



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

APPELLANT: Ronald Owens  
DOCKET NO.: 16-20534.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 15-01-407-008-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Ronald Owens, the appellant, by attorney George J. Relias, of Relias Law Group, Ltd. 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:

**LAND:** \$13,236  
**IMPR.:** \$112,530  
**TOTAL:** \$125,766

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 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 is improved with a 2-story masonry dwelling containing 7,061 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 88 years old and features a full finished basement, 2 fireplaces and a 3-car garage. The subject has finished living area in the attic. The subject is located in River Forest, River Forest Township, Cook County. It is classified as a class 2-09 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 four 2-story, class 2-09 comparables, two of which have the same neighborhood code as the subject. They are located within 0.9 of a mile from the subject. The comparables range in size from 5,530 to 7,417 square feet of living area and range in age from 43 to 105 years old. They feature basements, three with finished areas, and central air conditioning. Three of the comparables have 1-3 fireplaces each and two have 2

or 3-car garages. One comparable has finished living area in the attic. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$48,626 to \$83,083 or from \$6.56 to \$14.25 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence the appellant requested the subject's 2016 improvement assessment be reduced to \$76,842 or \$10.88 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$125,766. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$112,530 or \$15.94 per square foot of living area.

In support of the assessment the board of review submitted information on three 2-story, class 2-09 comparables having the same neighborhood code as the subject, two of which are located within .25 of a mile from the subject. The comparables range in size from 5,053 to 7,021 square feet of living area and range in age from 76 to 83 years old. They feature basements, one with finished area, 1 or 2 fireplaces and 3 or 3½-car garages. Two comparables have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$110,654 to \$170,560 or from \$15.94 to \$33.75 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 appellant 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 submitted a total of seven comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to board of review comparable #2 due to its smaller dwelling size when compared to the subject. The Board also gives less weight to appellant's comparables #2, #3 and #4 due to their location, age and/or smaller dwelling sizes when compared to the subject. Despite some dissimilarities with the subject regarding features, the Board finds appellant's comparable #1 and board of review comparables #1 and #3 are most similar to the subject in location, age, style and dwelling size. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$48,626 to \$111,893 or from \$6.56 to \$17.09 per square foot of living area. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$112,530 or \$15.94 per square foot of living area which is within the range established by the most similar comparables in the record on a per square foot basis. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences to the subject, the Board finds the subject's assessment is supported. Thus, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement is inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment is not 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.

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Chairman



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Member

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Member



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Member

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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 23, 2019



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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 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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