



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

APPELLANT: George Smith  
DOCKET NO.: 07-29497.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 12-25-319-007-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are George Smith, the appellant, by attorney Anthony M. Farace of Amari & Locallo 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: \$ 13,410  
IMPR.: \$ 27,212  
TOTAL: \$ 40,622**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a one and one-half story dwelling of frame construction containing 1,788 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 54 years old. Features of the home include a full, finished basement and a two-car garage.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on three comparable properties described as one or one and one-half story frame or masonry dwellings that range in age from 75 to 93 years old. The comparables have the same assigned neighborhood code as the subject. The comparable dwellings range in size from 1,226 to 1,703 square feet of living area. One dwelling has a crawl-space foundation, and two have full basements, one of which is finished. Each comparable has a garage, either one-car or two-car. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$9.56 to \$12.55 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$15.22 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 one and one-half or two-story frame dwellings that range in age from 56 to 81 years old. The comparables have the same assigned neighborhood code as the subject. The dwellings range in size from 1,369 to 1,741 square feet of living area. Three comparables have central air conditioning; and three have a two-car garage. Each dwelling has a full basement, one of which is finished. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$16.98 to \$19.48 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 seven equity comparables. The appellant's comparables were much older than the subject and received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The comparable numbered one by the board of review was also much older than the subject, and the comparable numbered two was smaller in size. As a result, these comparables also received reduced weight. The Board finds the comparables numbered three and four by the board of review were very similar to the subject in style and exterior construction. They were also generally similar in age and size. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. These comparables had improvement assessments of \$17.90 and \$18.30 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$15.22 per square foot of living area falls below these assessments. 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 Morris*

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: March 18, 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.