Ronnie D. Partain

865 State Highway 146 East

Golconda, IL 62938

January 14, 2013

2013 JAW 16 AV III: 13

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Thomas F. Eagleton U. S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

Dear Judge Surratt-States:

Please consider this letter as my appeal for your support for myself and my family, as well as all the other miners, retirees and families, in our attempts to force Peabody, Arch and Patriot Coal Companies to honor their promises to us.

Every time a coal miner goes underground he/she is putting his/her life on the line. This risk was taken not only for the hourly wage received, but for the assurance that he and his family would receive health care for life.

In 1968 I was employed by Peabody/Patriot Coal Company and continued to work for them until the mines was closed in 1993. Now at age 71 I am faced with the possibility of not receiving the promised health care coverage. My father always taught me that a 'man is only as good as his word' and I have lived according to that premise. I am no longer able to work and loss of my health care coverage would be devastating to me and my family. Peabody/Patriot Coal must be forced to honor their promises to us.

Thank you for your attention and any consideration you give to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Ronnie D. Partain

Cc: UMWA International Union

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