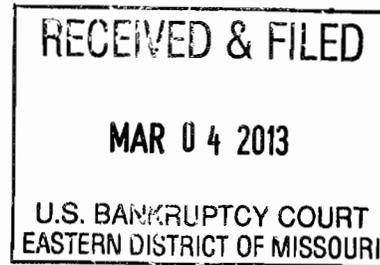


February 26, 2013

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 Surratt-States:

I am 62 years old and retired when I was 56 years old after working 36 years for Peabody Coal Company. While I was diagnosed with a right knee needing replaced in 2010, my mother fell ill and I had to postpone my surgery. I was rescheduled for right knee replacement on February 6, 2013, and the orthopedic surgeon cancelled the surgery due to my white blood count being elevated. I am seeing a hematologist to diagnose my blood condition. I cannot have the knee replacement surgery until that is resolved. Meanwhile, my left knee has been very painful. Today, my orthopedic surgeon told me that the MRI he ordered on my left knee indicates that I have a torn meniscus in that knee along with cartilage damage and edema in the soft tissue. Now, this knee needs to be replaced as well.

I have been diagnosed with high blood pressure, black lung disease (no benefits), and arthritis. My prescriptions are being paid for by the health care benefits that I worked for.

Furthermore, my wife was diagnosed with Stage 2A ovarian cancer in June 2009 and had to have chemotherapy treatments. She continues to have CT scans as well as CA 125 blood tests to see if the cancer has returned. She also has thyroid disease and depression brought on by her cancer diagnosis. Her prescriptions are also paid for by my health care benefits.

We are so concerned that our health care benefits and pension are in jeopardy of being discontinued. What would we do? How would we pay our doctors and for our prescriptions? My wife and I are both drawing Social Security Disability but this alone will not cover all our expenses. I worked 36 years for Peabody Coal Company NOT Patriot Coal Company. It was agreed in the UMWA/BCOA contracts that we would have health care and pension benefits for life.

As long as I was an active employee of Peabody Coal Company, I was considered an asset making the company money. Now I am considered a liability. This makes me feel like my life is not worth anything to the company that I helped make rich.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would consider all of the information that you have received from the people affected in your decision concerning Patriot Coal Company's bankruptcy. Peabody Coal Company is who I worked for and they should be held responsible for my health care benefits and pension.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael E. Rose".

Michael E. Rose
PO Box 407
Montgomery, WV 25136

c: UMWA International Union

Michael E. Rose
PO Box 407
Montgomery, WV 25136

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

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