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MAR 11 2013
U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt

I am writing you in regards of the way Patriot Coal has filed Chapter 11. I firmly believe that Peabody Coal turned their commitment to UMWA members over to Patriot Coal in a sneaking manner to get out of their agreement to keep our health care secure.

I started working in the coal mines in Oct. of 1966, at the age of 22 at the Keystone #1 Mine, Keystone, W.V. for Eastern Assoc. Coal Co. My father worked there for 40 years & had Black Lung very bad. Nine months after he retired, he got pneumonia and died in the hospital Feb. 1st, 1980.

I continued working there until Sept. 1985, when the mines shut down. I was on the union Panel and was called to work at the Lightfoot #1 Mines in Wharton, W.V. After 2 or 3 years there, Eastern Assoc. Coal Co. sold out to Peabody Coal. Then in 1996, I was laid off from work, having 30 plus years at the age of 53. I worked at Fairchild International in Glen Lyon Virginia as a mechanic for 2 years and signed up for my pension and health card and retired.

Over the years of working in the coal mines, my wife and I raised 2 Boys. Thankfully, I have been fairly healthy, other than both my knees need surgery, but, I am trying to make it.. My wife, on the other hand was diagnosed with sarcoidosis and she has had a rough time with several surgeries and she is legally blind. In 2001, she had a complete hip replacement, and

in 2002, she had hip replacement in other hip. She then wound up with Breast Cancer in 2011, and had a Double mastectomy, she is supposedly cancer free now, but will be on Cancer Pill (FEMERA) for the next 5 years. The Medicine is very expensive, so needless to say, without the Health Care card it would be very devastating to our livelihood.

I have been a proud UMWA member since 1996 and I thank GOD for them. I pray that you will, in your wise judgement, not allow these coal operators to break their promises.

Sincerely,
Derril Van Hoose Jr.



Denvil Vanhoose
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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

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The Honorable Kathryn A. Summit-Staten
Re: Case No. 12-51502
Morgan F. Easton II, Plaintiff
vs.
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

CHARLESTON WV 250

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