



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

APPELLANT: Michael Nitz  
DOCKET NO.: 21-32741.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 17-06-211-003-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michael Nitz, the appellant, by attorney Katherine Amari O'Dell, of Amari & Locallo 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:** \$19,200  
**IMPR.:** \$52,400  
**TOTAL:** \$71,600

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 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 two-story apartment building of frame exterior construction with 3,135 square feet of gross building area. The building is 123 years old and features a full basement with finished area and a one-car garage. The property has a 2,400 square foot site and is located in Chicago, West Chicago Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on March 19, 2020 for a price of \$716,000. The appellant reported that the seller was Richard Jablonowski, the parties to the transaction were not related, and the property sold through a realtor. The appellant also indicated the property was advertised for sale through the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) for a period of 28 days. The appellant also submitted copies of the MLS sheet and settlement statement

associated with the sale. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the purchase price.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$78,000. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$780,000 or \$248.80 per square foot of gross building area, land included, when using the 10% level of assessment under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales located within .25 of a mile of the subject and within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of two-story or three-story class 2-11 buildings of frame or masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,302 to 3,540 square feet of gross building area. The buildings range in age from 121 to 143 years old. Two buildings have central air conditioning and three comparables each have a two-car garage. Three comparables each have a full basement, two of which are finished with an apartment, and one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. The parcels range in size from 2,400 to 3,750 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from September 2020 to November 2021 for prices ranging from \$735,100 to \$1,555,000 or from \$382.44 to \$564.59 per square foot of gross building area, including land. The board of review grid included the subject's May 2020 sale price. 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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in May 2020 for a price of \$716,000, which was confirmed by the board of review. The appellant submitted copies of the MLS sheet and settlement statement disclosing the property was advertised for sale and had the elements of an arm's length transaction. The Board finds the purchase price is below the market value reflected by the assessment. The Board finds the board of review did not present any credible evidence to challenge the arm's length nature of the transaction or to refute the contention that the purchase price was reflective of market value. Based on this record the Board finds the subject's assessment is not reflective of market value and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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: \_\_\_\_\_

May 20, 2025



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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