



Joshua Corsa Statement of Candidacy

West Coast Region Director

My name is Joshua Corsa, I am a candidate for the West Coast Director Region. I have been in EMS since 1996 and I am just as passionate about prehospital medicine as I was 27 years ago. I've worked in both paid and volunteer positions, and I've been fortunate to work in a wide variety of settings including urban, rural, flight, ground, and search and rescue.

Currently I am a physician, a medical director, and I still practice as a Paramedic in rural Washington. My breadth of experience is unique. It's this experience that, as a board member, will allow me to analyze the challenges facing our profession from multiple perspectives and provide a measured and thoughtful plan that best serves all our disparate members.

It's no secret that EMS has not always received the support it deserves. We are an essential service, but still not recognized as such by most state governments. Now, more than ever, EMS needs support at the state and federal level. EMS systems are dying due to decreased funding, decreased staffing, and increased apathy from the public at large. In my own districts, we work tirelessly to highlight our EMS achievements in the community and reinforce how critical our profession is to the patient care continuum, and the same should be done at a national scale.

The NAEMT is uniquely positioned to accomplish all these things. We have and should continue to vigorously advocate for change at the state, local, and national levels. We should also increase our public outreach, pairing enthusiastic members with their community leaders, media, and interested groups to help share the story of EMS and its role in emergency care. Lastly, the NAEMT can increase the breadth of classes offered, with new, innovative classes that challenge our EMTs and paramedics and improve their skill set—particularly regarding airway management and resuscitation.

Our people and our profession are an asset that has been historically undervalued and under recognized. Our nation should treat them like the highly educated practitioners they are, and empower them with progressive education, proper staffing, and robust governmental support. I am running to relentlessly advocate for not just the survival of EMS, but for the revival of EMS as a recognized, critical step in patient care.