



Charlene Cobb

Statement of Candidacy

At-Large Director

My name is Charlene Cobb and I am seeking to continue in the capacity of Director At-Large on the NAEMT Board of Directors. I hope to attain a second term to carry out unfinished work on issues facing EMS and NAEMT today, as well as make progress on some new opportunities that we still have in the pipeline.

My EMS experience spans over 30 years and I have been a National Registered Paramedic for 27 years. I have worked as a volunteer and paid-provider, so I understand the issues facing both of these sectors.

I have also withstood the struggles of a woman raising a family while having a career in EMS. I feel these factors have prepared me to bring a diverse perspective to the position.

I am currently the Community Outreach Coordinator and PIO for Sunstar Paramedics. I am a member of the EMS Safety Foundation and an active member of the Safe Kids Coalition since 2003; I am currently serving as Chairperson.

I am presently serving as an NAEMT board member, and been very busy. Personally, I have participated in EMS Day on the Hill twice as an advocate for our EMS agenda. I have met with the representatives that can help us with the changes that we face as an industry, such as Medicare reimbursement and protecting patient access to emergency medications. As a board member, I continue these talks with elected officials from my district and I hope we will see implementation of the bills addressing our concerns.

During my term, I've also become the board liaison to the CARES Program, which is making great strides in cardiac arrest survival. In addition, I joined the NAEMT Workforce Committee this year and was extremely impressed by their impact on the provider's safety, health and wellbeing.

As an advocate for military EMTs and medics, I was happy to see our work come to fruition when our veteran's bill passed at a federal level this year. Once implemented, the bill will help ease the transition for veterans to civilian positions and help alleviate the nationwide shortage of qualified EMS personnel.

I have been a member of the NAEMT Safety Committee since 2009 and I was elated to be on the team that created the NAEMT Safety Course and its second edition, as well as the brand-new NAEMT Emergency Vehicle Operator Safety Course.

Accidents, injuries and deaths are far too prevalent in this profession. As a national association, we have the capacity to establish a change in culture and the capability to promote the design of safer ambulances and provide enhanced education to create awareness and reduce risk. I hope to be granted the opportunity to continue working on these important issues.

Since starting my career in Emergency Medical Services, I have been compelled to work toward improving the industry. As a member of the board, I would like to continue to be the voice for you the provider and your patients. Thank you.