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ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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November 10, 2014

Mr. John P. Wagner
Acting Assistant Commissioner
Office of Field Operations
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Mr. Wagner:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Thursday, October 16, 2014, to testify at the hearing entitled "Examining the U.S. Public Health Response to the Ebola Outbreak."

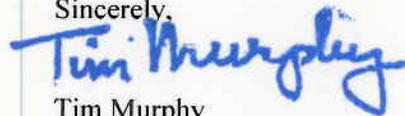
Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

Also attached are Member requests made during the hearing. The format of your responses to these requests should follow the same format as your responses to the additional questions for the record.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions and requests with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Monday, November 24, 2014. Your responses should be mailed to Brittany Havens, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to brittany.havens@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Tim Murphy
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachments

Attachment 1—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján

1. The appearance of a handful of Ebola cases in the United States demonstrates the importance of robust investments in our nation's public health infrastructure. Unfortunately, the National Institutes of Health's budget has been largely flat for years. In addition, we've seen cuts to the Center for Disease Control and the Department of Health and Human Services' Hospital Preparedness program. Can each of you discuss if budget cuts have had any impact on our response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa or impacted the handling of the cases here in the United States?

The Honorable Paul Tonko

1. It has been estimated that 100 to 150 people whose travel originated in or transited through Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea arrive in the United States daily. Do you have an estimate as to how many are U.S. citizens? How many are traveling on a passport not issued by one of these three nations?
2. Your testimony references a multi-layered approach to screening individuals. Can you explain the various layers to the screening that a traveler will pass through before entering the United States? What screenings occur when a traveler is leaving Liberia, Sierra Leone, or Guinea? How do those procedures compare to the screenings at U.S. points of entry?
3. You stated in your testimony that CBP officers receive training on protective equipment and universal precautions developed by the CDC. How often is that training administered? Have additional protocols or equipment been sent to CBP officers in light of the increased risk from Ebola?

Attachment 2—Member Requests for the Record

During the hearing, Members asked you to provide additional information for the record, and you indicated that you would provide that information. For your convenience, descriptions of the requested information are provided below.

The Honorable Cory Gardner

1. How many commercial flights, both passenger and cargo, fly to and from Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea?