

October 23,2012

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

Dear Judge Chapman:

I am writing to you in reference to the Patriot Bankruptcy case. The option for a company to file bankruptcy to keep from paying insurance to its retirees appears to me as another big business' attempt to find ways to reduce costs so personal pockets can be expanded.

Miners spent many years working to assist Peabody Coal Company build its business and make money. The Company strategically worked to rid itself of union workers, those who worked to allow the business to grow. It sold off its mines, put individuals out of work only to later purchase them back using nonunionized workers once it was rid of the those who were loyal and worked hard for the company.

Having health insurance is a need for all Americans. While I have been able to maintain my health, I am now raising two granddaughters for whom I need to provide insurance coverage. I have counted on this insurance being there through my retirement years. I see this as another strategic ploy by the mining industry to again show its disdain for those who made it the company what it is. While the company files its coffers, it is ridding itself of its responsibilities to those who helped it become the giant that it is.

Sincerely,



Don Spradlin

36 year Employee of Peabody Coal Company

October 13, 2011

The Honorable Shirley S. Abrahamson
Clerk of the Court
Courtroom 823
New York State Court Building
New York, New York 10001-4001

I am writing to you in reference to the Patriot Bankruptcy case. The option for a company to file bankruptcy to keep from paying insurance to its retirees appears to me as another big business attempt to find ways to reduce cost. No personal pockets can be expanded.

My father spent many years working to assist Fordbody Coal Company build its business and make money. The Company strategically worked to his behalf of union workers, those who worked to allow the business to grow. It sold off its mineral but individuals out of work only to later purchase them back using non-unionized workers and it was his of the those who were loyal and worked hard for the company.

Having health insurance is a need for all Americans. While I have been able to maintain my health, I am now facing two granddaughters for whom I need to provide insurance coverage. I have counted on this insurance being there through my retirement years. I see this as another strategic ploy by the mining industry to again shift the burden for those who made it the company what it is. While the company files its coffers, it is shifting some of its responsibilities to those who helped it become the giant that it is.

Ben Spahr
38 Year Employee of Fordbody Coal Company