October 1, 2012

The Honorable Shelly C. Chapman One Bowling Green Courtroom 621 New York, New York 10004



Dear Honorable Shelley C. Chapman:

I am writing on behalf of my father, Theodore Hampton Frederick, Jr. in response to the letter we received regarding the Patriot bankruptcy filings. I would like to explain what it would mean to my family should their health care benefits be diminished.

First, my father is completely blind in one eye and suffers from macular degeneration in the other. Macular degeneration requires a monthly injection in his "good eye" in an attempt to prevent complete and total blindness. He has relied on this monthly treatment for the past eight years and will be required to continue with this treatment for the remainder of his life. It would be financially impossible for him the bear the cost of the monthly injections he is required to have in order to maintain any vision whatsoever. \sim

My mother, Marilyn Frederick suffers from several health issues. First, she has two prosthetic hips that are required to be replaced every 10-12 years. To this date, she has required three hip replacements. Second, she suffers from osteoporosis and degenerative disc disease. Just recently a minor trip and fall resulted in the complete shattering of her wrist. The injury required a complicated surgery, a permanent metal plate inserted into her arm and several months of strenuous physical therapy.

These health issues would have destroyed them financially without the medical insurance benefits that my father worked his entire life to have in his retirement years. I can not express how emotionally stressful the potential loss of any of these benefits, health or pension is to my parents. The toll would be unbearable.

Please consider the life time of hard work and sacrifice these coal miners have made to secure their families health and financial well being.

Sincerely,

Sheri F. Getsinger, daughter

heodore H. Frederick, Jr. (Local 9653 Sub District 23, District 1

Marilyn Frederick Mosilyn Frederick