

October 2014 Akron Ohio Ebola Incident

Rick Schmahl / Chief Information Officer / City of Akron, Ohio

June 11, 2015



Introduction



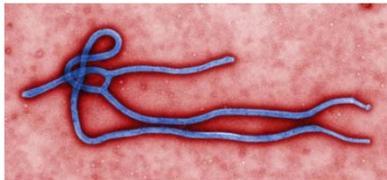
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- ▶ Retired after 32 years with Akron Police Dept.
- ▶ 15 year assignment with the Safetyforces IT staff
- ▶ Returned as CIO in 2012



Incident Background

- ▶ October 8, 2014 – Thomas Eric Duncan, an Ebola patient treated at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, died from the disease.



Incident Background

- ▶ October 10, 2014 – Amber Vinson, one of two nurses that, according to the CDC, had “extensive” contact with Duncan, began a vacation to Akron, Ohio to meet with family and friends about her upcoming wedding.



Incident Background

- ▶ Her trip began October 10th on Frontier Flight 1142 from Dallas to Cleveland.



Incident Background

- ▶ She then travelled from Cleveland to Akron.



Incident Background

- ▶ One particular event was a shopping trip to Coming Attractions Bridal Shop.
- ▶ Owner Anna Younker opted to close the store during the 21-day incubation period and had the business cleaned using ultraviolet light technology before reopening.



Photos from Ohio.com



Incident Background

- More than 160 Ohio residents — including employees and customers who were at the bridal shop at the same time as Vinson — were monitored by public health officials for symptoms for 21 days after contact.
- Manager Kayla Litz was one of two people health officials placed in home quarantine for the incubation period; the other was Vinson's stepfather.
- Litz, who is expecting her second child in May, was in her first trimester and experiencing morning sickness at the time of Vinson's visit.
- "It was scary," she said. "I had symptoms that were Ebola-like symptoms — nausea and vomiting."
- The store is now out of business due to the stigma.



Incident Background

- ▶ October 13 – Vinson returned to Dallas from Akron on a flight from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.



Incident Background

- ▶ October 14 – Vinson reported Ebola symptoms.
 - fever,
 - fatigue, malaise, and weakness,
 - reddened eyes,
 - joint and muscle pain,
 - headache,
 - nausea and vomiting.



Incident Background

- ▶ October 17 – Center for Disease Control, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Summit County Health Department issued press releases.

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People™

SEARCH

CDC Newsroom

- Newsroom Home
- Press Materials
- CDC Newsroom Releases



Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Airports



Photos from Ohio.com

Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Press



Photos from Ohio.com

Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ And MORE Press



Photos from Ohio.com

Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Neighborhoods panic



Photos from Ohio.com

Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Especially when they see this!



Photos from Ohio.com

Managing the Incident

» How it was handled in October, 2014



The Incident Managed Us!

- ▶ Phone calls
- ▶ Texts
- ▶ E-mails
- ▶ Reverse 911 alerts to First Responders
- ▶ Activation of the Emergency Operations Center



The Incident Managed Us!

- ▶ Many involved, many variables, many unknowns:
 - City of Akron Police
 - City of Akron Fire
 - City of Akron EMS
 - City of Tallmadge Police
 - City of Tallmadge Fire
 - City of Tallmadge EMS
 - Summit County EMA
 - Summit County Health Dept
 - Local Hospitals
 - Center for Disease Control
 - Various State of Ohio Health and Disease Control agencies and personnel
 - Summit County Executive, with Office and Staff
 - City of Akron Mayor, with various Cabinet members and staff
 - City of Tallmadge Mayor, with office staff



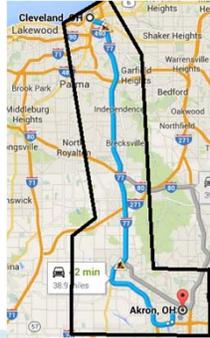
Managing the Incident

» How we envision taking control of the incident with FirstNet in place



FirstNet – We Manage the Incident

- ▶ Provision devices based on geo-fencing and credentialing.



FirstNet – We Manage the Incident

- ▶ Push a FirstNet file sharing app with only the most up to date and correct information and documents.



FirstNet – We Manage the Incident

- ▶ Virtual EOC with video conferencing, conference calling, screen sharing.



Dr. Chris Braden from the Center for Disease Control



Summit County Medical Director Marguerite Erme



Photos from Ohio.com

Questions and Answers

Thank you!

