



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

APPELLANT: Walter Jacobson  
DOCKET NO.: 07-28401.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 14-33-122-021-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Walter Jacobson, the appellant, by attorney James A. Di Christofano, of Law Offices of James A. Di Christofano 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:     \$ 23,624**  
**IMPR.:    \$ 95,580**  
**TOTAL:    \$ 119,204**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a three-story multi-family dwelling of masonry construction containing 3,399 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 112 years old, and it has three apartment units, a full, unfinished basement, central air conditioning, and a fireplace.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on seven comparable properties. On the grid analysis, four of the seven are described as two or three-story masonry dwellings that range in age from 19 to 127 years old. Three of the four comparables have basements, and one also has central air conditioning and a fireplace. The appellant did not include any information concerning garages for these properties. Three comparables had no detailed description provided other than classification and neighborhood codes, size, and improvement assessment. The seven comparable dwellings range in size from 3,454 to 4,233 square feet of living area. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$17.13 to \$19.40 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$28.12 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 three-story masonry multi-family dwellings that have the same neighborhood and classification codes as the subject. Two of the comparables are located one-quarter mile from the subject. The buildings range in age from 105 to 127 years old, and they range in size from 3,025 to 3,676 square feet of living area. Two comparables have full, unfinished basements; one has a slab foundation; and one has a full basement finished for an apartment. Each comparable has three or four apartment units and a two-car garage. Two buildings have central air conditioning, and one also has three fireplaces. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$28.61 to \$32.30 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.

Both parties presented assessment data on a total of eleven equity comparables. The appellant's comparables numbered five, six, and seven received little weight in the Board's analysis, because the appellant did not provide enough information to indicate whether they were actually comparable to the subject property. The comparables numbered one and two were larger than the subject, and comparable numbered one was also substantially newer. As a result, these comparables received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The Board finds the appellant's comparables numbered three and four and the comparables submitted by the board of review were most similar to the subject in size. They were also very similar in age, style, and exterior construction. 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 \$17.97 to \$32.30 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$28.12 per square foot of living area falls 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

Docket No: 07-28401.001-R-1

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: June 18, 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.