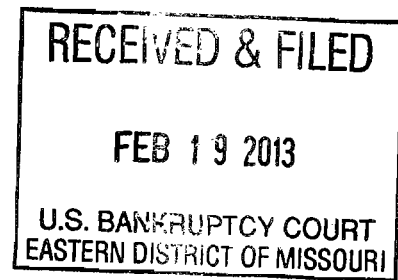


To: The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
From: Wonnie M. Acord
Re: Case No. 12-51502
CC: UMWA International Union c/o Patriot Campaign



Your Honor,

My name is Wonnie M. Acord and I am writing to ask that you keep me and my family in mind when you make your ruling on the bankruptcy case for Patriot Coal.

I am 73 years old and live in Fairdale, WV with my wife of 49 years. I have 2 children, a son and a daughter, that are grown and a brand new grandson that I enjoy very much. I am a retired coal miner with 42 years of service in the coal mines, 33 of which was for Peabody Coal. Since my retirement, I have enjoyed my time with my family, fishing, hunting, and flea marketing. I also enjoy getting out and working in my yard and cutting grass.

Also since my retirement I suffer from a list of ailments, some related to working in the mines and some the result of time and age. That list includes, but is not limited to, Bilateral bad knees which had to be replaced, difficulty breathing and Shortness of breath, Prostate Cancer, multiple cardiac problems, High Blood Pressure, and Anxiety.

I do not harbor any ill will to the coal mining industry for any of these illnesses. I am proud to have been a coal miner and to have been able to provide for my family. What does bother me is that when I was employed by Peabody Coal I was promised that I would have the best health care to care for me and my wife while I was working there and then after I retired.

The health care that I receive helps me enjoy the quality of life that my wife and I have. We can enjoy our golden years and spend time with our loved ones. Without our health care plan, we would not be able to enjoy this time. The added stress from the financial costs and possibly the lack of the care we would receive due to not being able to afford them would be devastating.

I have several medications that I have to take, not to mention all the Dr.'s Appointments that I have to keep every year. Without my Health Insurance this would cost me approximately \$10,032.16 annually. Over the past couple of years I have had different health problems to come up that required Emergent and Non-Emergent care and treatment. These would cost approximately \$22,343.75 for 2 years in addition to the annual amount that I would have had to pay.

My wife, who is covered under my health care plan, receives medical care that would cost approximately \$5630.01 annually. Over the past couple of years she too has had some health problems

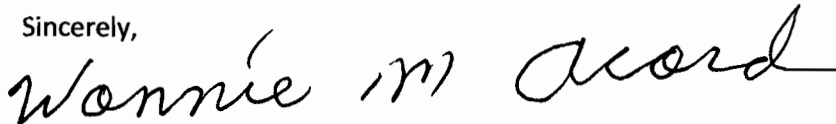
come up that required Emergent and Non-Emergent Treatment and Care. For the last two years these would have cost us approximately \$30,513.73.

These cost and amounts are more than what a retired miner and his spouse could afford if it was not for the health care benefits that I received. I don't want to have to explain to my wife why we can no longer afford Medications that she needs or she cannot have a procedure done because we just don't have the funding. I don't want my daughter to have to explain to my Grandson that Pappaw Wonnie isn't here anymore because he was sick and couldn't afford his health care.

I worked very hard for Peabody Coal and kept my end of the bargain. I was told that we would have insurance and I hope that we will still be able to keep this.

Please, Your Honor, keep us in mind when you make your ruling on this matter. Not just the Coal Miners but also the family of those Miners whose lives are impacted in one way or another by our continued health coverage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wonnie M. Acord". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wonnie M. Acord

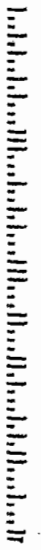
Wendie Accord
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EASTERN DISTRICT
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RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO

UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA

18354 QUANTICO GATEWAY DRIVE, SUITE 200 TRIANGLE, VA 22172-1779

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Re: Case #12-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

