



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

APPELLANT: Cindy Lopez  
DOCKET NO.: 10-23159.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 19-09-120-030-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Cindy Lopez, the appellant, by attorney Brian S. Maher of Weis, DuBrock, Doody & Maher in 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:** \$2,362  
**IMPR.:** \$6,638  
**TOTAL:** \$9,000

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 2010 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 dwelling of frame construction with 787 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 58 years old and has a crawl-space foundation.

Features of the home include a 1-car detached garage.<sup>1</sup> The property has a 3,780 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Stickney Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-02 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on December 22, 2010 for a price of \$90,000. The appellant also submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$90,000 as of December 3, 2010. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the purchase price.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$15,237. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$152,370 or \$193.61 per square foot of living area, land included, when applying the level of assessments for class 2-02 property of 10% under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables of which one sold in May 2008 for a price of \$61,000 or \$81.12 per square foot of living area, land included.

#### 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.

Less weight was given to the recent sale of the subject property in December, 2010. The appellant provided evidence demonstrating the sale had some elements of an arm's length transaction. The appellant partially completed Section IV - Recent Sale Data of the appeal disclosing the parties to the transaction were not related and the property had been

---

<sup>1</sup> The parties differ on the foundation type and size of the garage.

advertised on the open market with the Multiple Listing Service. In further support of the transaction the appellant submitted a copy of the sales contract along with a copy of the Counter Addendum, and a copy of the settlement statement. However, the appellant failed to disclose how long the property was advertised on the open market and the settlement statement did not disclose if a Realtor was paid a commission for their services in the sale. Consequently, less weight was given to the sale evidence of the subject property due to the fact the appellant failed to provide adequate evidence that the sale had the elements of an arm's length transaction reflective of fair cash value.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appraisal submitted by the appellant estimating the subject property had a market value of \$90,000. The appraiser analyzed three comparable sales and two active listings to arrive at a final conclusion of value. The Board finds the appraiser made logical adjustments to arrive at a final conclusion of value. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$152,370 which is considerably more than the appraised value. The Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$90,000 as of the assessment date at issue. A reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request is appropriate.

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

*Klaus Albino*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

*[Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

*Jerry White*

\_\_\_\_\_  
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: July 24, 2015

*[Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
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.