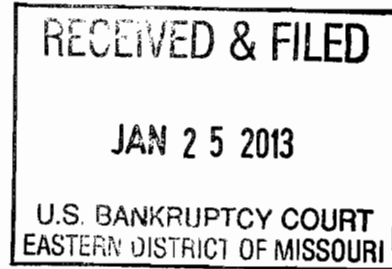


January 17, 2013

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



Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States:

This correspondence comes on the heels of the ongoing bankruptcy proceedings of Patriot Coal Corporation and the ongoing struggles for a quality of life for our aging parents who served Arch and Peabody Coal companies for many years.

Coal mining remains one of the most hazardous professions in our country, taking its toll on our miner's health in many ways. Knee replacements and severe back injuries are common place among many of these miners, not to mention breathing and lung problems. To think their retirement years are enjoyable is laughable when you can visibly see your parents in their early sixties and they are as physically disabled as persons in their nineties and beyond.

Please do not allow Peabody and Arch to discontinue the lifelong medical benefits they promised to my father and others. The impact of these proceedings is already affecting these miner's mental health as they worry and fear about their future. This is an unfair burden to give to those who are literally in their final years and are facing major physical health problems from a career they committed to for, in my father's case, thirty years!

Please honor these miners' hard working commitment to Peabody and Arch by forcing these companies to keep their promise of lifelong healthcare. My father and others deserve at least that much, especially when you see the state of their physical health. Come see for yourself, the quality of life for a retired coal miner is not good. Their final years are marked by physical issues requiring medical attention. Lifelong healthcare is the least these companies can do for my father and others who were dedicated and committed enough to sacrifice their health for their profit.

I remain optimistic regarding these proceedings. I know you will not allow injustice to be served to so many miners who do not deserve this additional threat to their health. Meanwhile I continue to encourage my father and others to trust the legal system, to have faith in you and your ruling. Please let Justice prevail for these aging miners. God Bless You and God Bless the UMWA!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy Marie Creech".

Tammy Marie Creech  
Daughter of Arch Miner(30 years)

Tammy Creech  
617 Powell River Road  
Harrogate, TN 37752

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2013 JAN 25 AM 10:57

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

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States  
Re: Case No. 12-51502  
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