

October 2014 Akron Ohio Ebola Incident

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

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Introduction



Rick Schmahl

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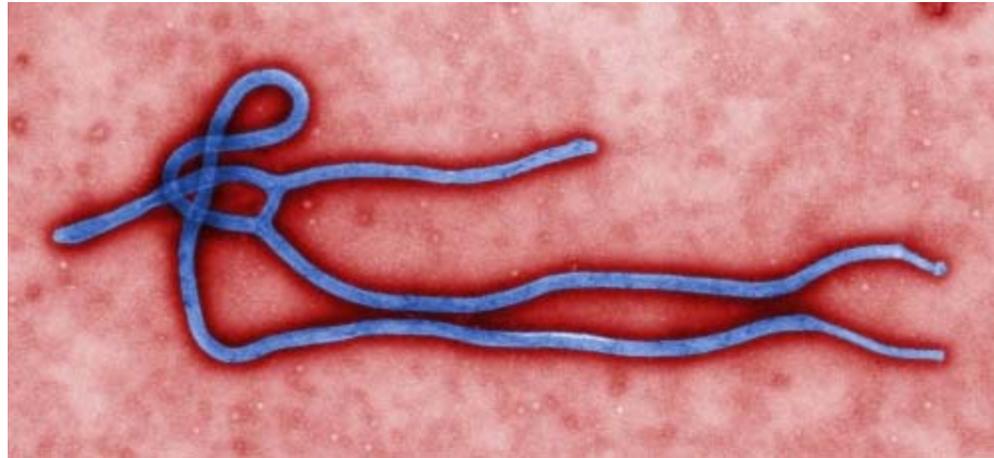
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- ▶ Retired after 32 years with Akron Police Dept.
- ▶ 15 year assignment with the Safetyforces IT staff
- ▶ Returned as CIO in 2012



Incident Background

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



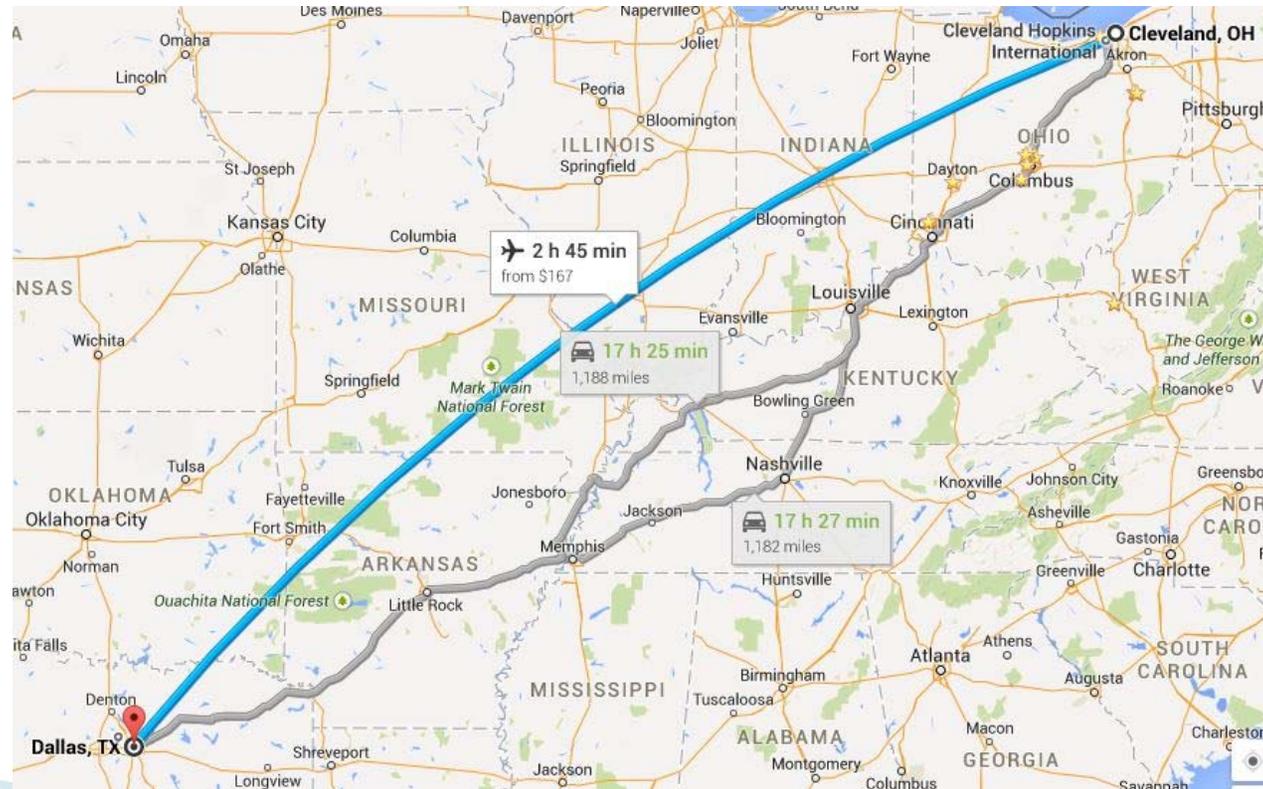
Incident Background

- ▶ 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.



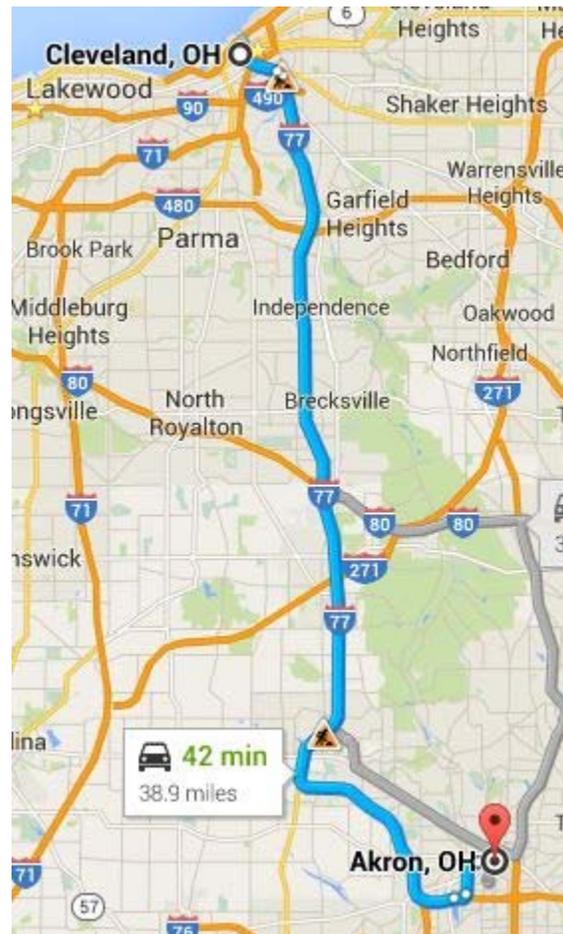
Incident Background

- ▶ 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.



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.



SEARCH

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Press Materials

CDC and Frontier Airlines Announce Passenger Notification Underway

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Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Airports



Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Press



Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ And MORE Press



Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Neighborhoods panic



Havoc Breaks Out

- ▶ Especially when they see this!



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



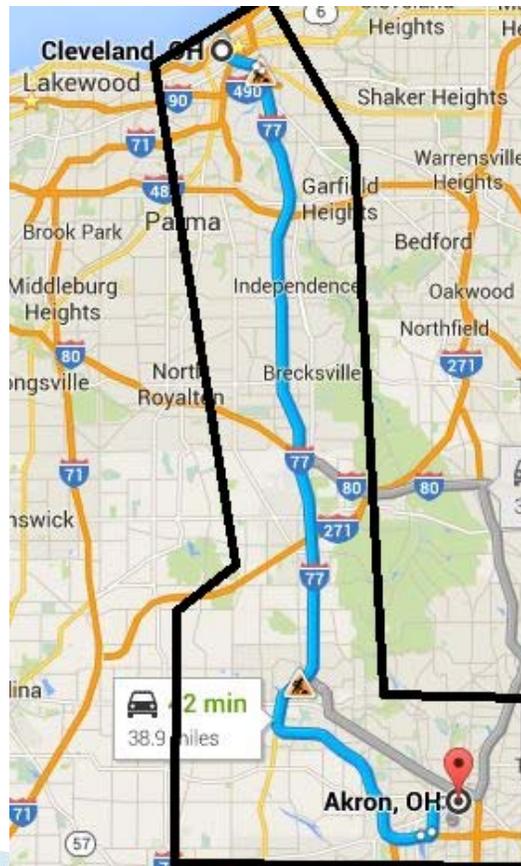
Managing the Incident

- »» 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



Questions and Answers

Thank you!

