U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT SO DIST OF NEW YORK

Your Honorable Sheely C. Chapman. My name is Thomas Crookshank and I live in a small town in western Pennsylvania. I have worked in the coal mines for twentyfive years . I started in the mines at age nineteen and I am now fifty-eight years old. I have recently retired from the coal industry (2010) and now after most of my life working for the coal industries find out that Patriot coal is filling bankrupcy and talking of dropping our medical insurance. I almost get sick at the thought of it. My wife also has worked all her life and is under my UMWA medical insurance. Now where could two peple in there late fifties get a affordable policy. We have two children also who are under this Patriot Plan. They are in college and could not get insurance till they get into the workforce. This would be a terrible happening to our entire family. We played by the rules our entire life and have paid some dues for where we are at. Please, please take a long hard look at how Peabody engineered this scheme to get out of paying for a benefit that we miners toiled for thousands of feet underground for twenty and even thirty years. We need your help, we have few people on our side. We have helped our country in the past with our blood, sweat and

Thomas Grodshark

tears and would love to get some help back. Thanks for your time and may God Bless.

**Thomas Crookshank** 

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