



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

APPELLANT: Zheng Chen  
DOCKET NO.: 12-04199.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 08-15-105-124

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Zheng Chen, the appellant, by attorney Jerri K. Bush in Chicago, and the DuPage 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 **DuPage** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$3,280  
**IMPR.:** \$10,050  
**TOTAL:** \$13,330

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the DuPage County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2012 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 residential condominium unit in a building of brick and frame exterior construction with 640 square feet of living area. The building was constructed in 1980. Features of the unit include central

air conditioning<sup>1</sup> and a fireplace. The property is located on the water in Lisle, Lisle Township, DuPage County.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on December 6, 2011 for a price of \$40,000. 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 \$21,700. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$65,126 or \$101.76 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2012 three year average median level of assessment for DuPage County of 33.32% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review through the township assessor submitted information on six comparable sales with "the same bed and bath count." Each of the units contains 670 square feet of living area and a fireplace; one of the comparables also has central air conditioning. The sales occurred between May 2009 and July 2011 for prices ranging from \$49,000 to \$114,000.

Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In written rebuttal, counsel for the appellant reiterated the facts that reflect the subject's transaction was arm's length and should be accepted as the best evidence of market value.

#### **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.

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<sup>1</sup> The appellant relied upon the description of the subject from the Multiple Listing Service which depicted central air conditioning. The assessing officials do not report an air conditioning feature for the subject property.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in December, 2011, a month prior to the assessment date at issue of January 1, 2012, for a price of \$40,000. 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, the property was sold by Cher McDonald using a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Residential, the property had been advertised on the open market with the Multiple Listing Service and it had been on the Listing & Property History Report reveal the original asking price in March 2011 was \$79,900 with subsequent price reductions until the property was purchased for \$40,000 in December 2011.

In further support of the transaction the appellant submitted a copy of the Settlement Statement reiterating the date and purchase price. The Board finds the purchase price of \$40,000 is below the market value of \$65,126 reflected by the assessment. The Board further finds the board of review did not present any evidence to challenge the arm's length nature of the transaction or to refute the contention that the purchase price was reflective of market value.

Based on this record the Board finds the subject property is overvalued and a reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request is warranted.

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. Ferr*

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Member

*JR*

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Member

*Mark Albino*

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Member

*Jerry White*

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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: September 18, 2015

*A. Portol*

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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.