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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 15, 2010**

## **7500 Miles For Melanoma on Bike!!! *Dana Farrell's Ride from Cairo to Cape Town, Africa***

**Westminster, MD** – The Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation (JMNMF) is very honored and proud for the donations of a very great multitude of supporters, but especially so, for those who have now contributed in excess of \$5,000 in the name of two-time melanoma survivor Dana Farrell, who is undertaking an epic, four-month bike ride across the African continent. Starting with her impressions of Cairo on January 15, 2010 – Dana is capturing and writing about her entire journey on her blog, <http://7500milesformelanoma.wordpress.com/>

According to Dana, “I am always drawn to the long and rough events, probably because they provide the biggest challenge and consequently, the biggest sense of satisfaction. I am at my best when I am striving to achieve a daunting challenge—and Africa will be the biggest one, so far, by far!”

At the age of 25, Dana was diagnosed with her first melanoma and, just several years later, her second. Reflecting back, she stated, “I learned how many of the risk factors I possess (family history, fair skin, severe sunburns as a child, etc.) and the danger the disease represents. I began to notice the prevalence of the disease when melanoma directly affected many friends and friends of my family. My father was subsequently treated for a melanoma that I detected.”

The Tour d’Afrique, though an organized tour is far from civilized. The route travels through ten countries: beginning in Cairo, Egypt, then making slow and steady progress through Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Botswana, Namibia and, concluding in Cape Town, South Africa. Dana is to keep a constant update of her progress on her blog – as time, technology and access will permit. Besides the Foundation solidly rooting her on with prayers and encouragement – she has a vast network of friends, family and colleagues who will be monitoring her progress.

The JMNMF strongly recommends following Dana on her epic ride and extends our deepest appreciation for her efforts and those of all her supporters!

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The Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation

...the voice for melanoma prevention, detection, care and cure!