



2017 Questions to NAEMT Board Candidates

Please include your response (500 words or less) below each question. Thanks.

Candidate: Cory S. Richter

1. Describe what you feel should be NAEMT's role in advancing the EMS profession.

I think NAEMT should be the leader when it comes to EMS issues nationwide, they have the membership base and network capabilities to be the voice for all EMS professionals. Over the years NAEMT has stepped up to the plate and taken a lead role in many EMS issues and is now the go to organization for emerging EMS trends. NAEMT needs to keep doing the great work they are doing and with the diversity on the Board of Directors we cover every facet of the EMS profession.

2. Ethics – One of NAEMT's core values states that the association "shall conduct all aspects of our business with integrity and transparency, and adhere to the ethical standards of our profession." What does this statement mean to you? Describe how you will work as a member of the NAEMT Board to safeguard this value.

Ethics comes from the Greek work ethos which means character. We are judged by our peers and the public based on our character and demeanor. We need to earn the public trust everyday if we are to continue to be seen as trust worthy in the public's eye. As an NAEMT board member we should be held to a higher standard and need to be professional in everything we do. I would continue to be a leader in EMS and portray a professional attitude and always do what I think is the right thing to do based on the situation.

3. Describe what you see as the opportunities and challenges that the US healthcare transformation poses for EMS, and what you see as NAEMT's role in this transformation.

NAEMT is a leading force for EMS issue nationwide and with that should be and is involved in all aspects of EMS. There are several issues that need all of the different EMS programs to pull together to work out to help with the transformation. There are insurance re-imburement,

bundled payment options, care for high-cost patients and the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) model and consumer priorities. These are all important issues that need cooperation between many different agencies and programs within the EMS structure. NAEMT has the connections and knowledge base to intellectually and professionally help consult on these issues.

4. Professionalism – Describe what “EMS professionalism” means to you and how NAEMT can positively impact the public’s perception of the EMS profession.

This has been an issue with EMS for as long as EMS has been around, we have been perceived as “ambulance drivers” to the general public, it has gotten better over the last few years but we have a long way to go. Hollywood has been good and bad for the image of EMS unfortunately mostly bad. NAEMT has been promoting EMS and produced a flyer explaining what EMS is and the difference between levels of training. This is a great resource that needs to be out more in the public so they can see that there is a difference. We as a profession need to always be professional, give the best care we can and treat all patients like they are family. Sometimes we are our own worst enemy because the public only hears the bad they rarely hear about all the good stuff we do and the lives we save. With the many training programs that NAEMT has developed they are the true leader for EMS and we all need to help educate the general public about what EMS really is.