



Ronald O. Ford
Beaver Dam Ky
42320

Honorable

Kathy A. Surratt

I started working for Peabody on 5-29-1973. I was 22 years old, married with one child. My second child was born Dec 18, 1973. On that day I had worked 3rd shift and my son was born around 3:0'clock. One of Peabody's foremen called the hospital and asked me to come in early to help move the stripping machines to open a new pit. I agreed to that and got a 4 hr nap and returned to work another 15 hours. I had not had a day off since hiring in to the work force a Ken Surface. That was very typical a Peabody's Ken Surface mine. Other than vacation days I worked long hours in the extreme weather sometimes for months 75 to 80 hours a week with very few days off.

I did all this to keep Peabody profitable while we were supply this nation's energy needs because I was promised, by Peabody, a pension with health care after working 20 years and obtaining the age of 55. I worked mostly at night while most of the people in our small towns slept,

Over 25 years after hiring in to mine coal for Peabody coal they closed the Ken Surface. I was only 47 years old, but again I was promised that I wasn't working for an employer that provided medical benefits when I attained age 55 that they would enroll and provide medical benefits for me if I decided to retire from the coal industry.

I never mined any more coal, but was able to work at various jobs until 2006. I again ~~my~~ inquired about the health benefits because I had started my UMWA pension. Again Peabody acknowledged their responsibility and started enrollment procedures. But as in the past I was able to procure a job that provided medical benefits and discontinued the process.

In May of this year I will be 62 years old with health issues from long hours of heavy work in Peabody's coal mines. The other jobs I have had are desk jobs, and supervisor jobs, with little or no physical requirements.

Now Peabody says they sold their responsibilities to Patriot Coal. I did not work for Patriot Coal. Peabody claims they are no longer responsible for their debt to me of 25 years of working that they promised to provide health benefits for the rest of my life.

Can you sell your debts? of course not! Please don't let Peabody rob me of my promised benefits

I kept my promise and helped Peabody earn their wealth, part of that should pay for my health benefits.

Make Peabody Accountable

Sincerely
Donald O Ford

P.S.

God bless you
and the United States
Justice System

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EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MR

Mr. Donald Ford
179 Perry Washington St
Beeler Dam, KY 42320

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Honorable Kathy A. Swann - State
Re: Case No. 12-51502
Thomas J. Eagleton US Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St Louis Mo. 63102

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