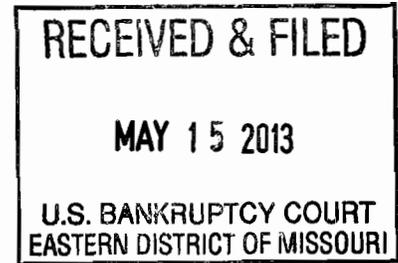


May 13, 2013



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

Honorable Judge Surratt-States:

I was an employee of Squaw Creek Coal Company. This mine was a joint venture between Alcoa Aluminum Company of America and Peabody Coal Company. Peabody Coal Company managed this operation. I never worked a day for Patroit Coal Company during my mining career.

I was seriously injured while working at Squaw Creek Coal Company on October 1, 1996. My left forearm was crushed and fractured which required a metal plate and screws to repair, I had a concussion, and the rotator cuff on my right arm was torn off. I lost 7 ½ months work due to this accident. At no time during this period did anybody from Squaw Creek Coal Company check on my condition nor did they phone to check on me. During my employment at Squaw Creek Coal Company, I was exposed to the toxic waste that Alcoa dumped in active areas of the mining at Squaw Creek Coal Mine in southwestern Indiana on a daily basis (hexavalent chromium sludge, coal tar pitch and spent pot lining). I was also exposed to a toxic chemical in the preparation plant that was used to test the coal in the lab with. I carried these residues home on my clothing exposing my wife.

Both my wife and I have suffered from serious illnesses and required medications and treatments on a daily basis from these exposures. I suffered a ruptured colon and had to have a sigmoid colostomy for 7 months until it healed and then reversal surgery. I have developed hypertension and diabetes since Squaw Creek Coal Mine was closed. I am now having more trouble with my right shoulder area that is going to require some medical attention. My wife developed breast cancer that required surgery and treatment. She had a reoccurrence after the mine closed that required a mastectomy and 3 surgeries, two courses of chemotherapy and two courses or radiation therapy. She is now showing signs of a cancer on her left side that is going to require more surgery and treatments.

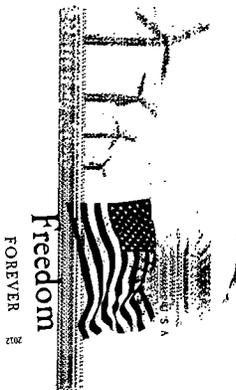
Under both the Coal Act and the National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement employers are required to maintain health care benefits for their retirees and surviving spouses for life. The loss of benefits specified under the Coal Act and the National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement for life for retirees and surviving spouses would be devastating for me and my wife.

Thomas Scheucher, Jr.
P. O. Box 177
Elberfeld, IN 47613

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