



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

APPELLANT: Lisa Hendrickson
DOCKET NO.: 08-26466.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 18-07-305-003-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lisa Hendrickson, the appellant, by attorney Arnold G. Siegel, of Siegel & Callahan, P.C. in Chicago; 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: \$ 29,748
IMPR.: \$ 107,415
TOTAL: \$ 137,163

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject has 20,100 square feet of land and is improved with a ten year old, single-family dwelling. The appellant contends the subject's improvement size is 5,115 square feet of living area while the board of review contends the subject's improvement size is 5,942 square feet of living area. The appellant, via counsel, argued that the subject improvement's size is overstated and that there was unequal treatment in the assessment process of the subject's improvement as the bases of this appeal.

In support of the square footage argument, the appellant, via counsel, submitted a copy of architectural plans and a letter from Culligan Abraham Architecture. The letter indicates the subject contains three-stories with 5,115 square feet of living area. The copy of the architectural plans is illegible.

In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted descriptive and assessment information for three properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The comparables are described as one and one-half-story, frame or frame and masonry, single-family dwellings. The comparables have from 4,936 to 5,684 square feet of living area, and have improvement assessments ranging from \$19.01 to \$21.41 per square foot of living area. The comparables also have several amenities. Based

on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The Cook County Board of Review submitted its "Board of Review-Notes on Appeal," wherein the subject's improvement assessment of \$119,281 was disclosed. The board of review did not provide any suggested comparable properties. The board of review provided the subject's property characteristics sheet that indicates the subject contains 5,942 square feet of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's improvement assessment.

In rebuttal, the appellant's attorney stated that the board of review did not provide any comparables.

After reviewing the record and considering the evidence, the Property Tax Appeal Board (the "Board") finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal.

Initially, the Board finds that based on the architect's letter, the subject contains 5,115 square feet of living area.

The appellant contends unequal treatment in the subject's improvement assessment as the basis of this 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. Walsh v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 181 Ill. 2d 228, 234 (1998) (citing Kankakee Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 131 Ill. 2d 1 (1989)); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.63(e). To succeed in an appeal based on lack of uniformity, the appellant must submit documentation "showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property." Cook Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 403 Ill. App. 3d 139, 145 (1st Dist. 2010); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.65(b). "[T]he critical consideration is not the number of allegedly similar properties, but whether they are in fact 'comparable' to the subject property." Cook Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 403 Ill. App. 3d at 145 (citing DuPage Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 284 Ill. App. 3d 649, 654-55 (2d Dist. 1996)). After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds that the appellant has met this burden.

The Board finds that the comparables submitted by the appellant were most similar to the subject in location, size, style, exterior construction, features, and/or age. 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 \$19.01 to \$21.41 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$23.32 per square foot of living area is above the range established by the most similar comparables. Therefore, the Board finds that the subject's improvement assessment is not equitable, 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.

Donald R. Cuit

Chairman

K. L. Fern

Member

Frank A. Huff

Member

Mark Morris

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 21, 2013

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.