

Calvin and Earline Eggemeyer

5988 State Route 4

Steeleville, IL 62288

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor

St. Louis, MO 63102

Attention: The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States

Re: Case # 12-51502


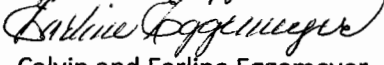
I do not know how the coal companies arrived at this point. How can it be that a few people are not legally bound to keep their promises to thousands of men and women and their families. The coal companies should not be allowed to let this happen. They will ruin thousands of lives. Without the retirement and healthcare benefits, we like many others will not be able to survive. Most will have to go on welfare and food stamps in order to manage at all, certainly causing a loss of self respect. This is the thanks the miners get for working 24/7, many 16 hour shifts, which took them away from their wives and children. They had to strike for weeks and months at a time and give up increases in their wages to insure their pensions and healthcare benefits upon their retirement. Now that they can no longer work and are on a fixed income and totally dependent on what they worked so hard for and were promised, it cannot be allowed to be taken away. Not only are the pensions and healthcare for the living retirees at stake here, but in the event of the miners death, the death benefit for their widows and their pension and healthcare as well..

My husband is nearly 80 years old, I am almost 75. We have medicare now, but can you imagine what a supplemental insurance would cost the two of us. Especially since we have what would be considered preexisting conditions. Without the coal miner healthcare the cost of our medications alone would bankrupt us. If the UMWA Pension and Healthcare, as promised, is allowed to be taken away, we are done. We cannot make it. We will be forced to sell our home

Let me list a little bit of medical history here. In the 16 years that my husband has been retired from Arch Coal, he has had several severe bouts of kidney stones, requiring numerous hospital stays, tests and procedures. He had emergency appendicitis surgery, he has arthritis and is diabetic. He also suffers from a serious recurring knee problem due to a coal mine injury.

In the past 16 years I have had four knee surgeries, bilateral knee replacements, bilateral carpal tunnel surgery, two hand surgeries, cataract surgeries and emergency gall bladder surgery. I am also diabetic and have peripheral neuropathy. Two years ago I was diagnosed with cranial aneurysms. The two smaller ones on the left were fixed with "coiling". The larger one (silver dollar size) which is in the carotid artery was fixed by placing three pipeline stents in my brain. The cost of the helicopter ride alone was over \$26,600.00. I cannot even begin to list the astronomical cost of this, the many tests, and the stays in Barnes Jewish Hospital. It must be hundreds of thousands of dollars by now. My life was spared because we were fortunate enough to have the healthcare benefits that my husband earned by working in the coal mines for twenty seven years. Without it, our lives and that of our children and grandchildren would have been financially ruined forever.

I am asking you, not only on our behalf, but for the many thousands of miners, and their families as well, please do not allow Patriot Coal to place this terrible unfair hardship on all of us.. We all worked hard for it for many years in return for the promised benefits we deserve. At this time in our lives we should not be forced to face a dark , troubled and uncertain future, but be able to enjoy our remaining years in the security we have earned,

Sincerely,


Calvin and Earline Eggemeyer

CC: Cecil Roberts

Calvin Eggemeyer
5988 State Route 4
Steeleville, IL 62288

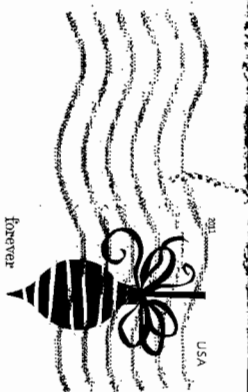
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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI-MR

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Re: Case No. 12-51502
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St. Louis, MO 63102

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