



April 29, 2013

Michael Duvall  
1677 Cardwell Lane  
Frankfort Ky 40601

Honorable Bankruptcy Judge,

Today I am writing on behalf of my father-in-law, Ernest Sandstrom, who is not able to write for himself because he has Alzheimer's disease.

As you are aware, Patriot Coal, which is a spinoff of Peabody Coal, is trying to reduce or eliminate my father-in-law's health and pension benefits. My father and mother-in-law both need these benefits for their healthcare needs and for expenses like food and utilities. I implore you to not allow Patriot, and Peabody who is ultimately responsible for this travesty, to reduce or eliminate these life sustaining benefits.

My father-in-law worked for Peabody for over 20 years as a loyal employee. He was an electrician who repaired and worked on the big draglines and the coal preparation plant. He strung power poles and power lines by himself, keeping the big coal mining equipment producing coal for Peabody. He was offered jobs at other coal companies but always turned them down. His thoughts were, if I do a good job for Peabody, and help them make money, they will be there for me and my family when I need them. My father-in-law's hard work and the work of other men and women who worked for Peabody have enabled the company to be what it is today. A leader in the coal industry worldwide. Now Peabody is turning its back on all these loyal workers who gave up life, limb and wage increases they could have had, in exchange for a guarantee of a pension and health benefits they thought would be there

for them when they retired. What a shame this will be if this is allowed to happen to my father-in-law and the other workers who helped Peabody prosper.

Please do not allow this to happen. Do what is right and just for these workers, do not let these large companies pervert the bankruptcy laws, to shirk the responsibility they owe my father-in-law and others.

Thank You for listening to my plea on behalf of my father-in-law. I know he would do no less for me if he could.

Sincerely,

Michael L. D'Wall



The Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States  
Re: Case No 12-51502  
Thomas F. Egleton US Courthouse  
111 S. 10 St.  
4th Floor  
St. Louis MO 63102

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