



D. Troy Tuke

Position Sought: President-elect

Statement of Candidacy

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the position of President Elect of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians. My career—as a paramedic, registered nurse, EMS coordinator, fire service leader, and program director—has always centered on advancing our profession and supporting all clinicians who serve their communities with dedication and skill. For the past twelve years, I have had the privilege of serving on the NAEMT Board of Directors, and I currently serve as Secretary. This longstanding involvement has given me a great understanding of NAEMT's mission, its strengths, and the opportunities ahead.

EMS is experiencing significant change. Clinicians are taking on broader responsibilities, facing increasing operational demands, and working to meet rising expectations from both the public and the healthcare system. At the same time, we are seeing new opportunities for innovation, advocacy, and professional development. NAEMT plays a vital role in shaping this future, and I am committed to advancing three of its current strategic goals: enhancing EMS practitioner education, strengthening local and national advocacy, and supporting the EMS workforce through improved recruitment, retention, and provider wellbeing initiatives.

Education has been a cornerstone of my professional work. As Program Director of the MountainView Hospital Paramedic Institute, I have seen how strong instruction and accreditation standards can elevate clinicians and the agencies they serve. As President Elect, I will support efforts that expand access to evidence-based training, promote consistency in national standards, and encourage modern, innovative teaching approaches that prepare clinicians for the realities of today's EMS environment.

Advocacy remains essential to the future of EMS. Our profession needs a unified and influential voice in federal and state policy discussions—especially around reimbursement, workforce sustainability, and recognition of EMS as an essential component of public safety and healthcare. My years on the NAEMT Board have reinforced the importance of collaboration, communication, and persistence in advocacy. I have also worked closely with the members of our partner organizations—including NAEMSP, AAA, IAFF, IAFC, NREMT, CoAEMSP, and NAEMSE—to advance shared priorities and strengthen EMS at the national level. These collaborations demonstrate the power that unified leadership can have when we work together, and I will continue to foster these relationships to ensure our profession speaks with strength and clarity.

One of the most important opportunities ahead is the thoughtful integration of artificial intelligence into EMS practice. AI can improve clinical decision making, streamline documentation, improve dispatch accuracy, support education, and reduce administrative burdens that contribute to burnout. As President Elect, I will advocate for responsible, evidence-based adoption of AI tools that strengthen—not replace—the judgment and expertise of EMS clinicians.

I am grateful for the opportunity to seek the role of President Elect. With decades of experience across EMS, fire service, education, and healthcare—and twelve years of service on the NAEMT Board—I am prepared to collaborate, lead, and advocate on behalf of our profession. I respectfully ask for your support and look forward to working together to advance EMS nationwide.