

Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding CROSSROADS ENTERPRISES LTD and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

DECISION

<u>Dispute Codes</u> OPR-DR, OPRM-DR

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 landlord for an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent and a Monetary Order.

The landlord submitted two signed Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding forms which declare that on March 12, 2021, the landlord sent each of the tenants the Notice of Direct Request Proceeding by registered mail to the rental unit. The landlord provided a copy of the Canada Post Customer Receipts containing the tracking numbers to confirm these mailings. Based on the written submissions of the landlord and in accordance with sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenants are deemed to have been served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on March 17, 2021, the fifth day after their registered mailing.

Issue(s) to be Decided

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

Is the landlord entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

Background and Evidence

The landlord submitted the following relevant evidentiary material:

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord and the tenants on September 15, 2014, indicating a monthly rent of \$720.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on October 1, 2014
- A copy of a two-page 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated February 18, 2021, for \$2,485.00 in unpaid rent. The 10 Day Notice

Page: 2

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 28, 2021

- A copy of a Canada Post Customer Receipt containing the tracking number to confirm the 10 Day Notice was sent to the tenants on February 18, 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 landlord submitted an old version of the 10 Day Notice form, containing outdated contact information for the Residential Tenancy Branch. The current form, available from the Residential Tenancy Branch website, consists of three pages.

I find the outdated form is invalidated as the landlord has not served the approved form, as required by section 52 of the *Act*.

Therefore, I dismiss the landlord's application to end this tenancy and obtain an Order of Possession based on the 10 Day Notice dated February 18, 2021, without leave to reapply.

The 10 Day Notice dated February 18, 2021 is cancelled and of no force or effect.

Page: 3

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

Conclusion

The landlord's application for an Order of Possession based on the 10 Day Notice dated February 18, 2021, is dismissed without leave to reapply.

The 10 Day Notice dated February 18, 2021 is cancelled and of no force or effect.

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

I dismiss the landlord's application for a Monetary Order for unpaid rent, with 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: April 12, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch