



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

APPELLANT: Bhagwan Sharma  
DOCKET NO.: 11-29193.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 31-03-312-006-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Bhagwan Sharma, the appellant, by attorney Christopher G. Walsh, Jr. 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:** \$2,587  
**IMPR.:** \$7,459  
**TOTAL:** \$10,046

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 one-story dwelling of frame and masonry construction. The dwelling is approximately 50 years old and has 1,144 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a full finished basement, central air

conditioning and a two-car garage. The property has an 11,500 square foot site and is located in Country Club Hills, Rich Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on May 13, 2010 for a price of \$53,000. The appellant partially completed Section IV - Recent Sale Data of the residential appeal form and disclosed that the name of the seller was Deutsche Bank National Trust, that the subject's sale was not a transfer between related parties, and that the property sold in settlement of a foreclosure. The appellant did not answer questions that asked if the property was sold by a realtor, if the property had been advertised for sale and for how long. To further document the sale, the appellant submitted a copy of the Illinois real estate transfer declaration, which revealed that the property had been advertised for sale. The appellant also submitted an affidavit dated May 23, 2013, wherein the appellant stated that he had used the services of a real estate broker to find the subject property and that the subject property had been advertised for sale with the Multiple Listing Service. 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 \$10,046. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$100,460 or \$87.81 per square foot of living area, land included, when applying the 10% level of assessment for class 2-03 residential property pursuant to the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales that sold from April to December 2010 for prices that ranged from \$114,000 to \$165,000 or from \$102.43 to \$142.61 per square foot of living area, land included.

In addition, Nicholas Jordan, a board of review analyst, submitted a brief challenging the arm's length nature of the subject's sale. The board of review analyst submitted evidence that indicated the May 2010 sale of the subject property was compulsory due to a foreclosure. This evidence consisted of a print-out from the Cook County Recorder of Deeds' website and a

copy of a notice of foreclosure from the Cook County Circuit Court. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

**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 gives little weight to the May 2010 sale of the subject property. The appellant did not complete section 2d of the residential appeal form and failed to disclose how long the subject property had been exposed to the open market. Furthermore, the board of review challenged the arm's length nature of the subject's sale which was not refuted by the appellant.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record to be the comparable sales submitted by the board of review. These comparables were very similar to the subject in design, exterior construction and living area. These comparables sold from April to December 2010 for prices that ranged from \$102.43 to \$142.61 per square foot of living area, land included. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$87.81 per square foot of living area, land included. The Board finds that the market values of the board of review comparable sales support the subject's assessment.

Based on the evidence contained in the record, the Board finds the appellant has not shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the subject is overvalued and no change in the 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



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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.