

In this statement I would like to describe and explain my background and experience that I can bring to the Director of Region I of the NAEMT Board of Directors.

I have actively worked as a Paramedic since 1997 and am currently certified as a National Registry Paramedic, M0881298 and New Jersey Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic, 2041/518798. Prior to being employed as a tenure-track professor, I have had 15-plus years of experience educating Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers, advanced and basic level. I first started educating in 2001 as a CPR instructor quickly followed by obtaining a certification as a PHTLS, Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Instructor as well. Subsequently, I was offered the position as Clinical Coordinator at Chilton Memorial Hospital for the EMS department and gained certifications as an instructor of ACLS & PALS, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support. I was responsible for coordinating the American Heart Association training center as well as the EMS personnel on-going competencies and education and conducting community outreach education to the volunteer ambulance corps. in the area. As part of my job responsibilities at Chilton, I was also tasked to review and provide quality assurance feedback on all cardiac arrest cases that occurred in-hospital. This was in addition to the quality improvement/quality assurance plan in place for the EMS personnel that was completed through case & chart review in partnership with the medical director.

As a result of this experience I moved on to The Valley Hospital in a continually expanding role as the Education Supervisor and then promoted to Clinical Coordinator. Many of the responsibilities I had at Chilton carried over to Valley because of the similarities in job descriptions, but at Valley my role was expanded to hospital staff education in cardiac care, active participation in stroke care initiatives, and I was actively sought after by the volunteer EMS agencies in the area to develop and conduct monthly emergency medicine education. I reorganized the annual skills competencies process and implemented a performance improvement plan for airway management for the advanced and basic providers. I was also the project manager and main developer/administrator of the ePCR, electronic patient record, system, Safety Pad ©. This included training/educating all staff members in the operation of the ePCR system and report retrieval. I was also the chair of the Quality Assurance Committee, a member of the hospital's STEMI and Stroke committee's and took an active role in assisting with the Emergency Department staff education in regard to these areas. As a member of the Stroke committee, I was offered the opportunity to train as an Advanced Stroke Life Support instructor through the University of Miami-Gordon Center. I functioned as the course coordinator and conducted classes that were offered as education outreach to the local volunteer ambulance corps as well as our own department EMT's and Paramedics.

Throughout the last 10 plus years that I have functioned as a manager/coordinator, I have maintained a robust clinical career as a Paramedic working an average of six to eight shifts a month for Hackensack UMC, The Valley Hospital & Chilton Memorial Hospital in New Jersey. I have a strong belief that it is absolutely essential that as an educator and manager I maintain a connection with the front-line of EMS, which is caring for patients. Continuing to have this exposure to patient care has helped me to evolve as a Paramedic and leader in the field. Patient contact continues to enrich my ability to educate Paramedic students as the Clinical Coordinator of the Paramedic Science Program at Bergen Community College in NJ.

In the early 2000's I was first introduced to the NAEMT. I was offered an opportunity to train as a PHTLS instructor by my then Paramedic Director. At first it was a slow progression due to limitations in the classes available to teach but I made the most of every opportunity. This allowed me to progress to eventually becoming the NAEMT training site coordinator at The Valley Hospital as one of my chief responsibilities as the education supervisor. Over a short period of time I obtained instructor status in AMLS and EMS Safety, coordinating a minimum of two classes a year each, as well as PHTLS. Currently, I also maintain instructor certifications in GEMS and PEPL. During my tenure at Valley Hospital my interest in becoming a better educator led me to attend and complete the NAEMSE, National Association of EMS Educators Instructor II class in 2013.

In 2016, I was appointed the NAEMT Education Coordinator for New Jersey. This has absolutely expanded my role with the organization. The basis of this position for me is building the education offerings network within New Jersey while mentoring, advising and assisting current and new instructors and training sites. Providing EMS personnel with more exposure to the educational offerings also comes with the benefit of introducing them to NAEMT and giving them a greater understanding of the advocacy and support offered to members and EMS in general.

In addition to educating others, I also have a very strong interest in my own education. I graduated from Montclair State University, NJ, in 1999 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. I achieved a Masters in Business Administration with a concentration in Public Administration, MBA, from Columbia Southern University in 2011 and am currently pursuing a Doctor of Education, EdD, from University of St. Augustine with an anticipated completion date of 2022. My evolution as a Paramedic and Educator has definitively influenced my decision to pursue this doctorate degree as I have discovered that my passion is education and applying this to EMS. Giving EMS professionals the opportunity to grow in the field while obtaining a degree is very important to the well-being of this profession's steady progression of improvement.

I have developed presentations and have been invited to speak at several conferences, each time with the intention to promote the academic offerings in Health Professions at Bergen Community College and enrich my position as Education Coordinator of NJ with NAEMT. I have listed past participation as well as recent invitations.

The New Jersey Statewide Conference on EMS, Atlantic City NJ, November 2016

- No Pain? No Gain? EMS Considerations in the Care & Transport of Athletes
- Emerging Trends in Trauma

HPSN World 2017- Human Patient Simulation Network Conference, Ponte Vedra, FL. March 2017

- Enhancing Training in EMS Using Simulation: I'm a Beginner, where do I start?

PACExpo Canada, August 2017- Quebec City, QC

- NAEMT-AMLS, Advanced Medical Life Support, Preconference session faculty

The New Jersey Statewide Conference on EMS, Atlantic City, NJ, November 2017

- NAEMT-GEMS, Geriatric Education for Emergency Medical Services, Preconference Session
- Enhancing Training in EMS Using Simulation: I'm a Beginner, where do I start?
- EMS Toxicity: Have we lost our ability to care?
- SIM Games Finals Faculty

Having the ability to attend and present at these EMS and Simulation-based conferences has allowed great opportunities to network with like-minded educators and advocates of EMS. These experiences have also enriched my abilities as the NAEMT Education Coordinator.

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