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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ohio Hospitals' Infection Prevention Infrastructure, Second Texas Ebola Patient Visited Ohio

(Columbus, Ohio – 43215) On Wednesday, October 15, 2014, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that the second health care worker in Dallas diagnosed with Ebola visited family in Akron, Ohio from October 8-13. The Ohio Hospital Association's President and CEO Mike Abrams offers the following statement regarding this new development and Ohio hospitals' preparedness:

"Ohio hospitals and health systems are extraordinary institutions with exceptional health care workers who provide vital health care services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. OHA's clinical team provides a wide array of services to our hospital members including emergency preparedness. For years, our team has supported Ohio hospitals efforts to prepare and respond to infectious disease events such as the H¹N¹ flu pandemic in 2009. The patient's care, the hospital health care workers' safety and training, and the community's health are top priorities for us.

With the recent Ebola situation, OHA's team has worked with the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health and other health care organizations to provide the necessary resources and information to our members so they remain dedicated, focused and informed on how to safely and effectively respond to potential Ebola infections. We have an established infrastructure for infection prevention and emergency preparedness that is assessed constantly. That infrastructure will be adapted so proper protocols and procedures are followed by health care workers to ensure hospitals are equipped to manage this disease."

About OHA

Established in 1915, the Ohio Hospital Association represents 219 hospitals and 13 health systems throughout Ohio. OHA is a membership-driven organization that collaborates with member hospitals and health systems to ensure a healthy Ohio. In 2012 Ohio hospitals contributed more than \$80 billion to Ohio's economy and provided \$3.12 billion in community benefits. OHA's address is 155 East Broad Street, Suite 301, Columbus, Ohio, 43215. For more information, visit OHA's [website](http://www.ohiohospitals.org).