



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

APPELLANT: Daniel & Angela Douglas  
DOCKET NO.: 22-03567.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 05-30-203-037

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Daniel & Angela Douglas, the appellants, Jessica Hill-Magiera, Attorney at Law in Lake Zurich, and the DuPage 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 **DuPage** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$35,500  
**IMPR.:** \$144,780  
**TOTAL:** \$180,280

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellants timely filed the appeal from a decision of the DuPage County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2022 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 and brick exterior construction with 2,506 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1965. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and two garages with a total of 1,131 square feet of building area.<sup>1</sup> The property has a 32,312 square foot site and is located in Wheaton, Milton Township, DuPage County.

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<sup>1</sup> The parties differ in their respective spreadsheets with respect to the amount of finished area in the subject dwelling's basement and the aggregate amount of square footage attributable to garage space. The board of review provided the subject's property record card, which included a diagram of the subject improvements, that indicated there are two garages totaling 1,131 square feet of building area and 679 square feet of finished area in the basement.

The appellants contend assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellants submitted information on six equity comparables improved with two-story dwellings of frame or brick and frame exterior construction that range in size from 2,352 to 2,749 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1966 to 1970. Each comparable has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, and a garage ranging in size from 506 to 790 square feet of building area. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and are located from 0.01 to 0.49 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$126,020 to \$144,750 or from \$52.66 to \$54.86 per square foot of living area. The appellants requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$133,816.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$180,280. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$144,780 or \$57.77 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on eight equity comparables along with pictures, property record cards, and a map depicting the location of the subject property, the appellants' comparables, and the board of review's comparables. The board of review's comparables are improved with two-story dwellings of frame or brick and frame exterior construction that range in size from 2,408 to 3,170 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1965 to 1995. Each comparable has a basement with four having finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 400 to 1,155 square feet of building area. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and are located from 0.14 to 0.65 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$138,770 to \$177,350 or from \$55.95 to \$66.52 per square foot of living area.

In written rebuttal, the appellants' counsel argued county comparables #2, #3, #5, #6, and #8 are not comparable to the subject due to differences in age.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The taxpayers contend assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellants did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The record contains 14 equity comparables submitted by the parties to support their respective positions. The Board gives less weight to the board of review's comparables #2, #3, #5, #6 and #8 due to significant differences from the subject dwelling in age. These dwellings are from 19 to 30 years older than the subject dwelling. The Board gives less weight to appellants' comparable #1 based on differences from the subject dwelling in size. The Board finds the best

evidence of assessment equity to be appellants' comparables #2 through #6 and the board of review's comparables #1, #4, and #7. These comparables are relatively similar to the subject dwelling in terms of size, age, location and amenities, although adjustments to some of the comparables, to account for differences in some features, would be needed to make them more equivalent to the subject. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$126,020 to \$159,180 or \$52.77 to \$62.37 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$144,780 or \$57.77 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this evidence and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the appellants did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed 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:

April 16, 2024



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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