

Dispute Resolution Services

Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Dispute Codes 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 landlords to obtain an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent, to obtain monetary compensation for unpaid rent, 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 landlords on March 6, 2022.

The landlords submitted a copy of two Proof of Service Notice of Direct Request Proceeding forms signed by tenant D.A. which declare that on March 16, 2022, the landlords served each tenant the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request by handing them to tenant D.A.

Based on the written submissions and evidence of the landlords and in accordance with section 89(1) of the *Act*, I find that the Direct Request Proceeding documents were served to the tenants on March 16, 2022.

Issues to be Decided

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

Are the landlords entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

Are the landlords 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 landlord submitted the following relevant evidentiary material:

- a copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by landlords and tenant D.A. on February 2, 2021, indicating a monthly rent of \$1,650.00, due on the first day of each month for a tenancy commencing on January 1, 2021;
- a copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities (the "10 Day Notice") dated February 16, 2022, for \$2,045.00 in unpaid rent. The 10 Day Notice provides that the tenants 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 February 28, 2022; and;
- a copy of a witnessed Proof of Service Notice to End Tenancy form which indicates that the 10 Day Notice was posted to the tenants' door at 11:00am on February 18, 2022.

<u>Analysis</u>

In an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, the onus is on the landlords 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 landlords 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.

Section 59 of the *Act* establishes that an Application for Dispute Resolution must "include the full particulars of the dispute that is to be the subject of the dispute resolution proceedings."

Policy Guideline #39 on Direct Requests provides the following information:

When making an application for dispute resolution through the direct request process, the landlord must provide copies of:

- The written tenancy agreement.
- Documents showing changes to the tenancy agreement or tenancy, such as rent increases, or changes to parties or their agents.

- The Direct Request Worksheet (form RTB-46) setting out the amount of rent or utilities owing which may be accompanied by supporting documents such as a rent ledger or receipt book;
- The 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities (this is often considered proof that the tenant did not pay rent).
- Proof that the landlord served the tenant with the 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent or Utilities and, if applicable, the Written Demand to Pay Utilities.

I find that the landlords have not submitted the Direct Request Worksheet (form RTB-46). I further find that I am not able to consider the landlords' Application for Dispute Resolution without this document which forms a part of the Application.

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

As the landlords were not successful in this application, I find that the landlords are not entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this application.

Conclusion

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

I dismiss the landlords' 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: April 05, 2022

Residential Tenancy Branch