

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States,

My name is Joseph Keeton and I am a former employee of Peabody Coal Co. I began my career in 1967 with a company that made many promises, one of which was healthcare during my retirement years. I currently suffer from black lung, an arthritic back and other work related illnesses and might lose this benefit I was promised by Peabody.

Although I never worked for Patriot Coal Co., my healthcare is now administered by them. This was a result of Peabody creating Patriot in 2007 just to relieve themselves of certain financial obligations. As Patriot flounders, Peabody continues to prosper and should be made to honor their obligations to those who sacrificed themselves.

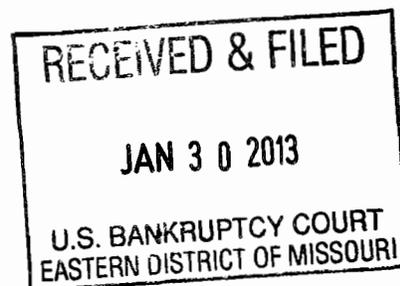
On different occasions the government created avenues to secure health benefits for the coal miners during their retirement years. Agreements such as the Krug-Lewis Agreement, the 1992 Coal Act, as well as other bills passed by our government guaranteed these rights. Now Peabody Coal and Patriot Coal are attempting to manipulate the system in order to avoid paying our benefits. I think this is obvious since Patriot created two subsidiaries weeks prior to their filing bankruptcy in New York just to allow them to file in a district they felt they would receive a more favorable ruling.

I ask that you take this information into consideration and simply do the right thing, hold Peabody Coal and Patriot Coal Companies accountable for their actions and require them to honor their obligations.

Sincerely,



Joseph Keeton



JOSEPH KEETON
2631 HAYSLETTE AVE.
HARRICANE, WV 25526

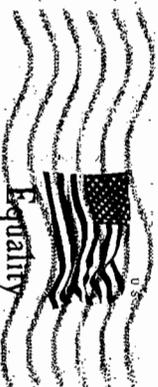
RECEIVED+FILED

2013 JAN 30 AM 10: 21

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

CHARLESTON WV 25301

JAN 30 2013 PM 11



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

63102112599

