



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

APPELLANT: Laura Bruss (Wilson)  
DOCKET NO.: 16-07262.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 04-31-400-007-000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Laura Bruss (Wilson), the appellant; and the Monroe 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 **Monroe** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$18,340  
**IMPR.:** \$95,994  
**TOTAL:** \$114,334

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Monroe County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2016 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 1.5-story dwelling of frame construction with 3,806 square feet of living area.<sup>1</sup> The dwelling was constructed in 1985. Features of the home include a crawl-space foundation, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, an attached 2-car garage and a detached outbuilding with a 1-car garage. The property has a 5.45-acre site and is located in Columbia, Monroe County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$343,000 as of May 13,2017.

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<sup>1</sup> The Board finds the best evidence of the subject's dwelling size was the sketch of the subject dwelling within the appellant's appraisal.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$139,890. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$421,864 when using the 2016 three-year average median level of assessment for Monroe County of 33.16% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted a grid analysis containing the comparable sale #1 that was included within the appellant's appraisal. The board of review argues that this is the only comparable within range of the subject and it indicates a fair market value for the subject of \$431,000.

### **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 appraisal submitted by the appellant estimating the subject property had a market value of \$343,000 as of May 13,2017. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$421,864, which is above the appraised value. The Board gave less weight to the board of review's argument that the appellant's comparable #1 indicates a fair market value for the subject of \$431,000. The Board finds that the appellant's appraiser adjusted this superior comparable for its condition, finished basement area, larger garage and inground swimming pool. Conversely, the appraiser adjusted the comparable upwards for its inferior fireplace count, when compared to the subject. The Board further finds the appraiser's conclusion of value appears credible, logical and reasonable in light of the sales within the report. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request 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. 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 21, 2020



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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