

JAN. 19, 2013

TO: THE HONORABLE KATHY A. Surratt - STATES

RE: CASE No. 12-51502

THOMAS F EAGLETON U.S. COURT HOUSE

11150. 10TH STREET, 4TH FLOOR

ST. LOUIS, MO. 63102

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JAN 25 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

I am a 67 yr. old widow of a coal miner. My husband passed away 7 years ago today from Black Disease caused by his years of exposure and inhaling coal dust from working at the coal mine. This is the same Coal Co. that promised our healthcare & retirement benefits for life.

My husband was employed at Peabody Coal Co. at their Universal mine, Universal, Indiana. They were a Union mine.

He was 1974 Pension Coal Act. He said he gave up part of his pension for the promise of healthcare benefits for us for life, locked in.

I, as his widow, desperately need and depend on those benefits, as well as many others do. I have multiple medical problems myself; therefore, it is crucial to us that Peabody/Patmit have to continue to honor their obligations and promises of healthcare & retirement benefits.

My husband and many others worked and earned those promises!

My husband lost his life due to working at this coal mine.

He fought a long hard battle and he suffered tremendously for several years with the black lung disease, which slowly took his life. I felt I was stripped of his life way too soon and in such a horrible way. It was very hard on me and the family to see him suffer so, and to lose him.

I not only lost him, but it put financial hardships on me also. I lost the bulk of his income, which made it rough for me.

Then, I realized, they hadn't stripped me of everything as I still have the promised medical benefits, that I desperately needed, and crucial for me that I be able to keep them as promised. As it is a

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matter of life or death for me!

They are very good benefits. You cannot imagine how grateful I am to have them. I am a widow, live alone, cannot work and on limited fixed income.

Because of having these benefits (healthcare) I am alive today and can explain why. I do not like to talk about my medical issues but under the circumstances I feel I need too, as I am desperate to be able to keep these benefits.

I have a 41 yrs history of multiple cancer surgeries, of different types etc. I am able to get the best medical care available, doctors, specialist, hospitals, treatments, medicine, etc. All because of this Insurance! I don't have to worry about being turned away or rejected for medical care, which I will need the rest of my life. I could not afford to pay for any of this on my limited income.

I had radical Cervical Cancer surgeries - Colon cancers (2 times in 11 yrs period) Colostomy; Surgery for proctitis - reconstruction surgery - left kidney removed - partial stomach removed - Bladder surgeries - skin cancers - renal insufficiency - 3 yrs ago I had Right breast cancer surgery - 1 1/2 yrs ago left breast cancer surgery - Chemotherapy - radiation treatments; Lymphedema - kidney & bladder problems. Hypertension - Anxiety disorder. This is a partial list of medical problems as there is more.

This explains why I desperately need & crucial that I be able to keep these healthcare benefits, promised by Peabody Coal Co. I will need medical treatment rest of my life.

I have miraculously survived all this so far, & function well (with limitations) Considering all I've been through & my condition I am in. Doctors, etc. are amazed! This is Medical History! Thanks to these benefits which I feel blessed to have and need to keep. My husband and many other families worked and sacrificed their lives for Peabody Coal Co.

Please hold them responsible for their obligations to honor their promise of the healthcare/retiree - etc benefits for us for life.

Thank You
Thelma J. Singer (Indiana)



Ms. Wilma J. Singer
8075 E Chandler Ave
Terre Haute, IN 47803-9711

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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST LOUIS, MISSOURI, MO

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