The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States Re: Case No. 12-51502 Thomas F Eagleton U.S. Courthouse 111 South 10th St. 4th Floor St. Louis, Mo. 63102 **RECEIVED & FILED**

JAN 2 4 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Dear Judge Surratt-States:

I am hoping when the Patriot Coal bankruptcy case is heard in your court, there will also be consideration given to the thousands of families affected by the ruling.

My husband, Jimmy Kingery, began working for Peabody in 1971. He retired in 2006 from Peabody – Highland Mining. He retired with 30 years service time (after time out for strikes & lay-offs). My husband and many others, never worked a day in the mines for Patriot Coal.

Peabody and Arch Coal Corporations signed contracts with UMWA represented miners, promising health benefits to retirees and widows. Sometime in 2007, Peabody and Arch sold their UMWA responsibilities to a spin off Company – Patriot Coal. Now, only five years later, Patriot declares bankruptcy to try to eliminate Peabody and Arch's promises to miners. Miners that worked hard underground, and risked their lives for these corporate giants, not Patriot Coal.

My husband had triple bypass heart surgery in 2004, but after recuperation, returned to work for Peabody, until 2006 when bad knees forced him to retire. He had both knees replaced, one in late 2006, and the other in early 2007. Although my husbands medical problems are not life threatening, we have depended on the medical coverage for prescriptions, and required doctor follow ups from his surgeries. I am only a couple years from retirement, and will not have health coverage when I retire. We have saved what we could, but part of our retirement planning has always included the benefits we were promised by Peabody, in the union contracts. If our health benefits were stripped away, it would be devastating to our financial future. It is not as if my husband can return to work (even he were physically able, and jobs were available), and I have a job that requires physical activity that I will struggle to continue for 2 more years.

I know we are not in as bad health as many others, and for that I am thankful. I have an Aunt & Uncle (Peabody retiree), both in their late 70's with multiple medical problems. Elimination of their medical benefits would be heartless. I have another Aunt (widow of Peabody miner) that also has a serious medical condition, and don't know what would happen to her, without the medical card. There are many others in similar situations.

We are asking that our needs are remembered when a decision is made on Patriots case. Please remember the thousands of miners and their families affected by the elimination or reduction of benefits. We do not expect to enjoy the lavish lifestyle of Patriot, Peabody or Arch executives, with multiple homes and expensive cars. We only want to be able to enjoy our retirement years without worrying that our benefits might be in jeopardy in order to satisfy Corporate greed. How can a Corporation be so greedy they don't even consider the human suffering caused by their actions?

I will be hoping and praying when a decision is made, it will be fair and just for everyone.

Sincerely

Myrna Kingery
Myrna Kingery

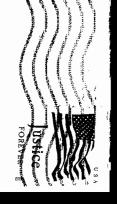
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