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American Society of Plastic Surgeons Recognizes Black History Month By Honoring a Pioneering African American Member

African American Plastic Surgeons – A Small, but Growing Segment of the Specialty

For Immediate Release: February 4, 2004

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill. – The American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) commemorates Black History Month by paying tribute to a pioneering African American member, Ferdinand Ofofiele, MD, and reflecting on the small, but growing number of black plastic surgeons in the specialty.

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“It is vital to our specialty that we actively encourage diversity so we can continue to advance understanding of ethnic beauty and develop unique procedures to parallel those used in our Caucasian patients,” said Dr. Rohrich.

“The specialty of plastic surgery is evolving for black plastic surgeons and patients,” said **Emily Pollard, MD**, a Philadelphia-based black plastic surgeon and member of the ASPS Public Education Committee. “We have rich histories, varied backgrounds and are dedicated to the advancement of the specialty and positively changing the lives of our patients.”

The American Society of Plastic Surgeons is the largest organization of board-certified plastic surgeons in the world. With more than 6,000 members, the Society is recognized as a leading authority and information source on cosmetic and reconstructive plastic surgery. ASPS comprises 90 percent of all board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States. Founded in 1931, the Society represents physicians certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery or The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.