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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement of the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington, D.C.

June 14, 2017

The thoughts and prayers of the staff and volunteers of the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., are with everyone affected by this morning's shooting at Eugene Simpson Stadium Park.

Our branch YMCA in Alexandria is across the street from the park. Approximately 45 members – all adults – and seven staff were in our facility this morning. A staff member called 911 after hearing gunshots at approximately 7:10 a.m. U.S. Capitol Police officers arrived minutes later and locked the facility down. They lifted the lockdown approximately two hours later. Two bullets entered the facility through a window, but thankfully, nobody was injured.

James T. Hodgkinson joined the Alexandria YMCA as a member on April 4, 2017. Our records indicate that he visited the Y frequently and at all hours of the day. Staff observed him using our health and wellness equipment and spending time in the common area. We received no complaints about Mr. Hodgkinson, and none of our staff recalls observing inappropriate or unusual behavior by him. On June 13, 2017, Mr. Hodgkinson provided written notice that he wanted to cancel his membership, saying he was moving. Because he paid his monthly dues a few days prior, he still had access to the facility through July 14, 2017, per YMCA of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., policy.

Our records indicate that Mr. Hodgkinson arrived at our facility at 5:31 a.m. today. Staff observed him walking up the ramp toward the area where our locker rooms, health and wellness equipment and pool are located. They later observed him sitting at a table in the common area with a laptop computer. They did not see him leave the facility.

This is all the information we have at this time.

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