



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

APPELLANT: Faraz Mota
DOCKET NO.: 14-21633.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-31-205-020-1004

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Faraz Mota, the appellant(s); and the Cook County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **A Reduction** 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: \$1,134
IMPR.: \$1,876
TOTAL: \$3,010

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 2014 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 a residential condominium unit contained in a 55 year-old, seven-unit, two-story residential condominium building of masonry construction. The property has a 7,540 square foot site and is located in Berwyn Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation with evidence of a recent sale and on comparable sales. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted a settlement statement disclosing the subject property was purchased from Federal National Mortgage Association, also known as "Fannie Mae," on July 1, 2012 in an all-cash transaction for a price of \$30,100. The appellant also submitted information in Section IV–Recent Sale Data of the Residential Appeal that the subject was not sold as a transfer between related parties, was sold the owner, and was sold in settlement of a foreclosure. Regarding the sales market value argument, the appellant submitted six sales comparables and adjustment information. Based on this evidence, the

appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the purchase price when applying the 2014 level of assessment of 10.00% for Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$6,878. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$68,780 when applying the 2014 level of assessment of 10.00% for Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted a condominium analysis with information on suggested comparable sales for three units in the building, one of which units was the subject property, that sold from 2006 through 2013 for a sales total of \$160,100. The board of review disclosed the units sold consisted of 41.20% of all units in the building. The result was a full value of the property at \$388,592. Although the board of review's analysis was not complete, the subject was 17.70% of all the units in the building, for a suggested market value of \$68,780.

In rebuttal, the appellant reiterated the argument that the sale was at arm's-length, and reaffirmed the request for an assessment reduction.

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 has met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

As to the appellant's overvaluation argument based on sales comparables, the Board finds the appellant failed to lay a foundation for the adjustments in the equalization values grid submitted and, therefore, give them no weight.

In addressing the appellant's market value argument based on the recent sale, the Board finds that the sale of the subject in July 2012 for \$30,100 is a "compulsory sale." The appellant's evidence disclosed the sale was compulsory. The appellant admitted that the subject was sold in settlement of a foreclosure. A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

- (i) the sale of real estate for less than the amount owed to the mortgage lender or mortgagor, if the lender or mortgagor has agreed to the sale, commonly referred to as a "short sale" and (ii) the first sale of real estate owned by a financial institution as a result of a judgment of foreclosure, transfer pursuant to a deed in lieu of foreclosure, or consent judgment, occurring after the foreclosure proceeding is complete.

35 ILCS 200/1-23. Real property in Illinois must be assessed at its fair cash value, which can only be estimated absent any compulsion on either party.

Illinois law requires that all real property be valued at its fair cash value, estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale where the owner is ready, willing, and able to sell but not compelled to do so, and the buyer is likewise ready, willing, and able to buy, but is not forced to do so.

Bd. of Educ. of Meridian Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. No. 223 v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 961 N.E. 2d 794, 802 (2d Dist. 2011) (citing Chrysler Corp. v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 69 Ill. App. 3d 207, 211 (2d Dist. 1979)).

However, when there was a recent sale of the subject, and that sale was compulsory, the Board may consider other evidence, including that which was submitted by the parties and which would show whether the sale price was representative of the subject's fair cash value. Although the appellant's recent sale appears to have been a compulsory sale, it does reflect the fair market value based upon an analysis of recent sales of comparable properties. The evidence provided by the board of review included one unit that sold in 2013 in the subject's condominium building for the price of \$23,000. This sale support the conclusion that the subject's purchase price is reflective of fair cash value. The Board finds the purchase price is below the market value reflected by the assessment. Therefore, Board finds that the subject is overvalued and holds that a reduction 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.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member



Acting Member

DISSENTING: _____

CERTIFICATION

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 27, 2017



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.