

JUDGE KATHY A. SURRETT-STATES

Eastern Division Hearing Dates

Courtroom 7 - North

HEARING LOCATION:

Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse

111 South 10th Street

7th Floor – North Courtroom

St. Louis, MO 63102

RECEIVED & FILED

JAN 23 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Dear Honorable Kathy A. Surratt:

I am writing in regard to the Bankruptcy Case Chapter 11 Case No. 12-12900 (SCC) filed by Patriot Coal Corporation. My family is a coal mining family, as well as our ancestors, and the community in which we reside. We all have pride in our work and what we have accomplished as coal miners. We have been instrumental in supplying our country and other countries the resource necessary for electricity. Coal mining is not an easy task and some of us have even paid the ultimate sacrifice. Through our blood, sweat, tears, and even fear, we have provided, through mining coal, the power to keep the lights on in our country. With your decision, you literally hold our lives in your hands. If you decide to take away our health care and pensions, the majority of us will cease to exist because we will not be able to afford our doctors or prescriptions which are necessary to sustain life. We are not asking for charity, we are asking for what we have earned and deserve.

After serving my country in the Air Force in Viet Nam, I went to work as a coal miner in March of 1969. I worked as a coal miner, Mine Manager, Mine Section Foreman, Dust Sampler, and Safety Supervisor for twenty seven years. When I went to work for the coal mining industry in West Virginia, I signed a contract guaranteeing that for my time and labor I would receive wages earned, health care benefits, and a retirement pension. I signed this contract in good faith and as a man of my word, I gave the best years of my life to the coal mining industry. I fulfilled my obligation and never failed to complete any task I was required to complete. I was instrumental in the company receiving numerous Safety Awards and Recognition.

I am totally disabled due to injuries received as an employee of the coal mining industry. I have had hernia surgery, neck surgery due to ruptured discs in my neck, nerve root damage in my back which cannot be repaired, ruptured discs in my back, both shoulders are torn and cannot be repaired, and a reattached index finger. I also had to have facial surgery when the roof collapsed and shot particles of coal through my face, bursting my teeth out. I am in chronic pain and life would be unbearable without my medication. My wife has COPD (never smoked) kidney disease, sciatica, hypertension, edema, and arthritis. I pay \$500.00 monthly for her insurance and pay over a \$1500.00 yearly for her medication, \$50.00 copay for each specialist visit and \$20.00 for primary physician and

this is even with her health insurance Without my health care and pension, I do not know how my wife and I can exist. We have normal bills like everyone else, insurance, food, utilities, car payments, local, state, and federal taxes to name a few. If Patriot Coal is allowed to take away our benefits we worked so hard for, I do not know how we will survive. Neither of us are able to work nor we do not qualify for any type of assistance.

If Patriot Coal is allowed to take away our benefits, I want my time and health back. Please keep us in mind when you make your decision in this case. Our lives and the lives of other retired and disabled coal miners, salaried and union employees, widows, children, are literally in your hands and you hold the key to our survival. All of this is being done through the pretext of reorganization. We have seen this happen before in the coal mining industry, in our communities. From Armco Steel Corporation to Peabody Coal Company, Patriot Coal was a created subsidiary of Peabody Coal. I never worked for Patriot Coal but I am included because I was transferred to Eastern Associated coal which falls under Patriot Coal. I was disabled over ten years before this occurred Please consider the domino effect before you make your decision. If we lose, everybody loses. If Patriot Coal loses, they may have to take a reduced salary, moderate bonuses, less significant expenditures, such as \$4000.00 dinners and hotels, billion dollar lawyers, million dollar severance packages for CEO's, and other executives. The list to cut expenses is endless, but all Patriot wants to do is to take away what we have earned by sacrificing for them.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Dennis Jarrell and Jewell Jarrell in cursive script.

Dennis and Jewell Jarrell
169 Heartland Drive
Twilight, WV 25204
(304) 245-8984



Dennis Jarrell
169 Heartland Dr
Twilight, WV 25204-9735

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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT

Att: District Court
Chapman

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Handwritten signature



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PROCLAMATION
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