



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

APPELLANT: Mary Chiaro
DOCKET NO.: 12-20154.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 11-30-108-001-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Mary Chiaro, the appellant, by attorney Julie Realmuto 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: \$7,928
IMPR.: \$41,289
TOTAL: \$49,217**

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) contesting 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 is improved with a two-story multi-family building of masonry construction with 4,488 square feet of living area. The building is approximately 79 years old. Features of the property include a full basement finished with a recreation room, two fireplaces and a two-car detached garage. The property has a 6,748 square foot site and is located in Evanston, Evanston Township, Cook County. The subject is

classified as a class 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant completed the assessment grid analysis on the appeal using four purported equity comparables. However, the appellant's evidence disclosed that comparables #1 and #2 had consecutive street addresses, consecutive parcel numbers (PINs) and copies of the photographs for each comparable depict the same building indicating this building has a pro-rated assessment over the two PINs. Additionally, appellant's evidence disclosed that comparables #3 and #4 have the same address, consecutive PINs and copies of the photographs for each comparable depict the same building indicating this building also has a pro-rated assessment over the two PINs. These two comparables are improved with two-story multi-family buildings of masonry construction that have 4,300 and 4,118 square feet of living area, respectively. Both buildings were approximately 56 years old. Each comparable has a basement with one being finished and one comparable has central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments of \$39,000 and \$40,800 or \$9.07 and \$9.91 per square foot of living area, respectively. The appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$21,273.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$49,217. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$41,289 or \$9.20 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables improved with two, two-story and two, three-story multi-family buildings of masonry construction that ranged in size from 4,477 to 4,590 square feet of living area. The buildings ranged in age from 80 to 83 years old. Three of the comparables had full basements with one being finished, two comparables had one or two fireplaces and two comparables each had a three-car garage. The improvement assessments ranged from \$47,608 to \$55,527 or from \$10.58 to \$12.40 per square foot of living area.

In rebuttal the board of review submitted copies of pages of the property characteristic printouts for the appellant's comparables disclosing these properties had pro-rated improvement assessments.

Conclusion of Law

The taxpayer 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 Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables and board of review comparables #1 and #2 as these comparables were most similar to the subject in style and were relatively similar to the subject in features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$9.07 to \$12.40 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$9.20 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Less weight was given board of review comparables #3 and #4 because they differed from the subject in their three-story design and comparable #4 had a slab foundation. 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.

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

K. L. Fan

Klaus Albrecht

Member

Member

JR

Jerry White

Member

Acting Member

Robert Steffen

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: January 22, 2016

A. Proctor

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.