

Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding Top Vision Realty Inc and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

DECISION

<u>Dispute Codes</u> OPR-DR, MNR-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 landlord to obtain an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent.

This decision is written based on the Application for Dispute Resolution, evidence, and submissions provided by the landlord on August 19, 2021.

The landlord submitted two signed Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding forms which declare that on September 8, 2021, the landlord sent each tenant the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request 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 Direct Request Proceeding documents were served on September 8, 2021 and are deemed to have been received by the tenant on September 13, 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*?

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 landlord submitted the following relevant evidentiary material:

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 A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord on June 8, 2021 and the tenants on June 9, 2021, indicating a monthly rent of \$3,500.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on June 15, 2021

- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice)
 dated August 10, 2021, for \$3,500.00 in unpaid rent. The 10 Day Notice provides
 that the tenant 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 August 23, 2021
- A copy of a Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy form which indicates that the 10 Day Notice was sent to the tenant by e-mail at 12:56 pm on August 10, 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.

In this type of matter, the landlord must prove that they served the tenants with the 10 Day Notice in a manner that is considered necessary as per sections 71(2)(a) and 88 of the *Act*.

Policy Guideline #39 provides that service of the 10 Day Notice by e-mail may be proven by providing:

- A copy of the outgoing email showing the email address used, the date the
 email was sent, and any attachments included in the email and
- A copy of the outgoing email showing the email address used, the date the email was sent, and any attachments included in the email

On the Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy the landlord has indicated that they sent the 10 Day Notice to the tenants by e-mail. However, I find the landlord has not provided a copy of the outgoing e-mail containing the 10 Day Notice as an attachment to confirm service of the 10 Day Notice to the tenants.

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I find I am not able to confirm service of the 10 Day Notice to the tenants, which is a requirement of the Direct Request proceeding.

For this reason, the landlord's application for an Order of Possession for unpaid rent is dismissed with leave to reapply.

Conclusion

I dismiss the landlord's application for an Order of Possession 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: September 22, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch