



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

APPELLANT: Kenneth & Marcia Rakers  
DOCKET NO.: 09-03031.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 10-10-20-149-003

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Kenneth & Marcia Rakers, the appellants, and the Mercer 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 Mercer County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$6,355  
**IMPR.:** \$56,953  
**TOTAL:** \$63,308

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a one and one-half story single family dwelling of frame construction containing 2,163 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1996. Features of the property include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a three-car attached garage with 704 square feet. The subject has a 29,282 square foot lot and is located in Aledo, Mercer County.

The appellants contend the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. In support of this overvaluation argument the appellants submitted an appraisal prepared by a State of Illinois certified residential real estate appraiser estimating the subject property had a market value of \$190,000 as of December 21, 2009. The appellants also submitted a copy of the final decision issued by the Mercer County Board of Review establishing a total assessment for the subject of \$65,000, which reflects a market value of approximately \$195,080, rounded, using the 2009 three year average median level of assessments for Mercer County of 33.32%. Based on this evidence the appellants requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$63,300.

The board of review did not submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" or any evidence in support of its assessed valuation of the subject property.

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 the evidence in the record supports a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The appellants contend the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, 331 Ill.App.3d 1038 (3<sup>rd</sup> Dist. 2002). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c)). The Board finds the appellants met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record is the appraisal submitted by the appellants estimating the subject property had a market value of \$190,000 as of December 21, 2009. The Board finds the subject's assessment reflects a market value greater than the appraised value presented by the appellants. The board of review did not submit any evidence in support of its assessment of the subject property or to refute the appellants' argument as required by section 1910.40(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board and is found to be in default pursuant to section 1910.69(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. (86 Ill.Admin.Code 1910.40(a) & 1910.69(a)). Based on this record the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$190,000 as of January 1, 2009. Since market value has been determined the three year average median level of assessments for Mercer County of 33.32% shall apply. (86 Ill.Admin.Code 1910.50(c)(1)).

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

Acting 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: January 20, 2012

*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.