



**AMENDED**

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

APPELLANT: Geoffrey Stringer  
DOCKET NO.: 10-27486.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 05-29-202-021-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Geoffrey Stringer, the appellant(s), by attorney Sonja R. Johnson, of Much Shelist in Chicago; 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:** \$ 89,306  
**IMPR.:** \$ 335,385  
**TOTAL:** \$ 424,691

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 consists of a 70,044 square foot parcel of land improved with a seven-year old, two-story, masonry, single-family dwelling containing 9,350 square feet of living area. The property is located in New Trier Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as 2-09 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted four equity comparables.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$424,691 with an improvement assessment of \$335,385 or \$35.87 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted four equity comparables.

In rebuttal, the appellant submitted a letter asserting that the board of review's comparables were not as similar to the subject as the appellant's comparables. The appellant also argues that the subject received an assessment reduction by the board of review in the subsequent year.

### Conclusion of Law

The appellant 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 parties presented a total of eight equity comparables. The Board finds the appellant's comparable #2 and the board of review's comparables are the most similar to the subject. The comparables have improvement assessments from \$26.79 to \$38.11 per square foot of living area. In comparison, the subject's assessment of \$35.87 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the 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.

In addition, the Board gave no weight to the appellant's reliance regarding the appellant's contention that the subject received a reduction in the subsequent years and, therefore, should receive a reduction in the year at issue. The Board finds in the recent decision of Moroney & Co. v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 2013 IL App (1<sup>st</sup>) 120493, 2 N.E.3d 522, the Court at ¶46 did not perceive Hoyne and 400 Condominium as standing for the proposition that "subsequent actions by assessing officials are fertile grounds to demonstrate a mistake in a prior year's assessments." In Moroney, the Court wrote in pertinent part:

... in each of those unique cases, which are confined to their facts, there were glaring errors in the tax assessments -- in Hoyne, the assessment was increased on a property from \$9,510 to \$246,810 in one year even though no changes or improvements to the property had occurred (Hoyne, 60 Ill.2d at 89), and in 400 Condominium, assessments on a garage were assessed separately from the adjoining condominium in violation of the Condominium Property Act (400 Condominium, 79 Ill.App.3d at 691).

Here, based upon the evidence that was submitted, there is no evidence that there was an error in the calculation of the 2010 assessment. Rather, the record shows that the 2010 assessment was properly calculated based on the evidence submitted by the parties.

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

*K. L. Ferri*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

*Marko Morris*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

*[Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
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: April 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.