



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

APPELLANT: Kenneth Kessler
DOCKET NO.: 06-20788.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 11-19-204-003-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Kenneth Kessler, the appellant, by attorney Howard W. Melton, of Howard W. Melton and Associates in Chicago; and the Cook County Board of Review.

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: \$17,624
IMPR: \$95,286
TOTAL: \$112,910**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property is improved with two dwellings on the parcel. Building 1 is a 2-story dwelling of masonry construction containing 5,808 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 99 years old. Features of the home include a full, unfinished basement and a fireplace. Building 2 is a 1½-story masonry dwelling 99 years old and built on a slab foundation. It contains 500 square feet of living area and features a 2-car garage.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on four comparable properties described as class 2-09 (two or more story) frame and masonry dwellings that range in age from 94 to 111 years old. The comparable dwellings range in size from 5,951 to 6,363 square feet of living area. All comparables feature unfinished basements. One has central air conditioning and three have 2 or 3-car garages. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$7.41 to \$14.50 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment for building 1

is \$14.26¹ per square foot of living area, and \$24.90 per square foot of living area for building 2. 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 did not present any descriptions or assessment information on any comparable properties. 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.

The Board finds the comparables submitted by the appellant were most similar to the subject in location, size, style, features 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 \$7.41 to \$14.50 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$14.26 per square foot of living area is within the range established by the most similar comparables. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment for building 1 is equitable and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted. The appellant did not contest the assessment of building 2, and therefore the Board finds the improvement assessment of building 2 is equitable and no change in assessment is warranted.

¹ The appellant used the improvement assessments for both buildings, but only used the square footage from building 1. This resulted in an erroneous improvement assessment of \$16.41 per square foot of living area. The board of review combined the square footage of both buildings, resulting in an erroneous improvement assessment of \$15.11 per square foot of living area.

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 M. Louie

Member

Shawn R. Lerski

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: December 3, 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.