

Solutions for Families™



Matthew Crider, J.D.

Matthew Crider formed Crider Law PC in 1999 so he could help individuals and business owners by providing creative solutions and be their trusted advisor and legal counselor. He serves his clients by listening closely to their goals, dreams and concerns and working with them to develop superior and comprehensive estate and asset protection plans. His estate planning practice focuses on preserving and growing wealth by providing comprehensive, highly personalized estate planning counsel to couples, families, individuals and businesses.

Woman may lose home over unpaid \$6.30 tax bill

By Matthew Crider, JD | Family Wealth Protection Attorney

A Pennsylvania woman has won a chance to argue in court that she should not lose her \$280,000 home over an unpaid \$6.30 in interest charges on her tax bill.

A higher court said a lower court should have given Eileen Battisti a chance to argue her case in court before the home was sold at auction.

According to a story in the <u>Washington Post</u>, Battisti still lives in the home outside Pittsburgh even though it was sold at auction two years ago for \$116,000.

The judge ruled Battisti is owed a hearing, and said the hearing was required because the money owed was a small amount, and because the value of the home was way more than paid by the purchaser.

Battisti's lawyer said she had paid off the home in 2004 with proceeds from her husband's life insurance policy. But she fell behind on her taxes due to some personal setbacks, although she thought she had paid them all, even if some were late.

The \$6.30 penalty was added to her tax bill in 1999 and grew to \$235 by 2011 when the home was sold at auction.