Dispute Resolution Services



Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding bcIMC REALTY CORPORATION and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

DECISION

Dispute Codes

OPR MNR MNSD FF

Introduction

This hearing was convened as a result of the landlord's Application for Dispute Resolution. A participatory hearing was held on April 24, 2020. The landlord applied for the following relief, pursuant to the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "*Act*"):

- an order of possession for unpaid rent or utilities; and,
- a monetary order for unpaid rent or utilities.

The landlord's agent (referred to as the Landlord) attended the hearing and provided testimony. The tenant did not attend the hearing. The landlord testified that she sent the application package, along with his supporting evidence to the tenant on February 27, 2020, by registered mail. I find the tenant is deemed to have received this package on March 3, 2020, the fifth day after its registered mailing, pursuant to Section 90 of the *Act*.

The Landlord has requested to amend her application to include rent that has accrued since the original application date. I turn to the following Rules of Procedure (4.2):

Amending an application at the hearing

In circumstances that can reasonably be anticipated, such as when the amount of rent owing has increased since the time the Application for Dispute Resolution was made, the application may be amended at the hearing.

I hereby amend the application accordingly.

The Landlord was provided the opportunity to present evidence orally and in written and documentary form, and to make submissions to me. I have reviewed all oral and written

evidence before me that met the requirements of the Rules of Procedure. However, only the evidence relevant to the issues and findings in this matter are described in this Decision.

Issue(s) to be Decided

- 1. Is the landlord entitled to an order of possession for unpaid rent or utilities?
- 2. Is the landlord entitled to a monetary order for unpaid rent or utilities?

Background and Evidence

The Landlord stated that monthly rent is set at \$1,492.40, and is due on the first of the month. The Landlord holds a security deposit of \$700.00.

The Landlord testified that the tenant has completely stopped paying rent and now owes 4 months in rent. The Landlord clarified in the hearing that she is only seeking to recover unpaid rent, and not the additional fees she had listed on her application. The Landlord stated that the Tenant failed to pay any rent for January, February, March, or April 2020, and now owes \$5,969.60.

The Landlord provided a copy of the 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice), which was posted to the Tenant's door on February 5, 2020. The Landlord provided a proof of service document. The 10 day Notice specified that the tenant owed 2 months rent at that time.

<u>Analysis</u>

Based on the unchallenged testimony and documentary evidence, and on a balance of probabilities, I find as follows:

Section 26 of the *Act* confirms that a tenant must pay rent when it is due unless the tenant has a right under the *Act* to deduct all or a portion of rent. When a tenant does not pay rent when due, section 46(1) of the *Act* permits a landlord to end the tenancy by issuing a notice to end tenancy. A tenant who receives a notice to end tenancy under this section has five days after receipt, under section 46(4) of the *Act*, to either pay rent in full or dispute the notice by filing an application for dispute resolution. When a tenant does not pay rent in full or dispute the notice, the tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted the tenancy ends on the effective date of the notice, as per section 46(5) of the *Act*.

In this case, I find that the tenant had a balance of unpaid rent at the time the 10 Day Notice was issued. On February 5, 2020, the 10 Day Notice was posted to the Tenants door. Pursuant to section 88 and 90 of the Act, I find the tenant is deemed to have received the 10 Day Notice on February 8, 2020.

The tenant had 5 days to pay rent in full or file an application for dispute resolution. I find no evidence that the tenant did either. As such, I find the tenant is conclusively presumed to have accepted the end of the tenancy, on the effective date of the notice. The Landlord is entitled to an order of possession, which will be effective two (2) days after it is served on the tenant.

With respect to the Landlord's request for a monetary order for unpaid rent, I find there is sufficient evidence from the Landlord to demonstrate that the tenant owes and has failed to pay rent for January through till April 2020 (4 months x \$1,492.40). I find the tenant owes \$5,969.60 in unpaid rent.

The Landlord requested that they be able to retain the security deposit of \$700.00 to offset the amount of rent owed, and to recover the \$100 filing fee for this application.

Section 72 of the *Act* gives me authority to order the repayment of a fee for an application for dispute resolution. Since the Landlord was substantially successful in this hearing, I order the tenant to repay the \$100. Also, pursuant to sections 72 of the *Act*, I authorize that the security deposit, currently held by the Landlord, be kept and used to offset the amount of rent still owed by the tenant. In summary, I grant the monetary order based on the following:

Claim	Amount
Cumulative unpaid rent	\$5,969.60
Other: Filing fee	\$100.00
Less: Security Deposit currently held by Agent	
	(\$700.00)
TOTAL:	\$5,369.60

Conclusion

The landlord is granted an order of possession effective **two days after service** on the tenant. This order must be served on the tenant. If the tenant fails to comply with this order the landlord may file the order with the Supreme Court of British Columbia and be enforced as an order of that Court.

The landlord is granted a monetary order pursuant to Section 67 in the amount of **\$5,369.60**. This order must be served on the tenant. If the tenant fails to comply with this order the landlord may file the order in the Provincial Court (Small Claims) and be 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: April 24, 2020

Residential Tenancy Branch