## IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION

SALISH AND KOOTENAI	) CAUSE NO. AP-10-295-CV
HOUSING AUTHORITY,	)
Petitioner-Appellee,	)
, onto the property	ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL
	)
vs.	)
PATRICIA MILLER,	) )
Respondent-Appellant.	)
	)

On June 6, 2012, this Court held a hearing with both the Respondent-Appellant, Patricia Miller and the Petitioner-Appellee, Salish and Kootenai Housing Authority (SKHA) present to update the Court on the status of their respective positions in this appeal. This appeal involves the continued housing of Respondent-Appellant Patricia Miller and her family as tenants under a Low Rent Dwelling Lease operated by the Salish and Kootenai Housing Authority, despite violating the lease, Ms. Miller was allowed to remain a tenant. Ms. Miller's violation of the Low Rent Dwelling Lease stemmed from a 2009 violation of SKHA's Criminal & Drug-Related Activity Policy by a member of her household that was listed as a tenant.

Given that "substantial rights" are apparently involved, the significant timing irregularities involved in this appeal, the unclear nature of the Housing Authority's Motion, and the fact that Respondent-Appellant Miller is proceeding in forma pauperis

(see Order Granting Leave to Proceed In Forma Pauperis, dated May 11, 2011), without the benefit of an attorney, the Court set an oral hearing and heard from both parties. At the hearing, Petitioner-Appellee Salish and Kootenai Housing Authority agreed in good faith to set aside their Motion to Dismiss dated May 8, 2012. Both parties agreed to move forward with the appeal with the Court setting a briefing schedule.

## ORDER:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this Court having heard from both the Respondent-Appellant, Patricia Miller and the Petitioner-Appellee, Salish and Kootenai Housing Authority at the June 6, 2012 and reviewing the documents submitted by each party after the hearing, this Court dismisses Ms. Miller's appeal and affirms the March 23, 2011 Judgment and Order by Chief Judge Tanner, to evict Ms. Miller from the SKHA Low Rent Dwelling Unit 9-14, located at 35824 Michael Pablo Loop and hold Ms. Miller responsible for any unpaid utilities, move out damages and any pending delinquent accounts associated with Unit 9-14. Since 2009, the SKHA have made several attempts to work with Ms. Miller in relocating her to a smaller two bedroom unit since Ms. Miller was issued a Notice of Termination of the SKHA Low Rent Dwelling Lease for Unit 9-14 and a Notice to Vacate, in 2009, due to violating SKHA's Criminal & Drug-Related Activity Policy. Because Ms. Miller doesn't dispute the violation of the SKHA Criminal & Drug-Related Activity Policy, the SKHA properly issued the Notice of Termination and Notice to Vacate the SKHA Unit 9-14 back in 2009 and this Court must uphold and affirm the Tribal Court's March 23, 2011 decision.

## IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 26th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2012.



DANIEL D. BELCOURT Associate Justice

ce: Patricia Miller, Respondent-Appellant Salish and Kootenai Housing Authority, Petitioner-Appellee

## **Certificate of Mailing**

I, Abigail Dupuis, Appellate Court Administrator, do hereby certify that I mailed a true and correct copy of the *Order Dismissing Appeal* to the persons first named therein at the addresses shown below by depositing same in the U.S. Mail, postage prepaid at Pablo, Montana, or hand-delivered this 29th day of November, 2012.

Patricia Miller P.O. Box 722 Pablo, MT 59855

Salish Kootenai Housing Authority P.O. Box 38 Pablo, MT 59855

Cara Croft Clerk of the Tribal Court P.O. Box 278 Pablo, MT 59855

Abigail Dubuis

Appellate Court Administrator