



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

APPELLANT: Vlado Bjelopetrovich  
DOCKET NO.: 07-25104.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 10-33-303-029-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Vlado Bjelopetrovich, the appellant, by attorney David R. Bass, of Thompson Coburn LLP in 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:** \$11,840  
**IMPR.:** \$63,128  
**TOTAL:** \$74,968

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property consists of a 7,400 square foot parcel of land improved with a 66-year old, two-story, masonry, single-family dwelling containing 2,215 square feet of building area, two baths, one fireplace, and a partial unfinished basement. The appellant argued unequal treatment in the assessment process as the basis of this appeal.

In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted descriptions and assessment information on a total of four properties suggested as comparable and located within the subject's neighborhood. The properties are described as two-story, masonry, single-family dwellings with two to three baths, one or three fireplaces for two properties, and a full basement for one property. The properties range: in age from 65 to 66 years; in size from 2,275 to 2,663 square feet of building area; and in improvement assessment from \$26.84 to \$28.59 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 improvement assessment of \$67,160 or \$30.32 per square foot of living area was disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on four properties suggested as comparable and located in the subject's neighborhood. The properties are described as two-story, masonry, single-family dwellings with between one and one-half to two and one-half baths, two or three fireplaces, and, a full or partial basement. The properties range: in age from 66 to 78 years; in size from 2,300 to 2,416 square feet of building area and in improvement assessment from \$28.62 to \$32.59 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In written rebuttal, the appellant submitted a copy of the board of review's 2008 decision for the subject showing a reduced assessment of \$74,968. The appellant requests that this value be applied to the 2007 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 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 met this burden.

The parties presented a total of 8 properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The PTAB finds the appellant's comparables #2 and #5 and the board of review's comparable #1 and #3 most similar to the subject in design, size, and construction. The PTAB notes that the board of review's comparable #1 and the appellant's comparable #5 are the same property. The most similar comparables are described as two-story, masonry, single-family dwellings. The properties range: in size from 2,275 to 2,346 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessment from \$27.94 to \$28.96 per square foot of living area. In comparison, the subject's improvement assessment of \$30.32 per square foot of living area is above the range of these comparables. Therefore, after considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is not supported and a reduction in the improvement assessment is warranted.

Additionally, the PTAB finds the appellant included evidence of the 2008 assessment for the subject property. This year is within the 2007 triennial assessment cycle that is the subject of this appeal. The PTAB finds that "a substantial reduction in the

subsequent year's assessment is indicative of the validity of the prior year's assessment". Hoyme Savings & Loan Assoc. v. Hare, 60 Ill.2d 84, 90, 322 N.E.2d 833, 836 (1974); 400 Condominium Assoc. v. Tully, 79 Ill.App.3d 686, 690, 398 N.E.2d 951, 954 (1<sup>st</sup> Dist. 1979). Therefore, the PTAB finds that based upon the county's 2008 assessment reduction, it is appropriate to reduce the appellant's 2007 assessment to \$74,968. Thereby, the PTAB finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment 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

*Frank J. Huff*

Member

*Mario M. Louie*

Member

*J.R.*

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: March 22, 2013

*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.