



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

APPELLANT: MJ Cermak, LLC
DOCKET NO.: 17-33134.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 24-26-300-071-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are MJ Cermak, LLC, the appellant(s), by attorney Abby L. Strauss, of Schiller Law 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:

LAND: \$4,675
IMPR.: \$19,325
TOTAL: \$24,000

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 2017 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 46 year old, two-story, apartment dwelling of masonry construction with 3,520 square feet of living area. Features of the dwelling include six baths, a full finished basement, and eight bedrooms. The property has a 11,000 square foot site and is located in Alsip, Worth Township, Cook County.

The appellant also contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted evidence showing that the subject sold in August 2015 for \$240,000. The appellant's pleadings regarding Section IV- Recent Sale Data confirmed: the closing date, sale price, that the parties to the transaction were not related, that the subject was advertised for sale on the MLS, and the seller's mortgage was not assumed. In support, the appellant submitted the settlement statement, deed, and the MLS sheet. The appellant requested a total reduction to \$24,000.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$31,993. The subject has a total improvement assessment of \$27,318 or \$7.76 per square foot of living area. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$319,930 when applying the 2017 level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10%. In support of the assessment, the board of review submitted four sale comparables and confirmed the sale of the subject in 2015 for \$240,000.

In rebuttal, the appellant stated that the board of review's evidence are not verified and included unadjusted sale comparables. The appellant concluded that the sale of the subject is the only credible evidence as to the subject's property's market value.

Conclusion of Law

When overvaluation is claimed, the appellant has the burden of proving the value of the property by a preponderance of the evidence. Cook Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 339 Ill. App. 3d 529, 545 (1st Dist. 2002); National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 331 Ill. App. 3d 1038, 1042 (3d Dist. 2002) (citing Winnebago Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 313 Ill. App. 3d 179 (2d Dist. 2000)); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal, a recent arm's length sale of the subject property, recent sales of comparable properties, or recent construction costs of the subject property. Calumet Transfer, LLC v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 401 Ill. App. 3d 652, 655 (1st Dist. 2010); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.65(c). Having considered the evidence presented, the Board finds that the evidence indicates a reduction is warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in August 2015 for \$240,000. The appellant provided evidence demonstrating the sale had the elements of an arm's length transaction including disclosing that the parties to the transaction were not related, that the property was sold using a realtor, and that it was advertised for sale on the open market. In further support of the transaction, the appellant submitted copies of the settlement statement, deed, and MLS sheet. Based on this record, the Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$240,000 as of January 1, 2017. Since market value has been determined, the level of assessments for class 2, residential property of 10% shall apply as determined by the Cook County Classification Ordinance.

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: October 19, 2021



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

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

APPELLANT

MJ Cermak, LLC, by attorney:
Abby L. Strauss
Schiller Law P.C.
33 North Dearborn
Suite 1130
Chicago, IL 60602

COUNTY

Cook County Board of Review
County Building, Room 601
118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60602