FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Thomas & Lisa Finks
DOCKET NO.: 06-27968.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-32-401-063-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Thomas & Lisa Finks, the appellants, by attorney Christopher G. Walsh, Jr. 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:	$ 21,169
IMPR.:	$ 102,987
TOTAL:	$ 124,156

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property is improved with a three-story townhouse of masonry construction containing 2,446 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 15 years old. Features of the home include a full, finished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and a two-car garage.

The appellants' appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. In support of this argument, the appellants submitted information on four comparable properties that were described as three-story townhouses of masonry construction. The comparables are located in the same tax block as the subject and each is 13 years old. The comparable dwellings each contain 2,326 square feet of living area. Features include a concrete slab foundation, central air conditioning and a two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $27.06 to $27.17 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is $42.10 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellants 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 three-story masonry townhouses that are each 15 years old, located on the same block as the subject. The dwellings each contain 2,446 square feet of living area and have full, finished basements, central air conditioning, three fireplaces and a two-car garage. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from $36.05 to $42.10 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 not warranted.

The appellants contend 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 appellants have not met this burden.

The parties submitted a total of eight comparables that were similar to the subject in location, design and exterior construction. The Board finds the appellants' comparables, although similar to the subject in age and size, lacked some of the amenities present in the subject property. The appellants' comparables had no basement or fireplace, while the subject had a full, finished basement and two fireplaces. Thus, these comparables received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The board of review's comparables were practically identical to the subject in size, age and amenities. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. The comparables had improvement assessments ranging from $36.05 or $42.10 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of $42.10 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 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: May 21, 2010

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.