



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

APPELLANT: James McCormick  
DOCKET NO.: 09-32786.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 14-33-102-008-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James McCormick, the appellant, by attorney Mitchell L. Klein, of Schiller Klein PC 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:** \$24,067  
**IMPR.:** \$131,619  
**TOTAL:** \$155,686

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a three-story dwelling of masonry construction containing 3,870 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 117 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and a two-car detached garage. The property has a 3,209 square foot site and is located in Chicago, North Chicago Township, Cook County.

The appellant's appeal is based on assessment equity. The appellant submitted information on three comparable properties described as three-story dwellings of masonry construction that ranged in size from 3,691 to 4,399 square feet of living area. Two of the dwellings were 121 years old and the third was 131 years old. Each comparable has the same neighborhood code as the subject property. Features of the comparables include a full basement and one or two fireplaces. Two of the comparables have central air conditioning and two of the comparables have a two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments

ranging from \$105,378 to \$151,258 or from \$28.55 to \$34.38 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$131,619 or \$34.01 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$121,673 or \$31.44 per square foot of living area.

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 improved with three-story dwellings of masonry construction that range in size from 3,600 to 4,260 square feet of living area. Two of the dwellings are 121 years old and two dwellings are 131 years old. Each has the same neighborhood code as the subject property. Features of the comparables include a full basement, central air conditioning and a two-car garage. Two of the comparables have two fireplaces and one comparable has a finished recreation room in the basement. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$131,616 to \$160,482 or from \$34.93 to \$37.67 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 assessments by clear and convincing evidence. Kankakee County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 131 Ill.2d 1 (1989); 86 Ill.Admin.Code 1910.63(e). The evidence must demonstrate a consistent pattern of assessment inequities within the assessment jurisdiction. After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds the appellant has not met this burden.

The Board finds the appellant's comparable number 3 and board of review comparables number 1 and number 4 are the most similar to the subject in location, size, style, exterior construction and features. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. These comparables had improvement assessments of \$31.40, \$34.93 and \$36.56 per square foot of living area. The subject's

improvement assessment of \$34.01 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. The Board gave diminished weight to appellant's comparable number 2 and board of review comparable number 2 due to their size difference when compared to the subject. Appellant's comparable 1 and board of review comparable 3 required several adjustments each to reflect the characteristics of the subject property. Based on this record the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement assessment was inequitable and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not 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.

*Ronald R. Cuit*

Chairman

*Frank J. Huff*

Member

*Mario Morris*

Member

*J.R.*

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: March 21, 2014

*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.