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**Law Enforcement Interim Ebola Response Guidance  
Background Information  
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There exists a great deal of publically shared information regarding Ebola, some of which is accurate and some of which is inaccurate. This brief summary is offered to confirm facts and inform law enforcement personnel regarding both the best ways to protect themselves as well as what to expect from an EMS response.

**Definitions:**

- 1) Nations with active transmission of disease: This is a list of nations maintained by the CDC that represents geographic areas of risk. Currently, this includes only Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone. It is updated by the CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html>
- 2) Person Under Investigation (PUI): This is an individual who has both history of travel to an area where there is active transmission of the disease and is exhibiting some sign of illness (vomiting, diarrhea, fever, etc).
- 3) Probable Ebola Case: This is an individual who in addition to meeting criteria for PUI has had either high or low risk exposure to a known Ebola patient.
- 4) Confirmed Ebola Case: This is an individual who has been found to have the Ebola virus in their bloodstream by confirmatory testing in a medical laboratory.

**Transmission facts:**

- 1) This virus is not spread via the airborne route, so it cannot be acquired simply by sharing space with an Ebola patient
- 2) **Patients are not contagious unless they are symptomatic, so the patient with only a travel history but no symptoms cannot spread the disease.**
- 3) Patient who are ill, usually with vomiting/diarrhea/fever, have high viral counts in the their bodily fluids (vomit, stool, blood). These are patients who would meet Probable or Confirmed Ebola case definitions. Strict precautions to avoid contact with bodily fluids in these individuals are required.

**EMS Response:**

Details of the EMS response can be found at the following locations. This is for your information only:

<http://www.wakegov.com/ems/medical/Pages/systemtreatmentprotocols.aspx>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gmbcKGAgbSg>