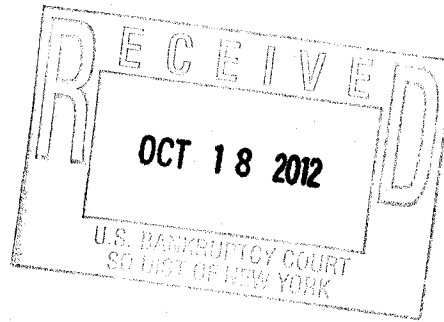


Larry W. Alexander  
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October 13, 2012



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

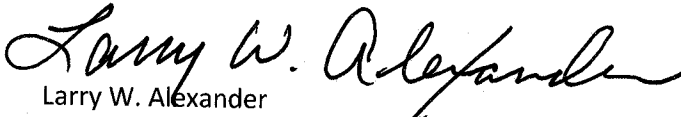
Dear Judge Chapman,

I am writing to you in hopes of relaying a message of desperation to you and the court. I am the youngest of 4 sons of a coal miner and a war hero. My father was Fordney T. Alexander, a member of the United Mine Workers of America since its inception back in the 1950s. My father was also a decorated veteran of WWII and was wounded in the Philippine Islands in the Battle of Luzon. He worked for Peabody Coal Co. here in Western KY for over 40 years and lived in retirement here until his death in Feb. 2005.

Our mother, Mrs. Cordellia S. Alexander, is a widow and is now confined to a skilled nursing facility. Mother suffers from crippling or Rheumatoid Arthritis and is unable to care for herself without assistance. Her medical bills and professional care costs are staggering. As you know the costs of health care in our country have become exceedingly expensive the last few years. Our Mother's medical expenses are somewhat covered by her UMWA benefits especially her prescription benefits. The costs of her medications alone are staggering, for example, Enbrel injections are \$1200.00 ea. without the insurance coverage; she receives 4 injections per month. The truth of the matter is this, if Patriot Coal or Peabody Coal manages to somehow get out of paying her pension and benefits, the US government will get the bill via Medicare and Medicaid.

My parents helped to build this community and to build the United States of America into the country that it is today. I beg of you to consider their legacies when ruling on this case. It is too late for our father; he has long since passed on leaving us a positive message of hard work and civic duty. But, for Cordellia, it is not too late. Please, preserve her right to dignity that she has earned with so many years of tireless service to her family, her God and to her community. Let Mother and all of the other widows of the UMWA keep their benefits as long as they may need them. It is the right thing to do. Let their legacies have life in the lore of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the United States of America. Let us pass on to the next generations a legacy of following through and never giving up in the same way that our parents passed it on to us.

Sincerely,

  
Larry W. Alexander