FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: NiCole Ward
DOCKET NO.: 11-24990.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 31-15-319-017-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are NiCole Ward, the appellant(s); 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:	$ 4,455
IMPR.:	$ 27,191
TOTAL:	$ 31,646

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 2011 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 11,881 square foot parcel of land improved with a four-year old, two-story, frame and masonry, single-family dwelling containing 3,416 square feet of living area, two and one-half baths, air conditioning, a fireplace, and a full, unfinished basement. The property is located in Matteson, Rich Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-78 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located within two blocks of the subject. The properties are described as two-story, frame and masonry, single-family dwellings with various amenities. These comparables range in improved assessment from $7.11 to $8.09 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of $31,646. The subject property has an improvement assessment of $27,191 or $7.96 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables located within the subject’s neighborhood. The properties are described as two-story, frame and masonry, single-family dwellings with various amenities. These comparables range in improvement assessment from $8.02 to $8.73 per square foot of living area.

At hearing, Louvenia Ward testified that she is the owner of record for the subject property and that her daughter, Nicole, resides in the home and is responsible for paying the property taxes. She testified that her taxes are very high and she is on a fixed income. Ms. Ward testified that the comparable properties she and her daughter submitted are nicer and larger than her home, but that she is paying the same or more in taxes.

The board of review’s representative, Nicholas Jordan, argued that the board of review’s comparables and the appellant’s comparable #1 support the subject’s assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The taxpayer contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellant did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #2, #3 and #4 and the board of review comparables #2 and #4. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from $7.11 to $8.27 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of $7.96 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record the

Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed 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.

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: July 18, 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.