



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

APPELLANT: Christopher Sanford
DOCKET NO.: 22-49058.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 03-04-304-016-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Christopher Sanford, the appellant, by attorney Andreas Mamalakis, of the Law Offices of Andreas Mamalakis in Kenosha; 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: \$7,087
IMPR.: \$14,000
TOTAL: \$21,087

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 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 1-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 1,044 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 52 years old. Features include a partial basement and a 1-car garage. The property has a 7,875 square foot site and is located in Buffalo Grove, Wheeling Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on five equity comparables located within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables are improved with 1-story, class 2-03 dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 1,008 to 1,188 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 61 to 66 years old. Four comparables each have a full or partial basement and one comparable has a crawl space

foundation. One comparable has central air conditioning. Each comparable has one or two fireplaces. Four comparables each have from a 1-car to a 2.5-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$11,991 to \$13,667 or from \$11.27 to \$12.96 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal." The appellant submitted the board of review final decision disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$25,106. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$18,019 or \$17.26 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables located within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables are improved with 1-story, class 2-03 dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 1,008 to 1,104 square feet of living area. The comparables are either 59 or 62 years old. Two comparables each have a full or partial basement, one comparable has a slab foundation, and one comparable has a crawl space foundation. Each comparable has central air conditioning and a 1-car or a 1.5-car garage. One comparable has one fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$18,080 and \$20,060 or from \$17.65 to \$18.17 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends 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 appellant met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The record contains nine suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #2 which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size than other comparables in this record. Further, the appellant's comparable #2 has central air conditioning, unlike the subject, and lacks a garage amenity, which is a feature of the subject. The Board also gives less weight to the board of review comparables which have central air conditioning, unlike the subject, and/or lack a basement foundation, which the subject features.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables #3, #4, and #5. The best comparables are similar to the subject in design/class, and dwelling size with varying degrees of similarity in age, foundation type, garage capacity, and other features suggesting adjustments would be required to make them more equivalent to the subject. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$11,991 to \$13,061 or from \$11.86 to \$12.96 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$18,019 or \$17.26

per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in this record and appears to be excessive. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the appellant demonstrated with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed 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: _____

March 17, 2026



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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