

January 30, 2015

Ms. Ellen Satlof **Public Relations Manager** National Athletic Trainers' Association 2952 Stemmons Freeway Dallas, TX 75247

Ms. Satlof,

Please accept this letter from Moore Center for Orthopedics in support of the Youth Sport Safety Alliance. The Alliance is committed to improving the health and safety of youth athletes and minimizing catastrophic and fatal injuries in sports, and this is something our organization strives to do every day.

The Moore Center for Orthopedics is a full-service orthopedic practice serving Columbia, South Carolina and the surrounding communities. Our practice houses twenty-one physicians, who specialize in one of six areas of orthopedics. We have growing Pediatric Orthopedics and Sports Medicine specialties that are committed to serving the healthcare needs of our youth population. The mission of our program supports many points of the YSSA Call to Action.

In 2006, our Sports Medicine physicians began an athletic training outreach program to local high schools. This program has since grown to include many community high schools, middle schools, a local college, and community event coverage. Moore Center athletic trainers provide medical coverage where there formerly was none, and increase sport medicine services at the schools, working in conjunction with school-based athletic trainers and medical staff. Our athletic trainers work as an extension of the school staff, providing evaluation and rehabilitation; practice and event coverage; and educational programming to athletes, parents, coaches and school staff, among other services. Our physicians provide event coverage at the schools, consultation to the athletic trainers they support, and timely appointments in office for our youth athletes. Our practice organizes a large pre-participation physical event every year, where youth athletes from the community can receive a comprehensive physical exam at no charge. And we house the area's first Concussion Center, where we offer baseline neurocognitive testing to all of our outreach schools, and follow-up appointments, testing, and care for athletes who experience a concussion.

We are encouraged by the recognition that the YSSA has received thus far for their efforts, and excited about the opportunity to support your future projects advocating for youth athlete safety.

Sincerely,

Michelle Matheny

Manager, Athletic Training Outreach Program

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