# OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS

#### PRESS RELEASE

#### For Immediate Release:

July 24, 2020

### **For More Information:**

John Erzen, II
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the County Executive
Prince George's County
w. 301.952.5980
c. 240.508.4491
jeerzen@co.pg.md.us

## COUNTY EXECUTIVE ALSOBROOKS ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL COVID-19 INSPECTIONS OVER THE WEEKEND

County Inspection Teams Will Visit Sports Fields Across the County to Ensure No Illegal Contact Sports are Taking Place

**LARGO, MD** – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County's Ambassador COVID-19 Compliance Team, along with Prince George's County police, will conduct additional inspections over the coming weekend that now include sports fields owned by Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) and the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). Due to local COVID-19 ordinances put in place by the County Executive to protect the health and well-being of Prince Georgians, high-contact sports are prohibited at this time.

"While Prince Georgians have done a beautiful job overall of complying with local COVID-19 safety guidelines, we understand some residents have begun to grow weary," said Alsobrooks. "I want to remind everyone that high-contact sports are strictly prohibited due to the increased risk of spreading COVID-19, and anyone engaging in that activity is not only endangering their own lives, but the lives of their family members and fellow Prince Georgians."

Pursuant to the County Executive's most recent Executive Order, high-contact sports are still prohibited, including sports such as football, basketball and soccer. Limited low-contact sports and practices focused on skills training are allowed in small groups, no more than 1 coach and 9 children per group, and with no more than 100 people in any given area. Those individuals must have a permit and adhere to wearing face coverings, social distancing and other safety measures.

Anyone participating in high-contact sports in violation of the Executive Order can be charged with a misdemeanor crime and subject to a \$1,000 fine or up to one year in jail. In addition, use of PGCPS and M-NCPPC fields without a permit is considered trespassing and could result in additional penalties. However, the focus of inspections and enforcement over the coming

weekend will be on educating and informing residents who are not complying with the Executive Order.

Residents who witness illegal use of a sports field for high-contact sports can report that concern to the County's Ambassador Compliance Team at 301-883-6548 and they will follow-up on those reports.

###