

to:
USDOJ/ US Attorney General
NE Illinois District
219 S. Dearborn, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60604

cc:
Illinois Attorney General
500 S. 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62706
fax: 217-782-1396

cc:
Distribution list &
Cook County Treasurer
118 N. Clark St., # 112
Chicago, IL 60602

from:
owner/occupant
24 D Street
Chicago, IL
2010 December 4

Please prosecute Chicago, Cook County and Illinois officials for property theft under color-of-law (page 1 of 2)

I'm responding to a 2010 December 3 letter from Joanne Zlotek, a freedom-of-information-act officer and attorney for Maria Pappas, the Cook County Treasurer. Ms. Zlotek's letter answers my 2010 November 15 letter to Ms. Pappas.

Ms. Zlotek and other officials in the treasurer's office willfully misinterpreted my letter. My letter doesn't ask for access to or copies of documents in possession of the Treasurer.

My letter demands that a flesh and blood human being deliver a check in the amount of \$326,460 to me at a closing for the sale of my home by me to that person.

In other words, my letter calls the bluff of a long list of elected, appointed, hired and contracted officials of Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois who've played a mean game with property owners for a very long time.

Each of these officials has, in his/her capacity as an ordinary person, developed a personal financial interest in revenues from a tax on landed property and improvements. The personal financial interest extends to officials' dependents and to any friends to whom the officials throw government jobs and contracts if they have them to throw.

The county treasurer demands the tax from property owners. Owners of income properties pass the tax to their tenants, though the tenants don't see and might not know of it.

The treasurer demands the tax twice annually. Property owners pay the tax under duress because the treasurer exerts an alleged power to seize property of people who don't pay the tax for two years.

The tax is a tiny fraction of the real market value of the property, and an even tinier fraction of the assessed market value that the county assessor declares.

The treasurer offers seized properties for sale. The treasurer herself puts the lie to the assessor's valuation of the property because she doesn't ask for or receive the assessor's valuation from people who buy tax-distressed properties.

The treasurer should recalculate her tax on the property with the low and only price she proves the market can provide. She should but doesn't recalculate the tax and apologize to the owner from whom she seized the property. She should allow the injured owner ample time to pay the lower and more reasonable tax, if any tax on landed property can be considered reasonable.

The financing of government services with a tax on landed property is unreasonable.

- Local governments dispense most services to persons, not to properties. Therefore, the cost of services per property depends on the number of people who inhabit a property, not on its alleged resale value.
- Most government services are elective; they depend on a person's request for service. Therefore, the cost of services depends on the number of requests that the inhabitants of a property make, not on its alleged resale value.
- Government officials dispense services to people who volunteer for them; then government officials charge property owners for the services, though the owner didn't ask for or receive the services. Therefore, the property tax gives power over a property to people who don't own it and don't have any true or legal rights to use and abuse it. The property tax goes worse, and gives power over property to some of the whiniest and laziest people in the locality, for they tend to demand the most services.
- Tying government revenue to real estate inflation is motive for government workers to inflate real estate values.
- State officials acted wrongfully when they assumed they have a power to tax and seize property that they can delegate to counties for the use of municipalities.
- The history of the property tax is simple and argues strenuously against the use of it on residential properties in modern times.
- The British monarchy didn't tax landed property. Therefore, at the time of the US revolution, there was no property tax for the states to assume when they took control of the royal colonial corporations. In 1781, certain state officials granted the Continental Congress a power to tax property, but the power is bogus. It violates and defies fundamental democratic principles, as well as specific contracts between Congress and the people. The Continental Congress declined the power, replaced its 1781 constitution with the 1787 constitution, and reconstituted itself the US Congress, and did so in large part to take over a power of the states to tax imports for revenue.

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Cook County Treasurer
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2010 December 4

Please prosecute Chicago, Cook County and Illinois officials for property theft under color-of-law (page 2 of 2)

Ø The congressional act for Illinois statehood didn't grant Illinois a power to tax landed property. The documents say only that the state can't tax landed property for a certain number years. Early Illinois officials did tax landed property, but only to build transportation systems. The property tax in the early days was really an income tax because all properties were income properties. Farmers lived on their farms. Craftsmen lived at their shops. Farmers and craftsmen depended on highways to sell their products and get supplies. Only as time passed, did people sleep on one property and earn their income on another, creating two kinds of property, one income, one residential, and precluding a tax on the residential.

Ø Acts that create and describe the property tax contradict and defy the intent of the larger body of law. Many acts of the state acknowledge that people need shelter whether they have income to afford it or not. These acts provide shelter rather than take it away.

I was born at the start of the post World War II baby boom, and I'm currently 64 years old. I've watched the assessor describe and assess my non-income residential property fraudulently for many reassessment cycles.

The idea occurred to me that the assessor's employees have abused the public trust for more reasons than personal financial interest.

Many young people act out hatred towards older people. Employees in the assessor and treasurer's offices have motive and opportunity to institutionalize malice towards aging baby boomers, drive them from their beloved homes, and replace them with younger and more simpatico, or maybe simply more stupid types.

Hispanics have acted out aggressive impulses against whites in the vicinity of my home for 25 going on 30 years. Therefore, the falsification of the description and value of my home is almost certainly an act of racism perpetrated by Puerto Rican and other Hispanic civil servants with access to the assessor's database.

However, many other ethnics are greedy for the landed property of the preexisting population of Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois, making the falsification a hate crime based on national origin in the US.

I can say, after 34 years as a property owner on top of 64 years experience and education, that city, county and state government jobs are a haven for dyslexic, incompetent, rude, arrogant and essentially cost-un-effective bullies that competitive private sector employers would lose money on.

Government employees like to say that they could get better jobs and earn more money in the private sector, but they can't prove it, in their entirety, any better than they can prove assessed market values for landed property, in its entirety.

In reality, civil servants are usually an ungrateful burden on the public. They put *esprit d'corps* over their obligation to serve the people. They form unions to lobby higher government officials to pervert the reasonable mandate of government, which is to protect the peoples' property, not tax it and seize it.

Many civil servants do what they can to turn the balance of power and obligation between citizens and civil servants upside down, as spoiled brats often do. The property tax gives public employees immense and unconscionable power over their employers and implies that taxpayers are obligated to serve civil servants instead of the other way around.

Ms. Zlotek's letter is yet another example of the problem. She tells me to jump through hoops, when somebody else in the treasurer's office should be doing what I told the treasurer to do. Show me the buyer! Prove to me that somebody will cough up \$326,460 for my house! Before the 2009-2 property tax due date, 2010 December 13!

More remarks against the property tax are at www.timefordemocracy.com. Click on tutorials. Click on property tax.