

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: James Blanchard  
DOCKET NO.: 05-21249.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 10-20-217-038-0000

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

The subject property is improved with a 50-year old, one and one-half story style dwelling of frame and masonry construction containing square feet of living area with a full, finished basement, two full baths, air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a two-car garage.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant's petition also suggests the subject dwelling contains 1,174 square feet of living area, while the board of review's documents suggest the subject contains 1,892 square feet of living area. The appellant submitted information on four comparable properties described one-story; multi-level or one and one-half story frame and masonry dwellings that are from 50 to 55 years old for consideration. Located in the same assessment neighborhood as the subject, the comparables contain from 1,224 to 1,450 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$12.93 to \$14.17 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 improvement assessment of \$24,877 was disclosed. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on three comparable properties consisting of one and one-half story frame and masonry dwellings that range in age from 53 to 60 years old. The dwellings are located in the same assessment neighborhood as the subject. The dwellings range in size from 1,459 to 1,641 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$15.22 to \$15.69 per square foot of living area. Based on this

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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:

LAND: \$ 6,071  
IMPR.: \$24,877  
TOTAL: \$30,948

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

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.

The first issue before the Board is the correct square footage attributable to the subject improvement. The Board finds that the appellant failed to substantiate the claim that the subject's living square footage is different than the public record presented by the board of review. Consequently, the Board finds the subject contains 1,892 square feet of living area.

The Property Tax Appeal Board finds the comparables submitted by the board of review were most similar to the subject in size, design, exterior construction/location and/or 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 \$15.22 to \$15.69 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$13.15 per square foot of living area based on 1,892 square feet below the range established by these properties. 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 supported 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: August 29, 2008



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.