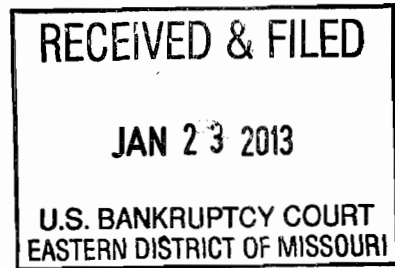


January 20, 2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Serratt-States
Re. Case No. 12-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton US Courthouse
111th South 10th Street 4th Floor
St Louis, MO 63102



Dear Honorable Serratt-States,

I want to introduce myself. My name is Mark S. Lambiotte and I was an underground coal miner for 25 years. I worked 22 years for Peabody Coal Company and retired from the mines in 2000. Yes, I have been receiving my pension and health benefits for over 12 years. Now, I am faced with a tremendous burden because of Peabody's actions toward our union, the United Mine Workers of America. I know you are aware of what they are trying to get away with.

When I went to work for Peabody in 1979 I was an efficient and loyal worker. I had a very dangerous job as a roof bolter. I lived with this danger every day I kissed my wife goodbye, grabbing my dinner bucket and driving 40 miles south to Marissa, IL. I never knew that maybe one day I would be severely injured or even killed on the job. There were many times the roof would collapse in front of me and my buddy and I would have to run for our lives. I lived with this daily but always upheld my end to the company, to work hard and be a good production worker and produce lots of coal for them.

Wouldn't it only be fit and justified that they return all of the coal to me that I helped to mine for them since Peabody is trying to wipe out our retiree benefits? They have not kept their promise to me as I did to them. I have never worked for a Patriot Coal Company. Peabody Coal is the responsible party in this matter.

I am in a unique position since I have a daughter who is 34 years old with Downs Syndrome and lives at home with us. My wife and I depend on the medical benefits that I earned working for Peabody. These folks working for Peabody Energy at the present time are corporate thieves who are trying to find a way to break our union. My union brothers and sisters, widows and dependents will not let this happen in the name of justice.

I also want to let you know that I am disabled. I have an enlarged aorta, sleep apnea, and hearing loss. I need a catscan for my heart yearly in March to make sure the artery has not enlarged. Last week I had an operation on the left shoulder, 2 tears on the rotary cuff. My left arm is in a sling for 6 weeks and then physical therapy for 4 months. As you can see, I depend on my health benefits from Peabody as they promised years ago. It appears they are breaking promises to us.

My wife just retired from teaching high school in June 2012. She receives a pension but no health benefits. I had to put her on my health insurance through Peabody and now that is in jeopardy. There should be laws on the books to preserve our retiree benefits.

Please, in the name of justice do not let them strip our health benefits away from us. We were promised health benefits from cradle to grave. I have hope that you will make the right decisions in this case. We kept our promise to them. They need to keep theirs to us. Peabody has an obligation to abide with The Coal Act of 1949.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

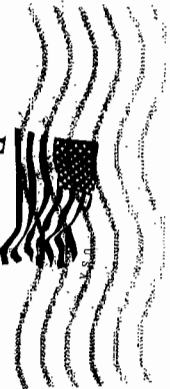
Handwritten signature of Mark S. Lambiotte in cursive script.

Mark S. Lambiotte



SAINT LOUIS, MO 63102

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Freedom
FOREVER

THE Honorable KATHY A. Seiwalt - States
Re. Case No. 12-51502
THOMAS F. Eagleton US Senate
111th South 10th Street 4th Floor
ST LOUIS, MO 63102

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