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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ORANGE COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES PREPARED TO RESPOND TO CALLS
REGARDING EBOLA VIRUS**

ORANGE COUNTY, NC (October 15, 2014)— Orange County Emergency Services wants to assure the community that first responders are better preparing to answer calls about the Ebola virus.

In light of recent cases, residents may start hearing news reports regarding how different Emergency Services and 9-1-1/Emergency Responders are handling medical calls related to symptoms and travel.

The Orange County 9-1-1 Communication Center is currently reviewing recommended practices by the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch and following the direction of the Orange County Medical Director.

Individuals who call 9-1-1 will be asked additional questions when certain flu-like symptoms are presented. For example: Have you travelled to any of the Ebola affected areas, such as certain West Africa countries?

Orange County Emergency Services encourages all people to follow guidance from Orange County Health Department, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Orange County Emergency Services will be hosting a 9-1-1 User Group Meeting next week to collaborate with all of its partners to further develop and refine an integrated community emergency response to Emerging Infectious Diseases.

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