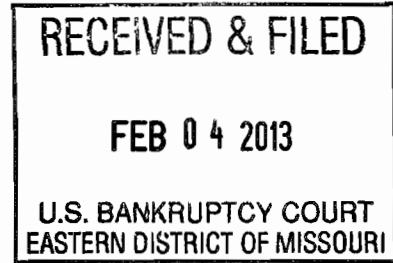


January 21, 2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
RE: Case No. 12-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, Mo 63102



I am writing to you concerning the Patriot Coal Corporation Bankruptcy situation.

My name is William L Hoff I am 69 years old and I drove 208 miles daily to Arch Coal in Logan, West Virginia for 27 years. I never worked a day for Patriot Coal.

I retired from Arch Coal Company after twenty-seven years of service. I was promised under the contract I retired from health benefits for life. This gave me and all who retired a sense of security. Now after many years of hard work it looks as if we will have nothing when we need it the most.

All the years that were worked each miner contributed monies toward their health and welfare fund. We understood that we would have insurance from cradle to grave.

Eight years ago I had a massive heart attack. After 9 hours of open heart surgery, and five by passes I struggled to survive. Now I am diabetic and also had to have a defibrillator and pacemaker placed. My cardiologist and endocrinologist have placed me on multiple daily medications to just survive.

If I lose my health care benefits I'll be financially ruined. I would not be able to pay for all of my health care needs.

This would be affecting over 20,000 retirees and their dependents. The retirees, widows, as well as those still working was promised and depended on their retirement and benefits for life.

I understand that this case has been moved from New York City, however, this does not change my position or any other retiree, widows and their dependents position.

I am respectfully asking you to consider the magnitude that your decision will affect the lives of so many people and their families.

I implore you as a disabled retired miner to make the right decision. May God bless you.

Thank you,

William L. Hoff

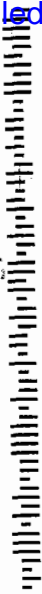
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William L. Hoff". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

RECEIVED+FILED

2013 FEB -4 AM 10:17

CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT,
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI-MR

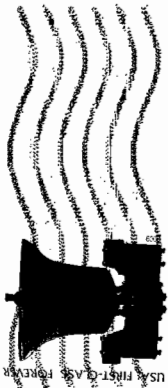
William L. Hoff
201 Vallis Drive
Spencer, WV 25276



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