



NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE FOUNDATION

The NPDF is an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation that funds "Safe Cop" and "Operation Kids" Programs.

NPDF Newsletter

February 2010

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Members & Supporters:

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and healthy New Year!

I am proud to report that our membership has increased to a record 135,000 members and supporters nationwide and internationally. You should also be honored to know that your tax-deductible donation and dues has enabled us to have a record year in administering successful program services outlined in this newsletter.

For the new year we have many new events and programs services planned, such as a summer day cruise around West Point, which I hope you will participate in and support. Remember, an organization is as good as it can be based upon the support it receives from its membership.

*Joseph Occhipinti
Founder & Executive Director*



NEWS UPDATES

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

- Sgt. Laura Rosado (NPDF) was elected as our new NPDF Executive Secretary and first female board member.
- NPDF Delegate Howard Harrison (NPDF Photographer) and William "Bill" Franz", the former Chief of Staff for the SI Borough President, recently passed away and will be truly missed.
- All 2010 Membership renewal notices were mailed out in November 2009. There was no dues increase.
- Members with expired NPDF badge credentials and DMV organizational license plates are reminded to promptly renew their membership.
- The NY DMV has increased the cost of NPDF "Safe Cop" organizational license plates to \$92 for standard plates and \$123.25 for customized plates.
- PADMV has approved the organizational license plate program for NPDF members and is in the design stage.
- The NPDF had a successful Annual Board meeting that took place from Sept. 10 to 15, 2009 in Bermuda.
- The State of New Jersey has approved the newly revised NPDF "Constitution & By-laws" to reflect decade long changes since its incorporation.

- The NPDF has appointed three "volunteer" Interns, (1) Matt Stoll (2) Gazmend Kalocovic and (3) Patrycja Maria Wroniecka.
- NPDF Delegate Sergio Andreassi published "The Return To Andreassi" an autobiography on his plight for justice.

NEW NPDF COALITIONS

The NPDF has approved the creation of the Florida Police Defense Foundation (FPDF) that is being administered by Commander Michael Calderin (**Broward County Sheriff's Office**). The NPDF also approved the "NPDF Italia Section" that is our first international coalition being administered by PO Michele Mastrosimone of the Italian State Police.

NEW NPDF ADMINISTRATORS

The NPDF Executive Board has appointed NPDF Delegate John Di Prima (Chief/Ret-NYC Dept. of Probation) as the "Operation Kids" Administrator. Also appointed as the Administrator for the "Safe Cop" program is Det. Tom Nerney.

NPDF DIRECTOR RECEIVES SEVERAL HONORS

NPDF Founder & Executive Director Joseph Occhipinti received several awards this year that included an (1) "International Humanitarian Award" from "Committee della Croce" for his life saving efforts on "Operation Kids". The awards presentation took place on December 5, 2009 at Coppito, Italy, where President Obama attended the G-8 summit last year. (2) "Distinguished Service Award for Excellence" on March 28, 2009 from the Civil Aid Service, Inc. (3) "Member of the Year Award" on April 23, 2009 from FOP Memorial Lodge 100 and (4) "Special Recognition Award" on August 24, 2009 from Broward County Sheriff Al Lamberti in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.



NPDF VISITS EARTHQUAKE REGION

NPDF officials attending the award ceremony in L'Aquila, Italy were given special government permission to visit the disaster area wherein they met public safety officers from the Polizia Di Stato (Italian State Police), Vigili di Fuoco (National Fire Service), Carabinieri (Italian Military Police), among others. In fact, NPDF officials participated in the actual delivery of emergency medical supplies being provided disaster victims and emergency personnel.



NPDF RELIEF EFFORTS TO HAITI DELAYED

The NPDF response team to Haiti was temporarily delayed due to armed assaults on convoys delivering supplies. NPDF Board members and Delegate Col. Bienvenido Perez Perdomo (Dominican Police/Ret) were making arrangements to deliver medical and related supplies to earthquake victims. Any member wishing to make or pledge a donation should call 888-SAFE COP. Make checks payable to: "NPDF Haiti Relief Fund".

OPERATION KIDS PROGRAM

IN LOVING MEMORY

Let's take a moment of silence to remember 14 month old Melanie Macias of Guayaquil, Ecuador who passed away on October 1, 2009 from complications attributed to her open heart surgery.

It all started with an urgent email from Baby Melanie's mother pleading that her baby was critically ill and surgeons in Ecuador lacked the expertise to perform the surgery. Our friends at the "Gift of Life" convinced a NY Children's hospital to perform the complex surgery, pro-bono.

On September 12, 2009, Joe Occhipinti and Delegate Jose Zhanay traveled to Guayaquil, Ecuador where they were credited for securing an emergency medical visa for Baby Melanie and her mother. Special thanks to the American Consulate officials and DEA Attaché for helping to expedite the visas.

Despite our good faith efforts to save Baby Melanie, "Operation Kids" continued to help the family whose sole income was \$200

per month by paying for the funeral/burial expenses. The "Baby Melanie" case received substantial media coverage both in the U.S. and Ecuador, including CBS and ABC News. (For further information and photos on the Baby Melanie Case visit www.npdf.org)

PENDING OPERATION KIDS CASES

Operation Kids Administrator John DePrima is working on some new life saving cases that include 6 month Sebastain Feraud and 5 year old Bryan Valerio both from Ecuador who are in need of open heart surgery. The NPDF is also trying to secure a cochlear implant for 15 year old Scarlett Escarraman from the Dominican Republic who has been deaf since birth.

OPERATION KIDS SCHOOL PROJECT

NPDF officials are researching the feasibility of funding a non-profit elementary "Operation Kids" School in Santo Domingo. The initial funding would enable the creation of an elementary charter school that will service low income kindergarten to fourth grade students. This proposed NPDF project would be funded via public donations, corporate and government grants.

2010 AWARDS DINNER

The NPDF will be holding its 2010 Annual Awards Dinner on May 13, 2010 at Russo's On the Bay, Howard Beach, NY of which the proceeds will benefit "Operation Kids". The honoree's include (1) Congressman Peter King as "Man of the Year" (2) Nassau County DA Kathleen M. Rice as "Woman of the Year" (3) retired NYPD Det. John Bourges with a "Lifetime Achievement Award" (4) Tony Navarro, President of the Orange County Shields with the "President's Award" (5) NPDF Delegate Mike Rosato with a "Distinguished Member Award." and (6) Shepherd Smith of FOX News with the "Excellence in Media Award." Invitations will be mailed out in February 2010.

TROOPERS COALITION DINNER A SUCCESS

The 5th Annual State Troopers Coalition Dinner held on Oct 22, 2009 at "Season's" in Washington Township, NJ was a huge success. The awards ceremony honored several NJ State Troopers and officers for meritorious service and valor. The honoree's included (1) former Newark US Attorney and Governor Chris Christie for his success in prosecuting the largest official corruption probe in NJ (2) Mrs. Donna Lamonaco, the widow of slain NJ Trooper Philip Lamonico who founded the "Survivor's of the Triangle (3) NJSP Lt. Col. Jerome Hatfield who serves as the Deputy Superintendent of Homeland Security and (4) US Army Major Dwyane M. Kelley, a NJ Trooper killed in Iraq. A special thanks to Delegate George Greico for bringing the USO Singers.



2009 NPDF ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The 2009 NPDF Annual Awards Dinner held on April 22, 2009 at "Russo's on the Bay" Howard Beach, NY was a complete sell out!! The honoree's included (1) Broward County Sheriff Al Lamberti as "Man of the Year" (2) NYPD Chief Theresa Shortell as "Women of the Year" (3) PAPD Inspector Lawrence Fields with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" (4) DEA President Michael Paladino with the "President Award" and (5) former NPDF Secretary Stan Milstein with a "Distinguished Member Award."



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OPERATION KIDS GRANTS SCHOLARSHIPS

The NPDF awarded five scholarships at its annual awards dinner to college students whose relatives are NPDF members. The deserving scholarship winners included (1) Rebecca A. Fielding (2) Gabrielle Manas (3) Michael Kehrli (4) Caitlin Occhipinti and Samantha Chierchio. This brings the number of NPDF scholarships granted to over thirty recipients. NPDF Members are reminded that all scholarship applications must be submitted by April 21, 2010. Visit www.npdf.org to download the 2010 scholarship application.



LEGAL DEFENSE

ATF S/A WILLIAM CLARK FUND

The NPDF has learned of the plight of ATF S/A William Clark who is being prosecuted for 2nd Degree murder by the U.S. Virgin Island prosecutors. According to ATF officials, on Sept. 7, 2008, S/A Clark intervened in a domestic violence case involving one of his neighbors who had a history of violence and criminal activity. During that intervention, S/A Clark reportedly ordered the assailant, who appeared out of control and nude in the street, to drop a large MAG flashlight that was being used to assault both the female victim and agent. The autopsy report has not been released to determine if the assailant was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The witness statements allege the ATF agent properly identified himself and shot and killed the assailant when he refused to drop the weapon and was continuing in his assault. According to a December 18, 2008 report, the ATF Shooting Incident Review Board (SIRB) concluded that the shooting was indeed justified and that S/A Clarke “was acting within the scope of his employment and authority.” Moreover, “there was no evidence of misconduct or malfeasance (wrongful or inappropriate actions) on the part of the agent.”

An independent NPDF review disclosed disturbing allegations that the agents prosecution may have been retaliatory in light of increased federal enforcement efforts in the U.S. Virgin Islands that resulted in the federal prosecution of local government officials for federal corruption and related crimes. In fact, all ATF Agents have been removed from the US Virgin Islands to protest this selective prosecution.

NPDF Legal Counsel Michael Cornacchia is reviewing the matter to consider the filing of an “Amicus Brief” recommending dismissal of all charges asserting the action taken by S/A Clark was lawful and in accordance with agency procedures.

The NPDF is closely monitoring this prosecution and recommends its members and American tourist to “boycott” travel to the US Virgin Islands in light of this selective prosecution, as well as a serious increase of criminal activity on that island that poses a danger to Americans.

The NPDF has established the “S/A William Clark Legal Defense Fund” and tax-deductible donations are needed to assist the agent in his defense. Tax-deductible donations can be pledged by calling 888-SAFE COP or mail to P.O. Box 318, Englishtown, NJ 07726.

CBP AGENT INDICTED

The NPDF is investigating the civil rights prosecution involving Eduardo Arellano in Brooklyn, NY who is a Supervisory Inspector for the US Customs & Border Protection (CBP). The prosecution arose out of an Oct 6, 2008 incident at Insp. Arellano's mother's house in NYC. The tenant was removing his personal belongings after being evicted for non payment of rent when the Inspector heard his mother scream for help.

Insp. Arellano reportedly saw the former tenant verbally abusing his mother at which time he ordered him to leave the premises. The tenant refused resulting in a verbal altercation that led to the tenant calling the NYPD. The tenant later alleged he had been assaulted by the inspector, which was reportedly found not credible since no arrests or incidents reports were made. A month later the Inspector learned that the tenant was pursuing the matter with the CPB Internal Affairs. Insp. Arellano was subsequently indicted for federal civil rights and is facing a lengthy prison sentence, if convicted.

The Inspector is being represented by NPDF Legal Counsel Michael Cornacchia wherein there is a concern that the fabricated charges against the Inspector may have been retaliatory in view of the eviction. It is the NPDF's belief that since there were no reported injuries, nor any NYPD arrests, the matter should have been handled administratively. At present, the Inspector has been on indefinite suspension without any income to support his four children and lacks the needed funds for a viable defense. Any member wishing to make a tax-deductible donation for CPP Inspector Arellano legal defense should contact the NPDF at 888-SAFE-COP.

SAFE COP CORNER

SAFE COP DEATH BENEFITS

The Safe Cop program was expanded to provide financial assistance and death benefits to the families of slain officer's which included (1) payment for the burial of slain FBI Special Agent Barry Lee Bush of the Newark Office who was killed in the line of duty attempting to arrest bank robbers (2) FBI Special Agent Sam Hicks killed in a drug operation in Indiana Township, PA (3) U.S. Department of Homeland (ICE) Special Agent Donald Pettit killed on August 5, 2008 in Broward County, FL and (4) and Tampa Police Department Corporal Michael Roberts who was killed in the line of duty in August 2009.

DONATION OF ARMOR FOR K-9 POLICE DOGS

On August 25, 2009, the NPDF Director Joe Occhipinti attended a press conference at the Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO), Ft. Lauderdale, FL wherein he expressed concern about the serious increase of armed assaults on K-9 Police dogs and their handlers. In order to address those concerns, the NPDF announced they are expanding their Safe Cop program to provide customized body armor for K-9 Police dogs engaged in dangerous police operations. Director Occhipinti, along with NPDF Administrator Michael Calderin, presented two sets of body armor to BSO Deputy Jerry Wengert and his dog “Bali” whose former K-9 partner was killed in the line of duty in July 2008 and Sgt. Lyndean Peters of the Golden Beach, FL Police Department and his K-9 partner, “Bento”.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



"Protecting and Supporting Law Enforcement"

Membership Application



The National Police Defense Foundation (NPDF) provides services, assistance, and advice to the national law enforcement community.

Some of the services offered by the NPDF include:

- Free initial legal consultation to NPDF Members.
- Access to legal and medical support services.
- Access to NPDF approved insurance and financial specialists.

Annual membership fee entitles the member to all of the above benefits, plus:

- NPDF Membership card and Three NPDF courtesy cards.
- Two vehicle window decals.
- Participation in NPDF Affinity Mortgage, Car Insurance, Bank and Credit Card programs.
- Participation in NPDF organizational license plate program (NY & NJ)
- Access to discounted automobile purchasing and leasing programs.
- Access to discounted travel, travel tours and automobile rental.
- \$2,000 Line of Duty Death Benefit (Law Enforcement)
- Donated Funeral & Burial Line Of Duty Benefit (Law Enforcement)
- And many other services and benefits! Visit www.NPDF.org

Personal Data

Member Name: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 E-mail: _____ Cell: _____

NPDF MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: Is this a New Application or Renewal

- ___ **A** \$25 Law Enforcement (Full Member Package & Benefits)
(Includes all Public Safety Officers)
- ___ **B** \$35 Honorary Member
(No Member Benefits, 1 Member Card & 1 Vehicle Decal)
- ___ **C** \$150 Silver associate Membership
(Full member package & benefits noted above)
- ___ **D** \$350 Gold Membership (Full member package that includes additional 5 courtesy cards, (2") member badge with credentials in Leather wallet, membership certificate and wallet badge)
- ___ **E** \$500 Platinum Membership (Full member package, plus 10 courtesy cards, (2") member badge with credentials in a leather wallet, membership certificate, wallet badge and one ticket to Annual Awards Dinner.

Professional Data

Title: _____
 Department/Firm: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Vehicle License Plate _____ State _____

PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO:

National Police Defense Foundation • Membership Processing Center • P.O. Box 318 • Englishtown, NJ 07726 or Fax 732-446-3360

NPDF Membership - Donation Form (Please select from above programs).

Code	Description of Membership Program	Size	Amount
	2009 Membership Dues		
	2009 Donation		
	Other		

METHOD OF PAYMENT Please Check One: CHECK VISA MASTERCARD

AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

Name: _____
 Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____
 Signature: _____ SEC. Code (3-4 Digits): _____
 Billing Address: _____

TOTAL \$

NPDF reserves the right to approve all applications for membership.
 Any misuse of NPDF Property is subject to immediate forfeiture. You must be an NPDF member to possess NPDF property. Any unauthorized reproduction or sale of NPDF property is prohibited by law.

National Police Defense Foundation is a Congressionally recognized and IRS approved 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation. All applicants for membership are subject to approval by the NPDF Executive Board.