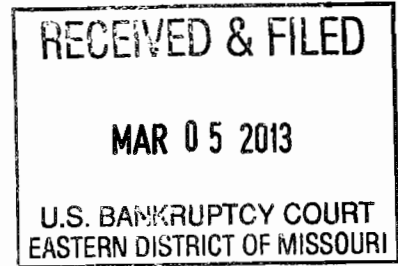


**MICHAEL DELOST**

24 Hickory Hill Ln.  
Glen Carbon, IL. 62034  
[mdelost@aol.com](mailto:mdelost@aol.com)

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



3/3/13

Dear Judge,

I am but a simple blue collar worker who started working for Peabody Coal when I was 20 years old, and most recently, Patriot Coal from who I retired from last April 2012 with only 370 hours of working under the Patriot banner.

For my entire life I have worked in heavy industry, either for Peabody/Patriot, or National and U.S. Steel. I have suffered my share of work related industrial accidents throughout my working career and I feel very fortunate at this point in my life to be relatively healthy.

My life plan was to work productively for my employer with the promise of a pension and healthcare in my retirement. I have fulfilled my half of that obligation, and now, because of Peabody and Patriot's greed the goal my wife and I have worked for since a young couple is in jeopardy. That goal was to work hard and retire with the knowledge that our healthcare would be provided for us.

If you were to ask me to shovel a ton of coal, load a barge, weld a repair or change a gear box; that I could do for you, however, I do not know the law or the fine points of corporate financial engineering, from which my wife and I now feel hopeless to address because of Peabody/Patriot's business decisions. It is an overwhelming feeling of helplessness and vulnerability. We feel cheated and embittered that the promise made to us for healthcare in our retirement is being stolen from us in order to increase the bottom line of the very companies we facilitated in succeeding.

If there is justice in this country and in our legal system I cannot comprehend how a profitable company like Peabody Energy can abandon the very employees that helped make them great and get away with it.

I respectfully request that you give every legal consideration to the workers who sacrificed their health and welfare in exchange for the promise of healthcare when they retired. It will be a victory for the working men and women who gave the principal years of their lives working in the mines knowing their chosen occupation would eventually require them to use the healthcare promised to them.

Respectfully yours,

Michael DeLost

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael DeLost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Proud U.M.W.A. retiree



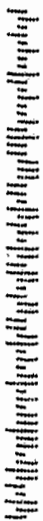
RECEIVED + FILED

2013 MAR 15 AM 10:30

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

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States  
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse  
111 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. Louis, MO. 63102

63102112599



SAINT LOUIS MO 63102  
109 MAR 2013 PM 9:11

