



**Final Administrative Decision of the
State of Illinois
PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

APPELLANT: William Thomas
DOCKET NO.: 05-24074.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-33-401-003-0000

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

After reviewing the record and considering the evidence submitted, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this Cook County appeal. Based upon the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds that a reduction in the assessment of the subject property; and therefore, the correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$ 8,600
IMPR: \$ 35,546
TOTAL: \$ 44,146

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

The subject property is improved with a 58-year old, two-story dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction containing 1,837 square feet of living area. Features of the home include: a full basement, one full and one half-baths, two fireplaces and a two-car garage.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on four comparable properties improved with two-story, frame and masonry dwellings. They range in age from 40 to 47 years and in size from 1,799 to 1,928 square feet of living. Features include from two to three baths and basement area, while three properties also contain a fireplace. Garage area is reflected in the properties' photographs. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$12.42 to \$19.38 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$21.50 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 four comparable properties consisting of two-story, stucco or masonry dwellings. They range in age from 29 to 78 years and in size from 1,600 to 2,260 square feet of living area. Features include two baths, basement and garage area, while three properties also include a fireplace. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$22.46 to \$30.03 per square foot of living area. 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 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 met this burden.

The Board finds that comparables #2 through #4 submitted by the appellant were most similar to the subject in size, style, exterior construction 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 \$18.00 to \$19.38 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$21.50 per square foot of living area is above this range. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is not equitable and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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.

Ronald R. Cuit

Chairman

K. L. Fern

Member

Frank A. Huff

Member

Marko M. Louie

Member

Shawn R. Lerbis

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: October 28, 2009

Allen Castrovillari

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.