



Steven Kroll

Position Sought: Northeast Region Director

Statement of Candidacy

It would be an honor to be selected for the NAEMT Board of Directors by my emergency medical service colleagues.

I am an active and riding EMS responder and leader at Delmar-Bethlehem EMS in Albany County, New York. My service in EMS began with EMT and Paramedic class during college. The experience set me on a lifelong path of caring for others in both career and volunteer EMS roles. Throughout my career I have had the opportunity to be an EMS and hospital leader in the community, in my region, and in my state.

NAEMT is a place where I can learn, advance the EMS profession, advocate for EMS sustainability, and fight for EMS innovation. I would like to serve on the Board of Directors to help further EMS education, advocacy, and innovation, as well as help grow the standing of the EMS profession in our rapidly changing – and currently struggling -- public safety and health care systems.

The challenges facing EMS are many. We face inadequate funding, inequitable salaries, a declining number of volunteers, shortages of paid responders, inadequate focus on readiness, and crisis in provider wellness, to name a few. Federal funding policies and commercial health insurance payment practices threaten the sustainability of all types of EMS agencies.

We have to see through the challenges to move forward opportunities, not the least of which is demonstrated by the everyday leadership examples that we see in EMTs, AEMTs, and Paramedics. Adding to our everyday responsibilities of emergency response, we are crucial leaders in moving patients between health care facilities, providing assessment and care without transportation, and implementing innovative mobile integrated health (MIH)/community paramedicine (CP) programs.

We must capitalize on our standing in our communities to fight for legislation, regulation, funding, and readiness policies to support our role in caring for the sick and injured. We must advocate for government and commercial insurance policy and funding changes to expand our role in health care through Treatment-in-Place, MIH, and CP. We must be leaders in education and research to advance EMS quality. And we must be the leading advocates for EMS responders and ensure that they have the individual support that they need.

A strong and vibrant NAEMT can lead our profession. NAEMT leaders and staff have built solid policy, education, communications, and advocacy foundations. They have built bridges of collaboration and partnership with other professional associations. If elected, I will add my talents and join this team and dedicate my time and energy to overcoming our challenges and capitalizing on our strengths to advance the EMS profession. I have a lifelong background in advocacy and policy development and will be proud to help NAEMT develop and implement strategic priorities. Having experience serving on NAEMT Committees, the 2023-2023 NAEMT Board, and other not-for-profit governing boards, I am prepared for the responsibility and commitment that comes with NAEMT Board service.