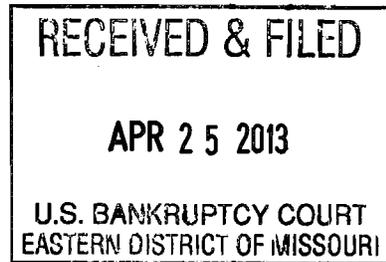


78 Green Meadows Drive
Beaver Dam, KY 42320
Monday, April 22, 2013

Re: Case #12-51502



Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Court House
111 S. 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

Dear Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States:

As you well know, on Monday, April 29th, the Patriot bankruptcy case and the company's attempt to cease health & pension benefits to retirees and their spouses will begin. After working 36 years for Peabody, I was promised these health benefits. National contracts were signed, money was put in retirement funds, and hourly wages were negotiated...sometimes lowered, just so we could have those benefits at retirement. Now, the company that I worked so hard for wants to take that away.

Working underground is not easy. In many places I had to stoop, walk on my knees, or even crawl for ten hour shifts. At the age of 27, I had back surgery, but recovered and went back to work. My wife, Debbie, and I both were taught that if you worked hard, did what was right, were honest and compassionate to others, everything else would take care of itself. How can someone or a company I worked so hard for, do this to me...to all UMWA retirees? This is not something that we can financially afford!

My wife and I have three sons who have been taught to work very hard, too. All three graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy with Pharm D. degrees. We currently have four grandchildren with another on the way, and will pass these beliefs on to them. My wife is a 15 year breast cancer survivor, and retired in 2012 (working in education for 33.5 years) to help take care of her 90 year old mother. Through these experiences we've learned how important it is to have health care and pension benefits.

I ask that you keep our family and the many others in your thoughts and prayers, as this case is heard. Thank you for taking time to read this letter, and may God bless you. I hope you never have to fear the loss of health care, or look someone in the eye and say, "I'm sorry, you no longer have your health care benefits and your pension fund has been taken away."

Sincerely,



Larry Mayes
Retired Coal Miner
UMWA Member
Local 1793
District 12

*LARRY MAYES
718 GREEN MEADOWS DR.
BEAVER DAM, KY 40320*

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

*Honorable Kathy A. Sweatt - States
RE: CASE #12-51502
THOMAS F. ENGLETON U.S. COURT HOUSE
111 S. 10th ST., 4th FLOOR
St. Louis, MO 63102*

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