



## **D. Troy Tuke** **Statement of Candidacy**

### **Secretary**

NAEMT is the collective voice for all of those who choose to make EMS their chosen profession. The mission of this organization is to represent and serve all EMS practitioners through advocacy, education, and research. I have been actively working with the NAEMT for the past 9 years. I currently serve as the NAEMT Board Secretary and Chair of the

NAEMT Advocacy Committee. It is truly a great opportunity and honor to represent our collective interests at the state and national level.

Each day, in every city or town in our great country, thousands of people call 911 for a medical emergency with the expectation that a qualified EMS provider will arrive in a short amount of time, provide lifesaving interventions and then deliver the patient to definitive care. Regardless of whether the EMS provider is from a public, private, career or volunteer agency, each do their very best to care for those who need their help. Many do so with extremely limited resources. I have had the distinct privilege of belonging to this great group of professionals for the past 34 years. I have been fortunate in my career in EMS to work as an EMS RN and Nationally Registered Paramedic in both the public and private sectors. Those opportunities began for me as a volunteer EMT starting my college education through promotion to Assistant Fire Chief-EMS. I retired from the fire service to become the Program Director for a Paramedic Institute located in Nevada which is starting its third cohort with 54 students from 9 different agencies in the Las Vegas Valley.

The key challenge and opportunity facing the NAEMT and EMS is the continued integration of EMS into the entire health care system. The Covid pandemic has underscored the need for EMS to be more integrated into the entire system. It has also shown how indispensable those who deliver EMS really are. With new service and reimbursement models on the horizon, EMS has and will continue to raise the standards for community health care by implementing innovative techniques and systems to deliver the emergency care that is needed by the entire population. It will be important to have experienced providers in key positions, with opportunities to ensure that policy makers and politicians at all levels of government understand what EMS is, how it is done, and more importantly who does it.

I respectfully request your vote as I run for reelection as the NAEMT Board Secretary. I have been able to gain valuable experience as a Region IV Director and board secretary over the past few years and will use that experience in fulfilling the role of secretary to advance the following goals for our profession:

- Foster and create better relationships between all EMS provider agencies.
- Continue the development of improved educational opportunities and more secure funding for all EMS providers.
- Increase membership and active participation in the NAEMT.