



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPU-DR, MNU-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 to obtain an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent and utilities, to obtain monetary compensation for unpaid rent and utilities, and to recover the filing fee paid for the application.

This decision is written based on the Application for Dispute Resolution, evidence, and submissions provided by the applicant on September 9, 2021.

The applicant submitted a signed Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on September 21, 2021, the applicant sent the tenant the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request by registered mail to the rental unit. The applicant provided a copy of the Canada Post Customer Receipt containing the tracking number to confirm this mailing.

Based on the written submissions of the applicant and in accordance with sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the Direct Request Proceeding documents were served on September 21, 2021 and are deemed to have been received by the tenant on September 26, 2021, the fifth day after their registered mailing.

Issue(s) to be Decided

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

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

Is the applicant 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 applicant submitted the following relevant evidentiary material:

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which names a landlord who is not the applicant and was signed by the tenant on September 24, 2020, indicating a monthly rent of \$3,000.00, discounted to \$1,895.00 and due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on October 1, 2020
- A copy of two utility bills from BC Hydro for the rental unit dated May 11, 2021 for \$85.43 and July 12, 2021 for \$112.55
- A copy of two demand letters to the tenant requesting payment of utilities, dated June 9, 2021 for \$85.43 and July 28, 2021 for \$112.55
- A copy of a witnessed Proof of Service Written Demand to Pay for Utilities form which indicates that a demand letter was posted to the tenant's door on July 28, 2021
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated August 9, 2021, for \$1,895.00 in unpaid rent and \$197.98 in unpaid utilities. 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 24, 2021
- A copy of a witnessed Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy form which indicates that the 10 Day Notice was posted to the tenant's door at 3:04 pm on August 9, 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 applicant to ensure that all submitted evidentiary material is in accordance with the prescribed criteria and that such material does not lend itself to ambiguity or give rise to issues that may need clarification beyond the purview of a Direct Request Proceeding. If the applicant 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.

Policy Guideline #39 on Direct Requests provides that when making an application for dispute resolution through the direct request process, the landlord must provide a copy of documents showing changes to the tenancy agreement or tenancy, such as rent increases, or changes to parties or their agents.

I have reviewed all documentary evidence and I find that the landlord's name on the tenancy agreement does not match either the landlord's name on the Application for Dispute Resolution or the landlord's name on the 10 Day Notice.

There is also no evidence or documentation showing that the applicant is the owner of the rental property or is otherwise entitled to any orders that may result from this application.

As this is an *ex parte* proceeding that does not allow for any clarification of the facts, I have to be satisfied with the documentation presented. The discrepancy in the landlord's name raises a question that cannot be addressed in a Direct Request Proceeding.

For this reason, the applicant's request for an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order for unpaid rent and utilities is dismissed with leave to reapply.

As the applicant was not successful in this application, I find that the applicant is not entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this application.

Conclusion

I dismiss the applicant's request for an Order of Possession and a Monetary Order for unpaid rent and utilities with leave to reapply.

I dismiss the applicant's request 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: October 14, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch