



Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

Introduction

This hearing was convened in response to cross-applications by the parties pursuant to the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the “Act”) for Orders as follows:

Landlord:

- an order of possession for failure to pay rent and/or utilities pursuant to section 55;
- a monetary order for unpaid rent and/or utilities pursuant to section 67;
- authorization to recover the filing fee for this application pursuant to section 72.

Tenant:

- cancellation of the landlord’s 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for unpaid rent pursuant to section 46 (the 10 Day Notice);
- cancellation of the landlord’s One Month Notice to End Tenancy for Cause (the One Month Notice) pursuant to section 47.

The hearing was conducted by conference call. All named parties attended the hearing and were given a full opportunity to provide testimony and present evidence. The parties confirmed service of the respective applications for dispute resolution, including the notice of hearing and evidence on file.

Preliminary Issue – Amendment to Landlord’s Application

Section 64(3)(c) of the Act allows me to amend an application for dispute resolution.

At the hearing, the landlord testified that the tenant had not yet vacated the rental unit and therefore asked to amend her claim to include outstanding rent and utilities as of the hearing date in the total amount of \$5809.77. Although the tenant did not have prior notice of this claim, I find that the tenant should reasonably have known that the

landlord would suffer this loss if the tenant neither paid rent nor vacated the rental unit. I therefore allowed the landlord's request for an amendment.

Issues

Is the landlord entitled to an order of possession for unpaid rent and/or utilities or should the 10 Day Notice be cancelled?

Is the landlord entitled to a monetary award for unpaid rent and utilities?

Is the landlord entitled to an order of possession for cause or should the One Month Notice be cancelled?

Is the landlord entitled to recover the filing fee for this application from the tenant?

Background and Evidence

The tenancy began on December 1, 2021 with a monthly rent of \$1300.00 payable on the 1st day of each month. The tenant was also responsible for 50% of utilities.

Both parties submitted a copy of a 10 Day Notice dated September 8, 2022. The 10 Day Notice indicates the tenant failed to pay rent in the amount of \$1300.00 which was due on September 1, 2022. The 10 Day Notice provides that the tenant had five days from the date of service to pay the outstanding rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end on the stated effective date of the Notice.

The landlord testified the outstanding rent was not paid within 5 days and no rent has been paid by the tenant since. The landlord is claiming \$5200.00 for unpaid rent for September, October, November, and December 2022. The landlord is also seeking \$609.77 for outstanding utilities. The landlord testified that copies of all utility's bills have been provided to the tenant.

The tenant acknowledged receipt of the 10 Day Notice and that he did not pay the full amount of the arrears indicated, within five days, of receiving the Notice. The tenant acknowledged withholding rent. The tenant testified he withheld the rent as he did not agree with the accusations against him in a One Month Notice which was previously issued to him.

The tenant did not dispute the amount of outstanding rent and utilities as claimed by the landlord.

Analysis

Section 46 of the Act requires that upon receipt of a 10 Day Notice the tenant must, within five days, either pay the full amount of the arrears indicated on the Notice or dispute the Notice by filing an Application for Dispute Resolution with the Residential Tenancy Branch.

Section 26 of the Act requires that a tenant must pay rent when it is due under the tenancy agreement, whether or not the landlord complies with this Act, the regulations or the tenancy agreement, unless the tenant has a right under this Act to deduct all or a portion of the rent.

Although the tenant filed an application to dispute the 10 Day Notice within the time limit permitted under the Act, I find the tenant's application must be dismissed as the tenant acknowledged rent was not paid in full within 5 days after receiving the notice nor did the tenant have a right under this Act to deduct all or a portion of the rent.

Section 55(1) of the *Act* states that if a tenant applies to dispute a landlord's notice to end tenancy and their Application for Dispute Resolution is dismissed or the landlord's notice is upheld the landlord must be granted an order of possession if the notice complies with all the requirements of Section 52 of the *Act*.

Further, as per section 55(1.1) if the application is in relation to a notice to end tenancy under section 46 [*landlord's notice: non-payment of rent*] an order requiring the payment of the unpaid rent must also be granted.

I find that the 10 Day Notice issued by the landlord complies with the requirements of Section 52 of the Act, accordingly, the landlord is granted an Order of Possession pursuant to section 55 of the Act.

I accept the landlord's undisputed claim for outstanding rent and utilities in the total of \$5,809.77.

As the landlord was successful in this application, I find that the landlord is entitled to recover the \$100.00 filing fee paid for this application for a total monetary award of \$5,909.77.

As this tenancy has ended pursuant to the 10 Day Notice, I make no findings on the merits of the One Month Notice.

Conclusion

I grant an Order of Possession to the landlord effective **two days after service of this Order** on the tenant. Should the tenant(s) fail to comply with this Order; this Order may be filed and enforced as an Order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

Pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*, I grant the landlord a Monetary Order in the amount of \$5,909.77. Should the tenant fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed in the Small Claims Division of the Provincial Court and enforced as an Order of that Court.

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: January 03, 2023

Residential Tenancy Branch