



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

APPELLANT: Scott Levenfeld
DOCKET NO.: 11-04780.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-36-307-016

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Scott Levenfeld, the appellant, by attorney Leonard Schiller of Schiller Klein PC in Chicago; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$78,529
IMPR.: \$149,076
TOTAL: \$227,605

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake 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 two-story dwelling of frame and brick construction with 3,476 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1966. Features of the home

include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 550 square foot attached garage. The property has a 15,112 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$227,605. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$702,051 or \$201.97 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2011 three year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 32.42% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales.

Under rebuttal, the appellant's counsel argued that the board of review's comparables #1 and #3 are much smaller than 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 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 market value to be appellant's comparable sale #2 and board of review comparable sale #2. These most similar comparables sold for prices of \$164.84 and \$215.54 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$201.97 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the market values established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is not justified. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparable #1 due to

its newer age and finished basement area, unlike the subject. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparable #3 due to its sale date occurring greater than 19 months prior to the subject's January 1, 2011 assessment date. The Board gave less weight to the board of review's comparables #1 and #3 due to their significantly smaller dwelling sizes and finished basement areas, unlike the subject.

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.

Ronald R. Crit

Chairman

K. L. F...

Member

Richard A. ...

Member

Mark ...

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. ...

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.