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Re: Human Race/Give From the *Heart*

May 8th is fast approaching, this year's Human Race. The theme "Give From the *Heart*" is appropriate in times when money is desperately needed by the hundreds of nonprofits that benefit from this great event (you know where this is going).

Since 1989, I have put my big *heart* (do attorneys have a *heart*?) and big feet into this event, have written thousands of letters (collector's items), and run or walked hundreds of miles to raise big money (hope to hit \$300,000 this year) for the American Cancer Society for cancer research, prevention, and services to victims. Cancer touches everyone and your *heartfelt* donation will make a difference (I am a cancer survivor thanks to generous people like you).

I continue to make a (big) fool of myself (easy for me) by begging, groveling, threatening lawsuits, wearing strange outfits or doing other embarrassing things (like advertising another law firm) for large donations. (Does this make me a crazy *heart*, brave *heart*, bleeding *heart*?)

This year I continue my quest and will again push my aging (ancient), long, lanky body over this 6 K racecourse (trying to avoid a *heart* attack yet beat people walking their dogs or cats, moms pulling kids in wagons, people with walkers and wheelchairs, etc.) to the finish line awaiting the reporters, cameras, TV networks, bands, cheerleaders, cheering (jeering) masses (throwing rotten tomatoes), clients (if I had some), and all my supporters (athletic snapping to attention as I cross (crawl across) the finish line (*heart* beating really fast) in record time(before dark?).

You are requested to open your *heart* (and wallet) and make a generous donation to my worthy cause. I again offer my unique and valuable incentives for large gifts:

1. **For \$5,000**, you will become my exclusive sponsor (with great publicity) and you will have a friend for life (who says money can't buy friendship?).
2. **For \$2,500, or more**, I will be your servant/slave/stooge/attorney (same as stooge), or whatever (be creative) for a day. Just remember my age (old), back (bad) and mind

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(weaker each year), and please be nice (we may need to negotiate terms as I'm not that desperate).

3. **For \$1,000**, I can display your logo or carry a sign; promote your business, political candidate or other agenda; propose marriage; dump your spouse or significant other; insult your boss; serve a summons; be a clown (redundant); baby-sit or entertain your boss, children, spouse, dog, or mother-in-law (that costs extra); finish or start an argument or fight; or whatever pleases you (can't get me arrested).
4. **For \$500**, one free hour of my legal services (you get what you pay for).
5. **For \$100**, a surprise gift. If desired, you can also make a donation of \$100 or more in memory of or in support of a loved one, and I will dedicate my race to all these honored people (I will carry their photographs with me if you provide one).
6. **For \$50 or more**, the ever so popular photo of me at the finish line (hopefully, not on a stretcher and before dark).
7. **For less than \$50** (Oh come on, you really can do better), my gratitude (every dollar counts).

Whatever amount you can give from your *heart* is greatly appreciated and will prevent my broken *heart*. Make your check payable to "**Human Race**", indicate your donation on the enclosed return envelope and return it to my office, c/o Nina Cooney. Payment of your tax-deductible donation now will save us time and postage later. You can also donate using a credit card by going to my personal web page at the Volunteer Center's website. The directions are below\*.

My *heartfelt* gratitude goes out to you for your support.

Sincerely,

John R. O'Brien

\* **WEBSITE DONATION DIRECTIONS:**

**GO** to the website **<http://humanrace.kintera.org/johnobrien>**

**Enter**: *Benefiting Non-Profit Agency: "AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY"*;

Follow directions to **enter your donation amount, name, address; and;**

Enter information to **pay by credit card.** ☺