



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marissa J. Levine, MD, MPH, FAAFP
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health
P O BOX 2448
RICHMOND, VA 23218

TTY 7-1-1 OR
1-800-828-1120

Declaration of Ebola Virus Disease as a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat for Virginia

Whereas, by October 19, 2014 Ebola Virus Disease had sickened 9,991 individuals in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, 4,546 (46%) of whom have died; and

Whereas, a traveler from West Africa unknowingly brought the Ebola virus into the United States; and

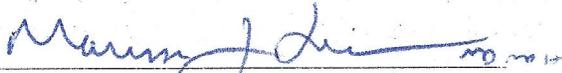
Whereas, caring for that traveler resulted in the disease spreading to two healthcare workers; and

Whereas, the cases resulted in implementation of extensive disease control measures in Texas, including active monitoring by public health of over 300 potentially exposed individuals; and

Whereas, these features of virulence, transmissibility, and potential magnitude of the effect on the health and welfare of the public meet the criteria for Exceptional Circumstances as defined in 12VAC5-90-10; and

Whereas, isolation and quarantine can be necessary effective public health measures to control the spread of Ebola Virus Disease;

I hereby declare that Ebola Virus Disease is considered a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat. Therefore, the provisions of § 32.1-48.05 et seq. of the Code of Virginia may be invoked for public health investigations of persons known or suspected of being exposed to Ebola virus or known or suspected of being infected with Ebola virus, such that I may issue orders of isolation and/or quarantine as necessary and appropriate to control this disease in Virginia.


Marissa J. Levine, MD, MPH, FAAFP
State Health Commissioner

10/24/14
Date