



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

APPELLANT: Tim Mertzlufft  
DOCKET NO.: 10-21287.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 14-29-317-036-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Tim Mertzlufft, the appellant, by attorney Joanne Elliott, of Elliott & Associates, P.C. in Des Plaines; 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:** \$19,878  
**IMPR.:** \$52,536  
**TOTAL:** \$72,414

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 is a 13 year-old, two-story dwelling of frame construction containing 2,818 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a full finished basement, air conditioning, a fireplace and a two-and-a-half-car garage. The

property has a 3,106 square foot site and is located in Lake View Township, Cook County. The property is a class 2-78 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 information on five comparable sales.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$124,905. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,397,148 or \$495.79 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the 2010 three-year median level of assessment for Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 8.94% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted a list containing 18 suggested sale comparables from 1997 through 2010. The list also included two sales of the subject in 1998 and 2005. The only additional information on the list is the sale prices of each comparable.

In rebuttal, the appellant argued that the sale comparables submitted by the board of review did not disclose sufficient data so that a meaningful comparison could be made to the subject.

#### 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 meet 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 appellant's comparable sales #1, #2, and #3. These comparables sold for prices ranging from \$287.44 to \$372.77 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$495.79 per square foot of living

area, including land, which is above the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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.

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Chairman

*Mark Albino*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

*[Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

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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]*

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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.