



## FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Julie Kopala Kopf  
DOCKET NO.: 24-01308.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 02-30-301-040

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Julie Kopala Kopf, the appellant, by attorney Ronald Kingsley, of Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC in Hawthorn Woods; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| <b>LAND:</b>  | \$87,309  |
| <b>IMPR.:</b> | \$40,656  |
| <b>TOTAL:</b> | \$127,965 |

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

### **Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2024 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 one-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 1,049 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1933 and is 91 years old. Features of the home include a basement and a 360 square foot garage. The property has a 10,300 square foot site and is located in Lake Villa, Lake Villa Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on two comparable sales located within .31 of a mile of the subject. The comparables consist of one-story dwellings of wood frame exterior construction containing either 1,144 or 1,178 square feet of living area. The homes are either 37 or 92 years old. Each comparable has a basement and one dwelling has central air conditioning and a 440 square foot garage. The parcels contain either 6,268 or 11,687 square feet of land area. The comparables sold in March 2022 and November 2023 for prices of \$100,000 and \$220,000 or for

\$84.89 and \$192.31 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced assessment of \$127,965, for an estimated market value of \$383,933 or \$366.00 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$138,565. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$415,737 or \$396.32 per square foot of living area, land included, when applying the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.<sup>1</sup>

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales located from 1.19 to 2.88 miles from the subject, one of which is within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of one-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 984 to 1,324 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 50 to 82 years old. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, a basement with one having finished area, and a garage containing either 280 or 528 square feet of building area. Two comparables each have a fireplace. The parcels range in size from 10,812 to 13,350 square feet of land area. The comparables sold in April 2024 and March 2025 for prices ranging from \$360,000 to \$895,000 or from \$320.68 to \$675.98 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. 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 parties submitted a total of five comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #2, which sold less proximate to the January 1, 2024 assessment date at issue in this appeal. The Board also gives less weight to the board of review comparable #3, which differs from the subject in dwelling size and sold less proximate to the assessment date at issue.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the parties' remaining comparables, which sold proximate to the assessment date at issue and are similar to the subject in dwelling size and some features. These most similar comparables sold for prices ranging from \$100,000 to \$380,000 or from \$84.89 to \$365.85 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$415,737 or \$396.32 per square foot of living

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<sup>1</sup> Procedural rule Sec. 1910.50(c)(1) provides that in all counties other than Cook, the three-year county wide assessment level as certified by the Department of Revenue will be considered. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.50(c)(1). Prior to the drafting of this decision, the Department of Revenue has yet to publish figures for tax year 2024.

area, including land, which is above the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request 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.



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Chairman



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Member



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Member



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Member



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Member

DISSENTING: \_\_\_\_\_

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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:

January 20, 2026

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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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**COUNTY**

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