

## **New Helpdesk Manager Ensures Overall Security of Firm's IT Systems**

### **Delaney Promoted to Helpdesk Manager at Tully Rinckey PLLC**

April 14, 2016 – Albany, N.Y. – Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce the promotion of Brandon Delaney to Helpdesk Manager. For the past five years, Delaney has served as an IT Analyst for the firm. In his new role, Delaney is responsible for the management and oversight of the firm's IT helpdesk. In this role, he works with the firm's Chief Information Officer to help ensure the overall health and productivity of the firm's information technology (IT) systems, supporting all branch offices throughout the country. Delaney reviews, tracks, and resolves systems issues at both the datacenter and end-user device levels. Additionally, Delaney consults with users about increasing efficiency, along with recommending and deploying hardware and software solutions to enhance or add functionality to the firm's IT systems. He is also responsible for the firm's high-definition video teleconferencing system, which enables attorneys and support staff to have video conferencing within the firm, and with outside agencies. Before joining the firm in May 2011, Delaney worked as a Senior Computer Technician for an IT company in Albany, N.Y. There, he helped end users as well as small and medium businesses achieve their technological needs. For more information, please contact Marcy Velte at (518) 218-7100 or at [mvelte@1888law4life.com](mailto:mvelte@1888law4life.com).

## **Veterans Outreach Center Receives Needed Support from Prominent Military Law Firm**

### **Tully Rinckey PLLC's "Jeans and Sneakers" initiative funds services for Western New York veterans**

March 25, 2016 – Rochester, N.Y. – In an effort to continue its long tradition of giving back to veterans in need, Tully Rinckey PLLC has provided financial support to local veteran's assistance organization, the Veterans Outreach Center. A check was presented to the Veterans Outreach Center today on behalf of Tully Rinckey PLLC by Rochester Managing Partner Peter Pullano and firm Associate Jennifer Aronson. The donated funds will support the mission of the organization, which provides resources to current and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families through direct service, community collaboration, and advocacy. Tully Rinckey PLLC has a long-standing record of service with the military. Throughout its seven offices, the firm employs 70 attorneys, of whom a large group are veterans. The firm's founding partner, Mathew B. Tully, is a recently-retired lieutenant colonel in the New York Army National Guard who received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his service in Afghanistan. As a civilian attorney, he has won numerous landmark decisions protecting veterans' rights, especially those pertaining to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). Managing Partner Greg T. Rinckey is a former

Army JAG who currently represents service members worldwide in a variety of military law issues.[caption id="attachment\_34666" align="alignnone" width="448"] Caption: Tully Rinckey PLLC Rochester Managing Partner Peter Pullano and firm Associate Jennifer Aronson present a check to Veterans Outreach Center Executive Director Todd Baxter and Director of Operations Jocey Henderson.[/caption]"We at Tully Rinckey PLLC are honored to support the Veterans Outreach Center and its mission," said Mr. Pullano. "The firm takes pride in its efforts to give back to veterans and their families through its various donation initiatives throughout the year. We would like to thank the Center for being an essential resource for those in the community who have served our country."Founded locally in 1973 by returning Vietnam veterans, the Veterans Outreach Center remains a major support system within the community and offers services designed to meet the needs of veterans and their families. Programs and services are provided free of charge to the public. The organization's programs and services include employment and job training, housing assistance, financial and legal counseling, wellness therapy and substance abuse recovery.Since its inception in February 2010, Tully Rinckey PLLC's Jeans and Sneakers initiative has donated about \$17,750 to nearly 55 nonprofit organizations. Under this initiative, employees who wear jeans and sneakers to the office on Fridays make a \$1 donation for each casual clothing item worn. At the end of the month, the firm makes a dollar-for-dollar matching contribution. Recent recipients of Jeans and Sneakers donations include the Binghamton Crime Victims Assistance Center, Trillium Health in Rochester, the Centers at Saint Camillus in Syracuse, WNYHeroes in Buffalo and the Albany County Family Court Children's Center.For more information, please contact Marcy Velte at (585) 492-4700 or via email at [mvelte@1888law4life.com](mailto:mvelte@1888law4life.com).

## **Tully Named to Prestigious HillVets 100 List**

### **Tully Rinckey PLLC Founding Partner among most influential veterans of 2015**

March 23, 2016 – Albany, N.Y. – Tully Rinckey PLLC Founding Partner Mathew Tully was recognized yesterday as one of 2015's most influential and impactful veterans. Tully's accomplishments and achievements as a veteran and business owner were celebrated by HillVets, a nonprofit group of bipartisan veterans and supporters empowering veterans to advance in careers following military service. Tully was honored at a reception at the Reserve Officers Association headquarters on Constitution Ave. NE in Washington, D.C. alongside former U.S. Secretary of Defense and U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel, former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. Sen. Lindsay Graham, Texas Gov. Rick Perry, and many other accomplished veterans who earned their place on the 2015 HillVets 100 list. "It is an honor to be included among this year's list of HillVets 100 recipients," said Tully. "From Tully Rinckey PLLC's beginnings, the mission of the firm has been to defend the legal rights of service members facing employment discrimination due to their military service. We have since grown the scope of legal services we offer to include federal employment law, security clearance representation, and a range of others, but our core focus continues to be the legal defense of our nation's veterans."In the fall of 2015, HillVets requested nominations for the second annual HillVets 100 list. The nominations poured in and HillVets compiled a list encompassing individuals from diverse sectors, including the arts, politics, business, philanthropy, and personal achievements. To be included in the HillVets 100 list, nominees had to demonstrate a purpose of giving back to those that have sacrificed so much for our nation. Tully was among those named to the HillVets 100 list in the category honoring veteran-owned and operated businesses on Capitol Hill. Tully Rinckey PLLC opened its Washington, D.C. location in 2008, and expanded to its latest 6,400-square-foot,

seventh-floor suite just one block from the White House on Connecticut Avenue NW in 2014. On Sept. 11, 2001, while employed in the legal department of Morgan Stanley, Tully escaped from the World Trade Center and shortly thereafter relocated to upstate New York. There, he began providing legal services to service members facing employment discrimination based upon military service. Tully has become a pioneer of litigation involving the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, which protects the civilian employment rights of military personnel. Following discrimination he faced employed as a federal prison guard, Tully researched and litigated his own USERRA case, deciding then and there to continue his work to help others in the military facing similar issues. In 2005, Tully was deployed to Iraq with the 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division of the New York Army National Guard and was based at Forward Operating Base Danger in Tikrit, Iraq. In 2012, he received the Purple Heart for injuries he sustained during a suicide bombing while serving in Afghanistan. His service there also afforded him the Bronze Star. Tully is currently the New York State commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH). For more information or to speak with Mathew Tully, please contact Marcy Velte at (518) 218-7100 or via email at [mvelte@1888law4life.com](mailto:mvelte@1888law4life.com).

## **Tully Rinckey PLLC Adds Fresh Experience to Federal Employment Law Practice Group**

### **Zachary Ruetz brings knowledge and expertise from Monroe County District Attorney's Office and beyond**

February 23, 2016 –Rochester, N.Y. – Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce that Zachary T. Ruetz, Esq., an attorney who formerly worked under the Monroe County District Attorney, has joined its Federal Labor and Employment Law Practice Group as an associate. At the firm, Mr. Ruetz defends the rights of federal employees against a range of abuses, to include harassment, retaliation, and disciplinary and adverse action matters, among many others. He will also dedicate a portion of his practice to criminal defense. Prior to joining Tully Rinckey PLLC, Mr. Ruetz immersed himself in the area of criminal law, from assisting in opening cases and drafting extensive legal research with the Monroe County District Attorney to counseling clients and composing legal motions as a law clerk for a reputable Rochester-area law firm. Additionally, he worked as a judicial law clerk under the Hon. David A. Wiseman of the Commonwealth Superior Court of the Mariana Islands on the island of Saipan. There, he drafted and published judicial decisions and orders in a wide variety of practice areas, including criminal, civil, administrative, and probate matters. Mr. Ruetz continues to grow Tully Rinckey PLLC's experienced and highly sought-after federal sector labor and employment law practice group. The attorneys at Tully Rinckey PLLC have nearly 130 combined years of experience practicing federal labor and employment law. Tully Rinckey PLLC's federal sector and military law team includes the former Merit Systems Protection Board chairman, the former Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps chief of staff and director for strategic policy and requirements at the Pentagon, and the former Department of the Air Force's deputy general counsel for fiscal, ethics and administrative law at the Pentagon, among other distinguished colleagues. Mr. Ruetz obtained his Juris Doctor from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, California. While at the school, he performed legal research and composed draft orders as a judicial extern for the Hon. Anthony J. Battaglia of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. He also worked extensively with the San Diego Office of the Public Defender, appearing on behalf of felony defendants in any and all matters before the court, as well as drafting and arguing complex legal motions in homicide cases. Earlier, Mr. Ruetz received his bachelor's degree in

Political Science at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. While there, he participated in The Washington Center Internship Program in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with the Council of State Governments, Midwestern Governors Association, and KBB Federal Relations lobbying firm. To arrange an opportunity to speak with Mr. Ruetz, please contact Marcy Velte at (585) 492-4700 or via email at [mvelte@1888law4life.com](mailto:mvelte@1888law4life.com).

## **Divorce Lawyers See Rise in Illegal Use of Spy Apps to Surveil Spouses**

### **Use of spyware to collect data on exes becoming a disturbing trend in family and matrimonial law**

February 10, 2016 – Albany, N.Y. – More people are turning to technology during divorce proceedings in an attempt to catch their ex lying and use this as a means to help their case. But many don't know that this manner of collecting information is likely illegal and not admissible in court. The use of spyware and mobile device spy applications is on the rise, as spouses hope to collect digital evidence of lying, cheating and hidden assets. This technology is readily available, and sold legally. It can be installed a number of ways, sometimes even by someone tricking their spouse into unknowingly installing software or a new app onto their mobile device, or by taking the person's device "in for repairs." "We get into situations where clients come in confused by how their former spouse knows so much information about them" said Barbara King, Esq., partner and head of the family and matrimonial practice at Tully Rinckey PLLC. "While being spied on is unnerving, the reality is that evidence collected using spyware is obtained illegally and cannot be used in court. It can also be a scary situation for whoever is targeted. It is a violation of their privacy, and any party using such spyware thinking it can help them, can face criminal charges. It is a form of eavesdropping, which also can be illegal." This spyware could give a person access to every call, text, e-mail, social media post or keystroke on someone's device. Although the spyware is legal to sell, how it is used often isn't. Similar to regulations governing U.S. Postal Service personnel, it is illegal for another person to read and collect someone's digital mail. This technology has created a new means of stalking as installation of the app on a smart phone provides access to a user's GPS location via the user's device. Stalking can subject a party to criminal charges even if accomplished with software. Items to look for if you suspect spyware has been installed on your device: Apps or software that seem unfamiliar and you don't remember installing;

The device is acting strangely, such as loss of battery power or a spike in data usage. This can mean GPS or other apps are running in the background;

Someone borrowed your device or took it in for repairs that seemed unnecessary; and

An ex now has knowledge or personal details about you that they would not have otherwise had.

For more information, or to speak to a member Tully Rinckey PLLC's Family and Matrimonial Law Team, please contact Marcy Velte at (518) 218-7100 or via email at [mvelte@1888law4life.com](mailto:mvelte@1888law4life.com).

## **Tully Rinckey PLLC Hires Seasoned Journalist as**

# Public Relations Associate

## Seasoned Journalist and Managing Editor Joins Tully Rinckey PLLC Team

Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce that it has hired Marcy L. Velte as the law firm's Public Relations Associate. Her hiring comes as the firm continues its aggressive expansion effort across upstate New York and beyond. In her new role, Ms. Velte will develop and execute public relations initiatives that strategically connect media outlets with distinguished attorneys who can clearly explain complex legal matters. Ms. Velte will be charged with ensuring journalists and the news-consuming public across the state have on-demand access to the unique legal insights offered by Tully Rinckey PLLC's team of 70 attorneys who focus on close to 30 legal practice areas. Ms. Velte came to the firm after working in local media outlets in New York State's Capitol Region for several years, and establishing a positive rapport with news sources throughout the area. Moving forward, she will promote the firm's legal expertise and charitable contributions to clients and media. Prior to joining Tully Rinckey PLLC, Ms. Velte was assistant editor at Spotlight News in Albany County, where she primarily covered the town of Bethlehem, N.Y. She was also managing editor of Capital District Parent Pages magazine. Ms. Velte is a graduate of the State University of New York at New Paltz journalism program. Following graduation, she began her career as a general assignment reporter with the Daily Gazette in Schenectady, N.Y. To speak to Marcy Velte, or for more information, please contact her at (518) 218-7100 or at [mvelte@tullylegal.com](mailto:mvelte@tullylegal.com).

## One of the Nation's Fastest Growing Companies Expands in the Binghamton, NY Legal Market

**Exponential growth prompts veteran-owned law firm Tully Rinckey PLLC to expand in the Southern Tier.**

December 1, 2015 – Vestal, N.Y.

– The Albany, N.Y. based, veteran-owned law firm Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce its recent expansion into the Binghamton market. The office expansion comes as a result of the firm's continued success in the areas of family and matrimonial law, civil litigation, criminal defense, trust and estates, and real estate law throughout New York State. Tully Rinckey PLLC's new office location at 4100 Vestal Road, Suite 104 in Vestal, N.Y. is led by Binghamton Managing Partner Peter P. Charnetsky, a former Broome County Family Court Judge. [caption id="attachment\_34270" align="alignnone" width="600"] CAPTION: The Tully Rinckey PLLC executive management team and area dignitaries cut the ribbon on the firm's new Vestal office (from left to right: Founding Partner Greg Rinckey, Founding Partner Mathew Tully, Managing Partner Peter Charnetsky, Chief Operating Officer Graig Cortelyou, Broome County Legislator Kim Myers, NYS Assemblywoman Dona Lupardo, and Vestal Town Supervisor John Schaffer. [/caption] Mr. Charnetsky brings a unique judicial perspective to clients, designing a custom legal strategy for each based on his 30 years of combined experience on the bench and as an attorney. Mr. Charnetsky has a decade of experience as a Judge, nine years' expertise deciding contested divorces, and experience resolving over 25,000 cases while on the bench. He was recently named a new settlement officer with the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department's Civil Appeals Settlement Program, where he will preside over a range of settlement hearings. "We bring a unique perspective to how we operate as a business and pride ourselves on having a team of experienced attorneys throughout the country offering clients top quality legal services at an

affordable price,” said Mathew B. Tully, Founding Partner of the firm. “We continue to practice as a modern, innovative, non-traditional firm and see a bright future for the firm and strong demand for legal services as we continue to grow throughout the State.”[caption id="attachment\_34283" align="alignnone" width="600"] CAPTION: Tully Rinckey PLLC Managing Partner Peter Charnetsky highlights the many benefits the firm continues to bring to the Binghamton market.[/caption]The Binghamton office, which opened on November 23, 2015, was the firm’s seventh office. Tully Rinckey PLLC has over 120 employees firm wide and operates throughout upstate New York, Washington, D.C., and California. At the ribbon cutting, Tully Rinckey PLLC attorneys and staff welcomed a range of elected officials, community leaders, and local attorneys to the new office. Attendees included New York State Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo, Broome County Legislator Kim Myers, Vestal Town Supervisor John Schafer, and Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce Vice President Amy Shaw. They collectively welcomed Tully Rinckey PLLC to the Binghamton area and voiced support for the level of exceptional legal service and attorney employment opportunities the firm is bringing to the region.[caption id="attachment\_34284" align="alignnone" width="600"] CAPTION: NYS Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo welcomes Tully Rinckey PLLC to the Binghamton area.[/caption]The 1,700 square foot office located across the street from Binghamton University’s main entrance will allow the firm to employ up to six attorneys and one support staff. The firm offers high definition video conference services onsite that connect with all other firm offices throughout the country. In addition to plaintiffs based practice areas, the firm intends to practice federal sector labor and employment, military, and security clearance law out of the Binghamton, N.Y. office. Inc. magazine earlier this year announced that Tully Rinckey PLLC ranked for the seventh consecutive year on its Inc. 5000 List of America’s Fastest Growing Companies. The firm’s high ranking on the Inc. 5000 list is attributable to its 62.8 percent growth in revenue between 2011 and 2014. The firm has also been recognized by the Albany Business Review as the third fastest growing business in New York’s Capital Region. Tully Rinckey PLLC currently employs over 120 staff, 70 of whom are attorneys.[caption id="attachment\_34285" align="alignnone" width="600"] CAPTION: Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce Vice President Amy Shaw (L) presents a congratulatory certificate to Founding Partner Mathew Tully (M) and Managing Partner Peter Charnetsky (R).[/caption]Tully Rinckey PLLC was founded by Mathew B. Tully and Greg T. Rinckey, who have pioneered numerous landmark decisions impacting active duty and retired service members throughout the county. Tully’s distinguished military career spans nearly two decades and includes several deployments overseas to Afghanistan, Iraq, and Egypt. Tully was awarded a Purple Heart in September 2012 and Bronze Star in February 2013 for his military service. Greg Rinckey served as a former federal prosecutor and active duty Army JAG. He currently represents members of the military throughout the nation on high profile military and national security legal matters. To speak with Mathew B. Tully, Greg T. Rinckey or Peter P. Charnetsky or for more information, please contact Stephen Felano at (607) 722-1520 or at [sfelano@1888law4life.com](mailto:sfelano@1888law4life.com).

## **Rochester Managing Partner Peter J. Pullano Recognized as Attorney of the Year**

### **Managing Partner Peter J. Pullano Recognized as Attorney of the Year**

November 6, 2015 – Rochester, N.Y. – Tully Rinckey PLLC Rochester Managing Partner Peter J. Pullano on Thursday received The Daily Record’s prestigious Attorney of the Year Award at an award dinner at the Hyatt Regency Rochester. Mr. Pullano received the award for demonstrating professional accomplishment, exceptional character, integrity and ethics

and commitment to his clients and the community. The bestowment of the award caps a distinguished 28-year legal career spent exclusively practicing criminal defense in the Rochester area. Since 2005, Mr. Pullano has secured acquittals for at least seven defendants charged with murder and at least one charged with manslaughter. He is one of the select few attorneys certified as “learned counsel” in federal court death penalty cases and he was previously certified to handle death penalty cases in state court when capital punishment was legal in New York. Mr. Pullano’s years-long fight for justice is as noteworthy for his representation of clients in capital cases as it is for his work defending clients facing less serious charges. For example, in December 2013, Mr. Pullano secured the dismissal of a disorderly conduct charge against his client, Raliek A. Redd, 16, who was arrested for “obstruct[ing] pedestrian traffic while standing on a public sidewalk...preventing the free passage of citizens walking by and attempting to enter and exit a store while standing with a group of six others...[and refusing] to disperse and leave the area.” Mr. Pullano’s client was one of three Edison Tech varsity basketball team members who were arrested while waiting on a sidewalk for a bus to take them to a scrimmage. The arrests raised concerns that the police were unfairly targeting minority teens. In addition to widespread media coverage locally, MSNBC and USA Today also reported on the arrests. Mr. Pullano’s relentless pursuit of justice continued into 2014. Last year he secured acquittals in a forcible touching case in Sweden, a DWI case in Rochester, and a resisting arrest case in Batavia. In both 2014 and this year, he was named a “Super Lawyer” by the Thomson Reuters attorney ranking service of the same name. Mr. Pullano is also a strong supporter of AIDS research in the community. Since 2004, he has biked over 5,500 miles and raised more than \$55,000 in AIDS research fundraising bike-a-thons, such as Trillium Health’s AIDS Red Ribbon Ride and the Empire State AIDS Ride. His brother, Patrick, died from AIDS in 1991. Mr. Pullano also served on the board of directors of AIDS Rochester, Inc. To speak with Peter Pullano, or for more information, please contact Stephen Felano at (585) 492-4700 or at [sfelano@1888law4life.com](mailto:sfelano@1888law4life.com).

## **The 4-Year Itch on 4-Year Anniversary of NYS Gay Marriage**

### **Gay Marriage Marks 4-Year Anniversary in NYS TODAY, Same-Sex Couples Feel “4-Year Itch”**

With today marking the fourth anniversary of when the Marriage Equality Act took effect on July 24, 2011, ushering in gay marriage in New York State, many of the people who married under the law are heading toward a period that has traditionally been trying for couples: their fourth year. Despite the popularity of the “seven-year itch,” social scientists have long recognized that divorces tend to peak in the fourth year of marriage. Out of the married couples in New York State that do not make it to their 10-year anniversary, more each year get divorced during their fourth or fifth year of marriage than any other year. During the 17-year period ending in 2013 in New York State, annual divorces within the pre-10-year-anniversary period peaked seven times during the fourth year of marriage (i.e., 1997, 2001, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) and six times during the fifth year of marriage (i.e., 1998, 1999, 2002, 2006, 2008, 2013)\*Tully Rinckey PLLC same-sex divorce attorneys are available to discuss:

How the U.S. Supreme Court’s recent Obergefell decision, which legalized gay marriages nationwide, has made it easier for same-sex couples to seek a divorce in other states and jurisdictions.

How the Obergefell

decision potentially expanded the scope of marital assets which can be divided in a divorce.

That while the Obergell

decision expanded the scope and protection afforded to gay couples, there could still remain outstanding issues concerning the relationship of New York marriages versus other states and jurisdictions.

For more information, please contact James Schlett at 518-218-7100 (office) or 518-852-1863 (cell) or [jschlett@1888law4life.com](mailto:jschlett@1888law4life.com)

## **Tully Rinckey PLLC Is NY's First Law Firm Certified as a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business**

Tully Rinckey PLLC Is NY's First Law Firm Certified as a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business

Growing firm, founded by veterans, looks to new opportunities created by certification

February 19, 2015 – Rochester, N.Y. –

Tully Rinckey PLLC has become the first law firm in New York State to be certified as a Service-Disabled, Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB) under a state law passed last year. The firm certification, made by the Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development within the New York State Office of General Services, came less than a year after Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Act. The act aims to increase eligible veteran-owned business involvement in state contracting by establishing a six percent participation goal for such enterprises. "This certification opens new opportunities that were previously just out of reach for Tully Rinckey PLLC and other SDVOB's like us. We are honored to be the first law firm certified under this law and look forward to servicing the needs of state contractors, agencies and authorities from our offices across the state," said Tully Rinckey PLLC Founding Partner Greg T. Rinckey, a former active duty captain in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. "If you are a state agency or authority or contractor seeking a qualified legal firm, Tully Rinckey PLLC, the first and only SDVOB law firm in New York, wants to do business with you." Mr. Rinckey's fellow founding partner, Mathew B. Tully, is a service-disabled veteran. Last May Mr. Tully was medically retired from the U.S. Army after nearly two decades of military service. His retirement came following a long recovery from injuries he sustained during a suicide bomber attack involving a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device in 2012. As a result of his service in Afghanistan, Mr. Tully was awarded the Combat Action Badge, the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Mr. Rinckey also sustained service-connected injuries prior to being honorably discharged from the Army in 2004. To speak to Mr. Rinckey, or for more information, please contact Charles McChesney at (518) 218-7100 or at [cmcchesney@1888law4life.com](mailto:cmcchesney@1888law4life.com)