

The Honorable Kathy A. Swratt <sup>Pg 1 of 3</sup> States

Re: Case No. 12-51502

Thomas F Eagleton U.S. Courthouse  
111 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. Louis MO 63102

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MAR 22 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Dear Judge

I am writing this letter to you to express my concerns with The Patriot Bankruptcy. In life we are faced with moral decisions on a daily basis. These could be as simple as, "Should I run this red light?" or "Cops usually don't patrol this road so I can probably get away with driving 15 MPH over the speed limit." Or they could be bigger such as stealing your employer's inventory/tools. In ~~the~~ either scenario you are faced with the task to make the honorable choice.

When you are hired by a company to do a job you are expected to give your best while you are on the job and in return the company will compensate you for that. There are certain risk vs rewards with every job. The decision for me to come to the coal mines was because of the money and I knew I was a hard worker. I also knew the risk and dangers I would be around while I was on the job. Over the years I decided to stick with the coal mines and particularly with Peabody. When Camp #2 was closed and I was laid off I went back to school and became a machinist. I was forced into this since the coal mines shut down. Once Peabody opened the Highland mines I immediately came back. I knew I had a lot of time in and I wouldn't have to put much more in to get my medical insurance and my full pension. Just as I get to retirement age Patriot goes into bankruptcy. There were ~~many~~ opportunities that I passed up throughout

My life to stay with Peabody/Patriot so I could have the medical insurance and full pension. Over the 30 years of work that I have put into the mines and increasing my employers' profit I feel betrayed by them now. If I would have known at a younger age that Peabody/Patriot would be filing bankruptcy and there would be a chance that I would not get this medical insurance and pension, I would have changed careers several years ago.

My wife has multiple health problems and I do too. Without the medical insurance my wife and I may not be able to get the care and medical attention that we need. Some of my medical problems are directly related to being around the hazards of the coal mines. I want to know that all these years that I missed family functions, kids milestones, anniversaries, birthdays, etc. was not wasted. Much like an employer would not appreciate an employee stealing from them. I don't appreciate Patriot not sticking to their contractual obligations set forth.

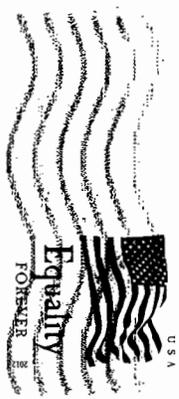
When you are making a decision on this bankruptcy just take a moment and think to yourself - how you would feel if your medical insurance and pension were taken away from you at your retirement age and you are too old at this time to find another career. Your decision will be affecting thousands of families. Each of these families already has their own unique set of problems that they are currently dealing with. This is one less thing that these families, including mine would have to dwell upon or think about if you make the right moral decision. Thank you for taking time to read my letter

Be Guided Accordingly  
Charles Clements

Charles Clements  
117 Buckhorn Rd.  
Hogansfield, KY 42037

The Honorable Kathy A. Bennett - States  
Re: Case No. 12-51502  
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St. Louis MO 63102

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