

Bankruptcy Judge

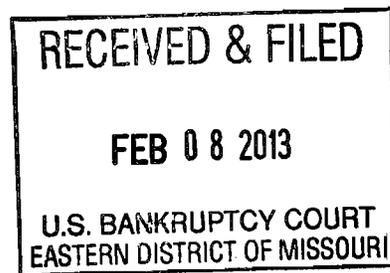
The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt - States

Re: Case No. 12-51502

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse.

111 South 10 St, 4th Floor

St Louis, MO 63102



To The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt - States

I am writing in regards to the bankruptcy hearings that are being held in your court presently by Patriot Coal Company.

I am a retired Coal Miner from Arch Coal Company in which was handed down to Patriot Coal. I worked 27 years underground as a Coal miner and had worked 11 years before that in a machine shop.

Coal Mining for me was a way of life that I enjoyed, hardwork, but a decent living for me and my family. A job with security with a pension and insurance after my retirement, who could ask for more. I worked hard and gave my all for a days wages and a promise that one day it would be worth it all, I could retire with pension and insurance.

My retirement came a little earlier than I had planned, while at work underground for Arch Coal there was a slate fall, the top was falling in on the piece of equipment I was on top of, I jumped to get out of the way of the rock that was falling and when I landed I busted my disc's in my back, I got out of the mines with help, and after seeing a doctor he announced that after test, xray and M.R.I. that I could no longer work that the damage I suffered was to bad for me to continue working. So I retired with a disabled Miners Pension at 55 years old. But the fall left me not able to stand for very long, and I fall sometimes when walking and have torn muscles in my shoulders from trying to catch myself when I fall. Since my retirement I have had both shoulders repaired for the torn

muscles and have had a heart attack with blocked arteries and had surgery for that, I am on 7 prescription medicines that would be impossible to buy without insurance, the cost for the surgeries and medicine would be too much for anyone to pay. As the cost of everything seems to skyrocket all I have to live on is my Pension and Social Security and my insurance is invaluable to me and my wife as we are both getting older, I am 67 years old and my wife will soon be 62 years of age. My wife Patricia works part time at a department store to help with income, the only insurance she has is through Patriot Coal.

Medicare does pay some of my medical bills but not all, Hospitals and some doctors don't like Medicare alone because it doesn't pay much of the bill my Patriot Insurance pays the rest. If I had to pay what Medicare doesn't pay, my fear is that I would lose my home. As time goes by my health is not very good. I have more and more frequent visits to the doctor for different reasons. My Pension and Insurance sustains us it would be unthinkable and devastating to lose either of them.

What I have left to enjoy in this life is my home + family and our dignity knowing that we gave our very best for a days wages year after year and all I want in return is for the promise made to me to stand now that I can no longer provide for me and my family.

I gave my very best I had with hard work, dedication to my job, I would like to keep my home and live without worry of losing it and everything I worked for.

Please don't let Patriot Coal and other Coal Companies take that away from us. Thank you for reading my letter and hearing my story.

Sincerely Henry J Cooper
329 Cooper St.
Danville WV 25053



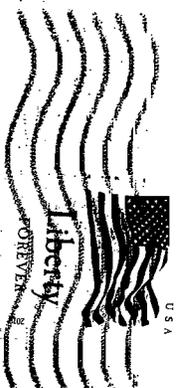
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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MR

*The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Re: Case No. 12-51502
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111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102*

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