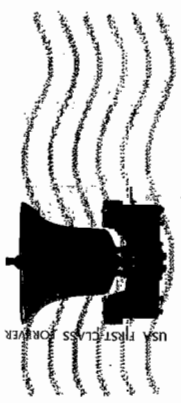




Mr. Larry Miller  
12930 US Highway 231  
Utica, KY 42376

COOPERVILLE KY 406

24 JAN 2013 PM 2 L



The Honorable Kathy A. Surat-States

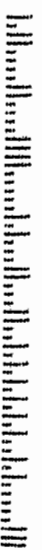
RE: Case No. 12-51502

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

111 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

St. Louis, MO 63102

63102112599



01/14/2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Suratt-States  
RE: Case No. 12-51502  
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse  
111 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63102

RECEIVED + FILED  
2013 JAN 16 AM 11:09  
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MR

Dear Judge Suratt-States:

I am writing you this letter on behalf of my wife and myself because we have a great concern for the future of our medical care and pension. While the financial integrity of Patriot coal is important; surely it can be preserved without cutting benefits to those of us, we are both 61, who are retired and depend on them.

If you watch your man go out of sight to work in the coal mines he will never return. Each morning or night, dictated by swing shift, for twenty four years I went to work; my wife made my lunch, kissed me goodbye. She would not watch me go out of sight due to an old family superstition. It was hard on both of us. I am retired now in relatively good health; a recent chest X-ray revealed lung spots but further medical examination showed no pulmonary function loss. I have problems with my right foot due to arthritis caused by standing and operating a Continuous miner 10 hours a day until I was 61. I knew the risks when I went into mining but the rewards of decent pay, a medical card and pension upon retirement outweighed them. Patriot/Peabody has taken their profit out of our communities, scared the land and people working their mines, and now wishes to be freed of their promise to provide healthcare and pensions to their retirees.

Patriot coal's non-union employees received much larger production bonuses. We outperformed many non-union operations but received very little in the way of bonuses. When I asked upper management one day why we did not receive a large bonus like non union operations do my answer was; when you retire you will have a medical card and a pension we are able to pay those bonuses because non-union employees will not.

How many companies start life with thousands of retirees? Patriot coal was created to fail; a fraudulent transfer scheme to divest unwanted liabilities and legacy obligations. I am sending you this letter in an effort to put a human face on the outcome of these bankruptcy proceedings. While we realize that your task at hand will require the patience of Job and the wisdom of Solomon; we pray justice will prevail and thousands of UMWA families like us will keep their promised benefits. As always; we remain.

Yours,

  
Larry and Hattie Miller