FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Lorenzo Martino
DOCKET NO.: 09-23934.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-36-309-083-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lorenzo Martino, the appellant, by attorney John P. Fitzgerald, of John P. Fitzgerald, Ltd. 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:	$4,742
IMPR.:	$31,963
TOTAL:	$36,705

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property is improved with a one-story dwelling of masonry construction containing 1,795 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 57 years old. Features of the home include a full partially finished basement, a fireplace and a two-car garage.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on four comparable properties that range in age from 50 to 68 years old. The comparable dwellings range in size from 1,462 to 1,710 square feet of living area. Two of the comparables have central air conditioning and three have fireplaces. The appellant did not include any data concerning number of stories, garages or basements for the comparables. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $16,586 to $27,976 or from $11.36 to $16.61 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is $31,963 or $17.81 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 one-story masonry dwellings that range in age from 53 to 57 years old. The dwellings range in size from 1,606 to 1,724 square feet of living area. Features include full basements; three of which had recreation room finish. All of the comparables have central air conditioning and a fireplace. Garages range from one-car to 2.5 cars. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from $30,911 to $33,785 or from $18.17 to $19.90 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.

The Board finds the comparables submitted by the board of review were most similar to the subject. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. The Property Tax Appeal Board gives diminished weight to the comparables submitted by the appellant. The appellant did not present any data concerning several features or amenities of the properties which are relevant in the establishment of a property's assessment and thus vital for a determination of assessment uniformity. The appellant did not submit information concerning number of stories, garages or basements. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds the appellant's failure to provide essential information concerning the features of the comparables goes to the weight and credibility of the evidence submitted. Documented evidence submitted by the board of review indicated the subject property had a full basement with formal recreation room finish and a two-car garage. The board of review's comparables all had full basements with three of the four having recreation room finish. Garages ranged from 1.5-car to 2.5-cars. All four the comparables had a single fireplace, the same as the subject. The board of review's comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from $18.17 to $19.90 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of $17.81 per square foot of living area is below the range established by the most similar comparables. 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.

Chairman

Member

Member

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: December 21, 2012

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.