

# FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Ronald Bruett
DOCKET NO.: 16-22897.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 02-24-403-030-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Ronald Bruett, the appellant, by attorney John S. Xydakis, of the Law Offices of John S. Xydakis 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:** \$6,396 **IMPR.:** \$18,162 **TOTAL:** \$24,558

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 consists of a 1½-story dwelling of stucco construction. The dwelling is 104 years old and has 1,472 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a 2-car garage. The property has a 19,683 square-foot site and is located in Palatine, Palatine Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The subject's land assessment is not being contested in this appeal. In support of the inequity argument, the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables with the same neighborhood and classification codes as the subject. The comparables are improved with 1-story dwellings of frame or masonry construction. The dwellings are from 46 to 95 years old and contain from 1,174 to 1,754 square feet of living area. Three comparables have basements and central air

conditioning, and three comparables have fireplaces. Information regarding garages was not provided on the appellant's grid analysis; however, based upon the photographic evidence provided by the appellant, at least three of the comparables have garages. The appellant also submitted a map which revealed that three comparables were located approximately three miles from the subject property; however, the location of another comparable was not provided. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$12,694 to \$16,711 or from \$9.53 to \$10.81 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$14,794 or \$10.05 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 \$24,558 was disclosed. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$18,162 or \$12.34 per square foot of living area. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on four comparable properties with the same neighborhood and classification codes as the subject. One of the comparables was described as being located in the same block as the subject, and the other three were described as being located a quarter-mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with one, 1-story and three, 1½-story dwellings of frame and masonry or frame construction. The dwellings are from 71 to 76 years old and contain from 1,319 to 1,678 square feet of living area. The comparables have unfinished basements, either full or partial. Two comparables have central air conditioning, and one of these has a fireplace. The comparables have garages that range from 1½-car to 2½-car. The board of review's comparable properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$19,425 to \$22,147 or from \$12.69 to \$14.73 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 eight suggested comparables. The Board finds that none of the comparables were similar in all characteristics to the subject property. The appellant's comparables were described as one-story dwellings that differed from the subject's 1½-story design. In addition, the appellant's map revealed that three of the comparables were located three miles from the subject property. As a result, the appellant's comparables received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. Board of review comparable #1 differed from the subject in design and also received reduced weight. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #2 through #4. Although these comparables were newer than the subject property, they were very similar to the subject in location, 1½-story design, living area and foundation. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$19,425 to \$21,296 or from \$12.69 to \$14.73 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$18,162 or \$12.34 per square foot of living area falls below

the range established by the best comparables in this record. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences from the subject, 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.

said office.

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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- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do 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

May 21, 2019 Date: Mauro Illorias 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 <u>PETITION AND EVIDENCE</u> 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**

State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board William G. Stratton Building, Room 402 401 South Spring Street Springfield, IL 62706-4001

# **APPELLANT**

Ronald Bruett, by attorney: John S. Xydakis Law Offices of John S. Xydakis 30 North Michigan Avenue Suite 402 Chicago, IL 60602

# **COUNTY**

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