

Oct. 8. 2012

James E. Warren  
987 Oakwood Dr.  
Hartford, KY 42347

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

Re: Patriot Coal Co. Bankruptcy

Your Honor:

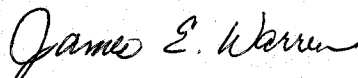
I am writing this letter with the hope that it will give you a better understanding of the consequences of letting Patriot Coal and Peabody Coal go back on their contractual promises to provide pensions and health care coverage to United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) retirees. In my case it would not be just a hardship, but a catastrophe. There is no way we could pay our medical bills.

My wife, Wanda, and I both worked in the coal mines and we share some of the same illnesses, for which we take maintenance medications. We both have arthritis, high blood pressure and are diabetic. Wanda also suffers from chronic kidney disease stage 3, chronic back pain ( two back surgeries ), atrial fibrillation and was recently diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia. I also suffer from gout and neuropathy.

Our prescription medication costs over \$15,800.00 a year, which means we would have to stop taking most of them. Also, Wanda has been hospitalized many times during our 41 years together. In 2009 alone her hospital bills were over \$365,000.00. There is absolutely no way we could continue to receive health care as we have in the past.

Not only Wanda and I, but thousands of other miners would be similarly affected. I hope you will take this into consideration as you deal with this bankruptcy case and make your ruling.

Respectfully,

  
James E. Warren