

Residential Tenancies Tribunal

Application 2023-0418-NL

Decision 23-0418-00

Pamela Pennell
Adjudicator

Introduction

1. Hearing was called at 9:40 a.m. on 14-June-2023.
2. The applicant, [REDACTED] hereinafter referred to as "the landlord" attended by teleconference.
3. The respondent, [REDACTED] hereinafter referred to as "the tenant" did not attend.

Preliminary Matters

4. The tenant was not present or represented at the hearing and I was unable to reach her by telephone at the start of the hearing, and I was unable to leave a voicemail message. This Tribunal's policies concerning notice requirements and hearing attendance have been adopted from the *Rules of the Supreme Court, 1986*. According to Rule 29.05(2)(a) respondents to an application must be served with claim and notice of the hearing 10 clear days prior to the hearing date and, where the respondent fails to attend the hearing, Rule 29.11(1) states that the hearing may proceed in the respondent's absence so long as she has been properly served. The landlord submitted an affidavit with their application stating that they had served the tenant with the notice of hearing by prepaid registered mail; [REDACTED] on 10-May-2023 (LL#1). The registered mail tracking indicates that the tenant did not retrieve the mail. In accordance with the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018* registered mail is considered served 5 days after it has been sent. As the tenant was properly served, and as any further delay in these proceedings would unfairly disadvantage the landlord, I proceeded with the hearing in her absence.
5. The landlord states that there was a written fixed rental agreement which commenced on 10-March-2017. Rent is \$263.00 per month and is due on the first day of each month. Income Support was paying the rent in full until January 2023. The landlord states that a security deposit was never paid.
6. The landlord amended the application to increase rent from \$1027.00 as per the application to \$1315.00. The landlord is seeking hearing expenses reimbursed.

Issues before the Tribunal

7. The landlord is seeking:
 - a. Rent paid \$1315.00
 - b. Vacant possession of rental premises
 - c. Hearing expenses \$20.00

Legislation and Policy

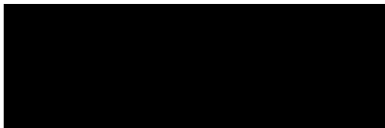
8. The jurisdiction of the Director of Residential Tenancies is outlined in sections 46 and 47 of the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018*.
9. Also relevant and considered in this decision are the following sections of the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018*: Section 19: Notice where failure to pay rent.

Issue 1: Rent Paid \$1315.00

Relevant Submissions

10. The landlord testified that rent was outstanding in the amount of \$1315.00 and in support of the claim submitted a rental ledger (LL#2) as follows:

Statement of Account



Date	Rent Charge	Rent Paid	Balance
February 1, 2023	\$263.00	\$0	\$263.00
March 1, 2023	\$263.00	\$0	\$526.00
April 1, 2023	\$263.00	\$0	\$789.00
May 1, 2023	\$263.00	\$0	\$1,052.00
June 1, 2023	\$263.00	\$0	\$1,315.00

Analysis

11. Non-payment of rent is a violation of the rental agreement. The landlord stated that there is rental arrears in the amount of \$1315.00.
12. The rental ledger is amended to show a daily rate for June as this tribunal doesn't consider future rent (see below). I find that the tenant is responsible for outstanding rent dating back as far as 1-February-2023 (last zero balance) to 31-May-2023 in the amount of \$1052.00 and rent from 1-June to 14-June in the amount of \$121.10 for a total of \$1173.10 and then a daily rate shall apply as calculated below:

2023-0418-NL			
Date	Action	Amount	Total
January 31, 2023	Balance		\$0.00
February 1, 2023	Rent due	\$263.00	\$263.00
March 1, 2023	Rent due	\$263.00	\$526.00
April 1, 2023	Rent due	\$263.00	\$789.00
May 1, 2023	Rent due	\$263.00	\$1,052.00
June 1-14, 2023	Rent due	\$121.10	\$1,173.10

Daily rate: $\$263 \times 12 = \3156 per year
 $\$3156 / 365 \text{ days} = \8.65 per day

13. I find the tenant shall pay the landlord \$1173.10 in outstanding rent for the period of 1-February to 14-June and then a daily rate of \$8.65 shall be applied.

Decision

14. The landlord's claim for rental arrears succeeds.

Issue # 2: Vacant Possession of Rented Premises

Relevant submissions:

15. The landlord submitted a termination Notice under Section 19; failure to pay rent. The notice was signed and dated for 25-April-2023, with a termination date of 12-May-2023 (LL#3).

Analysis

16. Section 19 of the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018* states:

a. Notice where failure to pay rent

b. 19. (1) Notwithstanding subsection 18(2) and paragraph 18(3)(b),

i. (b) where the residential premises is

(i) rented from *month to month*,

(ii) rented for a fixed term, or

(iii) a site for a mobile home, and

c. the amount of rent payable by a tenant is *overdue for 5 days or more*, the landlord may give the tenant notice that the rental agreement is terminated and that the tenant is required to vacate the residential premises on a specified date not less than 10 days after the notice is served on the tenant.

i. (4) In addition to the requirements under section 34, a notice under this section shall

(a) be signed by the landlord;

(b) state the date on which the rental agreement terminates and the tenant is required to vacate the residential premises; and

(c) be served in accordance with section 35.

17. The tenant was in rent arrears in excess of the 5 days when the notice was served. On the date of termination, 12-May-2023 the tenant was still in arrears. The termination notice meets the requirements of the Act and is a valid notice.

18. I find the tenant should have vacated the premises by 12-May-2023.

Decision

19. The landlord's claim for an order for vacant possession succeeds.

20. The tenant shall vacate the premises immediately

21. The tenant shall pay to the landlord any costs charged to the landlord by the Office of the High Sheriff should the landlord be required to have the Sheriff enforce the attached Order of Possession.

22. As this tribunal does not consider future rent, the tenant shall pay a daily rate for rent beginning 15-June-2023 in the amount of \$8.65 a day as outlined in paragraph 12, until such time as the landlord regains possession of the property.

Issue # 3: Hearing Expenses

23. The landlord paid an application fee of \$20.00. The landlord submitted a copy of the application receipt (LL#4). As the landlord's claim has been successful, the tenant shall pay the \$20.00. The landlord's claim for hearing expenses succeeds in the amount of \$20.00.

Summary of Decision

24. The tenant shall:

Pay the landlord \$1193.10 as follows:

Rent	\$1173.10
Hearing expenses	20.00

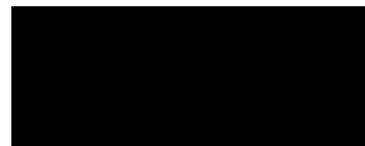
Total \$1193.10

25. Vacate the property immediately

26. Pay to the landlord any costs charged to the landlord by the Office of the High Sheriff should the landlord be required to have the Sheriff enforce the attached Order of Possession.

27. The landlord will be awarded an Order of Possession.

June 20, 2023 _____
Date



Pamela Pennell, Adjudicator
Residential Tenancies Office