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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2017

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**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR EMANUEL ON CHICAGO'S SELECTION TO HOST THE NCAA MEN'S
AND WOMEN'S REGIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS**

The NCAA has selected Chicago as the site of the NCAA men's basketball regional championship in 2022 and the women's basketball regional championship in 2019. The United Center will host the men's games and the Wintrust Arena will host the women's tournament.

"Less than two weeks after the NCAA Frozen Four hockey championship set new attendance records, news that Chicago will host the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments is another sign of Chicago's strength in drawing fans from all over the world. Chicago has always been a world-class sports town, but now we are showcasing the city on the world stage. Thanks to events like the NCAA regional championships we can continue to set tourism records and welcome more travelers than ever to the greatest city in the world."

Under Mayor Emanuel Chicago has attracted national sports events at an unprecedented pace. The city hosted the NFL draft for the last two years and the America's Cup World Series in 2016. The NHL Draft and MLS All-Star game will be hosted in Chicago later this year and in 2018 UIC will host the NCAA men's gymnastics championship. Last fall the city hosted the World Series and the Chicago Cubs became World Series champions for the first time in 108 years.

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