



Justin Duncan

Position Sought: Great Plains Region Director

Statement of Candidacy

It is an honor to submit my candidacy for Great Plains Region Director of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT).

For more than 22 years, EMS has been my profession, my passion, and my life's work. I have had the privilege of serving as a field clinician, educator, executive leader, advocate, and volunteer. Today, I serve as Chief Executive Officer of the Washington County Ambulance District in Missouri, President of the Missouri EMS Association, Chair of the NAEMT Economics Committee, and a member of the NAEMT Advocacy Committee. Each of these roles has reinforced a simple belief: our profession is strongest when we work together.

I am seeking election because I believe the Great Plains Region deserves a director who is visible, accessible, and committed to ensuring every member has a voice. My responsibility will not be to represent my own opinions, but to represent the diverse EMS professionals across our region—from rural volunteer services to large metropolitan systems, from frontline clinicians to educators, supervisors, and executive leaders. My commitment is to listen first, communicate often, and advocate with integrity.

If elected, my goals are straightforward. I want to strengthen communication between NAEMT and the members of the Great Plains Region, support our affiliated state associations, promote greater member engagement, and help ensure NAEMT remains the leading national voice for EMS professionals. I also hope to encourage the next generation of EMS leaders by creating opportunities for mentorship, committee involvement, and professional growth within our association.

Our profession is facing significant challenges. Workforce shortages continue to strain agencies of every size. Reimbursement models have not kept pace with the healthcare services EMS now provides. Rural communities face increasing threats to healthcare access, while clinician wellness, recruitment, and retention remain ongoing concerns. At the same time, EMS has unprecedented opportunities to expand its impact through innovative care delivery models, stronger healthcare partnerships, technology, and evidence-based practice.

NAEMT has an essential leadership role in meeting these challenges. We must continue advocating for federal policies that recognize EMS as an integral part of the healthcare system, strengthen reimbursement, invest in workforce development, support high-quality education, and advance the clinical and professional practice of EMS. Just as importantly, we must continue building strong partnerships with state associations and ensure that the voices of our members shape the future of our profession.

I believe I am the best candidate because I bring experience at the local, state, and national levels, along with a proven record of collaboration and service. More importantly, I understand that leadership begins with listening. If entrusted with this responsibility, I will serve the members of the Great Plains

Region with transparency, humility, and an unwavering commitment to advancing both NAEMT and the EMS profession.

Thank you for your consideration and your support.