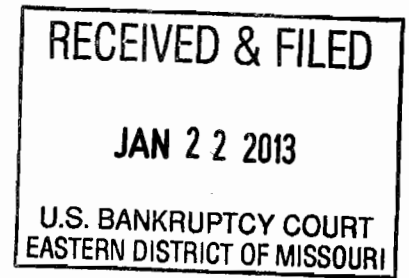


Jim Jackson
918 Elijah Way
Bethlehem, Ga. 30620



January 15,2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States:

Thomas F.Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor

St. Louis, Mo. 63102

Re: Patriot Bankruptcy

Case No, 12-51502

Your Honor:

I am a 67 year old UMWA retiree of District 19, Local 7425. I had been employed by US Steel and then Arch Minerals for 21 ½ years, until I was injured on the job in 1996 and was never able to return to work after my injury. Subsequent to my injury I have suffered several other health related problems that require regular physician appointments and I take several medications for my diabetes, blood pressure, depression, pain management and heart condition. I have lost a majority of the use of my right arm as a result of the

injury suffered during my employment. In the past two months I have developed a problem in my cervical spine, (neck) for which I am now in therapy and most likely will require surgical intervention. I have suffered a heart attack and have had to have three heart catheterizations with stint implants. I have also had both retinas to detach, with surgery required for both eyes which resulted in impaired vision of both eyes. I also have developed type 2 diabetes and must monitor my sugar level and I take three medications daily for my diabetes. All of these physical problems require regular monitoring by my physicians and I must take the following medications daily:

Accu Check strips

Atenolol

Cardua

Gabapentin

Humalog Kwik Subcutaneous solution

Hydrocodone

Imdur

Janumet

Lantus solostar subcutaneous solution

Lasix

Lipitor

Lovaza

Plavix

Prilosec

Ranexa

Tricor

Zoloft

My wife is also totally disabled. She is 65 years old and suffers

from severe scoliosis, chronic severe degenerative disc and spine disease, for which she uses a walker at all times and has an electric scooter wheelchair, COPD, cor pulmonale (congestive heart failure) she has survived cancer twice, has chronic , severe GERD for which she has had surgery which was only moderately successful, has had paralyzed bowel with resultant colon problems, she also has lost the use of one kidney due to ibuprofen based medications, for which she now has some reduced function of her remaining kidney. Her lungs are so compromised from the scoliosis that she has severe breathing problems and takes pneumonia very easily. She also suffers from hypertension,

She requires the following medications:

Duragesic patches

Hydrocodone

Flector patches

Neurontin

Preservision AREDS

Losartan tabs

Furosemide tabs

Ipratropium Bromide (for breathing)

Advair 500/50 for breathing

Methocarbamol

Prednisone

Evista

Diltiazem HCL

Klor Kon

Omeprazole

Amitriptyline

At our age and with all of the physical impairments that we suffer, neither of us is a candidate for employment. We must have regular physician appointments and none of our medications can be eliminated without further damage to our physical wellbeing. Some of these medications are very expensive. We survive on a fixed income by living very frugally, but we always had the security of guaranteed medical care. As you can see, there would be no way we could pay for our medical care and medications. We should not suddenly have to decide between paying for medication or buying groceries and maintaining a roof over our heads. My wife's father retired from US Steel, my father is retired from Arch, my brother is retired from Arch, and I am now retired. These men were always proud of their work history, proud of the service it provided to our country and they stood on picket lines and suffered through contract strikes to protect their jobs, their safety and their families wellbeing.

Historically, coal miners have always had to live a very simple lifestyle. Like everyone else they live day-to-day, and paycheck to paycheck. There is no room to now have to take on paying for medical care and the worry of the possibility of losing the retirement benefits that were guaranteed to them.

I plead, not only for myself and my wife, but for all UMWA pensioners who have always had the security of their guaranteed pension and medical benefits. To survive we would have to go on welfare and become a further burden on our government welfare programs. We would not have access to all the necessary medications we must have daily. Our daily wellbeing would suffer immensely. Right now my wife and I, by helping each other, do not have to have assisted living, but I am afraid this will not be the case in the future, especially for my wife. How will this service be provided?

We live in an economically depressed area. Most residents are elderly. Most are retired UMWA pensioners the coal mines in our area are suffering. You cannot sell your home and relocate. No one can buy homes or plan for their futures. Everyone is afraid for their financial and physical wellbeing and now we must deal with the possibility that we will suffer the loss of our pension and medical benefits if Arch Coal is successful in their attempt to rid themselves of their health care obligations. If they are successful in their attempt, our whole

region will suffer because there will be even less money in the area for merchants, medical facilities, schools, etc.

These coal companies knew from their conception that this was their initiative in the long run. To find a way to desert their obligations and promises made through contract negotiations. Contracts that they should have to stand by. They know when they buy out these coal companies what their obligations are, but they want to get richer and richer on the back of the working men and women, and on the backs of disabled retirees and their wives and widows.

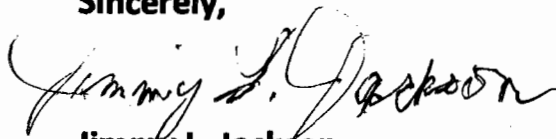
No one should work their whole life in one of the hardest, most dangerous jobs in the country, and then when they reach that time in life where they are no longer able to work, and have retired with guaranteed benefits and hope to enjoy their remaining years in peace, only to lose their medical benefits because of the mines selling out or transferring ownership, on paper, to other entities who upon their making millions of dollars, turn around and want to pull the retirees security out from under them. Men have lost their lives fighting for these benefits. They and their families suffered the costs so that later generations would be protected.

We plead that Patriot Coal must be made to stand by their obligations to present and future UMWA pensioners. Our prayer is that the decision will be fair and just and we have faith that the full letter of the law be enforced.

We ask that our letter be considered and made a part of the court's record.

Thank you for your consideration of this correspondence the requests contained therein. You have a heavy load on your shoulders and we will pray for you as you must consider all the record and hear arguments from the attorneys for both sides and, at the same time, being fully aware of the weight and scope of your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy L. Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" at the beginning.

Jimmy L. Jackson

Local 7425, District 19

cc:

UMWA International Union

Hal Rogers

Mitch McConnell

Leslie Combs, State Rep.

Rick Nelson State Rep.

Jerry T. Jackson
918 E. Link Hwy
Bethlehem, Mo. 63020

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2013 JAN 22 AM 10:46

CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MR

The Honorable Kathy A. Stewart-Stein
Re: Case No. 12-51502
Thomas A. Eggleston W.D. Court House
111 South 18th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, Mo. 63102

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