



Greg Cox

Position Sought: South Central Region Director

Candidate Background Information

It is with great enthusiasm and a deep commitment to the profession of emergency medical services that I announce my candidacy for the South-Central Regional Director position on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT).

My entire professional career has been dedicated to emergency services, education, leadership, and the advancement of EMS. I served 25 years in fire-based EMS, beginning my career with the City of Lancaster, Texas. I subsequently served as Fire Chief of the Mexia Fire Department before returning to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, where I served with the Wylie Fire Department and McKinney Fire Department. At three of the four departments where I served, I was honored to be named Paramedic of the Year—an accomplishment that remains among the most meaningful recognitions of my career. I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in EMS Management, graduating Summa Cum Laude from Columbia Southern University.

Following my career in public safety, I transitioned into EMS education at Collin College in McKinney, Texas. I began as a part-time skills instructor before accepting a full-time faculty position in 2016, initially teaching EMT courses within the college's dual-credit program. I subsequently advanced through every level of the EMS program and was appointed Program Director in 2024.

As Program Director, I have developed a strong appreciation for the responsibility that EMS education programs carry in preparing the next generation of clinicians and leaders. I have also gained a deeper understanding of accreditation, quality improvement, and national standards through my work with the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP). In 2025, I was selected to serve as one of 24 members of the national CoAEMSP Program Director Focus Group. The group met monthly to examine challenges facing EMS education, share effective practices, and develop solutions to emerging issues. We also engaged with leaders from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) to discuss evolving expectations and trends in health professions education.

Today, I oversee approximately 85 full- and part-time personnel and manage an annual budget of approximately \$1.3 million. Our program graduates approximately 200–275 EMT students and 75–100 paramedic students each year. According to CoAEMSP statistics, our program ranks among the top seven percent nationally in program size. Despite that scale, we maintain one of the lowest attrition rates and among the highest placement rates for programs of comparable size. Our robust dual-credit program serves nine independent school districts throughout Collin County, providing high school seniors with an opportunity to earn their EMT certification while completing their secondary education. Many of these students subsequently return to complete paramedic education and begin their careers with local EMS agencies.

At the local and regional level, I have focused on expanding educational opportunities and strengthening the connection between EMS education and the needs of our communities. One example is our regional Tactical Paramedic program, which we launched in October 2025. My research indicated that there was no educational-based program of this type in Texas, providing us an opportunity to establish a new model for tactical EMS education. Built upon the principles of Tactical Emergency

Casualty Care (TECC), our 80-contact-hour program has quickly become one of our most sought-after offerings. Our October 2026 course already has a waiting list, despite being only our third offering.

When the Tactical Paramedic program is not in session, our faculty continue to provide TECC education to agencies throughout Texas. We are also expanding our continuing education portfolio, with plans to offer PHTLS, AMLS, GEMS, and EVOS beginning in 2027. Additionally, I serve as an instructor for Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERT) in both First Response Medical and Advanced Integrated Response. Collin College serves as a recognized regional training center for ALERT, allowing us to provide this critical education to law enforcement agencies throughout the region.

Another initiative particularly important to me has been the development of interdisciplinary education focused on trauma care. In 2021, I brought together leaders from EMS, nursing, respiratory care, and diagnostic medical sonography to transform our existing Trauma Day into a comprehensive, multidisciplinary simulation experience. Students from multiple allied health disciplines now work together through complex trauma scenarios, experiencing firsthand the communication, teamwork, and clinical decision-making required in an actual healthcare environment.

The event has grown into one of our institution's signature educational experiences. Our Medical Director, a faculty member at UT Southwestern Medical School, has supported the program by incorporating emergency medicine residents and fellows into the event. It has now become part of the curriculum for Emergency Medicine residents. Community volunteers serve as both scenario patients and walk-in patients, creating an environment that closely replicates the demands of a functioning emergency department. Most recently, nearly 140 volunteers participated. Community agencies provide ambulances, paramedic students manage multiple trauma scenarios, and patients are transitioned to nursing students in the simulated emergency department. Depending on their injuries, some patients progress to our surgical suite, where surgical professions students gain experience with procedures such as debridement and suturing. The event has received local media attention and earned recognition throughout the region.

My commitment to NAEMT is rooted in the same philosophy that has guided my career: EMS professionals deserve access to the highest-quality education, resources, advocacy, and professional development available. I strongly believe in the NAEMT education portfolio and have advocated within my institution for broader integration of NAEMT courses into our EMT and paramedic curricula. While the cost of additional certifications can present challenges, I believe the value these programs provide to students, employers, and the profession warrants continued advocacy and thoughtful solutions.

I also see service on the NAEMT Board of Directors as an opportunity to contribute beyond my own institution and region. I am particularly interested in advancing EMS education, supporting research, strengthening professional development, and identifying practical solutions to the challenges facing EMS agencies and educators nationwide. Through my relationship with UT Southwestern Medical School, I have access to opportunities for collaborative research, and we are currently exploring several potential projects that could contribute to the broader body of EMS knowledge.

My career has provided me with experience in the field, fire service leadership, higher education, program administration, accreditation, curriculum development, community partnerships, and national EMS education initiatives. More importantly, it has given me an enduring appreciation for the people who make EMS possible. I believe the future of our profession depends upon strong leadership, collaboration, innovation, and a willingness to advocate for both our providers and the patients we serve.

I respectfully ask for your consideration and the opportunity to serve as the South-Central Regional Director on the NAEMT Board of Directors. If elected, I will bring to the position the same dedication, professionalism, and commitment to service that have defined my career. I would be honored to

represent the EMS professionals of the South-Central Region and to serve the mission of NAEMT at the national level.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to serve the profession to which I have dedicated my career.