



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

APPELLANT: Michelle Van Allen
DOCKET NO.: 11-29107.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 31-15-319-015-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michelle Van Allen, the appellant, by attorney Joseph G. Kusper, of Storino Ramello & Durkin in Rosemont; 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: \$ 4,479
IMPR.: \$ 20,290
TOTAL: \$ 24,769

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 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 six-year-old, two-story dwelling of masonry and frame construction with 3,350 square feet of living area. Features of the home include central air

conditioning, one fireplace, and a three-car garage. The property has an 11,944 square foot site and is located in Rich Township, Cook County. The property is a class 2 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 \$262,000 as of January 6, 2011.

The appellant also submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased pursuant to a foreclosure, on January 27, 2011 for a price of \$261,000. The settlement statement disclosed DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. as the Seller. The appellant also included two Real Estate Transfer Declaration forms, a Special Warranty Deed, and a real estate sales contract as evidence of the purchase price and arm's length nature of the transaction. The appellant also partially completed *Section IV-Recent Sale Data* on the petition form indicating the parties were unrelated and real estate brokers were involved in this transaction. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the purchase price.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$28,500. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$300,316 when applying the 2011 three year median level of assessments for class 2 property of 9.49% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on eight suggested equity comparables, four of which contained sales data.

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 purchase of the subject property in January 2011 for a price of \$261,000. The appellant provided evidence demonstrating the sale had the elements of an arm's length transaction. The appellant completed *Section IV - Recent Sale Data* of the appeal disclosing the parties to the transaction were not related. In further support of the transaction the appellant submitted a copy of the subject's settlement statement disclosing a broker's commission was charged at the time of settlement.

Additionally, the Board finds that the sale of the subject in January 2011 for \$261,000 was a "compulsory sale" through the documentation submitted by the appellant. A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

(i) the sale of real estate for less than the amount owed to the mortgage lender or mortgagor, if the lender or mortgagor has agreed to the sale, commonly referred to as a "short sale" and (ii) the first sale of real estate owned by a financial institution as a result of a judgment of foreclosure, transfer pursuant to a deed in lieu of foreclosure, or consent judgment, occurring after the foreclosure proceeding is complete.

Additionally, real property in Illinois must be assessed at its fair cash value, which can only be estimated absent any compulsion on either party.

Illinois law requires that all real property be valued at its fair cash value, estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale where the owner is ready, willing, and able to sell but not compelled to do so, and the buyer is likewise ready, willing, and able to buy, but is not forced to do so.

Bd. of Educ. of Meridian Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. No. 223 v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 2011 IL App (2d) 100068, ¶ 36 (citing Chrysler Corp. v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 69 Ill.App.3d 207, 211 (2d Dist. 1979)).

However, when there is a recent sale of the subject, and that sale is compulsory, the Board may consider evidence which would show whether the sale price was representative of the subject's fair cash value. See 35 ILCS 200/16-183 ("The Property Tax Appeal Board shall consider compulsory sales of comparable properties for the purpose of revising and correcting

assessments, including those compulsory sales of comparable properties submitted by the taxpayer."). Such evidence can include the descriptive and sales information for recently sold properties that are similar to the subject. See Id. In this case, the appellant submitted an appraisal to show that the sale of the subject was at its fair cash value. This appraisal was given greater weight in the Board's analysis than the board of review's unadjusted sale comparables. Therefore, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment based on the appellant's recent purchase price is appropriate.

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.

Chairman



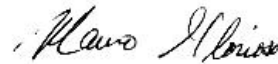
Member



Member



Acting Member



Member

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: February 19, 2016



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.