



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

APPELLANT: Jeannine Cordwell  
DOCKET NO.: 21-39780.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 14-33-113-008-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jeannine Cordwell, 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:** \$37,812  
**IMPR.:** \$137,188  
**TOTAL:** \$175,000

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 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 3-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 3,129 square feet of living area.<sup>1</sup> The dwelling was built in 2016 and is approximately 5 years old. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a 2-car garage. The property has a 3,025 square foot site and is located in Chicago, North Chicago Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-78 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of

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<sup>1</sup> The Board finds the best evidence of the subject's features is found in the appellant's appraisal where the appraiser inspected the subject property and the appraisal includes a sketch with measurements of the subject home.

\$1,750,000 as of January 8, 2021. The appraisal was prepared by Darlene Milito, a certified residential real estate appraiser, for a refinance transaction.

Under the sales comparison approach, the appraiser selected five comparables located within 0.61 of a mile from the subject. The parcels range in size from 1,665 to 3,150 square feet of land area and are improved with 3-story homes, one of which is a rowhouse, ranging in size from 3,004 to 3,981 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 11 to 17 years old. Each home has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, and a 2-car or a 3-car garage. Four comparables sold from July to December 2020 for prices ranging from \$1,640,000 to \$1,930,000 or from \$486.02 to \$547.60 per square foot of living area, including land. One comparable was listed for a price of \$2,095,000 or \$526.25 per square foot of living area, including land. The appraiser adjusted the comparables for differences from the subject and the listing as an active listing to arrive at adjusted prices from \$1,745,000 to \$1,791,500. The appraiser concluded a value of \$1,750,000 under the sales comparison approach.

Under the cost approach, the appraiser computed a replacement cost new of \$977,500, subtracted depreciation of \$101,426 (including \$20,000 for external obsolescence due to being adjacent to a large multi-family building), added \$50,000 for site improvements, and added \$825,000 for the site value to calculate a value of \$1,751,074 under the cost approach.

The appraiser concluded a market value of \$1,750,000 for the subject as of January 8, 2021. Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the appraised value conclusion.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$236,323. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$2,363,230 or \$755.27 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10%.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on two comparable sales<sup>2</sup> located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables have 2,904 and 2,976 square foot sites that are improved with 2-story or 3-story, class 2-78 homes with 2,790 or 3,546 square feet of living area. The homes are 7 years old. Each home has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a 2-car garage. The comparables sold in October 2019 and January 2021 for prices of \$1,880,000 and \$2,700,000 or \$673.84 and \$761.42 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.Adm.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market

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<sup>2</sup> The board of review presented four comparables but submitted sales data for only two comparables.

value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. 86 Ill.Adm.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 appellant presented an appraisal and the board of review presented two comparable sales in support of their respective positions before the Board. The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appraisal submitted by the appellant. The Board finds the appraiser selected similar comparables and made appropriate adjustments to the comparables to support the opinion of value. The Board gave less weight to the board of review's comparables as the board of review did not disclose their proximity to the subject for comparison with the appraisal comparables. Moreover, one comparable sold less proximate in time to the assessment date than the other sales in this record. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$2,363,230 or \$755.27 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above the appraised value conclusion. The Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$1,750,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established the level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10% shall apply. (86 Ill.Adm.Code §1910.50(c)(2)).

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

Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

March 18, 2025

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Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

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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