



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

APPELLANT: Marc Koronkiewicz
DOCKET NO.: 10-30253.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 30-32-117-022-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Marc Koronkiewicz, the appellant(s), by attorney Michael E. Crane, of Crane & Norcross 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: \$ 2,066
IMPR: \$ 2,225
TOTAL: \$ 4,291**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject has 6,359 square feet of land, which is improved with a 36 year old, one-story, frame, single-family dwelling. The subject's improvement size is 1,128 square feet of living area, which equates to an improvement assessment of \$7.80 per square foot of living area. Its total assessment is \$10,864, which yields a fair market value of \$121,521, or \$107.73 per square foot of living area (including land), after applying the 2010 Illinois Department of Revenue three year median level of assessment for Class 2 properties of 8.94%. The appellant, via counsel, argued that there was unequal treatment in the assessment process of the subject's improvement, and also that the fair market value of the subject property was not accurately reflected in its assessed value as the bases of this appeal.

In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted descriptive and assessment information for four properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The comparables are

described as one-story or one and one-half-story, frame, single-family dwellings. Additionally, the comparables range: in age from 53 to 69 years; in size from 1,129 to 1,200 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$5.99 to \$6.64 per square foot of living area. The comparables also have various amenities.

In support of the market value argument, the appellant submitted a residential appraisal report for the subject property with an effective date of April 25, 2009. The appraiser estimated a fair market value for the subject of \$60,000 based on the cost and sales comparison approaches to value. The appraiser also conducted an inspection of the subject.

The appellant also submitted evidence showing that the subject sold in July 2009 for \$48,000. This evidence included a settlement statement. Furthermore, the appellant's pleadings state that the sale was not between related parties, and that the sale was pursuant to a foreclosure. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The Cook County Board of Review submitted its "Board of Review-Notes on Appeal." However, this evidence was not timely submitted, and the board of review was found to be in default under Sections 1910.40(a) and 1910.69(a) of the Official Rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. Therefore, the board of review's evidence was not considered in this appeal.

After reviewing the record and considering the evidence, the Property Tax Appeal Board (the "Board") finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal.

When overvaluation is claimed, the appellant has the burden of proving the value of the property by a preponderance of the evidence. Cook Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 339 Ill. App. 3d 529, 545 (1st Dist. 2002); National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 331 Ill. App. 3d 1038, 1042 (3d Dist. 2002) (citing Winnebago Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 313 Ill. App. 3d 179 (2d Dist. 2000)); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal, a recent arm's length sale of the subject property, recent sales of comparable properties, or recent construction costs of the subject property. Calumet Transfer, LLC v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 401 Ill. App. 3d 652, 655 (1st Dist. 2010); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.65(c). "[A] contemporaneous sale between parties dealing at arm's length is

not only relevant to the question of fair cash market value, (citations) but would be practically conclusive on the issue of whether an assessment was at full value." People ex rel. Korzen v. Belt Ry. Co. of Chi., 37 Ill. 2d 158, 161 (1967). Having considered the evidence presented, the Board finds that the evidence indicates a reduction is warranted.

In addressing the appellant's market value argument, the Board finds that the sale of the subject in July 2009 for \$48,000 was a "compulsory sale." A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

(i) the sale of real estate for less than the amount owed to the mortgage lender or mortgagor, if the lender or mortgagor has agreed to the sale, commonly referred to as a "short sale" and (ii) the first sale of real estate owned by a financial institution as a result of a judgment of foreclosure, transfer pursuant to a deed in lieu of foreclosure, or consent judgment, occurring after the foreclosure proceeding is complete.

35 ILCS 200/1-23. Real property in Illinois must be assessed at its fair cash value, which can only be estimated absent any compulsion on either party.

Illinois law requires that all real property be valued at its fair cash value, estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale where the owner is ready, willing, and able to sell but not compelled to do so, and the buyer is likewise ready, willing, and able to buy, but is not forced to do so.

Bd. of Educ. of Meridian Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. No. 223 v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 961 N.E. 2d 794, 802 (2d Dist. 2011) (citing Chrysler Corp. v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 69 Ill. App. 3d 207, 211 (2d Dist. 1979)).

However, when there is a recent sale of the subject, and that sale is a compulsory sale, the Board may consider evidence which would show whether the sale price was representative of the subject's fair cash value. Calumet Transfer, 401 Ill. App. 3d at 655-56. Such evidence can included the descriptive and sales information for recently sold properties that are similar to the subject. See id. at 656. This information was included in the sales comparison approach in the appraisal submitted by the appellant. The Board finds that the sales used in the sales comparison approach support the subject's sale price.

Therefore, in determining the fair market value of the subject property, the Board finds the best evidence to be the sale of the subject in July 2009 for \$48,000. The sale is within five months of the 2010 lien date, and the appellant's pleadings support the arm's-length nature of the transaction because the buyer and seller are not related. As stated above, the board of review defaulted, and its evidence was not considered by the Board.

Therefore, the Board finds the subject had a market value of \$48,000 for the 2010 assessment year. Since the market value of this parcel has been established, the 2010 Illinois Department of Revenue three year median level of assessment for Class 2 property of 8.94% will apply. 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.50(c)(2)(A). In applying this level of assessment to the subject, the total assessed value is \$4,291, while the subject's current total assessed value is above this amount. Therefore, the Board finds that a reduction is warranted. Since the subject's market value has been determined, the Board finds that the subject is now fairly and equitably assessed.

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. Crit

Chairman

K. L. Fan

Member

Richard A. Huff

Member

Mario M. Lino

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: 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.