

1313 State Route 189 South
Greenville, KY 42345

October 2, 2012

The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman
One Bowling Green
Courtroom 621
New York, New York 10004-1408

Your Honor,

I am writing regarding the Patriot Coal bankruptcy and what this might do to my healthcare benefits. I appreciate and need these benefits that I worked for. These retirement benefits were negotiated by the UMWA and agreed to by Peabody-Patriot over several years. Upon retiring, I expected to receive these benefits.

I retired from coal mining in 2005 from Highland Mining Company which is part of Peabody-Patriot. I retired according to negotiated labor contract requirements.

In May 2010 I was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma cancer. I underwent chemotherapy and an autologous stem cell transplant that same year. I am still under doctors' care for checkups, periodic blood work and various tests. I depend on these benefits in order to receive the care I need. My wife also depends on my healthcare benefits. She, too, is a cancer survivor.

At this stage of our lives, I thought we would have the healthcare benefits I worked for to see us through retirement. Please take our needs into consideration when making your decision. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maurice R. Sweeney

Maurice R. Sweeney