



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

APPELLANT: Michael Tropea
DOCKET NO.: 15-37088.001-R-1 through 15-37088.002-R-1
PARCEL NO.: See Below

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michael Tropea, the appellant, 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 **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:

DOCKET NO	PARCEL NUMBER	LAND	IMPRVMT	TOTAL
15-37088.001-R-1	09-36-426-026-0000	3,300	13,208	\$16,508
15-37088.002-R-1	09-36-426-027-0000	3,300	26,816	\$30,116

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 two parcels that are improved with a one and one-half story dwelling of masonry construction. The dwelling is approximately 62 years old and has 2,346 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a partial unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a one and one-half car garage. The property's two parcels have a combined 5,500 square foot site and are located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-04 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on three equity comparable properties. The comparables have the same assigned neighborhood and classification codes as the subject. The comparables are improved with dwellings of masonry construction. The appellant did not list the

comparables' story height; however, photographic evidence submitted by the appellant indicates the comparables are one and one-half story like the subject. The dwellings are from 63 to 88 years old. The comparables had features of varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The appellant's grid analysis indicates the dwellings range in size from 2,131 to 2,697 square feet of living area, and their improvement assessments range from \$30,000 to \$40,940 or from \$14.08 to \$15.35 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$31,585 or \$13.46 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment of \$46,624 for both parcels was disclosed. The subject property's two parcels have a combined improvement assessment of \$40,024 or \$17.06 per square foot of living area. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on four suggested comparable properties. The comparables have the same assigned neighborhood and classification codes as the subject and located one-quarter mile from the subject. The comparables are improved with one and one-half story dwellings of masonry, frame, or frame and masonry construction. The dwellings are from 81 to 90 years old. The comparables had features of varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The board of review's grid analysis indicates the dwellings range in size from 2,076 to 2,247 square feet of living area and their improvement assessments range from \$36,132 to \$39,649 or from \$17.16 to \$19.10 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The taxpayer 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.

The parties presented assessment data on a total of seven suggested comparables. The appellant's comparable #2 and board of review comparable #4 differed from the subject in living area and received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The remaining five comparables were more similar to the subject in living area, but only one of these comparables (appellant #1) was very similar to the subject in age. The five best comparables in the record had improvement assessments that ranged from \$30,000 to \$39,548 or from \$14.08 to \$17.61 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$17.06 per square foot of living area falls within 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. 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



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 17, 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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