



D. Troy Tuke

Position Sought: President-elect

Candidate Background Information

For more than thirty years, my career has been shaped by a simple belief: EMS is at its best when we invest in the people who make it work. That is the driving purpose for seeking the role of President Elect of the NAEMT. I entered the profession in the late 1980s as a young firefighter paramedic, drawn to the idea of serving my community and being part of a team that made a difference on someone's hardest day. What I didn't know then was how deeply this work would shape my life, my leadership ideals, and my commitment to the future of EMS.

My early years in the Clark County Fire Department taught me the realities of frontline service—the pace, the pressure, the teamwork, and the responsibility that comes with being invited into the most vulnerable moments of someone's life. As I moved through roles including firefighter/paramedic, engineer/paramedic, EMS coordinator, and eventually Assistant Fire Chief—EMS, I gained a broader view of how EMS systems function. I learned how policy decisions ripple down to the field, how training and standards influence patient care, and how leadership can either strengthen or strain the workforce.

My time with Nevada Task Force 1 added another layer: the importance of readiness, collaboration, and calm decision making in high-stakes environments. Those experiences reinforced my belief that EMS professionals deserve strong support systems, clear expectations, and leaders who understand the job from multiple angles.

Education has become one of the most meaningful parts of my career. As Program Director of the MountainView Hospital Paramedic Institute, I've had the privilege of helping shape a modern, accredited paramedic program built around evidence-based instruction and student success. Watching students grow into confident clinicians has reminded me that the future of EMS depends on how well we prepare the next generation—and how consistently we uphold the standards that define our profession.

Across all these roles, certain themes have stayed constant. EMS clinicians need accessible, high-quality education. They need advocacy that reflects the realities of their work. They need support that helps them stay healthy, engaged, and proud of their careers. And they need leaders who have lived the profession from the street to the administrative level.

My background reflects that journey and a lifelong commitment to strengthening the EMS profession. The lessons I've learned—both the successes and the challenges—shape how I approach collaboration, problem solving, and the responsibility of representing EMS professionals nationwide.