

January 3, 2019

To: Honorable Judge Richard A. Lazzara
From: Ruth P. Artisnik

2019 JAN 9 PM 12:10
CLERK OF COURT
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
TAMPA, FLORIDA

RECEIVED

Dear Sir,

I've been hoping and praying that there would be some action in 2018.

Am mailing this now after the holidays and am desperately hoping for a miracle. Please help if you will and are able.

Yours truly
An ancient Loyola (Chgo) Alumna

Ruth P. Artisnik

Mrs. Ruth Artisuk

1920 Dawn Point
Davis, IL, 61019
Tel: 815-248-2415

09/14/2018

Dear Honorable Judge Richard A. Lazzara,

My name is Ruth Artisuk and I am an 84 year old senior citizen. My husband is 85 years old. I'm trying to put my financial affairs in order and I need your help because I have been defrauded.

Back in 2009 I made an investment through my financial advisor, Bob Bassari, in an oil and gas program named Quest Energy Management Group based out of Texas. My husband and I are senior secured lenders in this program. Two years into the program the dividend payments stopped.

Subsequently, through my financial advisor I was informed that Quest Energy was involved in a Ponzi scheme since 2004 and involved a con man named Arthur Nadal who invested \$5MM in stolen money from his hedge fund into the program, was caught in 2013 and subsequently died in prison in 2014. My financial advisor provided a substantial amount of documentation and information to the receiving law firm: The Wyand Group, appointed by you.

My advisor and I also contacted Bert Wyand and Jeff Rizzo on numerous occasions with no success. We were constantly told that the oil fields were for sale, however, they fired all the employees of Quest and brought in their own staff and used the oil produced to pay their employees.

My financial advisor, Bob Bassari, provided myself, the attorneys at the Wyand Group, and the General Council of the SEC with a third party engineering report and a one hour

recorded conference call with the original owner of Quest, Mr. Paul Downey, showing over 3 million barrels of recoverable oil exist in the fields owned by Quest.

The Wyand Group's response was that there was very little oil and the wells were only producing a few barrels per day. The proceeds of these few barrels were and are being paid to the employees of the Wyand Group.

The Wyand Group also stated that your honor has given them discretion in treating senior secured note holders, preferred stock holders and common stock holders the same.

My husband and I have worked very hard to save what we have and I don't understand why as a senior secured lender, I would be grouped with common and preferred stock holders.

In fact, Bob Bassari and I, on a conference call with Jeff Rizzo, confirmed that not only the Wyand Group was given leeway by the court to group us with common and preferred stock holders but also include all other investors in other companies who were defrauded by Arthur Nadal in unrelated investments to our investment, because the Quest program is the only one that has any real value (its oil and gas reserves).

Based on my own research and advice from my financial advisor, as a secured senior lender, I should be first in line to receive my original investment back.

Furthermore, my advisor flew to Dallas Texas to meet with another oil and gas company in the Permian Basin/Scurry County called King Operating Corporation in November of 2017 to figure out what if anything is going on with Quest.

Based on my advisor's research and information gathered from the Railroad Commission reports, Quest is still pumping oil to the tune of \$12k to \$14k a month and after costs and fees they are clearing approximately \$7k to \$8K per month. Where is this money going? It should be going to me and other senior secured lenders in the program!

I am emphatically requesting a call with you to discuss and resolve this issue as I don't feel that it is fair for a senior citizen to be treated in this manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ruth P. Artisuk". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Ruth" being the most prominent.

Mrs. Ruth P. Artisuk