



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

APPELLANT: Milagro Lutz  
DOCKET NO.: 19-08525.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 15-32-107-004

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Milagro Lutz, the appellant, by attorney Eric Feldman, of Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C. in Chicago; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$31,093  
**IMPR.:** \$95,164  
**TOTAL:** \$126,257

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2019 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 two-story dwelling of frame exterior construction with 2,424 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1971 and is approximately 48 years old. Features of the home include a crawl space foundation,<sup>1</sup> central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 440 square foot garage. The property has a 13,009 square foot site and is located in Buffalo Grove, Vernon Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales, together with a second duplicate grid of comparables #1 and #3 and listing information for comparable #2. The comparables are located from 0.26 to 0.43 of a mile from the subject property and within the same assessment

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<sup>1</sup> Additional data regarding the subject property not reported by the appellant is found in the subject's property record card presented by the board of review.

neighborhood code as the subject property. The parcels have either 8,775 or 9,050 square feet of land area and are improved with two-story dwellings of frame or brick and frame exterior construction ranging in size from 2,406 to 2,622 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 48 or 49 years old. Comparable #2 has a crawl space foundation and comparables #1 and #3 are each reported not to have a basement. Each home has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a 440 square foot garage. The comparables sold from August 2018 to August 2019 for prices ranging from \$320,000 to \$372,000 or from \$132.18 to \$147.55 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to \$114,527 which would reflect a market value of \$343,615 or \$141.76 per square foot of living area, including land.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$126,257. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$383,877 or \$158.36 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2019 three year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 32.89% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales. The comparables are located from 0.28 to 0.42 of a mile from the subject property and within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The parcels range in size from 8,770 to 9,760 square feet of land area and are improved with two-story homes of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,244 to 2,598 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 1970 or 1972. Two homes each have a crawl space foundation and two homes each have a basement, one of which has finished area. Each home has central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 440 square foot garage. The comparables sold from April 2018 to September 2019 for prices ranging from \$380,000 to \$447,500 or from \$158.60 to \$199.42 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

### **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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The record contains a total of seven comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the board of review's comparables #3 and #4, which each have a basement compared to the subject's crawl space foundation.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables and the board of review's comparables #1 and #2, which are similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, location, and most features, although these comparables have smaller sites than the subject. These most similar comparables sold from April 2018 to August 2019 for prices ranging from \$320,000 to \$397,500 or from \$132.18 to \$159.25 per square foot of living area, including land.

The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$383,877 or \$158.36 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds 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.

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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: July 19, 2022



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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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APPELLANT

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COUNTY

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