

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CIVIL DIVISION

DILLARD'S, INC., a foreign  
corporation,

Plaintiff,

Case No.: 2025-CA-000687

v.

Division:

PAUL L. POLK, as Property Appraiser;  
VICKI L. POTTS, as Tax Collector and  
JIM ZINGALE, as Executive Director of  
the Florida Department of Revenue,

Defendants.

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COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, DILLARD'S, INC., a foreign corporation, sues Defendants, PAUL L. POLK as Property Appraiser ("Appraiser"), VICKI L. POTTS as Tax Collector ("Collector"), and JIM ZINGALE ("Zingale"), as the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Revenue, and alleges:

1. This is an action to contest an ad valorem tax assessment for the tax year **2024** and this Court has jurisdiction pursuant to Chapter 194, Florida Statutes, and article V, sections 5 and 20 of the Florida Constitution.
2. Plaintiff is a Delaware corporation.
3. Appraiser is sued herein in his official capacity pursuant to section 194.181(2), Florida Statutes.

4. Collector is sued herein in her official capacity pursuant to section 194.181(3), Florida Statutes.

5. Defendant Zingale is sued in his official capacity as Executive Director of the Florida Department of Revenue and is a necessary party to this action pursuant to section 194.181(5), Florida Statutes.

6. Plaintiff is the owner of certain real property located in Charlotte County, Florida, identified by Appraiser using Property ID No. 402207401002, referred to hereinafter as the "Subject Property."

7. Appraiser estimated the Subject Property's just and assessed value as follows:

| <u>Just Value</u>  | <u>Assessed Value</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>\$5,651,049</b> | <b>\$4,140,458</b>    |

hereinafter (the "assessment").

8. Plaintiff has paid the taxes which have been assessed in full, pursuant to section 194.171(3)(4), Florida Statutes. A copy of the receipt is attached hereto as Plaintiff's Exhibit "A."

9. Plaintiff has performed all conditions precedent which are required to be performed by Plaintiff in establishing its right to bring this action. Specifically, this action has been filed within the time period prescribed by section 194.171(2), Florida Statutes.

10. Appraiser failed to comply with section 193.011, Florida Statutes, and professionally accepted appraisal practices in assessing the Subject Property.

11. The assessment does not represent the just value of the Subject Property as of the lien date because it exceeds the market value and therefore violates article VII, section 4 of the Florida Constitution.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff demands that this Court take jurisdiction over this cause and the parties hereto; enter an order setting aside the assessment on the Subject Property as excessive; determine the appropriate appraisal methodology to be used in assessing the Subject Property; establish the proper assessment of the Subject Property in accordance with the Constitution of the State of Florida and section 193.011, Florida Statutes and professionally accepted appraisal practices; direct the Collector to cancel the original bill and issue a new tax bill in said reassessed amount; and finally, to award Plaintiff its costs incurred in bringing this action pursuant to section 194.192, Florida Statutes, and award such other general relief as may be just and equitable.

/s/ Patrick J. Risch

Patrick J. Risch

Florida Bar No. 0165603

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