

Law under discussion:  
  
(b) A housing provider may only charge a late fee:  
  
[...]  
  
(2) If the tenant has not paid the full amount of rent within 5 days, or any longer grace period that may be provided in the lease, after the day the rent payment is due.

JM: if the law said "If the tenant has not paid the full amount of rent within 5 days, or any longer grace period that may be provided in the lease, of the day the rent payment is due." then the late fee could be charged on the 6th

ET: curi: uhh no, day 6 is within 5 days of day 1.

JM: ya fair

ET: post mortem?

JM: curi i should have reasoned something like this: the 2nd is within 1 day of the 1st. the 3rd is within 2 days of the 1st. the 4th is within 3 days of the 1st. the 5th is within 4 days of the 1st. the 6th is within 5 days of the first. i guess i was overly focused on the prepositional issue which seemed like a good point and didn't think to check my math.

ET: i think you were biased in the following way: looking for complexity and something clever on purpose  
  
instead of expecting and seeking simplicity

JM: that's interesting cuz i thought of my mistake as trying to over simplify things

ET: the of/after distinction was over-complicating

JM: i thought trying to reduce the issue to one wrong word choice was over-simplifying cuz it was dropping some of the relevant context (namely "within"). there was more than one word that mattered, so focusing so much on one word was over-simplifying.  
  
tunnel vision

ET: well "1 day after X" works. "1 day of X" doesn't mean anything relevant

u can't leave out a word like "within" and make a sentence

ET: so idk what you were doing, but in any case i think you sought out some extra detail beyond "they were wrong; late fees start day 7"

JM Comment: I find this comment really unclear. I tried to guess what you meant but I decided I don't really understand what you're talking about and I'm not sure what it would be helpful to ask. I thought maybe this was a tiredness issue on my part but I reread it fresh and am still lost.

ET: i don't think you oversimplified by reading it as "1 day of the 1st"  
  
you did something else with "of"  
  
it's not a straight substitution. just trying a straight substitution would be a simple starting point to compare  
  
but u did something else

JM Comment: I was trying to get more metaphorically "solid" on the point about the law not permitting late fees until 7th of month. I didn't feel fully satisfied, wanted to find some additional ways to think about it. I'm not sure if that's what you mean by "sought out some extra detail."

If it helps, I wasn't saying that I forgot about the "within" entirely when I suggested replacing "after" with "of". For example, I was still checking to see if "of" would fit grammatically in the sentence of law I was modifying. But I failed to think through the meaning of "within" and was overly focused on of/after issue.

JM: I'm confused. In my mind I did a straight substitution of "of" for "after." This is my conception of the whole relevant section of the law, with the modification I proposed, and with changes from the original noted in [brackets] (including a bracketed ellipses for content i removed):

(b) A housing provider may only charge a late fee:

[...]

(2) If the tenant has not paid the full amount of rent within 5 days, or any longer grace period that may be provided in the lease, [of] the day the rent payment is due.