



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

APPELLANT: Melissa Pontikes  
DOCKET NO.: 13-00759.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-29-308-029

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Melissa Pontikes, the appellant, by attorney David Lavin of Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC in Chicago, and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$58,313  
**IMPR:** \$220,159  
**TOTAL:** \$278,472

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake 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 two-story dwelling of brick and frame construction with 3,796 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1997. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a

fireplace and a 667 square foot garage. The property is located in Deerfield, West Deerfield Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales located in the same neighborhood code assigned by the assessor as the subject property. The comparables consist of two-story frame or brick dwellings that were built between 1999 and 2004. The homes range in size from 3,522 to 3,644 square feet of living area and have basements, one of which has finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, a fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 420 to 500 square feet of building area. The comparables sold between July 2010 and June 2012 for prices ranging from \$699,000 to \$785,000 or from \$198.47 to \$215.42 per square foot of living area, including land.

Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a total assessment of \$265,121 which would reflect a market value of approximately \$795,363 or \$209.53 per square foot of living area, including land.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$278,472. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$837,762 or \$220.70 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2013 three year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.24% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales located in the same neighborhood code assigned by the assessor as the subject property. The comparables consist of two-story brick or brick and frame dwellings that were built in 2003 or 2005. The homes range in size from 3,324 to 3,884 square feet of living area and feature unfinished basements, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and a garage of 420 or 440 square feet of building area. These comparables sold between June 2011 and September 2013 for prices ranging from \$840,000 to \$877,000 or from \$225.80 to \$252.71 per square foot of living area, including land.

Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's estimated market value based on its 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 parties submitted a total of seven comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to appellant's comparable #3 which sold in July 2010, a date more remote in time from the assessment date at issue of January 1, 2013 and therefore less likely to be indicative of the subject's estimated market value as of the valuation date.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant's comparable sales #1 and #2 along with the board of review comparable sales. These most similar comparables sold between June 2011 and September 2013 for prices ranging from \$699,000 to \$877,000 or from \$198.47 to \$252.71 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$837,762 or \$220.70 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record and appears to be well-justified given the differences in age, basement size and/or garage size of the subject when compared to these sale properties. Based on this evidence the Board finds 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.

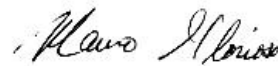
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Chairman



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Member



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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



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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.