



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

APPELLANT: Rami Mornel
DOCKET NO.: 14-32793.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 29-01-418-028-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Rami Mornel, the appellant(s), by attorney Abby L. Strauss, of Schiller Strauss & Lavin PC 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 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: \$1,680
IMPR.: \$7,320
TOTAL: \$9,000

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 a three-story, apartment building of masonry construction with 5,020 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1974. The property has a 4,800 square foot site and is located in Calumet City, Thornton Township, Cook County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted evidence showing that the subject was sold to the appellant by City Investments Corporation on August 9, 2013 for \$90,000. This evidence included the settlement statement, real estate contract, and appraisal. The appellant's pleadings regarding Section IV-Recent Sale Data confirmed: the closing date and sale price; that the parties to the transaction were not related; that the property was sold in settlement of a contract for deed; and that the subject was advertised for sale using a realtor. 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 \$14,230. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$142,300 or \$28.35 per square foot of living area, including land when applying a 10% level of assessment as determined by the Cook County Classification Ordinance.

In support of the assessment, the board of review submitted four sales comparables. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

In rebuttal, the appellant's attorney states that the only credible evidence as to subject's market value is the data submitted by the appellant.

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

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in August 2013 for \$90,000. The appellant provided evidence demonstrating the sale had the elements of arm's length transaction and in support of the transaction, copies of the real estate contract, settlement statement, and appraisal were submitted. The subject's market value was supported by the appraisal. Lastly, the board of review failed to provide any substantial evidence to challenge the arm's length nature of the transaction.

Based on this record, the Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$90,000 as of January 1, 2014. Since market value has been determined, the level of assessments for class 2-11 residential property of 10% shall apply as determined by the Cook County Classification Code.

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.