



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

APPELLANT: Faraz Mota
DOCKET NO.: 14-22056.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-31-307-039-1001

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: \$494
IMPR.: \$5,023
TOTAL: \$5,517

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 54 year-old, six-unit, three-story residential condominium building of masonry construction. The property has a 5,185 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. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted a settlement statement disclosing the subject property was purchased from Wilmington Trust, National Association, on July 12, 2013 for a price of \$25,000 in an all-cash transaction. The appellant also submitted a Multiple Listing Service (hereinafter, "MLS") listing sheet disclosing the subject was offered for sale as an "Pre-Foreclosure" property; and information in Section IV–Recent Sale Data of the Residential Appeal that the subject was not sold as a transfer between related parties, was advertised for sale, the realtor was "HUD", and was sold in settlement of a foreclosure. 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 \$5,517. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$55,170 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 that sold from 2007 through 2012 for a sales total of \$194,700. The board of review deducted 1.00% from the sale price total for personal property without further information, for a total adjusted consideration of \$192,753. The board of review disclosed the units sold consisted of 49.85% of all units in the building. The result was a full value of the property at \$386,666. Since the subject was 14.13% of all the units in the building, the board of review suggested the market value of the subject to be \$54,636.

In rebuttal, the appellant reiterated the argument that the sale was at arm's-length, and reaffirmed the request for an assessment reduction. The appellant also submitted additional evidence of a sale comparable not disclosed in the appellant's petition on appeal.

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.

The appellant offered new evidence and argument in rebuttal. "Rebuttal evidence shall not consist of new evidence such as an appraisal or newly discovered comparable properties. A party to the appeal shall be precluded from submitting its own case in chief in the guise of rebuttal evidence." 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.66(c). The Board does not consider that rebuttal evidence here since it contained new data that did not rebut the evidence submitted by the board of review.

In addressing the appellant's market value argument, the Board finds that the sale of the subject in July 2013 for \$25,000 is a "compulsory sale." The appellant's MLS listing sheet disclosed the sale was for a compulsory property. 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 evidence which would show whether the sale price was representative of the subject's fair cash value. In determining the fair market value of the subject property, the Board may look to other evidence presented by the parties. 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 subject's ownership interest in the condominium was 14.13%. The calculations provided by the board of review included two units that sold in 2012 in the subject's condominium building with ownership interests in the condominium of 17.95% and 18.01% for prices of \$30,500 and \$40,200, respectively. These two sales 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.