



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

APPELLANT: Lois R. Yaffe  
DOCKET NO.: 15-02758.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-33-403-012

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lois R. Yaffe, the appellant, by attorney Ronald Kingsley, of Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC in Lake Forest; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$74,635  
**IMPR.:** \$169,915  
**TOTAL:** \$244,550

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 2015 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 2-story dwelling of frame construction with 3,320 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1986. Features of the dwelling include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 693 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 four comparable sales. These comparables are described as 2-story dwellings of brick construction built in 1984 or 1985. They range in size from 2,810 to 3,408 square feet of living area. They feature basements, two with finished areas<sup>1</sup>, central air conditioning, fireplaces and garages that contain either 462 or 567 square feet of building area.

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<sup>1</sup> The grid analysis indicates comparables #3 and #4 have unfinished basements, but the MLS Listing Sheets submitted by the appellant show finished basements.

They are located a distance of .14 to .19 of a mile from the subject. These comparables sold between January 2014 and May 2015 for prices ranging from \$550,000 to \$660,000 or from \$164.47 to \$211.74 per square foot of living area land included. The appellant requested the total assessment be reduced to \$223,525 or a market value of approximately \$670,642 or \$202.00 per square foot of living area including land at the statutory level of assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$260,625. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$785,488 or \$236.59 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2015 three-year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.18% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales. They are described as 2-story dwellings of brick construction built in 1986 or 1987. They range in size from 2,862 to 3,216 square feet of living area. All of the comparables feature basements, one with finished area, central air conditioning, fireplaces and garages that range in size from 400 to 528 square feet of building area. They are located a distance of .06 to .24 of a mile from the subject. These comparables sold between December 2014 and August 2015 for prices ranging from \$705,000 to \$752,500 or from \$225.96 to \$251.57 per square foot of living area land included.

Based on this evidence and argument, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's 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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

Both parties submitted seven comparable sales for the Board to consider. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparables #3 and #4 and board of review comparable #3 based on their smaller dwelling size and/or finished basement as compared to the subject's unfinished basement. The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record to be the appellant's comparables #1 and #2 and board of review comparables #1 and #2. These comparables were most similar to the subject in location, dwelling size, style, age and most features. These comparables sold for prices ranging from \$550,000 to \$752,500 or from \$164.47 to \$233.99 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$785,488 or \$236.59 per square foot of living area, including land, which is higher than the best comparable sales in this record on both a total market value basis as well as a per square foot basis. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment based on overvaluation is 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



Acting Member



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: August 18, 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.