



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

APPELLANTS: James & Christin Galinski  
DOCKET NO.: 23-41315.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 13-13-116-005-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James & Christin Galinski, the appellants, by attorney Brian P. Liston, of the Law Offices of Liston & Tsantilis, P.C. 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:** \$8,640  
**IMPR.:** \$58,000  
**TOTAL:** \$66,640

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellants 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 2023 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 1.5-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 2,254 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 104 years old. Features include a full basement with finished area, central air conditioning, and a 2-car garage. The property has a 3,600 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellants disclosed in the appeal petition that the subject was an owner-occupied dwelling.

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 three equity comparables that are located in the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables have

varying degrees of similarity to the subject in location, design, age, dwelling size, and features. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$51,610 to \$58,668 and of either \$25.04 or \$25.66 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellants requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$57,364.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$80,227. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$71,587 or \$31.76 per square foot of living area. The board of review also reported in its submission that 2021 was the beginning of the subject's general assessment cycle for Jefferson Township and that no township equalization factor was applied in 2024 by county assessment officials.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables that are located in the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables have varying degrees of similarity to the subject in location, age, dwelling size, and other features. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$75,868 to \$93,500 or from \$31.30 to \$40.74 per square foot of living area.

Pursuant to section 1910.90(i) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board, the Property Tax Appeal Board takes official notice that the subject property was the subject matter of an appeal before the Board for the prior tax year under Docket No. 22-35878. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.90(i)). In that appeal, the Property Tax Appeal Board issued a decision lowering the total assessment of the subject property to \$66,640 based on the evidence submitted by the parties. Furthermore, the Board finds that the subject property for tax year 2023 is an owner-occupied residence, which was not refuted by the board of review.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The appellants 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 that this matter is controlled by Sec. 16-185 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-185) and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted. 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 on which a residence occupied by the owner is situated, such reduced assessment, subject to equalization, shall remain in effect for the remainder of the general assessment period as provided in Sections 9-215 through 9-225, unless that parcel is subsequently sold in an arm's length transaction establishing a fair cash value for the parcel that is different from the fair cash

value on which the Board's assessment is based, or unless the decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board is reversed or modified upon review.

The Board finds that the subject property was the subject matter of an appeal before the Property Tax Appeal Board for the 2022 tax year under Docket No. 22-35878 in which a decision was issued based upon the evidence presented by the parties reducing the subject's total assessment to \$66,640. This record further indicates that the subject property is an owner-occupied dwelling, which was unrefuted by the board of review, and that 2022 and 2023 are within the same general assessment period for Jefferson Township. Furthermore, the record contains no evidence indicating the subject property sold in an arm's length transaction after the Board's decision or that the decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board has been reversed or modified upon review. For these reasons the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted to reflect the assessment as established in the Board's 2022 tax year decision.

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 19, 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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