

October 5, 2012

The Honorable Shelley C Chapman
One Bowling Green
Courtroom 621
New York, NY 10004-1408

Your Honor,

I worked twenty-seven years in the coal mine under Southwest Coal Company and Arch Mineral Coal Company until the mine was closed by Arch and then the mines were sold to their sister company and turned to non-union employment. Patriot is a sister company.

With each contract agreement, I told my family the small wage increase was not as important as the medical insurance we will have when we are old. I voted on contracts, with both parties agreeing on health benefits for employees. If Patriot gets out of complying to the terms in their contract agreements, the entire nation's workforce contract agreements will be in jeopardy and can be voided.

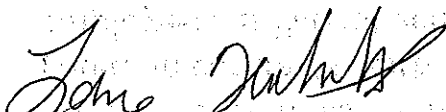
Now, I am living with rheumatoid arthritis. I would be bed-ridden if it were not for the relief from the medicines, both vaccinations and pills I take. I could not afford the doctor guidance or medications without insurance.

I am at a loss as to what I and my wife will do health wise and financially if Patriot can get out of their contract agreements.

Your Honor, I ask that you respectfully change the location of the bankruptcy hearing to Charleston, West Virginia, where it rightfully belongs – in the coal fields.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,


Lane Fuhrhop