



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

APPELLANT: Juan Uribe
DOCKET NO.: 14-27179.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-14-101-005-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Juan Uribe, the appellant(s), by attorney George J. Relias, of Relias & Tsonis, LLC in Chicago; and the Cook County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, 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: \$2,613
IMPR.: \$31,094
TOTAL: \$33,707

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 consists of two improvements. Improvement #1 is townhome dwelling of masonry construction with 1,565 square feet of living area. Improvement #2 is a townhome dwelling of masonry construction with 1,569 square feet of living area. The dwellings were constructed in 2008 and located in Maywood, Proviso Township, Cook County. The two improvements are class 2-95 properties per the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance.

The appellant argued that the fair market value of the subject property was not accurately reflected in its assessed value as the basis of this appeal. In support of the market value argument, the appellant confirmed that the subject sold on August 18, 2014 for \$58,500. The appellant's pleadings regarding Section IV- Recent Sale Data confirmed the closing date, sale price, that the parties to the transaction were not related, and that the subject was advertised for sale using realtors

on the MLS. Appellant submitted copies of the settlement statement, real estate contract, and listing printout confirming the 2014 sale of the subject.

The appellant also contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on six equity comparables.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$33,707. The subject's assessment reflects a total market value of \$337,070 or \$107.69 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2014 level of assessment for class 2-95 properties of 10% as determined by the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance. Improvement #1 has an improvement assessment of \$15,547 or \$9.93 per square foot of living area. Improvement #2 has an improvement assessment of \$15,547 or \$9.93 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted four sale comparables for each improvement. The board of review also submitted four equity comparables for each improvement. Lastly, the board of review submitted a brief stating that the subject's sale was not at fair market value due to the deed trail showing that a *lis pendens* lien was placed on the subject on June 28, 2011. In support, the board of review submitted a printout of the Recorder of Deeds confirming *lis pendens* lien and notice of foreclosure

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.

In addressing the appellant's market value argument, the Board finds that the sale of the subject in August 2014 for \$58,500 or \$18.69 per square feet of living area is a "compulsory sale." 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 the 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.

Board of Educ. of Meridian Community Unit School Dist. No. 223 v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, 961 N.E.2d 794, 802, 356 Ill.Dec. 405, 413 (2d Dist. 2011) citing Chrysler Corp. v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, 69 Ill.App.3d 207, 211 387 N.E.2d 351 (2d Dist. 1979)).

However, the Illinois General Assembly recently provided very clear guidance for the Board with regards to compulsory sales. Section 16-183 of the Illinois Property Tax Code states as follows:

The Property Tax Appeal Board shall consider compulsory sales of the 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. Therefore, the Board is statutorily required to consider the compulsory sale of comparable properties submitted by the parties to revise and/or correct the subject's assessment. The Board finds that the mere assertion that the subject's sale was not at market solely because it is a compulsory sale is accorded no weight without evidence supporting that assertion.

In determining the fair market value of the subject property, the Board looks to the evidence presented by the parties. The Board finds the board of review's comparables #1, #2, and #3 set the subject's range for market value. These similar comparables sold from \$140.34 to \$159.83 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$107.69 per square foot of living area, including land, which is below the range established by the best comparable sales in this record.

Accordingly, in determining the fair market value of the subject property, the Board finds that the appellant did not submit sufficient evidence to show the subject was overvalued. Therefore, the Board finds that the appellant has not met its burden by a preponderance of the evidence and that the subject does not warrant a reduction based upon the market data submitted into evidence.

The taxpayer also 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.

Regarding the appellant's equity argument, the Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity for improvement #1 to be the board of review's comparable #1, #2, and #3. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$13.87 to \$14.16 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$9.93 per square foot of living area falls below the range established by the best comparables in this record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity for improvement #2 to be the board of review's comparable #1, #2, and #3. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$13.87 to \$14.16 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$9.93 per square foot of living area falls below the range established by the best comparables in this record.

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



Member



Member



Acting Member

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:

April 21, 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.