

October 5, 2012

Your Honor:

I am a retired UMWA employee. I worked for Peabody Coal since the early 1960's until my retirement in 1998. I never worked for Patriot Coal, but now my healthcare is under Patriot Coal not Peabody.

I am writing concerning the lawsuit against Peabody Coal. I strongly believe this case should be moved to Charleston, West Virginia, to be heard where it is such an important issue to the "people of the Coalfields".

I had open-heart surgery and my wife has diabetes, gout, neuropathy, hypertension and high-cholesterol. I know there are UMWA employees with much more severe health issues such as cancer, etc. but we are on numerous medications and without the healthcare benefits we receive we would not be able to pay for these – thus, threatening our long-term health.

As a United Mine Worker, I was guaranteed these healthcare benefits for life and now as a Senior I have to worry that this might not be the case. Please take into consideration the great impact it would have on so many people to lose their healthcare at this time.

Sincerely,



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