



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

APPELLANT: Kenneth Goodsmith  
DOCKET NO.: 09-20941.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-07-201-013-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Kenneth Goodsmith, the appellant, by attorney Joel R. Monarch 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:     \$ 19,209  
IMPR.:    \$ 84,870  
TOTAL:    \$ 104,079**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a two-story dwelling of frame and masonry construction. The dwelling is 105 years old and contains 4,053 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a partial unfinished basement, two fireplaces, and a two-car garage. The subject property is located in Oak Park, Oak Park Township, Cook County.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on three suggested comparable properties described as two-story dwellings of frame or masonry construction. The comparable properties have the same assigned neighborhood code as the subject and are located one block from the subject. The comparable dwellings are from 88 to 98 years old and contain from 4,069 to 4,212 square feet of living area. Each comparable has a full unfinished basement and a garage. Two comparables have two fireplaces, and one has central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$69,959 to \$71,742 or from \$17.03 to \$17.26 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$84,870 or \$20.94 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$69,337 or \$17.11 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment of \$104,079 was disclosed. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on four suggested comparable properties consisting of two-story dwellings of frame and masonry construction. Each of the comparable properties has the same assigned neighborhood code as the subject, and one is located one-quarter mile from the subject. The dwellings are from 90 to 103 years old and contain from 3,099 to 3,865 square feet of living area. Each comparable has a full unfinished basement and a garage; three comparables have one or two fireplaces; and one has central air conditioning. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$68,852 to \$81,824 or from \$20.46 to \$23.81 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 suggested comparables. The Board finds the board of review's comparables #2 through #4 were considerably smaller than the subject and received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The Board finds the appellant's comparables were most similar to the subject in size and location and the board of review's comparable #1 was most similar to the subject in age and had frame and masonry exterior construction like the subject. 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 \$69,959 to \$81,824 or from \$17.03 to \$21.17 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$84,870 or \$20.94 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the most similar comparables on a per square foot basis. 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.

*Donald R. Cuit*

Chairman

*K. L. Fern*

Member

*Frank A. Huff*

Member

*Mario Morris*

Member

*J. R.*

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: August 23, 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.