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Contact: Maureen Donahue Hardwick, Alliance for Biosecurity
(+1) 202-230-5133

Kristen Johnson, Office of Congresswoman Brooks
Kristen.johnson@mail.house.gov

ALLIANCE FOR BIOSECURITY HONORS CONGRESSWOMAN BROOKS WITH INAUGURAL CONGRESSIONAL BIOSECURITY CHAMPION AWARD

The Alliance for Biosecurity is proud to announce Congresswoman Susan Brooks (R-IN) is a recipient of the group's inaugural Congressional Biosecurity Champion Award. The award acknowledges the efforts of members of Congress who have shown leadership and taken significant action to improve U.S. national health security and preparedness for biological threats, both naturally emerging and manmade.

"Our nation faces so many known and unknown risks that improving preparedness is a fundamental imperative, and we thank Congresswoman Brooks for her commitment to improving national health security," said Elizabeth Posillico, President and CEO of Elusys Therapeutics, and Co-Chair of the Alliance for Biosecurity. "Attention only seems to turn to biosecurity when there is a crisis and fades once it has been resolved, so we appreciate Congresswoman Brooks' ongoing support to strengthen preparedness efforts before another crisis."

As the [Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense's recent report](#) reveals, the United States is underprepared for biological threats and does not give these threats the same level of attention as it does other threats. The "National Blueprint for Biodefense" also highlights the important role of drug and vaccine medical countermeasures and calls for robust government funding and new incentives to support public-private partnerships to develop, manufacture, and stockpile them before a threat materializes.

In presenting this award to Congresswoman Brooks, the Alliance recognizes that she introduced and championed H.R. 3299, the Strengthening Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2015. The new legislation would improve preparedness for national health security threats and strengthen medical countermeasure development.

Congresswoman Brooks is one of four members to receive the 2015 Congressional Biosecurity Champion Award. The other honorees include Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), Senator Richard Burr (R-NC), and Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA).

In keeping with the innovative nature of the work of the members of the Alliance, the award is a unique one-of-a-kind design produced by a 3D printer.

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The Alliance for Biosecurity is a coalition of biopharmaceutical companies and laboratory/academic partners that promotes a strong public-private partnership to ensure medical countermeasures are available to protect public health and enhance national health security. The Alliance advocates for public policies and funding to support the rapid development, production, stockpiling, and distribution of critically needed medical countermeasures.

For more information, visit the Alliance for Biosecurity website at www.allianceforbiosecurity.org.