

ANDREA A. RAILA

Headquartered in Chicago, **Andrea A. Raila & Associates, Inc.** has since 1989 provided consulting services that address the property tax appeal needs of a wide range of property owners. Raila left her position with the Cook County Board of Tax Appeals in 1987 and joined the city of Chicago's Taxpayer Advocate Office. Subsequently, her reputation as a successful advocate for property owners grew along by the numerous self-help property tax appeal workshops she facilitated around Cook County.



Highly regarded as a leader who advocates tax reform before county and state legislatures, Raila obtains a high percentage of tax reductions for many of her modest to fixed income seniors and new homeowner clients. Achieving an equitable and accessible property tax appeal and assessment system means less work for property tax lawyers and consultants -- but striving for reductions in the massive volume of tax appeals in Cook County, which produces the highest number of tax appeal in the nation, makes good public policy.

Raila's survey of 7,000 property owners in 2005 and her brief candidacy for the office of Assessor in 2009 demonstrated broad support for property tax reform and changes to the Cook County classification assessment system.

"The Illinois revenue system has become a beast without a master. We need leadership to make critical systemic reforms to get the beast under control. Incremental changes will not support a statewide need to overhaul a broken system."

Andrea A. Raila of Raila & Associates, is the Senior Tax Consultant and owner of a property tax and public policy consulting firm in Chicago. She is an Associate Member of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO).

Ms. Raila was a former property tax appeal case reviewer for the Cook County Board of (Tax) Appeals. She helped establish and operate the City of Chicago's first Taxpayer's Advocate Office—an agency that helps small property owner's understand and appeal their property tax assessments. Ms. Raila was a consultant to, and drafted the Taxpayer's Federation Study, ***Taxation Without Representation—The Illinois Property Tax System***. She is the author of many articles on property taxation and Cook County's unique tax assessment and appeals system. Raila & Associates provides property tax appeal services for all kinds of owners and property types in Cook County.

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