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

## **For Immediate Release:**

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## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY OPENS NEW COMMUNITY COVID-19 TESTING SITE; RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO GET TESTED FOR A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

Free walk-in COVID-19 testing at Bunker Hill Fire Station in Brentwood begins Monday, November 22; rapid tests and PCR tests will be available

**LARGO, MD** – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced that the Prince George's County Health Department and the Office of Emergency Management will provide rapid and PCR COVID-19 testing at the <u>Bunker Hill Fire Station</u> (3716 Rhode Island Ave, Brentwood, MD 20722) beginning Monday, November 22. Tests are free regardless of insurance coverage and will be available Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM, on a walk-in basis only.

"As we enter into the holiday season and begin to spend more time with our families and friends, we want to ensure Prince Georgians are safe by offering an additional opportunity for residents to get tested for COVID-19, regardless of their vaccination status," said Alsobrooks. "We want to thank Prince Georgians for the tremendous progress we have made in slowing the spread of this virus in our community, and we ask that you please remain vigilant in our fight to end this pandemic."

"Vaccinated or not, getting tested for COVID-19 is still a critical part of slowing the spread of the virus, especially in advance of holiday gatherings," said Prince George's County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Health, Human Services, and Education Dr. George L. Askew. "Getting vaccinated is still your best defense against the virus but knowing your COVID-19 status before and after celebrating a holiday with others will keep those around you safer from the virus."

The Health Department does not recommend hosting or attending holiday gatherings if you have COVID-19 or if you are experiencing <u>symptoms of COVID-19</u>.

## The Health Department encourages individuals to get tested for COVID-19 if they:

- Have COVID-19 symptoms, even if fully vaccinated;
- Have had <u>close contact</u> with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19:
  - Fully vaccinated individuals <u>should be tested</u> 5–7 days after their last exposure if they do not have symptoms.
  - o Individuals who are not fully vaccinated <u>should get tested</u> immediately when they find out or suspect they are a close contact. If their test result is negative, they

should get tested again 5–7 days after their last exposure or immediately if symptoms develop.

- o Individuals who have been exposed should know when to quarantine.
- Plan to attend or have attended holiday gatherings;
- Plan to travel (if you are planning to travel internationally, you should be fully vaccinated);
- Work in an organization that requires COVID-19 testing; or
- Have been asked or referred by a school, workplace, or healthcare provider to get tested.

For additional guidance for safer holiday celebrations, visit the County's <u>COVID-19</u> webpage. Free COVID-19 testing is available at a variety of health care providers across Prince George's County. To find a testing site near you, visit <u>health.mypgc.us/COVIDtesting</u>.

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