



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

APPELLANT: Tatiana Paunescu  
DOCKET NO.: 09-24527.001-C-1 through 09-24527.002-C-1  
PARCEL NO.: See Below

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Tatiana Paunescu, the appellant(s), by attorney Michael E. Crane, of Crane and 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:

DOCKET NO	PARCEL NUMBER	LAND	IMPRVMT	TOTAL
09-24527.001-C-1	10-33-325-008-0000	10,828	3,547	\$ 14,375
09-24527.002-C-1	10-33-325-009-0000	10,828	3,547	\$ 14,375

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 (the "Board") finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject consists of a one-story building of masonry construction with 1,680 square feet of building area. The building is 56 years old. The property has a 5,500 square foot site, and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 5-17 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 an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$115,000 as of January 1, 2009. The appellant also submitted evidence of the subject's vacancy for tax year 2009.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$58,520. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$234,080, or \$139.33 per square foot of building area, including land, when applying the 2009 statutory level of assessment for commercial property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 25.00%.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales from the CoStar Comps Service.

### **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 appellant submitted documentation showing the vacancy of the subject property. The Board gives the appellant's argument little weight. In Springfield Marine Bank v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 44 Ill.2d 428 (1970), the Illinois Supreme Court stated:

[I]t is clearly the value of the "tract or lot of real property" which is assessed, rather than the value of the interest presently held. . . [R]ental income may of course be a relevant factor. However, it cannot be the controlling factor, particularly where it is admittedly misleading as to the fair cash value of the property involved. . . [E]arning capacity is properly regarded as the most significant element in arriving at "fair cash value". Many factors may prevent a property owner from realizing an income from property that accurately reflects its true earning capacity; but it is the capacity for earning income, rather than the income actually derived, which reflects "fair cash value" for taxation purposes.

Id. at 431.

As the Court stated, actual vacancy, income, and expenses can be useful when shown that they are reflective of the market. Although the appellant made this argument, the appellant did not demonstrate, through an expert in real estate valuation, that the subject's actual vacancy, income, and expenses are reflective of the market. To demonstrate or estimate the subject's market value using vacancy, income, and expenses one must establish, through the use of market data, the market rent, vacancy and collection losses, and expenses to arrive at a net operating

income reflective of the market and the property's capacity for earning income. The appellant did not provide such evidence and, therefore, the Board gives this argument no weight. Thus, the Board finds that a reduction is not warranted based on the appellant's vacancy analysis.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appraisal submitted by the appellant. The subject's assessment reflects a market value above the best evidence of market value in the record. The Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$115,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established the 2009 statutory level of assessment for commercial property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 25.00% shall apply. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(c)(3).

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.

*Donald R. Cuit*

Chairman

*K. L. Fan*

Member

*Tracy A. Huff*

Member

*Marko M. Loris*

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: February 20, 2015

*A. P. ...*

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.