

# **Dispute Resolution Services**

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 tenants to obtain monetary compensation for the return of the security deposit (the deposit) and to recover the filing fee paid for the application.

The tenants submitted a signed Proof of Service Tenant's Notice of Direct Request Proceeding which declares that on March 25, 2022, the tenants sent the landlord the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding - Direct Request by e-mail.

### Issue(s) to be Decided

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

Are the tenants entitled to recover the filing fee for this application pursuant to section 72 of the *Act*?

### <u>Analysis</u>

In this type of matter, the tenants 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 that service of the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding – Direct Request by e-mail may be proven by providing:

- A copy of the outgoing email showing the email address used, the date the email was sent, and any attachments included in the email and
- The RTB-51 Address for Service or other document that sets out the party's email address for service

The tenants have indicated they sent the Notice of Dispute Resolution Proceeding -Direct Request to the landlord by e-mail. However, I find the tenants have not submitted a copy of the outgoing e-mail showing the Direct Request documents were included as attachments.

I also find there is no evidence to demonstrate that the landlord provided their e-mail address specifically 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 landlord and for this reason, the tenants' application for a Monetary Order for the return of the security deposit is dismissed with leave to reapply.

As the tenants were not successful in this application, I find the tenants are not entitled to recover the filing fee paid for this application.

#### Conclusion

I dismiss the tenants' application for a Monetary Order for the return of the security deposit with leave to reapply.

I dismiss the tenants' 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: April 22, 2022

Residential Tenancy Branch