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# Press Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **VBT Fire Department PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Fire Fighter seeks medical treatment for confirmed case of MRSA**

April 5, 2013

Van Buren Township, Michigan—

Given the close contact public safety personnel have with the frequently health-compromised general public, infectious or otherwise communicable diseases are inherent, but staff works carefully to ensure safety.

On March 2, 2013, while responding to a call for emergency medical service, fire fighters assisted a resident who revealed she had an active case of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA.

Following this incident, the staff documented the MRSA contact and reported it to the Wayne County Health Department.

Subsequently, one of the fire fighters who responded to the March 2 call for emergency medical service developed a classic sore and sought medical attention. On April 5, the sore was confirmed to be MRSA.

Van Buren Township Fire Chief Dan Besson immediately notified all fire personnel who had been in contact with this fire fighter. Fire stations were immediately scheduled to be professionally cleaned by a contracted company that uses EPA-approved anti-bacterial cleanser that has a specific disinfectant cleaner for MRSA.

While this is an isolated MRSA case at this point, given the length of time between the initial contact and the diagnosis, Van Buren Township is taking precaution and notifying the public who may have received emergency medical services from March 2 through April 5, 2013.

Van Buren Township recommends that anyone who has received emergency medical service between these aforementioned dates AND exhibits a skin rash seek medical attention.

Should you have questions regarding MRSA, please visit [www.CDC.gov/MRSA/prevent/personal.html](http://www.CDC.gov/MRSA/prevent/personal.html), or contact the Wayne County Health Department at 734-727-7100.

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