



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

APPELLANT: Nicholas V. Santoro  
DOCKET NO.: 07-25238.001-R-2  
PARCEL NO.: 01-27-309-004-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Nicholas V. Santoro, the appellant(s), by attorney Joseph G. Kusper, of Storino Ramello & Durkin in Rosemont; 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:** \$ 30,004  
**IMPR.:** \$ 130,394  
**TOTAL:** \$ 160,398

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property consists of a 62,509 square foot parcel of land improved with a four-year old, two-story, masonry, single-family, dwelling containing 6,852 square feet of living area, six and two-half baths, air conditioning, four fireplaces, and a full, finished basement. The appellant argued unequal treatment in the assessment process as the basis of this appeal.

In support of the equity argument, the appellant, via counsel, submitted descriptions and assessment information on a total of three properties suggested as comparable and located within several blocks of the subject. The properties are described as two-story, masonry or frame and masonry, single-family, dwellings with between three and one-half and six and one-half baths, air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a partial or full basement with one finished. The properties range: in age from eight to 68 years; in size from 5,741 to 6,946 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$6.28 to \$9.91 per square foot of living area. The appellant also submitted colored photographs for the subject and the suggested

comparables. 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 \$164,996 or \$24.08 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 a total of four properties suggested as comparable and located within a quarter mile of the subject with two located on the same block. The properties are described as two-story, masonry, single-family, dwellings with between three and one-half and six baths, air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a full basement with two finished. The properties range: in age from nine to 16 years; in size from 5,552 to 6,908 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$18.15 to \$23.31 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 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 seven properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The PTAB finds the appellant's comparable #1 and the board of review's comparables #2 and #3 most similar to the subject in size, construction, design, age, and amenities. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the PTAB's analysis. The properties are masonry, two-story, single-family dwellings located within the subject's neighborhood. The properties range: in age from eight to 14 years; in size from 6,440 to 6,946 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$9.91 to \$19.03 per square foot of living area. In comparison, the subject's improvement assessment of \$24.08 per square foot of living area is above the range of these comparables. The PTAB finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is not supported and 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

*K. L. Fern*

Member

*Frank A. Huff*

Member

*Mario M. Louie*

Member

*Shawn R. Lerbis*

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: April 22, 2011

*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.