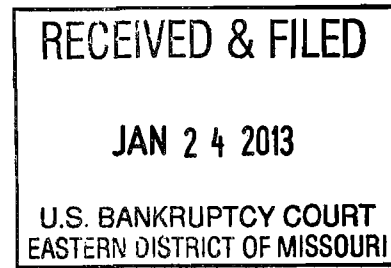


Freddie G. Kinkade  
360 Northwest 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Linton, IN 47441

January 20, 2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States  
Re: Case No. 12-51502  
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse  
111 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63102



Dear Judge Surratt-States,

I am writing to you in concern of the upcoming court case presented by Patriot Coal Corporation. The company has filed for bankruptcy, which will then lead to retired coal miners losing their medical insurance.

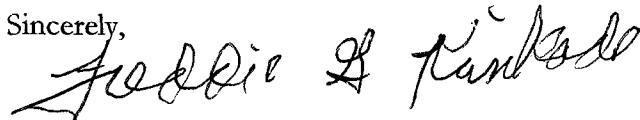
For the past fourteen years, I have been a retired coal miner. In November 1999, I retired from Peabody Coal Company before it was closed. Since then, I have had a series of health problems and procedures that have fortunately been covered by my health insurance. Some of these include congestive heart failure, cardiac arrhythmia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and hip replacement surgery. My COPD is a result of the many years I spent working at the mine inhaling coal dust and debris.

I feel that I had a strong work ethic giving one hundred percent every day over the course of the thirty-two years that I was employed by Peabody. During this time, a portion of each hour worked was paid into my insurance for retirement. Also, instead of receiving measurable hourly raises during contract negotiations, we opted to put this money towards insurance and retirement funds. I was always employed by Peabody Coal Company and never worked for Patriot Coal. In later years our insurance cards switched to Patriot Coal instead of Peabody.

As a retiree, I should be able to enjoy this time that I have after many years of hard work and dedication. Now, I have stress and worries that my medical conditions that were caused from several years of hard and intensive work will not be covered if my insurance is taken. If I lose my insurance, my wife and I will not be able to afford new insurance or be able to pay for our medical needs.

Please consider my situation and that of many hardworking miners of America as you proceed with this case. Thank you in advance for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,



Freddie G. Kinkade  
Retired Mine Worker of America

FK/jm

F. Kinkadee  
3800 9th St. NW  
Linton, IN 47441

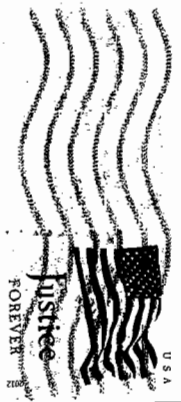
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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MA

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

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