**PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION**

APPELLANT: Michael Nitz
DOCKET NO.: 04-25393.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 07-07-202-193-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michael Nitz, the appellant, by attorney Julie Realmuto of McCarthy & Duffy, in Chicago, Illinois, and the Cook County Board of Review.

The subject property is improved with a 30-year old, two-story townhouse of frame construction containing 1,380 square feet of living area with an unfinished basement and central air conditioning.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on four comparable properties, two of which are on the same street as the subject, described as two-story frame or frame and masonry townhouses that were either 30 or 32 years old for consideration. Two of the comparables have partial basements and a fireplace; two comparables also have central air conditioning. The comparables range in size from 1,130 to 1,610 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from $5.81 to $6.15 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is $8.92 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment was disclosed. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on three comparable properties located on the same street as the subject and consisting of two-story frame townhouses that range in age from 30 to 34 years old. Each comparable had a basement, two of which included finished area; one comparable also had central air conditioning. The dwellings range in size from 1,251 to 1,358 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from $8.90 to $9.93 per square foot of living area. The board of review also reported

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Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds ***no change*** in the assessment of the property as established by the **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

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|---|---|---|
| LAND: | $ | 3,307 |
| IMPR.: | $ | 12,310 |
| TOTAL: | $ | 15,617 |

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

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that the subject property was purchased in June 2002 for $160,000. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

After reviewing the record and considering the evidence, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal. The Board further finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The appellant contends unequal treatment in the subject's improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. Taxpayers who object to an assessment on the basis of lack of uniformity bear the burden of proving the disparity of assessment valuations by clear and convincing evidence. Kankakee County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 131 Ill.2d 1 (1989). After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds the appellant has not met this burden.

Appellant's comparables #1 and #3 differ in foundation from the subject and for this reason have been given less weight in the Board's analysis. The Board finds the comparables submitted by the board of review were most similar to the subject in size, design, exterior construction, location and age. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from $8.90 to $9.93 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of $8.92 per square foot of living area is within this range. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is equitable and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board which is subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code.

Chairman

Member

Member

Member

Member

DISSENTING:

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date: January 23, 2009

Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing

complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for the subsequent year directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.