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Memorial Day is a Time to Reflect and Honor Purple Heart Recipients

Tully Rinckey PLLC to sponsor membership to Gold Star parents and others in The Military Order of the Purple Heart

One local Service-Disabled, Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) is giving back to the families of fallen service members and fellow veterans. Tully Rinckey PLLC is proud to announce during this Memorial Day weekend the firm will sponsor membership in The Military Order of the Purple Heart for Capital Region recipients of the Purple Heart medal and the parents of deceased Purple Heart recipients (as associate members of the MOPH). Parents of service members killed in combat are called "Gold Star Parents" because of a tradition that dates back to World War I. Families would hang a banner in their window, with blue stars representing those serving in the U.S. armed forces. The blue star was covered in gold if a family member was killed in battle. The Purple Heart is the oldest and one of the most recognized medals for members of the Armed Forces of the United States. Originally called the "Badge of Military Merit", General George Washington established the medal on August 7, 1782, from his headquarters in Newburgh, N.Y. The Purple Heart is awarded to those who have been wounded or killed while serving with the U.S. military. Between Dec. 5, 2001 and Dec. 31, 2013, 8,706 service members involved in the war in Afghanistan, also known as Operation Enduring Freedom, have been awarded the Purple Heart, according to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command

.One of those is Retired New York Army National Guard Lieutenant Colonel and Tully Rinckey PLLC Founding Partner Mathew B. Tully, Esq. He was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries he sustained in a suicide bombing while serving in Afghanistan. Mr.

Tully has deployed overseas five times during his nearly 20 year military career. His firm, Tully Rinckey PLLC, was founded in the back bedroom of his ski home in Hunter, N.Y. shortly after he escaped from the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. The firm has grown from that humble beginning into one of the nation's largest federal sector labor and employment and military law firms. The firm has also become a regional powerhouse, with offices in Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo, as well as Washington, D.C. and Arlington, VA. "Mat has made many significant sacrifices over his long and decorated military career. I'm proud to lead Tully Rinckey PLLC with him," said Managing Partner Greg T. Rinckey, who is himself an Army veteran having served for six years with the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. "We're honored to help those like Mat who have given so much of themselves in service to others." The Military Order of the Purple Heart is open to all recipients of the Purple Heart medal, and has nearly 45,000 members across the country. Their mission is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, and to provide service to all veterans and their families. Gold Star Parents and Purple Heart recipients should mail their applications to Tully Rinckey PLLC's Albany office. Additional information is available by calling Tully Rinckey PLLC at 1-888-LAW-4-LIFE. If you would like to speak with Mr. Rinckey or have any questions, please contact Brandon Adamczyk at (518) 218-7100 or via email at badamczyk@1888law4life.com