



June 10, 2022

Dr. Mark Emmert
President
National Collegiate Athletic Association
700 W. Washington Street
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

Dear President Emmert:

As presidents of Delaware's colleges and universities, we write to express our support for Delaware State University and its women's lacrosse team. On April 20, 2022, Liberty County, Georgia sheriff's deputies stopped and searched a contracted bus transporting Delaware State's student-athletes home from competition in Florida. Videos from a bus passenger and the sheriff's body cameras reflect a highly questionable stop of the bus and likely unconstitutional search of the athletes' personal property.

This matter is much larger than one institution and one athletic program. As institutions of higher education, we collectively represent over 1,600 student-athletes in Delaware and regularly contract non-university bus services to transport athletes to intra-and interstate competitions. As such, the personal health, safety, and well-being of all of our students, particularly those participating in university/college sponsored events around the country, is of our highest priority. No student-athlete of any institution of higher education in this country should be subject to rogue law enforcement actions or feel unprotected by those sworn to protect and serve our citizens. We call on the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA"), representing over 1,200 colleges and universities, to condemn the actions of the Georgia authorities involved in this matter and reaffirm a commitment to safe travel among its member institutions for all student-athletes.

Respectfully,

Mark Brainard, President
Delaware Technical Community College

Respectfully,

Dennis Assanis, President
University of Delaware

Respectfully,

LaVerne Harmon, President
Wilmington University

Respectfully,

Colleen Perry Keith, President
Goldey-Beacom College