



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

APPELLANT: Murphy Family Trust  
DOCKET NO.: 13-00609.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 30-07-09-112-012-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Murphy Family Trust, the appellant, by Jerri K. Bush, Attorney at Law, in Chicago; and the Will 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 Will County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$ 8,302  
**IMPR:** \$ 32,865  
**TOTAL:** \$ 41,167

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Will County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2013 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 part two-story and part one-story multi-family frame dwelling that has 1,796 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1900. Features include an unfinished basement. The subject has a .15 acre

site. The subject property is located in Joliet Township, Will County, Illinois.

The appellant submitted evidence before the Property Tax Appeal Board claiming overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted a limited "Property Tax Analysis" of five suggested comparable sales. The analysis was dated February 12, 2014. Neither the name nor the professional credentials of the person(s) who prepared the report were disclosed. The comparables are located from .28 to .83 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables had varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject in design, dwelling size, age, and features. Their land sizes were not disclosed. The comparables sold from April 2012 to December 2012 for prices ranging from \$45,000 to \$75,000 or from \$23.54 to \$41.21 per square foot of living area including land. The analysis included Property Equalization Values (adjustments) to the comparables for sale date, land<sup>1</sup>, age, square footage, bath and fixtures, and garage area. No evidence or explanation pertaining to the calculation of the adjustment amounts was provided. Based on the Property Equalization Values, the analysis conveys a value estimate for the subject property of \$71,776 or a total assessment of \$23,923. At the bottom of the analysis, data sources were listed as Assessor, MLS, Realist, Marshall & Swift and IRPAM. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$41,167. The subject's assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$124,034 or \$69.06 per square foot of living area including land when applying the 2013 three-year average median level of assessment for Will County of 33.19%. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review submitted an analysis of four comparable sales and a letter addressing the appeal. The evidence was prepared by the Joliet Township Assessor.

With respect to the evidence submitted by the appellant, the township assessor argued the appellant's comparable sales are foreclosures or short sales, three of which are from different neighborhoods. However, the assessor did not identify which comparables are located in different neighborhoods. The assessor also argued the subject is a rental property proving in an income stream.

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<sup>1</sup> The appellant failed to disclose the land sizes for the subject and comparables.

The comparable sales submitted on behalf of the board of review are located in the subject's neighborhood. The comparables had varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject in land area, design, dwelling size, age and features. The comparables sold from July 2012 to July 2013 for prices ranging from \$104,000 to \$153,000 or from \$66.16 to \$81.99 per square foot of living area including land. 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 failed to meet this burden of proof.

The parties submitted nine suggested comparable sales. The board of review, through the township assessor, argued the comparable sales submitted by the appellant was foreclosure or short sales, implying they should not be considered in determining the subject's correct assessment. The Board gave no weight to this argument. Section 16-183 of the Property Tax Code provides:

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. (35 ILCS 200/16-183).

The Board gave less weight to comparable #2 submitted by the appellant due to its smaller dwelling size when compared to the subject. The Board finds the remaining eight comparables submitted were relatively similar to the subject in location, age, size, design, features and sold more proximate in time to

the subject's January 1, 2013 assessment date. They sold for prices ranging from \$45,000 to \$153,000 or from \$23.54 to \$81.99 per square foot of living area including land. The subject's assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$124,034 or \$69.06 per square foot of living area including land, which falls within the range established by the most similar comparable sales contained in this record. Based on this analysis, the Board finds no reduction in the subject's assessment 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. Fan*

*Klaus Albrecht*

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Member

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Member

*Jerry White*

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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*

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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.