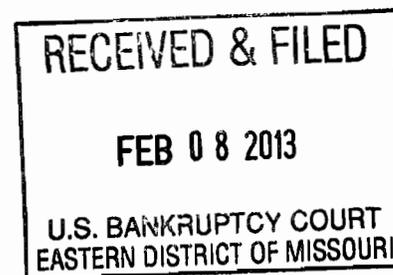


February 12, 2013

125 W. Mill Street

Crofton, KY 42217



The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States

Re: Case No. 12-51502

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

111 South 110th Street, 4th Floor

St. Louis, MO 63102

Honorable Surratt-States:

I'm writing you because of my concern regarding the upcoming action between the UMWA , Patriot Coal Company and others.

I retired after thirty-four years of service to Peabody Coal Company. The legal battle that is looming is a threat to me and my family's security. When working all those years I never considered the possibility of losing my health care coverage or my pension. Those were negotiated in many contracts over those years. Many decisions that my wife and I made were made because of these promises of a comfortable living at retirement and the security of health care coverage. Now, all of this seems to be at risk because companies are maneuvering and attempting to avoid honoring the things that were promised to me and many other miners like me who worked their entire lives for the coal industry.

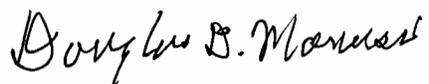
Many of us had fathers, fathers-in-law and other family members that been employed in the coal industry for several generations. We all felt very fortunate to be working for a company that had decent wages and benefits and was respected throughout the country. Many times college was passed up because a job in the mines meant immediate security, and often times, better starting wages than a college graduate. Are we going to regret the decisions we made in our youth?

And now, it seems that you may hold our future in your hands. The decisions you hand down will affect every aspect of our lives. For retired miners and widows, it is too late to find a way to maintain income if the Companies fail to continue their contributions to our funds. It's also too late for many aging people to find affordable health care at this time of our life. And, finding a job to supplement lost wages and benefits when you're in the twilight years of life isn't a solution.

Please don't allow these things to happen. Look carefully are the manipulation that has taken place and demand that Peabody, Arch, Patriot, and any other company name under which they are operating, honor their promises to the men and women who have made their millions over the years.

I trust that you will do the right thing and save our benefits.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas D. Manasco".

Douglas D. Manasco

cc: UMWA International Union

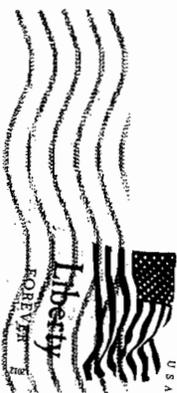
Douglas D. Manasco
125 W. Mill Street
Crofton, KY 42217

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

NASHVILLE TN 372
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