

The Honorable Shelly C. Chapman,

I am a retired coal miner, I am 78 years old, I worked into the coal mines for 32 years.

I have been under 3 rock falls in the mines during my career. The last rock fall was in 1987 and I have not been able to work since then.

I never worked for Patriot Coal Company, I worked for Peabody Coal. When they changed it to Patriot coal it was just a misnomer to beat the retirees out of their benefits.

Peabody Coal Company is just pulling another dirty trick to try to beat us out of our promised medical care.

Judge Chapman, I know you can see this misnomer is just another way to beat us out of our benefits.

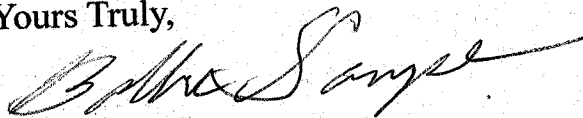
I would really like to know many of the executives are getting multi-million dollar bonuses at our expense. How many other companies have they split off from Peabody that are making billions of dollars a year?

Judge Chapman, I know you can see thru this smoke screen just like everyone else.

This case needs to be moved to West Virginia, as far as I know there are no coal mines in New York. All of the coal miners are just looking for a fair decision.

I can hardly walk, much less do anything else at this point, if we lose our medical insurance I will be on welfare. I truly appreciate you taking the time to read this letter.

Yours Truly,



Bobbie Sample

P.S. When I got out of the military, I went to work in the mines in 1956 and worked there until I got injured in a roof fall in 1987, which ended my mining career, and working at all.