

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR
BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

HPT IHG PROPERTIES TRUST,

CASE NO. CACE-17-022224

Plaintiff,

vs.

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

MARTY KIAR, as Property Appraiser of
Broward County, Florida; BROWARD
COUNTY RECORDS, TAXES
AND TREASURY DIVISION; and LEON
M. BIEGALSKI, as Executive Director of
the Department of Revenue of the State of
Florida,

Defendants.

Plaintiff, HPT IHG PROPERTIES TRUST (“Taxpayer”), sues Defendants, Marty Kiar, as Property Appraiser of Broward County, Florida (“Property Appraiser”), Broward County Records, Taxes and Treasury Division (“Tax Collector”) and Leon M. Biegalski, as Executive Director of the Department of Revenue of the State of Florida (the “Department”) and says:

1. This is an action for statutory relief. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to *Florida Statutes §§194.036 and 194.171*. Venue is proper in Broward County as the subject property, as described below, and the Property Appraiser are located in Broward County, Florida.

2. Taxpayer is an inactive Florida company.

3. Property Appraiser is the duly elected Property Appraiser of Broward County, Florida. He is charged with the responsibility of discharging the duties of said office, and is named as a party in accordance with *Florida Statutes §194.181(2)*.

4. Tax Collector is named as a party in accordance with *Florida Statutes §194.181(3)*.

5. Department is named as a defendant to this action as mandated by *Florida Statutes §194.181(5)*, because the tax assessment is also being contested on the grounds that it is contrary to the laws and Constitution of the State of Florida.

6. Taxpayer is the owner of real property and responsible under the law for payment of 2016 ad valorem taxes for the real property located in Broward County, Florida assessed by Property Appraiser under Folio No. 504104080010 (the "Property").

7. Property Appraiser certified the assessment of the Property for the year 2016 with a market of \$18,139,980 and assessed value of \$10,410,050. These assessments are in excess of the just value of the Property, in violation of Florida Statutes, including §193.011, and in violation of Article VII, Section 4 of the Florida Constitution.

8. Property Appraiser's assessments of the Property were arbitrarily based on appraisal practices which are not professionally accepted appraisal practices nor acceptable mass appraisal standards within Broward County. Taxpayer will be irreparably damaged if Defendants are permitted to keep the collection of the full tax based on the market of \$18,139,980 and assessed value of \$10,410,050.

9. Taxpayer has complied with all conditions precedent to the maintenance of this lawsuit, and has timely brought this action.

10. Taxpayer has paid the taxes on the Property as required under *Fla. Stat. § 194.171(3) and (4)*. Evidence of said payment is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit "A".

WHEREFORE, Taxpayer demands judgment against the Defendants as follows:

(i) Establishing the just value of the Property and directing such adjustments between the Parties as may be necessary in connection therewith or directing the Property Appraiser to reassess the Property for the 2016 tax year in compliance with Florida law;

(ii) Recalculating the taxes that should have been paid based on an assessment equal to the Property's just value, and ordering a refund to the Taxpayer of the excess amounts paid;

(iii) Awarding costs in favor of Taxpayer pursuant to Fla. Stat. §194.192; and

(iv) Granting such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of May, 2018.

s/Kevin G. Brick, Esq.
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Attorney for Plaintiff

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed this 4th day of May, 2018, via the Florida Court's E-Portal filings system.

/s/ Kevin G. Brick
Kevin G. Brick, Esq.
Florida Bar No.: 11500