

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States

My name is Artemaus Birchwell. I was employed by Peabody Coal Co. from Nov. 1972 until June 2001. I retired with 29.75 years of service. At no time was I ever employed by Patriot Coal Co. A few years after I retired Peabody sent me a letter stating that my pension and health benefits would be paid by a new company that they had started.

I had my right knee replaced. The Dr. said my left knee will have to be replaced when the pain gets unbearable. I also have a bad back. The Dr. said all this was due to 30 years working in an underground coal mine. I accept this as a fact, just as I accepted the fact that Peabody would pay my pension and health benefits as promised. I have a hard time accepting the fact that Peabody can transfer my benefits to another Coal Co. that I never worked for and that Co. file bankruptcy.

My mother-in-law has Alzheimer's and lives with us. She is the widow of a Peabody employee.

My Mother is a widow of a Peabody employee.

Both of them only get a Widows pension.

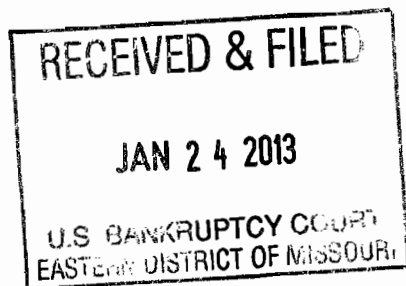
The loss of our pensions and health benefits would be devastating.

To see the wall bleed reports on the evening news and see Peabody's stock listed is heart wrenching after knowing what they are trying to do to us Retirees.

I want to thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely, Artemaus Birchwell  
1215 Newbold Rd.  
Overton, Ky 40303

*Artemaus Birchwell*



A. BIRCHWELL  
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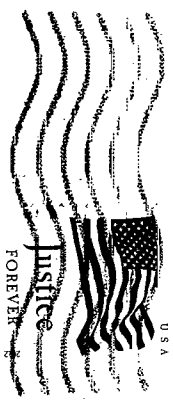
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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MO

THE HONORABLE KATHY A. SURRATT-STATES  
RE: CASE NO. 12-51502  
THOMAS F. EAGLETON U.S. COURTHOUSE  
111 SOUTH 10TH STREET, 4TH FLOOR  
ST. LOUIS, MO. 63102

CUMMINGSVILLE, MO 65006  
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