



Sean Davenport

Position Sought: Gulf Coast Region Director

Candidate Background Information

My career in Emergency Medical Services began in 1990, out of a simple desire to serve my community. What started as a volunteer firefighter and EMT turned into a lifelong commitment to this profession. Over the past three and a half decades, I've worked as a firefighter, paramedic, flight paramedic, instructor, educator, administrator, and clinical leader. Every one of those roles reinforced the same belief: our job isn't just caring for today's patients — it's preparing tomorrow's clinicians to deliver exceptional care long after our own careers are over.

My fire service career started with the Boyle County Fire Department, where I spent four years as a volunteer firefighter. I continued volunteering with the Jessamine County Fire Department for six years while building my education and clinical experience. Those early years shaped me — they taught me the value of teamwork, servant leadership, community involvement, and the dedication this job demands.

I later joined the Lexington Fire Department, where I spent twenty years as a firefighter and paramedic. I responded to thousands of calls in one of Kentucky's busiest emergency response systems, working across both urban and suburban communities and seeing every corner of prehospital medicine — routine medical calls, complex trauma, critical illness, high-risk technical responses. Those years taught me that excellence in EMS doesn't come from individual performance alone. It comes from preparation, training, and strong clinical leadership.

At the same time, I spent fourteen years as a flight paramedic with Air Methods, caring for critically ill and injured patients throughout the region. Flight medicine demands sharp clinical decision-making, real teamwork, and the ability to perform when seconds matter most. Working alongside skilled nurses, physicians, and pilots broadened how I think about patient care and taught me the real value of multidisciplinary collaboration — something that still shapes how I approach education and leadership today.

I also developed a strong interest in specialty response and hazardous materials work along the way. I became a Hazardous Materials Specialist and later spent five years as a Hazmat Instructor with OAI, with advanced training through the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama, and specialized instruction at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. Teaching hazmat reinforced something that still guides my educational philosophy: the importance of structured training, realistic simulation, and true competency-based education.

As much as I enjoyed clinical work, I eventually realized education was my real passion. What started as teaching individual certification courses grew into curriculum development, instructor education, program administration, and educational leadership. I came to understand that by investing in clinicians and instructors, I could influence patients I'd never personally treat — at a much larger scale than I ever could on a truck.

Today, I serve as Clinical Manager for Pinellas County Safety & Emergency Services, leading one of Florida's largest countywide EMS education programs. My responsibilities cover the EMS Academy, continuing education, instructor development, clinical competency, credentialing, simulation, and educational technology. Working closely with our Office of the Medical Director, fire departments, EMS agencies, and healthcare partners, I've focused on modernizing EMS education while making sure clinicians are ready for the growing complexity of prehospital medicine.

One of my main goals has been building programs that go beyond just checking certification boxes. Education should build confidence, sharpen clinical reasoning, strengthen teamwork, and ultimately improve patient outcomes. That philosophy has driven a lot of the work I've done — modernizing academy programs, expanding simulation-based training, improving competency validation, redesigning airway management training, implementing new learning technologies, and rethinking how we approach instructor development and continuing education. Through all of it, the goal has been the same: build systems that support both seasoned clinicians and people just entering the field.

I've also stayed involved in EMS education at the regional and national level. I currently serve on the NAEMT Education Committee and as NAEMT Affiliate Faculty, which has let me contribute to work that reaches far beyond my own organization. Serving as a CAPCE Peer Reviewer has deepened my appreciation for keeping educational standards high while making sure continuing education stays relevant, evidence-based, and genuinely useful to working clinicians.

My teaching background spans a lot of ground. I currently instruct American Heart Association BLS, ACLS, and PALS, American Red Cross Advanced Life Support, and NAEMT's AMLS and PHTLS courses. Over the years I've also served as a PEPP Instructor, ALS Course Coordinator, ASLS Instructor, TECC Instructor, TCCC Instructor, and in a number of other educational roles — each one giving me the chance to learn from great educators and sharpen my own approach.

Receiving the NAEMT Education Service Award was one of the great honors of my career — not because of the award itself, but because it reflected years of working alongside dedicated educators who care as much about improving EMS as I do. If there's one thing I've learned, it's that meaningful progress is rarely the work of one person. It comes from building strong teams, mentoring future leaders, and creating room for other people to succeed.

My leadership style comes down to servant leadership, integrity, collaboration, accountability, and a commitment to always getting better. I believe leaders should be approachable, willing to listen, and genuinely invested in helping others succeed. I also believe EMS education has to keep evolving alongside new evidence, new technology, and the changing needs of our patients and providers. As our profession works through challenges like workforce development, clinician wellness, and educational innovation, I believe those of us with experience owe it to the next generation to mentor them and help shape what EMS becomes.

Looking back, I'm grateful for every chance I've had to serve — responding to emergencies as a firefighter and paramedic, caring for critically ill patients in the air, teaching new clinicians in the classroom, and leading education programs at the county and national level. Each role prepared me for the next, and all of them reinforced the same values that brought me into this profession in the first place.

I'm seeking a seat on the NAEMT Board of Directors because I believe my experience as a clinician, educator, administrator, and national committee member gives me a well-rounded perspective that can genuinely contribute to the Association's future. More than that, I believe in NAEMT's mission and the role it plays in advancing EMS education, supporting clinicians, and strengthening our profession. It

would be an honor to keep giving back to the profession that's given me so much by helping guide NAEMT as it prepares the next generation of EMS leaders for what lies ahead.