



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

APPELLANT: Roula Jajeh  
DOCKET NO.: 21-02689.001-R-2  
PARCEL NO.: 12-30-302-003

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Roula Jajeh, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC 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:** \$132,361  
**IMPR.:** \$534,942  
**TOTAL:** \$667,303

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 2021 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 2-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 5,868 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1997. Features of the home include a basement, that has finished area, central air conditioning, three fireplaces and an attached 1,122 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 54,920 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Shields Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable properties that are located from .23 to 1.00 mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 50,093 to 79,714 square feet of land area that are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick exterior construction ranging in size from 5,124 to 6,530 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1988 to 2003. The comparables have basements, each of which has finished area, central air

conditioning, two, four or six fireplaces, and an attached garage ranging in size from 893 to 1,173 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from July to December 2020 for prices ranging from \$975,000 to \$1,725,000 or from \$190.28 to \$269.07 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$667,303. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$2,006,926 or \$342.01 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2021 three-year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.25% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable properties that are located within .36 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 42,690 to 64,470 square feet of land area that are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick, brick and stone or stucco and stone exterior construction ranging in size from 5,344 to 5,807 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1997 to 2008. The comparables have basements, each of which has finished area, central air conditioning, four fireplaces, and an attached garage ranging in size from 987 to 1,104 square feet of building area. One comparable has a swimming pool. The comparables sold from June 2020 to March 2022 for prices ranging from \$1,867,500 to \$2,412,000 or from \$337.95 to \$451.35 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 parties submitted a total of seven comparable sales for the Board's consideration, none of which are particularly similar to the subject. Nevertheless, the Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #1, due to its location nearly a mile from the subject and its older dwelling when compared to the subject. The Board also gives less weight to the board of review's comparable #1, due to its newer dwelling when compared to the subject, and its sale date occurring greater than 14 months after the January 1, 2021 assessment date at issue. The Board finds the parties' remaining comparables have varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The best comparables sold from June 2020 to March 2021 for prices ranging from \$1,327,500 to \$2,190,000 or from \$257.07 to \$377.13 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$2,006,926 or \$342.01 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range established by the best comparable sales in the record. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's estimated market value as reflected by its assessment is supported and 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.



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:

November 21, 2023



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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