

October 10, 2012

The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman  
One Bowling Green  
Courtroom 621  
New York, New York 10004-1408

Honorable Judge Chapman:

I am writing to you to ask for your favorable ruling in the favor of the UMWA. If Patriot Coal is allowed this bankruptcy ruling and all retired miners are left out in the cold for health benefits, it will have a tremendous effect on my life and my wife's. I have had two Pacemakers and am scheduled to have a third one possibly as soon as 2013. My wife had a recent heart attack and is in need of heart medications and doctor support.. This is just for 2013. As I am 76 and my wife is 73, the future will be very dim if Peabody Coal and Patriot Coal are allowed to get by with this bankruptcy to get rid of our retired benefits which were secured with the 1973 Coal Act. Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,



Merlin L. Kueker  
Retired Peabody Coal Miner

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