



**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

APPELLANT: Stefan Olaru
DOCKET NO.: 05-28239.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-23-105-005-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Stefan Olaru, the appellant(s), by attorney Glenn S. Guttman, of Rieff Schramm & Kanter of Chicago; and the Cook County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds a reduction 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: \$ 10,400
IMPR.: \$ 30,600
TOTAL: \$ 41,000

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property consists of a 6,250 square foot parcel improved with a 100-year-old, two-story, mixed-use building of masonry construction containing 6,242 square feet of building area and located in Jefferson Township, Cook County. Features of the building include three full bathrooms, two half-baths, a partial-unfinished basement and a two-car detached garage.

The appellant, through counsel, submitted evidence before the Property Tax Appeal Board arguing unequal treatment in the assessment process of the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this claim, the appellant submitted assessment data and descriptive information on eight properties suggested as comparable to the subject. Based on the appellant's documents, the eight suggested comparables consist of two-story, mixed-use buildings of frame, masonry or frame and masonry construction located within the subject's neighborhood. The improvements

range in size from 6,420 to 7,260 square feet of building area and range in age from 68 to 110 years old. The comparables contain from two to nine full bathrooms and a partial-unfinished basement. Three comparables have a one-car or multi-car detached garage. The improvement assessments range from \$3.00 to \$5.05 per square foot of building area. Based on the evidence submitted, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the subject's total assessment of \$44,775. The subject's improvement assessment is \$34,375 or \$5.51 per square foot of building area. In support of the assessment the board submitted property characteristic printouts and descriptive data on four properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The suggested comparables are improved with two-story or three-story, mixed-use buildings of masonry or frame and masonry construction with the same neighborhood code as the subject. The improvements range in size from 4,776 to 5,940 square feet of building area and range in age from 77 to 96 years old. The comparables contain from three to six full bathrooms. Two comparables contain a partial-unfinished basement and two comparables have central air-conditioning and a multi-car garage. The improvement assessments range from \$5.55 to \$7.86 per square foot of building area. Based on the evidence presented, 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 appellant's argument was unequal treatment in the assessment process. The Illinois Supreme Court has held that 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). The evidence must demonstrate a consistent pattern of assessment inequities within the assessment jurisdiction. After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds the appellant has overcome this burden.

The Board finds the appellant's comparables two, five and eight to be the most similar properties to the subject in the record. These three properties are similar to the subject in improvement size, design, amenities, age and location and have improvement assessments ranging from \$3.95 to \$5.05 per square foot of building area. The subject's per square foot improvement assessment of \$5.51 falls above the range established by these properties. The Board finds the remaining comparables less similar to the subject in improvement size and/or exterior construction and accorded less weight. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' suggested comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the

subject's per square foot improvement assessment is not supported by the most similar properties contained in the record.

As a result of this analysis, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the appellant has adequately demonstrated that the subject dwelling was inequitably assessed by clear and convincing evidence and a reduction 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

Mario Morris

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: April 23, 2010

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.