

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT 501

| MERCY HOUSING CALIFORNIA, | ) Case CUD-14-648384                                    |
|---------------------------|---|
| Plaintiffs,               | ) ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO QUASH SERVICE OF |
| v.                        | ) SUMMONS   |
| NURIA FLORES,             | ) Date: May 5, 2014 Time: 9:30 a.m.                     |
| Defendant.                | Department: 501   |

Defendant's Motion to Quash Service of Summons came on regularly for hearing on May 5, 2014. Irina Naduhovskaya appeared for Defendant; Jonathan Bornstein appeared for Plaintiff; the Honorable Ronald Evans Quidachay, judge presiding.

Upon consideration of the parties written submissions and oral argument the Court requested supplemental briefing regarding split of authority regarding service of Notice of Termination on the Housing Authority per 24 C.F.R. 982.310(e)(2)(ii).

On May 20, 2014 Defendant submitted supplement briefing discussing a number of non-California published and unpublished cases.

On May 20, 2014 Plaintiff submitted supplemental briefing which was limited to the following statement on the issue for which supplemental briefing was requested: "[t]here is no 'split of authority.' Defendant cited unpublished federal cases- not one of which is a California or Ninth Circuit case." Plaintiff's supplemental briefing provided no helpful argument or analysis.

The Court now rules as follows:

Defendant's Motion to Quash is GRANTED with leave to amend to allege in good faith service of Notice on the San Francisco Housing Authority:

- 1. In Lamlon Development Corp. v. Owens (N.Y. Dist. Ct. 1988) 141 Misc.2d 287, the Court analyzing 24 C.F.R. 982.310(e)(2)(ii) ("[T]he owner must notify the PHA in writing of the commencement of procedures for termination of tenancy, at the same time that the owner gives notice to the family under State or local law") held "that a landlord seeking to terminate a Section 8 tenancy must serve a copy of the termination notice (or equivalent notice) on the public housing authority at the same time that such notice is served on the tenant. Failure to do so is a jurisdictional defect which precludes the maintenance of a summary proceeding. The notice should be sent to the public housing authority by certified mail and the return receipt attached to the petition, or in the alternative, an affidavit of service should be submitted with the petition." This Court agrees with the analysis and holding in Lamlon Development Corp. v. Owens (N.Y. Dist. Ct. 1988) 141 Misc.2d 287 that service of the Notice on the public entity is a jurisdictional requirement.
- 2. However, in 1995 24 C.F.R. 982.310(e)(2)(ii) was amended and the notification provision was modified. Specifically, the words "at the same time" were deleted.

- 3. Analyzing the new version of 24 C.F.R. 982.310(e)(2)(ii) the Court in *Calciano v. Caldwell* (Conn. Super. Ct., May 3, 2010) 49 Conn. L. Rptr. 816 (unpublished opinion) held "[i]t is clear that the optimal landlord practice would be to provide a copy of the notice to quit at the earliest time in the eviction to allow the PHA an opportunity to preserve the subsidy, if practicable, or to ensure that the PHA does not inadvertently continue to make housing subsidy payments on behalf of a tenant who is no longer in possession. Under the specific facts and circumstances of this case, the court finds that the MHA was given ample time and opportunity to act after receipt of notice of the possible eviction of the defendant. The court finds that the plaintiff complied with the notice requirement of 24 C.F.R. § 982.310(e)(2)(ii) and finds for the plaintiff on the defendant's first special defense." This Court agrees that the language of 24 C.F.R. § 982.310(e)(2)(ii) requires the Notice to be served on the Housing Authority in time for the Housing Authority to get involved, if it choses to do so.
- 4. Therefore, Plaintiff, who terminates Section 8 Tenancy must serve the Housing Authority with a copy of the Notice at least in time for the Housing Authority to terminate the payments to the landlord, i.e. before the last date of expiration of the Notice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: June 9, 2014

Ronald Evans Quidachay
Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

County of San Francisco Department 501

Plaintiff(s)

Vs.

NURIA FLORES,

Defendant(s),

Case Number: CUD-12-648384

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

(CCP 1013a (4))

I, Maria Olopernes-Pena, a Deputy Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of San Francisco, certify that I am not a party to the within action.

On June 10, 2014, I served the attached ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO QUASH SERVICE OF SUMMONS, by placing a copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed as follows:

IRINA NADUHOSVAKAYA, ESQ. BAY AREA LEGAL AID 1035 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94103

JONATHAN BORNSTEIN, ESQ. BORNSTEIN & BORNSTEIN 507 Polk Street, Ste. 410 San Francisco, CA 94102

I then placed the sealed envelopes in the outgoing mail at 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA. 94102 on the date indicated above for collection, attachment of required prepaid postage, and mailing on that date following standard court practices.

Dated: June 10, 2014

T. MICHAEL YUEN, Clerk

MARIA OLOPERNES-PENA

By:

Maria Olopernes-Pena, Deputy Clerk