



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

APPELLANT: Lee Merrick
DOCKET NO.: 09-24156.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-08-225-061-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lee Merrick, the appellant, by attorney Robert J. Paul of 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: \$4,780
IMPR.: \$18,389
TOTAL: \$23,169

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2009 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

Findings of Fact

The subject property consists of a one-story single family dwelling of masonry construction with 1,452 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 85 years old. Features of the property include a full basement with a recreation room and a two-car detached garage. The property has a 3,187 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-

03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable sales. Based on this evidence the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$23,169.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$27,751. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$311,809 or \$214.74 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the 2009 three year average median level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 8.90% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted a grid analysis using four equity comparables. The board of a review also submitted a list of twenty class 2-03 sales that occurred from December 1990 to March 2008. The board of review provided limited descriptive information on the sales.

Conclusion of Law

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. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). 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 to be the appellant's comparable sales #1, #3 and #4. Although the comparables were described as 1.5 to 1.9 story dwellings, copies of photographs of the subject and the comparables depict homes similar in style. Each of the comparables has a finished attic whereas the subject property has an unfinished attic. These three comparables sold from June 2008 to August 2009 for prices ranging from \$148.45 to \$174.31 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$214.74 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above the range established by the best comparable

sales in this record. The Board gave less weight to appellant's comparable #2 due to age. The Board gave no weight to the board of review equity comparables due to the fact they did not address the appellant's market value argument. The Board also gave less weight to the list of twenty sales provided by the board of review due to the fact there was no descriptive information about the sales to enable this Board to perform a meaningful comparative analysis and all but one sale occurred prior to 2007, which is not proximate in time to the assessment date at issue. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request is justified.

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.



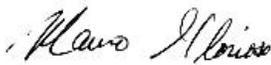
Chairman



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: August 22, 2014



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.