

RE: Patriot Disabled Miner.
UMWA.

October 2, 2012

Honorable Shelley Chapman,

I, Jimmy Dunford would like to tell you a little about myself.

I started working when I was 14-15 at gas stations. I didn't have much as a child and wanted to make something of myself. I worked on road construction jobs at 16. I lied about my age. This was in the later 60's. I got married young at 17. Coal mining was all there was. But I could not pass a physical because of my hearing. I wanted to support my family as a man. Did not want my wife to work. I finally got a job in the union on a strip job. I worked many hours, taking all overtime and Saturdays I could get. I did dangerous jobs and had a few close calls.

I wanted a job in the union because they had medical for my family. In 1986 I got hurt. My back was messed up. I wanted to go back to work so they sent me to Dukes University in N.C. for surgery. But the surgery did not help. I

never get complete ease from my pain. It makes me feel bad for my sons to go to work everyday and I can't.

I need my medical card. That's why I joined the union. The union agreed to put back funds for people such as I. But Money IS The Root of All Evil. People use it for things not intended for. Then all of a sudden they realize they've wasted too much and can't keep their promises. Contracts were made to keep, Not Break.

I get \$264.00 a month from the union. I have 3 children. When the last one graduated my wife of 52 yrs. took a minimum wage job where my son works to help out. If she didn't ride to work, 45 minutes away, with my son it would not do to work because GAS and mainence on a vehicle cannot be paid on minimum wage jobs.

I could not afford medical insurance at my age and my disabilities.

I'm sure all members think the same as me. Please take my thoughts with you as this case comes to court. May God Bless You. For with God All things are possible.

Jimmy Dunford

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