



Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes OPR-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 landlords to obtain an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent.

The landlords submitted a signed Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on October 13, 2021, the landlords sent the tenant the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request by registered mail to the rental unit. The landlords provided a copy of the Canada Post receipt containing the tracking number to confirm this mailing.

Issue(s) to be Decided

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

Analysis

In this type of matter, the landlords must prove they served the tenant with the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding– Direct Request and all documents in support of the application in accordance with section 89 of the *Act* which permits service “*by sending a copy by registered mail to the address at which the person resides...*”

The definition of registered mail is set out in section 1 of the *Act* as “*any method of mail delivery provided by Canada Post for which confirmation of delivery to a named person is available.*” Policy Guideline #12 on Service Provisions goes on to clarify that this “*includes Express post, if the signature option is used.*”

I find that the tracking number provided by the landlords with the Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding is for a package sent by Canada Post’s Express post mailing, which may or may not require a signature from the individual to confirm delivery to the person named as the respondent.

In this case, Canada Post's online tracking system shows that a signature was not required for the delivery of this Express post mailing and, as such, it does not meet the definition of registered mail as defined under the *Act*.

Since I find that the landlords have not served the tenant with notice of this application in accordance with section 89 of the *Act*, I dismiss the landlords' application for an Order of Possession for unpaid rent with leave to reapply.

Conclusion

The landlords' application for an Order of Possession for unpaid rent is dismissed 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: November 16, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch