



## Allison G.S. Knox Statement of Candidacy

### Region I Director

Dear NAEMT Members:

I am running for the Region I Director position. I strongly believe there is so much that we can do for the EMS industry to make a difference.

As EMS professionals, we need to continue thinking innovatively about our industry and our profession. In my opinion, one of the most important aspects of this is continuing the dialogue about workplace shortages, training and retention efforts. We also need to work together to continue developing strong relationships with lawmakers at the local, state and federal levels of government. NAEMT has worked to develop the foundations for this through the numerous committees and programs the organization offers. But, we need EMS professionals to help tighten these relationships.

I have been interested in EMS policy since I was a 16 year old lifeguard when I learned that my hometown had cut our 911 budget. I have wanted to make a difference ever since! Passionate about Emergency Medical Services policy issues, I have participated in several EMS on the Hill days and think it is so important for continuing policy discussions with lawmakers at the federal level. I also served as the NAEMT Advocacy Coordinator for Virginia for several years before moving to New York because of COVID-19.

I currently serve as an Intermittent Emergency Management Specialist with the U.S. Administration of Strategic Preparedness and Response and as a Contributing Editor of EDM Digest/The Edge. I also teach at the college level teaching political science at Marist College and Western Connecticut State University and Emergency Management at Eastern Kentucky University and Fire Science and Emergency Management at the American Military University. I teach a lot of emergency management and public safety policy courses. Prior to teaching, I worked for three years in the Emergency Department at Hartford Hospital - a level one trauma center in Hartford, Connecticut, and for a member of congress in Washington, D.C.

Since 2014, I have served on the Board of Trustees for Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences as Chancellor of the Southeast Region. In this position I conduct site visits of universities interested in starting a Pi Gamma Mu chapter and I am the Chair of the Leadership Development Program. I have also served as the Chapter Sponsor for the West Virginia Iota Chapter and have led the chapter to earn several awards including the Roll of Distinction 2015, 2016 and 2017 - all from Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society. I was also just awarded the Chapter Advisor of the Year Award in 2020 for my work with the West Virginia Iota Chapter and the Hall of Fame Award from Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences.

It would be an honor to continue to serve on the Board. Thank you for your time and consideration.