

To the Honorable Kathy A Suratt-States

1/14/2013

This letter is in reference to case #12-51502 regarding Patriot Coal Bankruptcy hearing. I am a member of the UMWA. Myself and my family will be affected upon the final decision of this hearing.

I worked for 20 years in the coal industry, I started working for Eastern Associated Coal in 1976 and continued working when they were bought out by Peabody and was injured and found disabled. Then shortly after that Patriot Coal bought Peabody. I was a faithful, hard working man, 6-7 days per week depending on what was needed at that time. My job was all manual labor. There were days when I would double back and work 16-18 hours a day. There were days when after working over time I would go home which was more than an hour away only to get there and the mines would have already called me asking if I could come back to work as I was needed. I never turned them down. Some days I would go home to get 4 hours of sleep and go back to the mines for another 16 hour shift. I didn't mind to work hard or long hours for this company as I was trying to provide for my wife and my 4 children. I was raised to always do your best at anything you do.

I was injured mutiple times through out my career as a coal miner. I was injured in 1996 in the mines. My injury to my Back and Hips was so sereve that it showed up on a normal xray. I could not lie down on a bed, but had to sleep on my side a couch. I could not walk long distances, I could not stand for any length of time. I was diagnosed as disabled and could no longer go to work in the mines. I was not qualifed to work anywhere else due to my education and my previous injuries. I missed my daughters graduations as I could not attend due to my inuries. I have missed a lot of family times. I have had both my hips replaced. My medicine is over \$4000 a month alone. I do not make enough money with Social Security and my UMWA retirement to cover these cost, and thats does not include my wife and children if they get sick or are hurt in accident. I could never afford for their care.

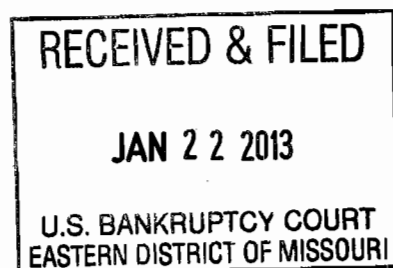
As you probaly know a trip to the Emergency Room is hundreds of dollars, lab tests are costly, etc. A week in the hospital could destroy a family financially. Please help us keep our Medical Card which was guaranteed as part of the Coal Act by Congress. I am asking you to not let Patriot take away our Medical and Pension benefits and please think about the other 10,000 familys which will also be affected by your decision.

Sincerely,

Ezra Cozort

PO Box 86

Glen Fork, WV 25845



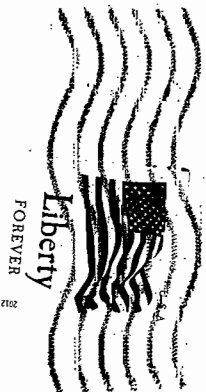
Erin Covert
PO Box 86

Glen Fork, AR

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CHARLESTON WV 25303

18 JAN 2013 PM 1:1



The Honorable Kathy A. Swarth-Stratton
Re: case no. 1251502

Thomas F. Eagleton US Courthouse
111 South 10th St, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO. 63102

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