

**NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE**  
**FOUNDATION**

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**“OPERATION KIDS PROGRAM”**

# Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
09:00 A.M. EDT,  
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**NPDF OFFICIALS CONVINCED AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL TO ISSUE**  
**EMERGENCY VISA FOR FOUR YEAR OLD DOMINICAN GIRL IN NEED OF**  
**FACIAL RECONSTRUCTION**

**SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, SEPTEMBER 4, 2015:** Executive Director of the National Police Defense Foundation, Joseph Occhipinti announced today the approval of medical visas in the Dominican Republic for 4 year old Ashley Ambrose to enter the United States in order to undergo facial reconstruction surgery by Dr. Russell Reid, director of Craniofacial Surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine, Comer Children's Hospital in Chicago. On September 6, 2015, Ashley will be arriving at Newark, New Jersey on United Flight #1473 with her mom and a NPDF Delegation at 6pm.

The plight of Ashley came to the attention of the NPDF Executive Director in March 2015 from an American tourist who met the child and her parents while vacationing in the Dominican Republic. Ashley was born with facial deformities and underwent several surgeries in the Dominican Republic but requires additional procedures that cannot be done in her country.

Ashley is scheduled for a pre-operative appointment on September 8, 2015 and will undergo surgery on October 26, 2015 by Dr. Russell Reid who is the director of Craniofacial Surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine, Comer Children's Hospital in Chicago. The child will also need to have follow-up treatment at 3 month intervals for up to one year after the surgery.

All medical treatments will be funded through the Fresh Start Caring for Kids Foundation which transforms the lives of disadvantaged infants, children and teens with physical deformities caused by birth defects, accidents, abuse, or disease through the gift of reconstructive surgery and healthcare services. (<http://www.freshstartkids.org/>)

The National Police Defense Foundation will be paying for related air transportation, lodging and related expenses in the United States and Santo Domingo for both Ashley and her mother. The "Operation Kids" program, a congressionally recognized child safety initiative of the National Police Defense Foundation, is credited for arranging numerous lifesaving operations and medical treatment for critically ill children worldwide. The program demonstrates law enforcements commitment to protect our children from criminal elements and life threatening illnesses.

For further information contact NPDF Executive Director Joseph Occhipinti at 732-617-2330 or cellular, 732-616-9600.

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