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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**GEORGE J. CORLEY**

135 Coronet Street  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
Phone: 304-366-6863

March 10, 2013

The Hon. Kathy A. Suratt-States  
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse  
111 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Louis, MO 63102

Ref: Case No. 12-51502

Dear Hon. Suratt-States,

This letter is in regards to Patriot Coal bankruptcy case 12-51502. My family has worked for Eastern Associated Coal, Peabody, and Patriot Coal for over 200 years combined and still counting. This letter will show you just a few letters and numbers that I hope will make you look at this bankruptcy case from the point of view of a coal miner that has dedicated his life to this industry.

Beginning with myself, I worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV for 15 years. I was laid off for 15 years and then called to work at Peabody Fed #2 at Fairview, WV. I worked for 10 years and then retired from Peabody/Patriot with 25 years of service. I went to work in the coal mines after returning from military duty with hopes of being able to provide for my family not only for the present but for the future as well. I continued my work based on the promise of health benefits and a comfortable pension for life to be able to one day retire with the satisfaction of knowing that I did a job well done and that my sacrifices meant something.

My father, Clarence G. Corley, had an intracerebral hematoma while on his shift at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV in 1977. He died later that same day at the WVU Hospital. He left a widow and 5 children. He had 39 years of service time. He believed his sacrifices meant something.

My brother, Rymer Lee Corley, worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV for 12 years before he was laid off. He was laid off for 17 years and was then called to work at Peabody Fed #2 Fairview, WV. He died in 2005 at the mine of a heart attack during his work shift. He left a widow and had 17 years of service time. He believed his sacrifices meant something.

My brother, Ronnie E. Corley, worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #2 Fairview, WV for 2 years.

My uncle, Jack Hess, worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV and retired with 36 years of service time. He is now deceased and he believed his sacrifices meant something.

My uncle, Harry Hess Jr., worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV. He is now deceased and he believed his sacrifices meant something.

My uncle, Howard W. Corley was killed in 1967 at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV. He had 29 years of service time. He left a widow who is now 96 years old. His sacrifices should mean something.

My cousin, Mike Hess, worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV and then at Peabody Fed #2 Fairview, WV with 8 years of service time. He believes his sacrifices should mean something.

My cousin's husband, Mike Watkins, has worked at Eastern Associated Coal/Peabody/Patriot Coal Fed #2 Fairview, WV for 35 years and is still working there. His sacrifices should mean something.

My cousin's husband John R. Pownell, has worked at Eastern Associated Coal Fed #1 Grant Town, WV and was then laid off. He was called to work at Peabody/Patriot Fed #2 Fairview, WV. He has over 25 years and is still working there. His sacrifices should mean something.

All any of us want is to be treated fair and receive what we were promised. Receive what we have worked and died for. The letters are the names of those that have sacrificed and the numbers are the years that just 1 family has dedicated to this industry for over 200 years. If the company can take our benefits now after all we have done for them it's like they are saying we don't matter anymore. That is how it will be for many of us. We will have no means of healthcare and no pension to be able to live. It feels as if they are saying that you did for me but I am now done with you. So long. Goodbye.

Which of these letters mean the most? The statements of fact from men and women that gave their life to a company? Or, the statement of broken promises made by a company for personal gain? My family has lived up to its promise to work and mine coal for these companies and we have given our lives in blood and soul for these benefits and pension. Our sacrifices should mean something.

Sincerely,

  
George J. Corley

04-2012  
185 Court St  
St. Louis, MO  
26554

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OF THE RETURN ADDRESS, FOLD AT DOTTED LINE  
**CERTIFIED MAIL™**



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The Hon. Kathy A. Burdett - States  
Re: Case No. 12-51502  
Thomas F. Engelstein 118. Court House  
111 S. 10th St, 4th Floor  
St. Louis, MO  
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