



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR-DR, OPRM-DR, FFL, MNDCL

Introduction

This hearing dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution by Direct Request that was made on January 24, 2021 and adjourned to a participatory hearing. This hearing was convened pursuant to the Landlord's Application seeking the following relief, pursuant to the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "Act"):

- an order of possession for unpaid rent;
- a monetary order for unpaid rent;
- a monetary order for unpaid utilities; and
- the return of the filing fee.

The hearing was scheduled for 11:00AM on May 13, 2021 as a teleconference hearing. The Landlord appeared at the appointed date and time of the hearing and provided affirmed testimony. No one appeared for the Tenant. The conference call line remained open and was monitored for 11 minutes before the call ended. I confirmed that the correct call-in numbers and participant codes had been provided in the Notice of Hearing. During the hearing, I also confirmed from the online teleconference system that the Landlord and I were the only persons who had called into this teleconference.

The Landlord testified the Application, the amendment to add a claim for unpaid utilities, and documentary evidence package were served to the Tenant by registered mail on February 20, 2021. The Landlord provided a copy of the receipt in support. Based on the oral and written submissions of the Landlord, and in accordance with sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the Tenant is deemed to have been served with the Application, amendment, and documentary evidence on February 25, 2021 the fifth day after their registered mailing.

The Landlord was given an opportunity to present evidence orally and in written and documentary form, and to make submissions to me. 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(s) to be Decided

1. Is the Landlord entitled to an Order of Possession, pursuant to Section 55 of the *Act*?
2. Is the Landlord entitled to a monetary order for unpaid rent and utilities, pursuant to Section 67 of the *Act*?
3. Is the Landlord entitled to an order granting recovery of the filing fee, pursuant to Section 72 of the *Act*?

Background and Evidence

The Landlord testified that the tenancy began on January 1, 2019. Currently, the Tenant is required to pay rent in the amount of \$1,100.00 which is due to be paid on or before the first day of each month. The Landlord stated that the Tenant did not pay a security deposit to the Landlord. The Landlord stated that the Tenant continues to occupy the rental unit.

The Landlord testified the Tenant did not pay rent when due on January 1, 2021. Accordingly, the Landlord issued a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities, dated January 9, 2021 (the "10 Day Notice") with an effective vacancy date of January 23, 2021. At that time, rent in the amount of \$1,100.00 was outstanding. The Landlord testified he served the 10 Day Notice to the Tenants by placing it in the Tenant's mailbox on January 9, 2021.

In addition, the Landlord testified that the Tenant has also failed to pay rent when due for February, March, April, and May 2021. The Landlord stated that currently, rent in the amount of \$5,500.00 is outstanding.

The Landlord stated that he is also claiming for unpaid utilities in the amount of \$343.10 for unpaid gas bills. The Landlord stated that the Tenant is responsible for paying 35% of the utility bills. The Landlord provided a detailed account of non payments for each month from November 2020 to April 2021 demonstrating the outstanding balance of \$343.10 for utilities.

As noted above, the Tenant did not attend the hearing to dispute the Landlord's evidence.

Analysis

Based on the uncontested affirmed oral testimony and documentary evidence, and on a balance of probabilities, I find:

Section 26 of the Act states that a Tenants must pay the rent when it is due under the tenancy agreement, whether or not the Landlord complies with the Act, the regulations, or the tenancy agreement, unless the Tenant has a right under this Act to deduct all or a portion of the rent.

Section 46 of the Act states a Landlord may end a tenancy if rent is unpaid on any day after the day it is due, by giving notice to end the tenancy effective on a date that is not earlier than 10 days after the date the tenant receives the notice.

The Landlord served the Tenant with the 10 Day Notice dated January 9, 2021 with an effective vacancy date of January 23, 2021, by placing it in the Tenant's mailbox on January 9, 2021. Pursuant to sections 88 and 90 of the Act, documents served in this manner are deemed to be received 3 days later. I find the Tenant is deemed to have received the 10 Day Notice on January 12, 2021.

Section 46(4) says that within 5 days after receiving a notice under this section, the Tenant may either pay the overdue rent, in which case the notice has no effect, or dispute the notice by making an application for dispute resolution. Therefore, the Tenant had until January 17, 2021 to either pay the outstanding rent owed to the Landlord in full, or make an Application for dispute resolution.

I accept the Landlord's undisputed testimony that after service of the 10 Day Notice, the Tenant has made no payments towards the amount of unpaid rent. As the Tenant did not pay all the rent owed according to the 10 Day Notice within 5 days and there is no evidence before me that the Tenant disputed the 10 Day Notice, I find the Tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted the tenancy ended on the corrected effective date of the 10 Day Notice January 27, 2021, pursuant to section 46(5) of the Act.

I find that the 10 Day Notice complies with the requirements for form and content and I find that the Landlord is entitled to an **order of possession effective 2 (two) days**, after service on the Tenant, pursuant to section 55 of the Act. This order may be filed in the Supreme Court and enforced as an order of that Court. The Tenant is cautioned that costs of such enforcement are recoverable from the Tenant.

I find the Landlord has established an entitlement to a monetary award for unpaid rent in the amount of **\$5,500.00**. I further find that the Landlord is also entitled to monetary compensation in the amount of **\$343.10** for unpaid utilities. Having been successful, I also find the Landlord is entitled to recover the **\$100.00** filing fee paid to make the Application.

Pursuant to section 67 of the Act, I find the Landlord is entitled to a monetary order in the amount of \$5,943.10, which has been calculated as follows:

Claim	Amount
Unpaid rent:	\$5,500.00
Unpaid utilities:	\$343.10
Filing fee:	\$100.00
TOTAL:	\$5,943.10

Conclusion

The Tenant has breached the *Act* by not paying rent when due to the Landlord. The Landlord is granted an order of possession, which will be effective two (2) days after service on the Tenant. If the Tenant fails to comply with the order of possession it may be filed in and enforced as an order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

The Landlord is granted a monetary order in the amount of \$5,943.10. The monetary order may be filed in and enforced as an order of the Provincial Court of British Columbia (Small Claims).

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: May 13, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch