of the notice...and
*(e) when given by a landlord, **be in the approved form...***

I have reviewed all documentary evidence and I find that the landlords submitted an outdated version of the 10 Day Notice form. The current form is available from the Residential Tenancy Branch website and consists of three pages.

I find the outdated form is invalid as the landlords have not served the approved form, as required by section 52 of the *Act*.

Therefore, I dismiss the landlords' application to end this tenancy and obtain an Order of Possession based on the 10 Day Notice dated February 4, 2021, without leave to reapply.

The 10 Day Notice dated February 4, 2021 is cancelled and of no force or effect.

For the same reasons identified in the 10 Day Notice the landlords' application for a Monetary Order for unpaid rent is dismissed, with leave to reapply.

As the landlords were not successful in this application, I find that the landlords are not entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this application.

Conclusion

The landlords' application for an Order of Possession based on the 10 Day Notice dated February 4, 2021, is dismissed without leave to reapply.

The 10 Day Notice dated February 4, 2021 is cancelled and of no force or effect.

This tenancy continues until it is ended in accordance with the *Act*.

I dismiss the landlords' application for a Monetary Order for unpaid rent, with leave to reapply.

I dismiss the landlords' application to recover the filing fee paid for this application without leave to reapply.

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 29, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch