

Residential Tenancies Tribunal

Application 2024-0590-NL

Oksana Tkachuk
Adjudicator

Introduction

1. Hearing was called at 2:01 p.m. on 3-September-2024.
2. The applicant, [REDACTED], represented by [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. 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 he has been properly served. The landlord’s representative submitted an affidavit with their application stating that they had served the tenant with the notice of the hearing on 24-July-2024 via prepaid registered mail, tracking number # [REDACTED] (LL#1). The landlord’s representative submitted a copy of receipt that mail was sent on that date. In accordance with the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018* this is good service. As the tenant was properly served, and as any further delay in these proceedings would unfairly disadvantage the landlord, the hearing proceeded in her absence.
5. There is a written month to month rental agreement which commenced on 25-October-2023. Rent is \$263.00 per month due on the first of each month. A security deposit was never paid.
6. The landlord’s representative amended their application to include hearing expenses of \$20.00.

Issues before the Tribunal

7. The landlord is seeking:

- An Order for Vacant Possession of the rented premises;
- 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 is the following section of the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018*: Section 18: Notice of termination of rental agreement and Section 12-1 of the *Residential Tenancies Policy Manual: Costs*.

Issue # 1: Vacant Possession of the Rented Premises

Landlord's Position

10. The landlord's representative testified that they gave the tenant a standard termination notice on 8-May-2024 under Section 18: Notice of termination of rental agreement to vacate the premises on 31-August-2024. The landlord's representative stated that they served the tenant with the termination notice via prepaid registered mail, tracking [REDACTED] on that date. The landlord submitted a copy of the termination notice to support the claim and proof of sent mail (LL#2,3).

Analysis

11. The notice was served under Section 18 of the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2018* which states:

Notice of termination of rental agreement

18. (2) A landlord shall give the tenant notice that the rental agreement is terminated and the tenant is required to vacate the residential premises

(a) not less than 4 weeks before the end of a rental period where the residential premises is rented from week to week;

(b) not less than 3 months before the end of a rental period where the residential premises is rented from month to month; and

(c) not less than 3 months before the end of the term where the residential premises is rented for a fixed term.

.....

(9) In addition to the requirements under section 34, a notice under this section shall

(a) be signed by the person providing the notice;

(b) be given not later than the first day of a rental period;

(c) state the date, which shall be the last day of a rental period, on which the rental agreement terminates and the tenant intends to vacate the residential premises or the date by which the tenant is required to vacate the residential premises; and

(d) be served in accordance with section 35.

12. I accept landlord's testimony, as the tenant was not present at the hearing and therefore did not provide her own testimony. The termination notice submitted by the landlord meets the requirements of not less than 3 months before the end of the rental period after notice is served where residential premises is rented month-to-month. In accordance with the *Residential Tenancies Act*, 2018 as stated above, the termination notice meets the requirements of the *Act* and is a valid notice.

13. I find that the tenant should have vacated the property by 31-August-2024.

Decision

14. The tenant shall vacate the premises immediately.

Issue # 2: Hearing expenses \$20.00.

Relevant Submission

15. The landlord paid \$20.00 for the application fee and is seeking reimbursement. The landlord's representative submitted a copy of the receipt to support the claim (LL#4).

Analysis

16. In accordance with Section 12-1 of the *Residential Tenancies Policy Manuel: Costs*, and as the landlord's claim was successful as per paragraphs 15 and 21, the landlord will be awarded with \$20.00 filing fee.

Decision

17. The landlord's claim for hearing expenses succeeds in the amount of \$20.00.

Summary of Decision

18. The tenant shall pay the landlord \$20.00 for hearing expenses.

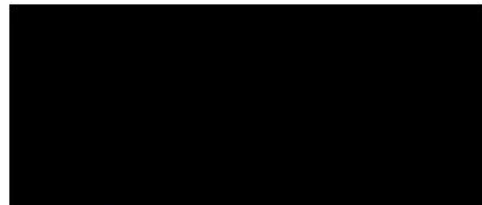
19. The tenant shall vacate the premises immediately.

20. 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.

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

September 5, 2024

Date



Oksana Tkachuk
Residential Tenancies Office