



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

APPELLANT: Samantha Mool  
DOCKET NO.: 24-04246.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 06-25.0-303-011

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Samantha Mool, the appellant; and the Sangamon 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 **Sangamon** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$9,634  
**IMPR.:** \$63,922  
**TOTAL:** \$73,556

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Sangamon 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 vinyl siding and brick exterior construction with 1,442 square feet of living area. The dwelling was built in 1983. Features of the home include a concrete slab foundation, central air conditioning, and a two-car garage. The property has an 11,533 square foot site and is located in Sherman, Fancy Creek Township, Sangamon County.

The appellants contend overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on May 31, 2024 for a price of \$200,000. The appellant reported that the seller was Michael Haley, the parties to the transaction were not related, and the property was sold by the owner. The appellant also indicated the property was advertised for sale on Zillow for an undisclosed period of time. In support of the sale, the appellant submitted a copy of the purchase contract and an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$205,000 as of May 14, 2024. Based on

this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced assessment of \$73,556, for an estimated market value of \$220,690 or \$153.04 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%. The appellants also submitted a copy of the board of review final decision disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$79,521 and the application of a township multiplier of 1.0811. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$238,587 or \$165.46 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.

The board of review did not submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" or any evidence in support of the assessment and was found in default by letter dated September 11, 2025.

### **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 Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in May 2024 for a price of \$200,000. The appellant submitted a copy of the purchase contract and an appraisal, and disclosed the property was advertised for sale and had the elements of an arm's length transaction. The Board finds the purchase price is below the market value reflected by the assessment. The Board finds the board of review did not present any evidence to challenge the arm's length nature of the transaction or to refute the contention that the purchase price was reflective of market value. Based on this record the Board finds the subject's assessment is not reflective of market value and a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified.

However, the record further disclosed that the appellant filed the appeal directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board after the application of a township equalization factor by the board of review. The assessment notice disclosed the assessment on the property was increased by the application of a township equalization factor of 1.0811.

Due to the fact the appeal was filed after notification of an equalization factor, the amount of relief that the Property Tax Appeal Board may grant is limited. Section 1910.60(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board states in part:

If the taxpayer or owner of property files a petition within 30 days after the postmark date of the written notice of the application of final, adopted township equalization factors, the relief the Property Tax Appeal Board may grant is limited to the amount of the increase caused by the application of the township equalization factor. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.60(a).

Additionally, section 16-180 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-180) provides in pertinent part:

Where no complaint has been made to the board of review of the county where the property is located and the appeal is based solely on the effect of an equalization factor assigned to all property or to a class of property by the board of review, the Property Tax Appeal Board may not grant a reduction in the assessment greater than the amount that was added as the result of the equalization factor.

These provisions mean that where a taxpayer files an appeal directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board after notice of the application of an equalization factor, the Board cannot grant an assessment reduction greater than the amount of increase caused by the equalization factor. Villa Retirement Apartments, Inc. v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 302 Ill.App.3d 745, 753 (4<sup>th</sup> Dist. 1999). Based on a review of the evidence contained in the record, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds a reduction in the assessment of the subject property is supported; however, the reduction is limited to the increase in the assessment caused by the application of the township equalization factor.

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

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 21, 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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