

Dear Judge Stelley Chapman Oct. 07-12

Please bear with me while trying to explain what Patriot Coal Bankruptcy (Peabody) would mean to my wife and myself.

I was disabled while working as an underground coal miner 2 separate injuries 2 separate lower back surgeries

Peabody, Arch minerals & Patriot Coal have filed for bankruptcy protection

If granted my wife would lose her much needed health care she is a survivor of thyroid cancer and age 59. she does not qualify for Medicare she relies on company supplied medical office visits and medication if the company prevails would be totally out of the question she takes 2 prescriptions to survive

I also have health issues which require Dr's visits & medication's

We are barely getting by now, as you know cost of living has skyrocketed we can cut back on the basics just so much. without medical coverage my wife & I could lose everything we own, to the companies this is about profit, to my wife & I, it is about survival. Being homeless is a very real possibility. as you know one hospital visit or a few Dr visits & test's →

Could make this happen, and at our age, and health issues there is no starting over.

We - The union members kept our end of the contract - to us that could be lost in the shuffle, it is far more than the bottom line on a profit sheet for the multi-billion dollar companies.

To us it is survival a matter of life + death, that's how important this issue is to many of those in this matter, that is before you.

We simply can not make it, and this should be the last thing we have to worry about.

I want to thank you for taking time to read this letter (I hope you can read it, I do apologize for the writing).

Thank you very much
Judge Chapman.

Signed Desperate and in need
of our health coverage

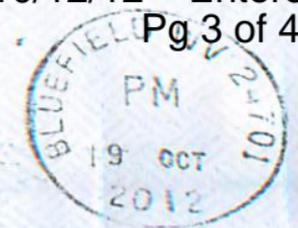
Michael L. Shorter

wife

Tressie Shorter

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RECEIVED
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