

Oct, 5-12  
To Honorable Judge Shelley C. Chapman

I'm a retired Coal miner of 40 yrs with Peabody  
Coal Mine #10 Pawnee, Ill. Local Union 9812  
District 12

I don't think that it's fair to all of us coal  
miners, that Patriot is trying to take  
away our Medical or benefits, that  
we worked hard for all our life. I think  
they should have to be held liable for  
their responsible legally to all retired  
coal miners & their spouses.

This was to be a grandfathered  
74 pension plan medical & benefits  
to all retired miners & their spouses  
as long as they lived.

Now just because this company don't  
know how to manage the money they  
want to file bankruptcy and get out  
of all their obligations, This is just  
a way to get out of the unions & their  
responsibles.

I worked hard as a coal miner and  
was very proud to be a coal miner,  
it was my life that's all I knew

I worked when I didn't want too.  
I worked through hard times & good.  
I started working in the mine at 18 yrs  
old until I was forced to retire at  
58 because I could not hear the  
tops giving away & had breathing problems  
and I didn't want to see fellow miners  
of getting hurt.

I'm 70 yrs old I'm over weight  
I sleep with oxygen & sleep apnea machine  
on 2 kinds inhalers take medicine just  
to keep me going everyday. I go every  
6 mos. if not more to a allergy  
Resp doctor just to keep my lungs  
going. I have Black Lung, Copd. from  
years of being a coal miner &  
breathing in coal dust.

Its a job just getting out of bed  
in the mornings putting on my  
clothes, coughing all the way.  
its just a matter of time  
before I'll be put on oxygen 24  
7

I just wish you will consider  
the out come of all us coal miners  
on your decision.

Thank You Richard B Heat Sr.