



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

APPELLANT: Walter H. Sobel  
DOCKET NO.: 07-21499.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 05-34-204-004-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Walter H. Sobel, the appellant(s), by attorney John P. Fitzgerald, of John P. Fitzgerald, Ltd. 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:** \$72,701  
**IMPR:** \$63,487  
**TOTAL:** \$136,188

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property consists of a 25,599 square foot parcel of land improved with a 99-year old, one-story, stucco constructed, single-family dwelling containing 2,640 square feet of living area. Features of the subject include three baths, a partial finished basement, two fireplaces, and a two-car garage. The appellant argued unequal treatment in the assessment process.

In support of this equity argument, the appellant submitted assessment data for four properties located within the subject's neighborhood. These properties are described as one-story, masonry, frame and masonry or stucco, single-family dwellings with between two and three and one-half baths, and one fireplace. The properties range in size from 1,962 to 2,448 square feet of living area. The properties have improvement assessments that range from \$4.45 to \$18.22 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$24.05 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 total assessment of \$136,188 was disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review submitted descriptions and assessment information for four

properties located within one-quarter mile of the subject for three of the properties. These properties are described as one and one-half-story, frame and masonry or frame, single-family dwellings with between one and one-half baths and two and one-half baths, full or partial unfinished basement, air conditioning for two of the properties, and one or two fireplaces. The properties range: in age from 83 to 99 years; in size from 2,332 to 2,762 square feet of living area; and have improvement assessments from \$24.83 to \$25.55 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

At hearing the appellant's attorney, Ms. Mary Fitzgerald, requested that the subject's assessment be reduced to \$102,559 based on the equity comparables submitted.

The board of review analyst, Mr. Roland Lara, submitted a "google map" identifying the location of the appellant's and the board of review's comparables. The "google map" identified that the board of review's comparables are closer in proximity to the subject property than the appellant's comparables.

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 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 PTAB finds the appellant has not met this burden.

The Board finds the board of review comparables #1, #2, #3 most similar to the subject in size, age, and location. 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 \$24.83 to \$25.55 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$24.05 per square foot of living area is below 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: November 30, 2012



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.