

## Pullano again tests his pedal mettle for charity

By: Mike Murphy

August 19, 2014

Attorney Peter J. Pullano is planning to spend a bit of time with his late brother. Pullano will embark Wednesday on the five-day, 420-mile AIDS Red Ribbon Ride in memory of his brother Patrick, who died of the disease in 1991. In the process of riding through the Finger Lakes region, Pullano, who is a partner at the Rochester office of Tully Rinckey PLLC, is expected to bike his 5,000th mile and, he hopes, surpass his target fundraising goal of \$4,000. The money raised by riders goes to Trillium Health's AIDS medical care and support services as well as to preventative programs. A man has a lot of time to think on his bike and Pullano, who each year since 2004 has been participating in fundraising rides, often thinks of his brother. The brothers were the middle two of four boys and they had a close relationship. Patrick Pullano was 33 when he died. Peter Pullano, who was 30 at the time, has three children, only one of whom Patrick met. "I still miss him every day," Pullano said. "It's a way to spend time with him again. I think certainly of our life together, but also what he would be like with my kids. If he were alive, what would he be like?" When his brother first became sick, Pullano started participating in awareness and fundraising walks as well as putting his legal experience to good use — he handled wills for people with the disease on a pro bono basis and also started serving on the board of AIDS Rochester Inc. The first bike ride sounded like a goofy idea at the time, but he was game to try, Pullano said. Now, he's soon to be 5,000 miles and counting and last year he topped the \$50,000 mark for raising money to support AIDS charities. "I focused on lawyers and judges, and the response was overwhelming," Pullano said. "I couldn't believe how much money came in. I go back to the same people every year." According to Trillium Health, about 181,000 people who have HIV are living in New York. Medical care and treatment for a person with HIV runs about \$20,000 a year. While much has been accomplished over the years — and Pullano, who has practiced more than 20 years in criminal defense and serves on the board of the Foundation of the Monroe County Bar Association, only needs to think back to when he first learned of his brother's diagnosis to be reminded of the work being done for those with AIDS — more needs to be done. And riders are there to help, and to have a bit of fun in doing so. There is plenty of time for reflection on lost friends and loved ones, but the ride is generally a happy occasion. Opening ceremonies are Wednesday and riders meet up with old friends and catch up before embarking on the long journey. "There's a moment right before it starts when you remember why you're here," Pullano said. "But it's a lot of fun, a lot of laughs."

&#8220;He took on this case with vigor and ZERO FEAR of the government!&#8221;

"LITERALLY THE BEST MONEY I EVER SPENT!!!! The USAF charged my son with Article 92, Violate General Order and Article 128, Simple Assault. I spoke to many attorneys who said to me,

"Your son will be convicted of the Simple Assault because putting lotion on someone's face is considered an assault as it is an unwanted touch." They all wanted me to work on a plea deal with the government that ended with my son being discharged, spending time in the brig and having a federal conviction for the rest of his life. Knowing that this just didn't warrant a federal conviction, bad conduct discharge and time in the brig, I was on a search to find an attorney who would look at this case for what it was: a couple of 19-21 year-old immature young men horse playing. I was looking for someone who would say something different; someone who would be able to look at the case from more than one view. When I spoke to Mr. Rinckey, I thought I was going to get the same ole speech, but to my surprise, I IMMEDIATELY felt at ease and I knew right then that he was going to be my attorney (not sure if he knew it at this time). He took on this case with vigor and ZERO FEAR of the government! He wanted them to know that this was NOT going to go away with any plea deal! And he went to work! Then, LITERALLY 2 DAYS BEFORE trail the government added an additional charge, which was Article 134, Unlawful Entry. Mr. Rinckey stayed focused, developed a plan, and off to trail we went. He was so prepared, calm and at ease. I remember him saying to me, "I am ready to try this case." And yesterday – 14 APR 2016 – my son was found NOT GUILTY on ALL CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS!!! Yesss!!! You know, it's always hard to find money for an attorney, but I learned one thing with this case. Although I thought we couldn't afford an attorney, the truth of the matter was that we couldn't afford NOT TO HAVE an attorney. I only wish I had found Mr. Rinckey sooner, but that's okay. I have found my ATTORNEY for life," Y.W. on Founding Partner on Greg Rinckey, Esq.

Prior results do not guarantee similar outcomes.

"Great Customer Service" – C.R.

"Great customer service, thoroughly explained all aspects of my case. Thank you." - C.R.

Prior results do not guarantee similar outcomes

&#8220;Great Service&#8221; &#8211; E.S.

I want to thank you all for the great service rendered [to] myself and family. - E.S. on Client Relations Attorney Derrick Hogan

"High Regard" – R.E.M.

"Your firm held my best interests with high regard... I thank you for your efforts" - R.E.M.

"Prompt and Efficient" – K.E.

"Prompt and efficient in processing claim, all correspondence handled in prompt & efficient manner" – K.B.

"Impressed" – W.W.

"As a retired heavy user of attorneys, I'm impressed with your concerns and your efforts to stay in touch with your clients. Its damned good management aligned with top notch expertise." – W.W.

“Excellent Service” – J.R.

“Excellent service, very professional, and understanding and considerate of clients needs” Attorney was very approachable and there was a very good comfort level” – J.R.

“Full Service” – K.M.

“I like the fact the office is close enough to where I work and live and that it is a full service practice, not just estate planning” – K.M.

“Professional and Informative” – J.H.

“Professional and informative... I was pleased with the handling of the case. I was treated as a person, and kept abreast of all aspects of the case. Thank you all.” – J.H.

“Thanks So Much” – J.D.

“Without your Firm, I would not have known of my claim. Thanks so much!” – J.D.

“Gets Results” – F.P.

“Most certainly – The firm gets results!” – F.P.

“Outstanding” – M.P.

“Results are outstanding” – M.P.

“Quite Satisfied” – R.W.

“I am quite satisfied with the services your office has provided.” – R.W.

“Exceptional Legal Services” – A.S.

“Your firm, Tully Rinckey, has provided and continues to provide me with prompt, keen, exceptional legal services. After the initial consult, I felt relieved that I had the representation from Tully Rinckey... I have found a new found hope with Tully Rinckey...” – A.S.

“Absolute Best” – R.H.

“My attorney was the absolute best I could ever have hoped for. A pure professional in every sense of the word. She was very mindful of my financial expenditure and still was able to represent me very well in my court case.” – R.H.

“Outstanding Service” – A.R.

“Outstanding service, true professional.” – A.R.

“Top Notch” – V.W.

“My attorney was top notch. Very Pleasant and helpful” – V.W.

“Very Thankful” – C.P.

“Very thankful for the help and guidance I received from your law firm. Because of your law firm I was able to return to work with all my back benefits.” – C.P.

“Ideal Choice” – D.H.

“My attorney knew exactly the approach to take and was the ideal choice. She was extremely responsive. She was clear, balanced, and open to our views and feelings. She made it clear she was there for us and ready to answer questions.” – D.H.

“Very Satisfied” – D.D.

“I was very satisfied with the services provided which were completed in a very timely and professional manner.” – D.D.

“Excellent” – B.M.

“Your firm provides excellent & free service to federal workers and NG/USAR members.” – B.M.