

Jerome R. Dixon

1108 Landing Meadows Dr.
Henderson, Ky 42420

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JAN 22 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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: Case No.: 12-51502

To the Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States:

My name is Jerome Richard Dixon. I am writing to plead with you to see in our favor in this case. My wife, Maria, and I would be devastated if our medical and pension benefits would be reduced or slashed.

I worked for Peabody Coal for thirty-five years, and for two years more, I worked for Patriot Coal, before I retired in June, 2009. During those 35 years with Peabody, we were led to believe from contract to contract that we would be receiving our pensions and health benefits upon retirement. During those 35 years, I performed my assigned jobs to the best of my ability. For 24 of those years, I worked as a continuous miner operator. I recall that during those years, we always met the coal contract tonnage. My wife wants me to add that during those years, I was rarely out sick and that sometimes she had to beg me to stay home, rather than pushing myself too far by working even though I was sick. The last two years with Patriot Coal, before I retired, were difficult. Management was questionable, job assignments were scrambled, and seniority did not mean a thing!

My wife, Maria, suffers from severe asthma, Type II Diabetes, and this last year she survived a bout with Breast Cancer. On a daily basis, she takes ten medications prescribed by doctors, three inhalers (as needed), and four-over the counter medications recommended by her physicians. She has to see her doctors every 3 months for follow-up care. I personally suffer from high blood pressure, muscle spasms, heartburn, and Black Lung. On a daily basis, I take five medications and two inhalers. I also have to see my doctors once or twice a year. For 37 years, funds were taken out of my salary for my future pension and health care. We rely on this income for our living expenses. We would be really devastated without it. We could possibly lose our home, which is still under a mortgage. Our health and welfare would be adversely affected due to our many medications and hospitalizations, and so therefore this would be life-threatening for us. Please help to preserve the security, I worked so hard for, and the dignity that we have earned.

*Sincerely Yours
Jerome R. Dixon*



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 Henderson, KY 42420

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