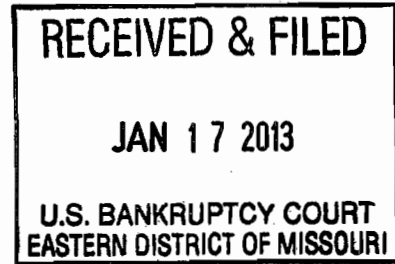


John Bumgardner  
611 3<sup>rd</sup> St  
Henderson, Ky. 42420

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



This is in regards to the Patriot Coal bankruptcy case.

I Worked for Peabody Coal Co. Squaw Creek Mine from 1971 to 2000. I never worked for Patriot. I retired from Squaw Creek in Jan of 2000, when the mine closed. A few years back I received notice that it was now Patriot Coal. At that time I knew and told others that Patriot would bankrupt in order to get out of paying our benefits. It seems I was right! After working for Peabody for 29 years they dumped me to get out of paying the much-needed benefits that they promised for all of those years. The years at the mine took its toll on me and in 2012 I had to take a disability retirement, because of bad knees, and bad back. These problems are a direct result of my work at the mine. I sorely need the medical insurance that was promised by Peabody. These commitments were also promised to continue when Patriot Coal took over. My wife and I both have a lot of serious health problems that I could not pay for out of our small pensions. Without our health care we would be out of luck.

In conclusion, I sincerely hope that you will help us out and force Peabody to fulfill its promises to all of its workers. We all worked to make Peabody profitable.

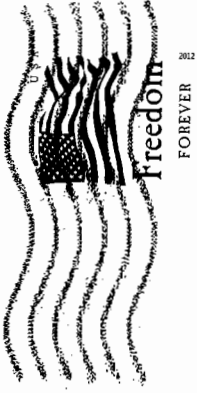
Sincerely,

John Bumgardner

John & Margaret L Bumgardner  
611 3rd St  
Henderson, KY 42420

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15 JAN 2013 PM 2:1



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