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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Steve Perry (703.940.3601)
Buffalo Brand Invigoration Group
sperry@buffalobig.com

Glenn Gray (540.718.1731)
ggray@buffalobig.com

The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields Names Jay Warnick 2016 Chairman

Former NFL Groundskeeper to Lead Philanthropic Arm of Sports Turf Managers Association

(LAWRENCE, Kan.) – The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields for Everyone (SAFE) – charitable organization for the [Sports Turf Managers Association](#) (STMA), the professional organization for 2,600 men and women who manage sports fields worldwide – today announces it has named Jay Warnick, Certified Sports Field Manager and Director of Sports Maintenance at FIELDS Inc., as its 2016 Chairman.

Formerly Head Sports Field Manager for the Kansas City Chiefs, Warnick brings 20-plus years of sports turf industry experience to the SAFE Board of Trustees. During his tenure, he has maintained grounds for NCAA Division I athletic events, U.S. Soccer, concerts and other high-profile events.

SAFE's mission is to enrich communities through championing safe, sustainable sports and recreation fields for all athletes. At the 2016 STMA Conference & Exhibition, the organization raised more than \$27,000.

"I look forward to advancing SAFE's vision on ensuring athletes of all ages and abilities across America have a safe and playable surface to train or compete in their respective sport," says Warnick. "I am excited to serve as an industry ambassador and work to educate the public on the significance of maintaining safe playing fields."

Last year, the Foundation launched a video outreach program aiming to increase awareness and educate parents, players, coaches and volunteers. The complimentary videos can be accessed below:

- [Natural Grass Field Safety](#)
- [Synthetic Turf Field Safety](#)
- [Sports Facility and Equipment Safety](#)

For more information: www.safefields.org, 800.323.3875.

About SAFE

The SAFE Foundation was established in 2000 to fund research, educational programs and scholarships geared to the sports field profession. SAFE is a 501(c)3 and is the charitable arm of the organization of the Sports Turf Managers Association and works to enrich communities through championing safe, sustainable sports and recreation fields for all athletes.

About STMA

STMA is the not-for-profit, professional association for men and women who manage sports fields worldwide. Since 1981, the association and its 34 local chapters have been providing education, information and sharing practical knowledge in the art and science of sports field management. Its more than 2,600 members oversee sports fields and facilities at schools, colleges and universities, parks and recreational facilities, and professional sports stadiums.

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