



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

APPELLANT: James Athanasopoulos  
DOCKET NO.: 15-31360.001-R-1 through 15-31360.006-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: See Below

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James Athanasopoulos, the appellant(s), by attorney Peter D. Verros, of Verros, Lafakis & Berkshire, P.C. 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:

<b>DOCKET NO</b>	<b>PARCEL NUMBER</b>	<b>LAND</b>	<b>IMPRVMT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
15-31360.001-R-1	13-13-325-036-1001	1,430	6,070	\$7,500
15-31360.002-R-1	13-13-325-036-1002	1,430	6,070	\$7,500
15-31360.003-R-1	13-13-325-036-1003	1,430	6,070	\$7,500
15-31360.004-R-1	13-13-325-036-1004	653	2,770	\$3,423
15-31360.005-R-1	13-13-325-036-1005	652	2,769	\$3,421
15-31360.006-R-1	13-13-325-036-1006	652	2,769	\$3,421

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 finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject property consists of a six-unit residential condominium. The dwelling is 87 years old. The property has a 3,125 square foot site and is located in Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-99 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 evidence disclosing that three units transferred ownership through sheriff's deeds. In addition, the appellant submitted two appraisals for two units in the subject building. The first

appraisal is for Permanent Index Number ("PIN") 1001 and opines a value of \$75,000 on January 1, 2013. The second appraisal is for PIN 1002 and also opines a value of \$75,000 on January 1, 2013. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to \$14,249.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$43,580. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$435,800, land included, when using the 2015 level of assessment for class 2 property of 10% 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 sales analysis based on the 2007 sales of two units in the subject building.

### **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 burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds that the recent sheriff's sales submitted by the appellant are compulsory sales in the form of foreclosure sales. A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

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., 2011 IL App (2d) 100068, ¶ 36 (citing Chrysler Corp. v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 69 Ill.App.3d 207, 211 (2d Dist. 1979)).

However, when there is a recent sale of the subject, and that sale is a compulsory sale, the Board may consider evidence which would show whether the sale price was representative of the subject's fair cash value. See 35 ILCS 200/16-183 ("The Property Tax Appeal Board shall consider compulsory sales of comparable properties for the purpose of revising and correcting assessments, including those compulsory sales of comparable properties submitted by the taxpayer."). Such evidence can include the descriptive and sales information for recently sold properties that are similar to the subject. See Id.

In this case, the appellant submitted two appraisals that contained recent sale information of comparable properties that had sale prices that ranged from \$65,000 to \$84,000, and opined a value of \$75,000 for PIN 1001 and \$75,000 for PIN 1002. The appellant submitted sales that the units sold for only \$55,000 each. As such, the Board finds the recent sales submitted by the appellant do not represent the subject units' fair market values. The Board finds the best evidence of market value consists of the two appraisals submitted by the appellant. Based on this record the Board finds the subject is overvalued and a reduction in the subject's assessment to 10% of the appraised value 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. Pursuant to Section 1910.50(d) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(d)) the proceeding before the Property Tax Appeal Board is terminated when the decision is rendered. The Property Tax Appeal Board does not require any motion or request for reconsideration.



Chairman



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: June 19, 2018



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 or years of the same general assessment period, as provided in Sections 9-125 through 9-225, 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 such subsequent year or years 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 OR YEARS. A separate petition and evidence must be filed for each of the remaining years of the general assessment period.

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.

PARTIES OF RECORD

AGENCY

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