

Arizona Team, a performance driven company focused on commitment, community involvement and personal development, recently participated in the 9th Annual Pat's Run. Pat's Run is organized by the Pat Tillman Foundation and is a 4.2 mile walk/run around Tempe and Arizona State University. Arizona Team chose the Pat Tillman Foundation and the Pat's Run event because they believe in the power of a positive environment and the mission that Pat's Run instills on the community.

As a leader in direct sales and entrepreneurship, Arizona Team believes that the human spirit and a drive for success is a natural compliment to giving back to the community. Pat's Run was filled with inspiration and hope for all who participated. Arizona Team is proud to be a part of such a fantastic event.

About the Pat Tillman Foundation:

The Pat Tillman Foundation is an organization that provides support and invests time and resources to military veterans and their spouse through educational scholarships. The Pat Tillman Foundation's mission: building a diverse community of leaders committed to service to others, is a true example of inspiration and hope for those going through the hardships associated with the military. The Pat Tillman Foundation is an honorary name for the athlete and hero--Pat Tillman.

Pat Tillman, a California native and oldest of 3 boys, turned his passion for football into a scholarship to the Arizona State University. Through his football career with Arizona State, he helped to carry the team through an undefeated season and onward to the 1997 Rose Bowl. This exceptional 1997 season earned him several awards including ASU's Most Valuable Player and Pac-10 Defense Player of the Year.

In 1998, Pat Tillman was drafted by the Arizona Cardinals. As time passed he became a starting player and set a record with the team for the number of tackles for their 2000 season. In 2001 the St. Louis Rams offered Pat Tillman a lucrative contract. Loyal to his team, Pat Tillman turned down the deal to stay with the Arizona Cardinals.

In 2001, tragic events lead to a turning point in Tillman's NFL career. It was September 11, 2001 when an attack on US grounds lead to thousands of innocent casualties. This was a day Pat Tillman would never forget. Soon after the US invaded Afghanistan, Tillman placed his football dreams on hold and enlisted with the United States Military. With this decision, he was forced to give up a \$3.6 million contract with the NFL. This immediately attracted the media and the opinions poured in. Some could not fathom the idea of Tillman ending the perks of a professional athlete in order to fight on the frontline for his country. This quickly led to skeptical public.

No matter what opinions came in, Pat Tillman moved forward in his decision and went through training with one of his brothers to become an Army Ranger. Tillman served in many operations one of which would lead to the end of his life.

On April 22, 2004, Tillman was mysteriously killed while on an operation in Afghanistan. The military would not confirm the cause of death and this spiraled in to a scandal and huge investigation. Making it

to the federal level with thousands of unclear documents and hundreds of different stories to what actually happened, this remains a mystery unsolved to this day.

Although there were a lot of unanswered questions, the family has high hopes that the real story will surface on what really happened April 22, 2004. In addition, Pat's mother, Mary Tillman goes on to say "This isn't about Pat; this is about what they did to Pat and what they did to a nation. By making up these false stories, you're diminishing their true heroism." speaking to the military. With their hopes in closure, the family of Pat Tillman set out to create awareness specifically for military and veteran families. Through this hardship the *Pat Tillman Foundation* was formed. In support of true heroism and to keep Tillman's story alive, Pat's jersey numbers for the Arizona State University and Arizona Cardinals were retired in his honor.

Through many acts of awareness Arizona State University and the Pat Tillman Foundation came to support what is now considered to be the country's biggest short runs--*Pat's Run*.

Pat's Run is built around celebrating Pat Tillman's legacy. The race is all about the number "42". This number was Pat Tillman's jersey number for both ASU and the Arizona Cardinals. The run started 9 years ago in 2004 where it immediately attracted 28,000 runners and walkers. Today, 9 years later there are more than 35,000 runners and walkers.

The 9th Annual Pat's Run was held on 4.20.13. It is 4.2 miles in distance and ended on the 42 yard line inside of the Sun Devil's Stadium. This was an opportunity for almost 30,000 individuals to come together in support of one cause and one person's decision to fight for his country. In fact, many other cities have taken on "shadow runs" in order to keep the awareness and support going nation-wide. Last year alone 25 U.S. cities held shadow runs. In addition, the ASU Alumni Association along with deployed service members hosted two Troop runs on foreign-soil military bases and in Texas. This year the ASU Alumni Association will be holding twenty-nine informal Shadow Runs around the nation along with two Troop Runs will be taking place in Afghanistan.

In addition to supporting the Pat Tillman Foundation and Pat's legacy, Pat's Run encourages many people over the world to create their own legacy through the Tillman Military Scholars program. This program motivates active and veteran servicemen and servicewomen to create a career for themselves by covering the funds and expenses such as housing and child care associated with obtaining a degree.

www.pattillmanfoundation.org

This race is supported by the Arizona Cardinals, local 12 News KPNX and many Phoenix Businesses including Arizona Team. This is especially important to the Scottsdale based company Arizona Team, as many staff members and employees have been personally affected by the attack on September 11, 2001. Since opening their doors in 2010, Arizona Team has made it a priority to join forces with the Pat Tillman Foundation, raising money and participating in the Pat's Run annually.

Due to the recent tragic event in Boston, Massachusetts on Monday, April 15th at the finish line of the popular Boston Marathon, Pat's run had added security. They pulled in police forces from surrounding areas such as Scottsdale, Mesa, Gilbert and Chandler. They asked that participants not bring backpacks and/or bags to the race. They also asked that if anyone saw or heard suspicious activity that it is reported right away to an authority. Pat's Run officials were committed to the safety for all of the runners and walkers. For questions or concerns regarding security you may call (480) 621-4074.

This race was especially meaningful and significant to some because of the devastation at the Boston Marathon finish line bombing. The social media is flooded with support and comments asking the runners and walkers to wear red socks or yellow shoelaces in honor of those that lost their lives or were injured on Monday. Therefore, Arizona Team participants took it upon themselves to run in red socks to honor the victims of Monday's tragedy.

At the beginning of the race this Saturday in Tempe, there was a moment of silence for the victims of the Boston Marathon finish line bombing. With all of the participants, upwards to 30,000 men, women, and children on the 4.2 mile course, this race is much denser than the Boston Marathon. The police corresponded to the concerns about a similar event and took every precaution necessary to ensure the patron's safety including bomb-sniffing dogs.

“As is the case every year, the Pat Tillman Foundation wants to ensure that the 9th annual Pat's Run continues to be a safe and inspiring event for all our runners, their supporters and the local Tempe community as we come together to honor Pat Tillman's legacy of leadership, service and action,” the foundation added in Tuesday's press release.

The staff that participated from Arizona Team was confident that this event would be a successful one—and that it was. They believe in the organization and were excited to participate. They did not let the situation from Boston steer them away from supporting the Pat Tillman Foundation. Leaders from Arizona Team are looking forward to this race and each one year after year.

About Arizona Team

Arizona Team is a leading outsourced sales and marketing company in the Phoenix market. Arizona Team is a company focused on entrepreneurship, community involvement and personal development. This year alone, Arizona Team intends on exceeding its goal of over 1000 man hours of work raising money as well as awareness to local and national causes. For more information about Arizona Team, visit www.arizona-team.com