

October 5, 2012

Mr. & Mrs. Jackson Webb
761 McKinley Street
Wharton, WV 25208
(304)247-7634
Local Union # 9177
District # 17

Honorable Shelley C. Chapman
One Bowling Green
Courtroom 621
New York, New York 10004-1408

Honorable Judge Chapman,

I am a 62 year old disabled, retired coal miner. I was employed with Eastern Associated Coal Corporation before it became Peabody Coal and then Patriot Coal. I was employed from February 1973 through 1995. During this time I suffered several injuries, the final one was a back injury for which I had surgery and have been unable to work since. Because of becoming disabled after only twenty-three years of employment, my pension is much smaller than that of miners who were able to keep working for more years. My retirement check is only \$585.00 monthly; not much money for a family of four, two of which are teen-age children. We are barely able to pay for utilities and groceries, in fact I recently applied for food stamps because we had a power outage the end of June that lasted almost two weeks. We had done our grocery shopping the day before it began and lost about \$400.00 in groceries. We are still trying to get caught up from that. My car is fourteen years old and barely running. There is no hope of getting another one even if I do get to keep my pension.

I gave this company twenty-three years of my life and even my health, with the understanding that I would have a pension and medical insurance when I was unable to work. Now that I am older, in poor health, unable to work and still raising a family, they want to back out of their end of the agreement. Even with medical insurance I still have to pay around \$125.00 out of pocket monthly for co-pays on medicine and doctor visits.


I trust that you understand how important it is for myself, my family and many others in our community that we be able to keep the benefits that we have worked so hard for. We gave them our youth and our health, please don't let them take our hope. Help us to keep our benefits.


I would also like to address the location of this case. Every miner employed by this company worked in the coal fields, the most of which is probably in Boone County, West Virginia. For this reason, it seems most fitting for this case be heard in Charleston WV, the *Heart of the Coal Fields*.

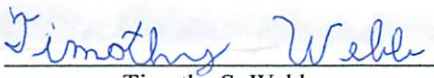
I thank you for your time and request that you give these things careful consideration.

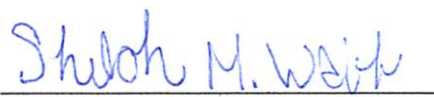
Sincerely,

Jackson Webb & Family


Jackson Webb
Disabled & Retired Coal Miner


Brenda K. Webb
Spouse


Timothy S. Webb
Son


Shiloh M. Webb
Daughter