



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

APPELLANT: Neil Bercovitz
DOCKET NO.: 07-29583.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 03-06-411-006-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Neil Bercovitz, the appellant, by attorney Abby L. Strauss of Schiller Klein PC 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: \$ 6,797
IMPR.: \$ 44,699
TOTAL: \$ 51,496

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property is improved with a two-story dwelling of frame construction containing 2,414 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 22 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, and a two-car attached garage. The dwelling is located in Buffalo Grove, Wheeling Township, Cook County.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on three comparable properties described as two-story frame or frame and masonry dwellings that are either 22 or 28 years old. The comparables have the same assigned neighborhood and classification codes as the subject, and they are located in close proximity of the subject. The comparable dwellings range in size from 2,555 to 3,027 square feet of living area. Each comparable has an unfinished basement, full or partial, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a two-car attached garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$16.04 to \$16.94 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$18.52 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 two-story frame dwellings that are either 22 or 24 years old. The comparables have the same assigned neighborhood and classification codes as the subject. One of the comparables is located in the same tax block as the subject, and two are located one-quarter mile from the subject. The dwellings range in size from 2,112 to 2,414 square feet of living area. One dwelling has a partial finished basement, and three have unfinished basements, either full or partial. Each comparable has a two-car attached garage and central air conditioning, and three comparables have a fireplace. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$18.51 to \$18.70 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 numbered two and three were larger and somewhat older than the subject, and they had different exterior construction than the subject. As a result, these comparables received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The comparable numbered two by the board of review was somewhat smaller than the subject and also received reduced weight. The Board finds the comparable numbered three by the board of review was identical to the subject in age, size, style, exterior construction, and features and it was located near the subject. The Board further finds that the appellant's comparable numbered one and the comparables numbered one and four by the board of review were also identical to the subject in age, style, and exterior construction and they were very similar in size and foundation. Due to their similarities to the subject, these four comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$16.83 to \$18.70 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$18.52 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

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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 R. Lerski

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.