



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

APPELLANT: Paul & Jean Scott
DOCKET NO.: 07-26083.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-34-401-007-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Paul & Jean Scott, the appellants, by attorney Howard W. Melton, of Howard W. Melton and Associates 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: \$22,720
IMPR: \$85,529
TOTAL: \$108,249**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property is improved with a 2-story dwelling of stucco construction containing 2,598 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 96 years old. Features of the home include a full, unfinished basement and 2 fireplaces.

The appellants' appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellants submitted information on four comparable properties described as 1 or 2-story frame or stucco dwellings that range in age from 53 to 104 years old. The comparable dwellings range in size from 2,153 to 2,797 square feet of living area. All comparables feature full or partial, unfinished basements. Three have central air conditioning. All comparables have fireplaces and 1½, 2 or 2½-car garages¹. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$24.26 to \$27.05 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$32.92 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellants requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

¹ Appellant describes comparable #4 as having a 2-car garage but the property details sheet indicates it is a 1½-car garage.

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 2-story stucco dwellings that range in age from 94 to 109 years old. The dwellings range in size from 2,252 to 2,374 square feet of living area. All comparables feature full basements, one of which is finished. One comparable has central air conditioning and three have 1 or 2-car garages. All the comparables feature fireplaces. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$27.80 to \$42.18 per square foot of living area. The board of review also disclosed that the subject was purchased in October 2005 for \$1,082,500, comparable #1 was purchased in February 2006 for \$1,315,000, and comparable #4 was purchased in June 2004 for \$835,000. 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 appellants' comparable #1 is a 1-story structure, and therefore received less weight in the Board's analysis. The Board finds the remaining seven comparables submitted by both parties were 2-story stucco dwellings similar to the subject in size and age. However, the Board finds comparable #2 submitted by the appellants and comparables #2 and #3 submitted by the board of review were most similar to the subject in features. 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 \$26.76 to \$33.41 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$32.92 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.

Ronald R. Cuit

Chairman

K. L. Fern

Member

Frank A. Huff

Member

Mario M. Louie

Member

Shawn P. 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: December 23, 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.