

## Statewide Law Firm Aids Bipartisan Effort to Reserve State Contracts for Disabled Veterans

Legislation is a small business game changer that would address chronically high veteran unemployment rate

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– Albany, N.Y. –

The outlook for New York State's service-disabled, veteran small business owners got significantly brighter Thursday with the announcement of an agreement on legislation to send six percent of state contracts to service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSB). The agreement was announced by Governor Andrew Cuomo, Sen. Greg Ball – who chairs the state Senate's Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee – and other key legislative leaders at the governor's Veteran's and Military Families Summit. The summit served as a component of the governor's 2014 agenda, which includes promoting and growing businesses owned by disabled veterans, as well as determining how the state can better serve its veteran population. The legislative agreement is gaining final momentum at a critical time for unemployed veterans. Figures released Thursday

by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show the unemployment rate for New York State veterans now stands at 8.2%, with 33,000 out of work. The agreement announced Thursday, anticipated to become law in the coming weeks, is expected to address this problem. It is also expected to reverse, to some degree, the longstanding trend of state government contracts being awarded to large corporations headquartered outside the empire state. The legislation would help keep these contracts inside the state, and supporting small businesses. "Undeniably, Thursday's agreement regarding a six percent state contract set aside for SDVOSBs is a game changing development for Tully Rinckey PLLC and other SDVOSBs across the state," said Rinckey. "The effects of this set aside would ripple out across New York State's disabled veteran and small business community, positively impacting the chronically high veteran unemployment rate while encouraging investment in small business. All of us at Tully Rinckey PLLC are eager to see this set aside become a reality so we can address additional legal work at the state level. This legislative agreement represents a national leadership role for New York State in a sorely needed effort to support veterans and grow small businesses." As a statewide SDVOSB, a longstanding member of the National Veteran-Owned Small Business Administration (NaVoba)

, and an employer that represents every branch of the United States Military among almost 120 employees throughout its six offices, Tully Rinckey PLLC has been actively supporting Thursday's agreement alongside Sen. Greg Ball. The firm's founding partner, Mathew B.

Tully, Esq., sustained debilitating injuries while serving as an Army combat arms officer in Afghanistan in 2012. He was awarded the Purple Heart for the actions he took that led to his injuries, on what was the fifth deployment of his military career. Greg T. Rinckey, Esq., Tully Rinckey PLLC's managing partner, also sustained service-connected injuries prior to being honorably discharged from the Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps in 2004. To speak with Greg T. Rinckey, Esq., or for more information, please contact Brandon Adamczyk at (518) 218-7100 or [badamczyk@1888law4life.com](mailto:badamczyk@1888law4life.com)

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