

August 13, 2026

I am pleased to offer my strong recommendation for Melissa McNally, MMSc, BCEM PA-C, NRP, for re-election to the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians Board of Directors as Gulf Coast Region Director.

At a time when EMS is navigating significant changes in workforce, education, reimbursement, clinical practice, and its evolving role within the broader healthcare system, NAEMT needs board members who understand both where our profession has been and where it must go next. Melissa brings that combination of experience, perspective, and vision.

Her career reflects an uncommon breadth of EMS experience. Melissa has spent more than three decades in prehospital and emergency medicine and continues to understand EMS from the perspective of those providing care. At the same time, her work as a physician assistant, educator, consultant, and leader in mobile integrated healthcare and community paramedicine gives her insight into the increasingly important intersection between EMS and the larger healthcare system. That breadth allows her to evaluate issues not from a single perspective, but through the lens of the practitioner, educator, patient, EMS agency, and healthcare partner.

Equally important, Melissa has demonstrated that her commitment to NAEMT extends well beyond holding a seat on its Board. She has invested significant time and energy in membership, advocacy, education, organizational governance, and the continued evolution of our profession. She understands that a national association must do more than represent EMS; it must engage its members, strengthen state and local partnerships, develop future leaders, advocate effectively, and ensure that the voice of the individual EMS professional remains central to its work.

What I value most about Melissa's leadership is that she combines a willingness to look forward with a firm grounding in the realities of EMS practice. She recognizes the challenges facing our profession, but she also sees the opportunities. She is willing to ask difficult questions, participate in the work required to address them, collaborate with others, and help translate ideas into action.

Board service requires more than an impressive résumé. It requires commitment, sound judgment, active participation, collaboration, and a genuine willingness to serve the members who placed their trust in you. Melissa has demonstrated those qualities throughout her service to NAEMT.

For these reasons, I strongly support Melissa McNally's re-election to the NAEMT Board of Directors. Her experience, dedication, and continued commitment to advancing EMS make her an exceptional choice to continue representing the Gulf Coast Region and contributing to the national leadership of our profession.

Respectfully,

Maria Beermann-Foat, PhD, NRP