



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

APPELLANT: Phyllis Rochelle  
DOCKET NO.: 09-05286.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 21-11.0-230-017

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Phyllis Rochelle, the appellant, and the Sangamon 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 Sangamon County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$16,480  
**IMPR.:** \$82,540  
**TOTAL:** \$99,020

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property consists of a two-story single family dwelling with 2,405 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2001 and has a brick, vinyl siding and frame exterior. Features of the property include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace and a three-car attached garage with 759 square feet. The subject has a 11,900 square foot site and is located in Springfield, Capital Township, Sangamon County.

The appellant claims overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant provided documentation disclosing the subject property was purchased in June 2009 for a price of \$272,500. The appellant indicated the parties to the transaction were not related, the subject property was listed with a real estate agency and the property had been on the market for 318 days. In further support of her argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales improved with two-story dwellings similar to the subject in age and style. These homes ranged in size from 2,750 to 2,780 square feet of living area. The comparables sold from August 2008 to May 2009 for prices ranging from \$272,000 to \$277,000. The evidence further revealed that the appellant filed the appeal directly to

the Property Tax Appeal Board following receipt of the notice of a township equalization factor issued by the board of review increasing the subject's assessment from \$99,020 to \$101,070. The assessment notice indicated the subject's 2009 equalized assessment reflected a market value of \$303,210. Based on this evidence the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$90,833 to reflect 1/3 of the purchase price.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject property's final assessment was disclosed. After reviewing the appellant's evidence, the board of review agreed to reduce the subject's assessment by the amount of increase caused by the application of the equalization factor.

The appellant was notified of the board of review proposal and rejected the offer. The appellant indicated the 2010 and 2011 assessment of her property was \$92,268 reflecting a market value of \$276,831.

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. Based upon the evidence submitted, the Board finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment is supported.

The appellant contends 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 appellant 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 purchase of the subject property in June 2009 for a price of \$272,500. However, the record disclosed the appellant appealed the assessment directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board based on notice of a township equalization factor issued by the board of review. Due to the fact the appeal was filed after notification of an equalization factor, the amount of relief that the Property Tax Appeal Board may grant is limited. Section 1910.60(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board states in part:

If the taxpayer or owner of property files a petition within 30 days after the postmark date of the written notice of the application of final, adopted township equalization factors, the relief the Property Tax Appeal Board may grant is limited to the amount of the

increase caused by the application of the township equalization factor. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.60(a).

Additionally, section 16-180 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-180) provides in pertinent part:

Where no complaint has been made to the board of review of the county where the property is located and the appeal is based solely on the effect of an equalization factor assigned to all property or to a class of property by the board of review, the Property Tax Appeal Board may not grant a reduction in the assessment greater than the amount that was added as the result of the equalization factor.

These provisions mean that where a taxpayer files an appeal directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board after notice of application of an equalization factor, the Board cannot grant an assessment reduction greater than the amount of increase caused by the equalization factor. Villa Retirement Apartments, Inc. v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 302 Ill.App.3d 745, 753 (4<sup>th</sup> Dist. 1999). Based on a review of the evidence contained in the record, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds a reduction in the assessment of the subject property is supported. However, the reduction is limited to the increase in the assessment caused by the application of the equalization factor.

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.