



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

APPELLANT: Sergio Soto  
DOCKET NO.: 15-25810.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 15-34-318-018-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Sergio Soto, the appellant(s), by attorney Dennis M. Nolan, of Dennis M. Nolan, P.C. in Bartlett; 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:** \$ 2,625  
**IMPR.:** \$ 9,481  
**TOTAL:** \$ 12,106

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 2015 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board (the "Board") finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject consists of a two-story dwelling of frame and masonry construction with 1,594 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 65 years old. Features of the home include a crawl, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a one and one-half-car garage. The property has a 5,000 square foot site, and is located in Brookfield, Proviso Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-05 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The subject property was the subject matter of an appeal before the Board in 2014 under docket number 14-26467.001-R-1. In that appeal, the Board rendered a decision lowering the subject's assessment to \$12,106. The appellant submitted evidence that the subject sold on August 2, 2012 for a price of \$121,050. The Real Property Transfer Tax Declaration submitted by the

appellant states that the subject will be the buyer's principal residence, and, therefore, the subject is owner occupied.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$20,605. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$206,050, or \$129.27 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the 2015 statutory level of assessment for class 2 property of 10.00% under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables and four sale comparables. The board of review also submitted a supplemental brief arguing that the sale of the subject was a compulsory sale, and therefore, the sale was not an arm's length transaction and the sale price does not represent the subject's fair cash value. In support of this argument, the board of review submitted a printout from the Cook County Recorder of Deeds' website showing that a *lis pendens* was filed on the subject by National City Bank on August 18, 2009, that the Judicial Sales Corporation conveyed the subject to HSBC Bank USA on April 6, 2012, and that a special warranty deed conveyed the subject from HSBC Bank USA to the appellant on August 10, 2012.

### **Conclusion of Law**

Section 16-185 of the Illinois Property Tax Code provides, in relevant part:

If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel on which a residence occupied by the owner is situated, such reduced assessment, subject to equalization, shall remain in effect for the remainder of the general assessment period as provided in Sections 9-215 through 9-225, unless that parcel is subsequently sold in an arm's length transaction establishing a fair cash value for the parcel that is different from the fair cash value on which the Board's assessment is based, or unless the decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board is reversed or modified upon review.

35 ILCS 200/16-185. The Board takes judicial notice that it rendered a decision lowering the subject's assessment in tax year 2014, and that 2014 and 2015 are in the same general assessment period for Proviso Township. The record indicates that the subject is an owner occupied dwelling. The record contains no evidence indicating that the subject sold in an arm's length transaction subsequent to the Board's 2014 decision, or that the Board's 2014 decision was reversed or modified upon review. For these reasons, the Board finds that a reduction is warranted, and that the subject's assessment shall be reduced to reflect the Board's 2014 decision, plus the application of an equalization factor, if any.

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.

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Chairman



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Member

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Acting Member



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Member

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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: May 19, 2017



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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.