

Dear Judge Kathy Surratt-States

I worked at Peabody's River King mine for almost 32 years and in that 32 years I was injured a number of times. Now I am reaping the results of some of those injuries. I have had to have both knees and both shoulders replaced and I am totally disabled, and am on medication for diabetes, for my heart and other medical problems.

When Peabody started Patriot to take over our medical, I told my wife that this was the beginning of the end and it was. I would like to know where the funds that Peabody had set aside for our health care went. I would also like to know why a failing company like Patriot would take on another company's liability. This bankruptcy is a conspiracy between Peabody and Arch Mineral to take away our health care.

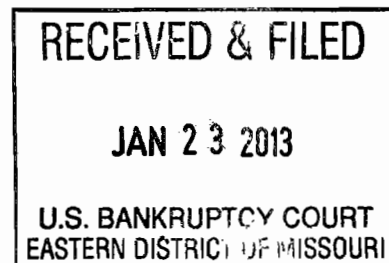
The union had a meeting for the retirees and the widows and it was a pathetic sight, every parking space should have been a disabled parking space, there were not a handful of people there that were not disabled. You had to feel sorry for so many of them, there were people in wheelchairs, on canes, using walkers, on oxygen, with limbs missing, all kinds of other problems, and some their wives brought because they didn't know where they were or why.

While I was working, every time a contract came up we voted to take less wages and retirement so that we would have our health care. We were promised health care for the rest of our lives and that of our widows.

People's lives will be devastated if their health care is taken away. We need your help to make these companies keep their promise to us. We risk our lives working in the mines so please, please help us. Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

Tom McDonald



Tom McDaniel
203 N Cherry St.
Freeburg, IL 62243

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CLERK, U.S. COURTS BY DAY
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MA

The Honorable Kathy A. Bennett - State
Re: Case # 12-51502
Thomas F. Engleton U.S. Courthouse
111 S. 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

22 JAN 2013 PM 7:1

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