



Timothy Dienst

Position Sought: Mountain Region Director

Statement of Candidacy

I respectfully submit my candidacy for re-election as NAEMT Mountain Region Director because our profession stands at a defining moment. EMS is far more than emergency transportation. It is an essential part of our nation's healthcare and public safety systems, even where it isn't yet recognized by every state or payer. The future of EMS won't be decided by any single agency, delivery model, or state. It will be shaped by members united around a shared vision: strengthening our profession, serving our communities, and delivering exceptional care to every patient. NAEMT is uniquely positioned to bring us together around that vision.

I got into EMS as a young responder, and my first calls taught me what has guided me ever since: being there for people on the hardest day of their lives is some of the most meaningful work there is. That's why I started—and it's why I'm just as committed today.

Serving on the NAEMT Board has deepened my appreciation for our association's greatest strength—its members. Across my terms, I've represented the Mountain Region while working on federal advocacy, EMS economics, Tribal EMS partnerships, reimbursement reform, workforce development, and innovative models of care. Those experiences have only strengthened my conviction that our best opportunities lie ahead.

If re-elected, I'll continue ensuring the Mountain Region has a strong voice within NAEMT while expanding member engagement and leadership. I'll advocate for sustainable reimbursement that reflects the full value of EMS—including treatment in place, mobile integrated healthcare, and community paramedicine. I'll also champion artificial intelligence, emerging technologies, and clinical innovation, while ensuring these advances enhance—never replace—the judgment, compassion, and professionalism of EMS clinicians.

I'm committed to representing every EMS professional and every delivery model. Governmental, fire-based, private, hospital-based, nonprofit, volunteer, Tribal Nations, military, industrial—each brings unique strengths. I have begun engaging with the Tribal Nations within the Mountain Region, and I'm committed to deepening those relationships so their leaders, clinicians, and communities help shape NAEMT's priorities. Our association is strongest when every member has a seat at the table.

Workforce shortages, provider wellness, financial instability, outdated reimbursement, and growing regulatory demands continue to challenge EMS—especially in rural, frontier, and Tribal communities. But they are also opportunities to secure the recognition and resources our members deserve.

NAEMT must keep leading through advocacy, education, leadership development, research, innovation, and strong partnerships with policymakers, healthcare organizations, and allied public safety professions.

I offer more than four decades of EMS experience, leadership at the local, state, and national levels, and a proven commitment to collaboration. I currently serve as CEO of the Ute Pass Regional Health Service District, and a possible transition later this year into government and association relations and strategic advocacy would let me give even more to it. I believe leadership begins with listening,

succeeds through relationships, and is measured by results. It would be an honor to continue serving the Mountain Region and working alongside you to advance our profession, strengthen our communities, and improve the care we provide to every patient.