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DAVID GROSSMAN, MD Health Commissioner

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Department operates in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Visit us on the web at: www.lucascountyhealth.com May 23, 2016

Dear Pool Operators,

As you may know, drowning is the leading cause of injury deaths in children aged 1-4 in the state of Ohio, and the second leading cause unintentional deaths among children aged 5-9 and 10-14. At this time, the state of Ohio does not collect detailed information regarding public swimming pool-related injuries or deaths. **With your help** we would like to change that.

The Ohio Department of Health is formally assessing the effectiveness of collecting this data through a **Public Pool and Spa Injury Incident Report** form. As part of this effort, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department will be working with the Ohio Department of Health to implement use of this form at licensed pool facilities. A digital version of this form can also be found on our website (www.lucascountyhealth.com) and submitted to gottschj@co.lucas.oh.us

We ask that your facility begin using the **Public Pool and Spa Injury Incident Report** form (attached) during the 2016 swim season, beginning as early as **Monday, May 23, 2016**. Your assistance allow us to:

- 1) Better understand the circumstances surrounding public swimming pool-related injuries and deaths in Ohio;
- 2) Enhance our ability to make informed, data-driven decisions during the public swimming pool rule review process; and,
- 3) Enable us to develop programs that can reduce incidences of drownings and injuries in Ohio public swimming pools.

Should a reportable incident occur, complete the form, attach all required documentation, and submit to the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department by fax at 419-213-4141, or email to gottschj@co.lucas.oh.us. Please use only one form for each injured person. **DO NOT** include the injured person's personal information on this form (e.g., name, address, phone number). Please see the instruction manual provided on our website for further guidance.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Gottschalk, Environmental Health Supervisor at 419-213-4077.

Thank you,

David Grossman, MD Health Commissioner Toledo-Lucas County Health Department