

January 20, 2013

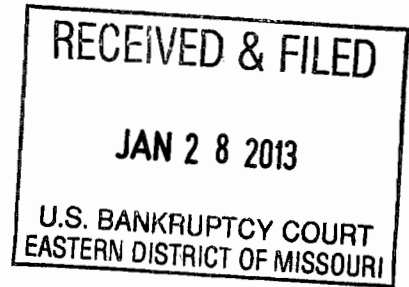
The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt- States

Re: Case No. 12-51502

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor

St. Louis, MO 63102



Dear Honorable Kathy A. Surratt- States,

I am writing concerning the bankruptcy case brought before your court concerning Peabody, Arch and Patriot Coal. I have worked for all three companies.

I have worked in the coal mines since I was eighteen and stayed thirty six years underground. I worked in conditions that were almost unbearable. The dust was so thick which made the visibility and breathing very difficult. I have waded water in bad conditions and many times rocks would fall down from bad top. I have lost many of my friends to death because of these conditions. I have suffered many injuries from these accidents.

The miners that worked for these companies made the companies rich and we were promised health care for life. My Dad, brother and many family members also worked for these companies. My Mother is in a Nursing Home and has great need of this health care. I worked hours upon hours of overtime for these coal companies and now they want to take my health care away.

Now I'm older and my family needs the health care that I worked so very hard for. It seems unfair to work so hard for most of your life for something that could be taken away, like our health care. Health care was promised to us in every contract that was signed. The coal miner

counted on what was promised to them. Many worked when they were unable to work so they would get their time in to receive their health benefits.

Please, pay attention to all the money these companies will disclose in your court that they have made over the years while promising the their workers healthcare at age 55. That has always been their promise. Now that most us are retiring, the love and the care that we can receive, including our little spouses, who waited daily to see if we would return home, because so many didn't because of accidents that was caused by poor management and the desire to make the men work in unsafe conditions for an extra dollar.

I encourage you before you make your final decision to go into a coal mine. Not one chosen by the company but a rat hole that many work in every day.

In many of the UMWA mines, men have lost their lives believing their families would be covered by healthcare the rest of their lives. This is the promise the coal companies made to them.

Maxie Brown

Maxie Brown

Local 1503

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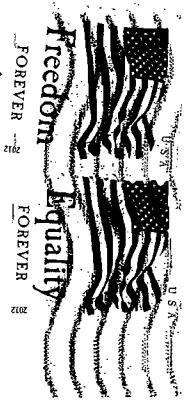
CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI-MR

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The Honorable
Clerk, US Bankruptcy Court
Eastern District
St. Louis, Missouri-MR
A. Sunnett - States

Re: Case No 12-51502

Thomas F Eagleton US Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63122

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