



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

APPELLANT: Walter Lesmeister  
DOCKET NO.: 09-34312.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 19-17-100-053-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Walter Lesmeister, the appellant, by attorney Joel R. Monarch 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:** \$ 6,875  
**IMPR:** \$ 42,075  
**TOTAL:** \$ 48,950

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 finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject property consists of a 46-year old, two-story, masonry building which is of mixed use. The first floor and one-half of the second floor is used as a mattress store, while the remaining portion of the second floor is a leased apartment. The building contains 11,108 square feet of building area and is located in Lake Township, Cook County. The subject is

classified as a class 2-12 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant raised two arguments. First, 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 \$550,000 as of February 2, 2009, while using all three of the traditional approaches to value.

Second, the appellant contends that the subject is inequitably assessed in comparison to other properties. In support of the second argument, the appellant submitted descriptive and assessment data on four suggested comparables.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$94,632. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,063,281, when applying the 2009 three year median level of assessment for class 2 property of 8.90% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue. In support of the correct market value, the board of review submitted unadjusted sales data on four suggested comparables.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted descriptive and assessment data on four suggested equity comparables.

#### 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 Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the *appraisal submitted by the appellant*. The Board finds that the subject property had a market value of \$550,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established the 2009 three year average median level of assessment for class 2, residential property of 8.90% as

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determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue shall apply.  
(86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(c)(2).

Having accorded a reduction to the subject's market value, the Board will not address the appellant's second argument.

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.

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Chairman



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Member



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Member

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Member



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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: May 22, 2015



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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.