

**Billy J. Adkins
68 Elk Drive
Danville WV 25053**

October 4, 2012

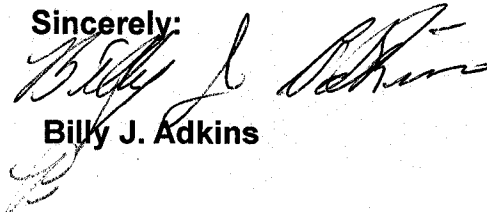
**The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman:
One Bowling Green
Courtroom 621
New York, New York 10004 - 1408**

I started working for Eastern, then Eastern Peabody, then Patriot Coal in 1970 . For years I was exposed to coal dust (Black Lung), rock dust (Silicosis), roof falls, and numerous other hazards of coal mining, including in my care, as an electrician, electrical shocks and related injuries.

In 1994, when I was 58 years old and had another eight or ten good years of mining left in me, UMWA offered me an "early retirement" plan that included, by contract passed that year, health insurance for me and my family for life. I gave up 8 – 10 years of good pay for this security for my "golden years". Now I'm in those "golden years" and like most seniors, my wife and I need that security more than at any other time in our lives.

We are respectfully pleading that the contractual promise given to us in 1994 not be broken.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Billy J. Adkins", written in a cursive style.

Billy J. Adkins