

Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

<u>Dispute Codes</u> MNSDS-DR

<u>Introduction</u>

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).

The tenant submitted two signed Proof of Service Tenant's Notice of Direct Request Proceeding forms which declare that on February 3, 2022, the tenant sent each landlord the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request by e-mail. The tenant provided a copy of the outgoing e-mails containing the Direct Request documents as attachments to confirm this service.

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*?

<u>Analysis</u>

In this type of matter, the tenant must prove they served the landlords with the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request and all documents in support of the application as per section 89 of the *Act*.

Section 89 of the *Act* provides that a Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request may be served "by any other means of service provided for in the regulations."

Section 43(2) of the Residential Tenancy Regulation provides that documents "may be given to a person by emailing a copy to an email address **provided as an address for service** by the person."

I find that the tenant has sent the Notices of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request to the landlords by e-mail. However, I find there is no evidence to demonstrate that the landlords indicated documents could be served by e-mail.

Page: 2

I find the tenant has not demonstrated that the landlords' e-mail addresses were provided for service of documents, as required by section 43(2) of the *Residential Tenancy Regulation*.

I find I am not able to confirm service of the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request to the landlords and for this reason, the tenant's application for a Monetary Order for the return of the security deposit is dismissed with leave to reapply.

Conclusion

I dismiss the tenant's application for a Monetary Order for the return of the security deposit 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: February 23, 2022

Residential Tenancy Branch