



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes MNSDS-DR, FFT

Introduction

This matter proceeded by way of an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, pursuant to section 38.1 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the *Act*), and dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution by the tenant to obtain monetary compensation for the return of double the security deposit (the deposit) 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 tenant on October 11, 2021.

The tenant submitted a copy of an e-mail sent from the tenant to the landlord containing the Direct Request documents as attachments.

Issue(s) to be Decided

Is the tenant entitled to monetary compensation for the return of a security deposit pursuant to sections 38 and 67 of the *Act*?

Is the tenant 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 tenant submitted the following relevant evidentiary material:

- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by the landlord and the tenant on April 30, 2021, indicating a monthly rent of \$2,100.00 and a security deposit of \$1,050.00, for a tenancy commencing on May 1, 2021
- A copy of a text message from the tenant to the landlord dated September 23, 2021, providing the forwarding address, and a reply text from the landlord

- A copy of a Tenant's Direct Request Worksheet showing the amount of the deposit paid by the tenant, an authorized deduction of \$100.00, and indicating the tenancy ended on August 31, 2021

Analysis

In an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, the onus is on the tenant 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 tenant 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 tenant must prove they served the landlord with the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request and all documents in support of the application as per section 89 of the *Act*. Policy Guideline #49 on Tenant's Direct Request provides the following requirements:

"Once the package is served, the tenant must complete and submit a Proof of Service Tenant's Notice of Direct Request Proceeding (Form RTB-50) which is provided by the Branch with the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding"

I note that the tenant submitted a copy of an e-mail sent to the landlord containing the Direct Request documents as attachments. However, I find the tenant has not provided a copy of the Proof of Service Tenant's Notice of Direct Request Proceeding form which is a requirement of the Direct Request process as detailed in Policy Guideline #49.

I find the tenant has not submitted the documents required for a Direct Request. However, I find there is a more impactful issue with the tenant's application.

I find that the forwarding address provided by the tenant is incomplete as it does not include the city or postal code of the forwarding address.

For this reason, the tenant's application for a Monetary Order for the return of the deposit based on the forwarding address of September 23, 2021, is dismissed without leave to reapply.

The tenant must reissue the forwarding address and provide the full details to the landlord if the tenant wants to apply through the Direct Request process.

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

Conclusion

I dismiss the tenant's application for a Monetary Order for the return of the security deposit based on the forwarding address of September 23, 2021, without leave to reapply.

I dismiss the tenant's 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: November 30, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch