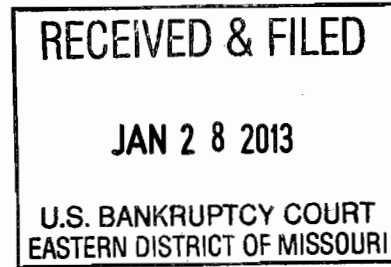


January 25, 2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
RE: Case No. 12-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse
St. Louis, MO 63102



Dear Honorable Judge,

I am writing to you concerning and the Patriot Coal Bankruptcy. I was employed by Peabody Coal for 27 years and Patriot Coal the last 5 years. I retired February 29, 2012.

I learned just months after retiring that the Patriot stock that I had purchased during my employment was basically worthless. And that I could lose my retiree benefits.

If I could put this news in one word, it would be "DEVASTATING". Since retiring I have learned I have many medical problems and my prescriptions cost almost \$2000.00 a month. Without my medical insurance I would never be able to afford the medications that I need.

Please take into consideration that these benefits were negotiated in our wage packages. Also, that in most cases we accepted less hourly wages for these benefits.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James L. Gibson".

James L. Gibson

Patriot Retiree

UMWA Member, District 17, L.U. 9177

