For Immediate Release:
October 29, 2014

Statement from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Regarding California Quarantine Order

LOS ANGELES – Today the State Health Officer, Dr. Ron Chapman, of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued a quarantine order and risk-based guidelines for individuals coming into the State from Ebola-affected areas, who have had contact with a confirmed case of Ebola. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will comply with CDPH’s order within the County. There are no suspected or confirmed cases of Ebola in Los Angeles County. CDPH’s directive builds upon a multi-layered strategy to strengthen local efforts that assure those who are risk of developing Ebola are under close monitoring. This order creates a standard, statewide protocol for managing those at highest risk of developing and possibly spreading this disease.

If the need arises, the Los Angeles County Health Officer will issue the State’s quarantine order to an individual who has traveled to LA County from an Ebola-affected area, and has had contact with someone who has a confirmed case of Ebola. The State’s Quarantine Order may apply to visitors and residents, including health care workers. The County Health Officer will determine the specific requirements of an issued quarantine order on a case-by-case basis using the guidance provided by CDPH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Public Health applauds the brave and extraordinary work of health care workers in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, and we welcome these dedicated individuals upon their return. Our Department is in constant communication with local agencies that coordinate “on-the-ground” medical support in West Africa, and we will work with them to identify, in advance, any returning individuals to whom this order may apply. LA County officials will also work with returning health care workers and other residents to ensure an open process and clear communication as to what the quarantine order entails. The State’s directive will help ensure not only the health and safety of residents as they transition back home, but will also continue Public Health’s overall efforts to keep residents of LA County safe.

For more information about the quarantine order in California, visit CDPH’s website at http://www.cdph.ca.gov.

The Department of Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease control, and community and family health. Public Health comprises nearly 4,000 employees and has an annual budget exceeding $900 million. To learn more about Public Health and the work we do please visit http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov, visit our YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/lapublichealth, find us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/lapublichealth, or follow us on Twitter: @LAPublicHealth.

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