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JAN 22 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

The Honorable Surratt-States:

There is no wrong in profits, profits for the company, profits for the shareholders.

The wrong comes about when the profit takers in a company or corporation forget where those profits came from initially.

They came from the workers no matter if that worker is a coal miner, convenience store clerk, mechanic, or supervisor on the job site.

As a retired coal miner from the Eastern/Peabody/Patriot coal company I need my benefits. True I draw a small pension even though I had less time on the payroll than many others I qualified for a pension and benefits. I acquired these benefits by going underground in the dark, dirty damp, forget damp lets call it what it was wet coal mines of the above mentioned companies. If you will notice the company had many names sorta like a magician with their sleight of hand, now you see it now you don't.

This shuffling of names of the business troubled many of the blue-collar workers including me. I believed that someone was struggling at corporate to pull that sleight of hand on my future and it came to pass that was the deal.

The company now says that they can't afford to provide me with my earned benefits, well give me back my 16 years in the mud, dust and cold that I gave you and then I will consider letting you out of your obligations. There are many workers who devoted more time delivering coal for profits than I did underground. They have more health problems precipitated on the extensive period they were underground.

I have an injury incurred underground at Federal #2, it is right hand injury (my primary hand) the pain is still there after almost 3 years and requires a prescription that would cost me \$200.00 per month without benefits. I could not afford this on my small coal pension alone.

This brings me to my conclusion I believe it to be grossly unjust to Easter/Peabody/Patriot employees both past and present to take away any benefits. These people have done the jobs that was given them through many

adverse conditions (water raining out of the top, huge machines cramping the operators, lifting and relifting heavy supplies and equipment, having to keep an eye out while you do your job for something that could harm or kill you) and yes the company and shareholders took a risk but not as much a risk as the actual workers who rode the cage down several hundred feet into the mine not knowing if the return ride would find them in good health or an injury that will stay with you for the rest of your life or worse no life at all left to enjoy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred-Rock Priester". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Fred-Rock Priester

RR 1 Box 548

Farmington West Virginia 26571

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Mr. Fred Rock Priester
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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MO

The Honorable Kathy A. Swartz - States

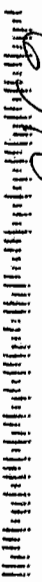
Re: Case No. 12-81562

Thomas F. Eakleton U.S. Courthouse
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