



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

APPELLANT: Robert Ruehl  
DOCKET NO.: 06-29986.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 13-34-123-044-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Robert Ruehl, the appellant, by attorney Lisa A. Marino, of Marino & Assoc., PC 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:     \$ 4,380  
IMPR.:    \$ 32,988  
TOTAL:    \$ 37,368**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a two-story dwelling of masonry construction containing 2,166 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 16 years old. Features of the home include a crawl-space foundation, central air conditioning and a one and one-half 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 two-story frame, masonry or frame and masonry dwellings that range in age from 52 to 58 years old. The comparable dwellings range in size from 2,066 to 2,926 square feet of living area. Two comparables have a full or partial basement, one of which is finished and the others have a concrete slab foundation. One has central air conditioning and three have a one or two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$11.32 to \$12.25 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$15.23 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 masonry dwellings that are between three and 48 years old. The dwellings range in size from 2,159 to 2,526 square feet of living area. The comparables have a full or partial basement, two of which are finished, three have central air conditioning, one has a fireplace and three have a one or two-car garage. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$15.23 to \$22.53 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 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 appellant's comparables one, two and four were significantly larger than the subject. All four of the comparables were substantially older than the subject and only one was similar in exterior construction with the subject. The board of review's comparables, although somewhat similar to the subject in size, differed from the subject in foundation. Two comparables were substantially older than the subject and two were considerably newer than the subject. Although none of the comparables was sufficiently similar to the subject to provide clear and convincing evidence the subject was inequitably assessed, the Board notes all comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$11.32 to \$22.53 per square foot. The subject's \$15.23 per square foot improvement assessment is within 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 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.

*Ronald R. Cuit*

Chairman

*Frank J. Huff*

Member

Member

*Mario M. Louie*

*Shawn R. Lerski*

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

*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.