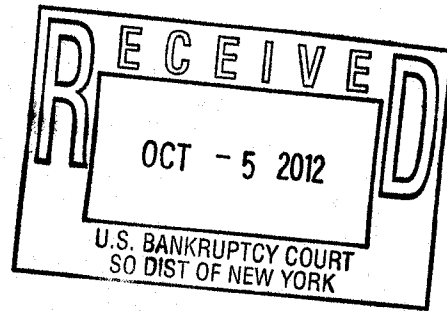


October 1, 2012



The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman:

Some might not believe in women's intuition but I have to say that my wife got it right this time. She told me a while back that it felt like Peabody Coal was just trying to get rid of us by putting us under Patriot Coal, which we had never heard of. The next thing we know Patriot is filing bankruptcy and we are in danger of losing benefits, health insurance, and prescription insurance.

I had to retire early because of a lot of health problems, such as heart attack, cyst on brain, borderline lupus, bad back, bad knees, and so on. My wife also has several things she needs medicine for. Her asthma medicine is expensive and I just don't know how I could afford her IV medicine at the hospital for the rheumatoid arthritis. If I were to lose my benefits, healthcare, and prescription insurance I really don't know how I would be able to replace them since we are living on fixed income.

Now Peabody Coal and Patriot Coal are using their bootstrapping loopholes so they can use your courtroom to get out of their obligations to the retirees and current workers because it will save them money. I hear they have made some good profits lately and I guess they would hate to waste it on some frivolous things like healthcare and prescriptions. And while they are at it, I guess they might as well go ahead and show the people of the United States that there is no need to live up to your obligations and promises made in a legally binding contract. Just find yourself some loopholes and dump the obligations.

I truly hope you will allow the hearings to be moved to Charleston, WV so they will be near the people who will be so greatly affected. I feel that we deserve at least that consideration.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
William Jones