



Joanne Piccininni Statement of Candidacy

Region I Director

My name is Joanne Piccininni and the intention of this document is to serve as my statement of candidacy for the position of NAEMT Director of Region One. Most recently, in 2016, I accepted the appointment of NAEMT Education Coordinator for New Jersey and this has played an important part in my decision to become a candidate for this position. As I have become more deeply involved with the process of assisting, guiding and mentoring current and new instructors as well as training sites, my interest in becoming a part of the driving force behind progress in EMS has grown.

As in all facets of professional and personal life in EMS, a strong base structure is important. A large part of that strong base is education, which has grown into my main professional passion. I believe that my extensive background in EMS leadership has also brought me to the point in my career in which I feel prepared for the responsibilities of regional director.

One of the key challenges in EMS is the ability to keep up with the progress of medicine and the associated demands placed on pre-hospital professionals while maintaining wellness and well-being. As a fairly young field, the EMS toolkit of skills, medication formulary and critical thinking has grown and developed exponentially. This plays a large part in stress production of providers to stay on the cutting edge of pre-hospital medicine while maintaining balance. Mental health support in this field should be at the top of the list of priorities for all EMS agencies and their respective leadership but it can and does take a back seat to other concerns. If elected Director of region one, my plan would be to work with NAEMT to assist in promotion of EMS focused mental health support groups and education to EMS organization leadership.

As a current leader in EMS with a focus on education, I believe I can help to promote a strong base structure in education with focus on wellness and well-being as they relate to mental health support for providers. I am looking forward to the opportunity, if elected Director of Region 1, to continue to work with a strong and progressive leader in EMS that NAEMT has proven to be, to change the conversation. I have always felt strongly that leadership has little to do with a formal title or power and that all providers in EMS have the potential to lead by inspiring those around them. Working together with the backing of NAEMT can only help to strengthen this belief in all involved.