



Andrew Kettle

Position Sought: Northeast Region Director

Statement of Candidacy

I am honored to seek election to the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians Board of Directors as Northeast Region Director.

For more than 25 years, EMS has been more than my profession; it has been my life's work. My journey began as a 15-year-old high school student and has shaped both my career and my commitment to serving others. Throughout my career, I have remained committed to improving patient care, developing future leaders, and advancing our profession through leadership, education, advocacy, and innovation. As Chief of Charlestown Ambulance-Rescue Service in Rhode Island, I have strengthened workforce development, expanded clinical capabilities, built regional partnerships, and implemented innovative programs that improve patient care. Serving as Rhode Island's NAEMT Advocacy Coordinator and leading our state's delegation during EMS on the Hill have reinforced my belief that meaningful progress occurs when EMS professionals speak with a strong, unified voice at both the state and national levels.

I am seeking this position because I believe the Northeast Region deserves representation from someone who understands the realities facing today's EMS leaders. Agencies across our region are challenged to recruit and retain providers, navigate financial pressures, adapt to an evolving healthcare landscape, and continue delivering exceptional patient care. While the Northeast has long been a leader in clinical excellence and innovation, we continue to face workforce shortages, reimbursement challenges, rising call complexity, behavioral health emergencies, and the ongoing need to ensure EMS is recognized as an essential component of the healthcare system.

If elected, I will strengthen communication between NAEMT and members across the Northeast, advocate for policies that support the EMS workforce, expand leadership development and educational opportunities, and foster collaboration among agencies facing shared operational challenges. I will continue to champion innovative care models, including Mobile Integrated Healthcare, Treatment in Place, and other patient-centered approaches that improve outcomes and strengthen EMS systems. I believe the future of EMS will not be built by a single agency or state, but through collaboration across our profession.

NAEMT has become the leading voice for EMS by bringing providers together around a shared mission. As our profession evolves, NAEMT must remain focused on reimbursement reform, provider wellness, workforce recruitment and retention, evidence-based education, and ensuring EMS is recognized not simply as transportation, but as an essential part of our nation's healthcare system.

My career has combined frontline experience, organizational leadership, legislative advocacy, and collaboration. I have worked alongside providers at every level of EMS, built cross-disciplinary partnerships, and advocated with state and federal policymakers on issues affecting our profession. Above all, I believe leadership begins with listening, building consensus, and representing the voices of those we serve.

It would be a privilege to represent the members of the Northeast Region and serve on the NAEMT Board of Directors. I will bring an operational perspective, a collaborative leadership style, and an

unwavering commitment to advancing our profession while ensuring EMS providers and the patients who depend on us continue to thrive for generations to come.