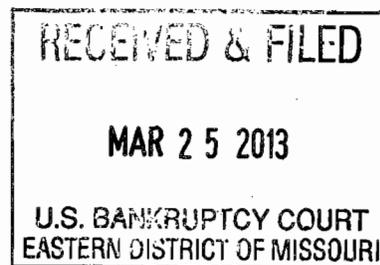


The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
RE: Case No. 12-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102



March 20, 2013

Jerry Wiggins
1005 Front Street
Central City, KY 42330

Your Honor, Ms. Surratt-States:

I am a retired coal miner concerned about the possible loss of our health insurance. For 32 years I was employed by Peabody Coal Company. During my years with Peabody, I often worked 16 hours a day, 7 days a week, and it has taken a considerable toll on my health; I lost a finger due to a mining accident, have constant ringing in my ears, have had knee surgery, shoulder surgery, and am currently having trouble with my other knee, which will likely require surgery soon.

I spent the better part of my life working in the coal mines, compromising pay raises and other benefits in lieu of health insurance we were promised would be provided after retirement. It would be devastating to me, and other coal miners, to lose our insurance at this stage in life when we need it most. To pay for private health insurance would cause a financial hardship for retired miners and their families.

When I retired from Peabody 11 years ago, I never thought I would be writing a letter like this, pleading for healthcare benefits that I, and so many others, were promised to receive for the rest of our lives. Please consider the detrimental effect losing our health insurance would have on all retired miners and their families. With the enormous costs of healthcare, losing our health insurance guarantees financial ruin for many families, and will have a substantial, negative impact on our health. Furthermore, allowing Patriot Coal, a company most of the retired miners never worked for, to shed their obligations to miners sets a precedent for other companies to follow suit, filing bankruptcy to rid themselves of pension and healthcare benefits promised to retirees. Please, I ask the Court, to protect the benefits we worked years to earn so that when we retired, we could retire with peace of mind that our health insurance would be provided.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry Wiggins".

Jerry Wiggins

RECEIVED+FILED

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

*David Higgins
1005 West St.
Central City, Ky. 42330*

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COMMERCIAL
22 MAR 2013 PM 11



*The Honorable Kathy A. Stewart
Re: Case No. 12-51502*

*Thomas H. Egleton U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street 4th Floor
St. Louis, Mo. 63102*