NREMT Executive Director Announces Retirement in 2013

William E. Brown, Jr., NREMT Executive Director since 1989, has announced his intention to retire in June 2013. Bill has been with the NREMT for 26 years, first being appointed the Advanced Level Certification Coordinator, and also serving as a Registry Representative. In just four years’ time, he rose to the position of Executive Director. Since then, Bill has been a part of many national committees and has spoken about the NREMT and/or national EMS initiatives in all 50 states.

During Bill’s tenure as Executive Director the NREMT has increased its use as part of the licensure process for EMS providers from 29 states to the present 45 and Washington DC, along with all U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force medical personnel. The NREMT’s budget has increased ten-fold and the staff size has tripled.

The Registry moved from pencil-paper examinations to computer based (CBT) examinations. The entire information technology (computer system) code has been re-written and many features added including the ability to notify state licensure agencies of passing scores within two days of completion of the examination. NREMT policies regarding felony convictions, Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations and disciplinary actions have been revised. The Board of Directors by-laws have been revised, changing the make-up of the Board to a more representative, broad-based EMS leadership board. Bill was also the author of the NREMT’s self-study that achieved accreditation for all NREMT certifications by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

He has been the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the NAEMSE, NAEMSP and NAEMT. Due to Bill’s impending retirement, The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) is looking for an outstanding individual with visionary leadership and management skills to become its next Executive Director.

Ken Knipper is Awarded 2011 NAEMT Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award

Dedicated to supporting causes that improve EMS, Ken Knipper was the 2011 recipient of the NAEMT Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award. Ken was presented with the award at the NAEMT General Membership meeting held August 30, 2011 in Las Vegas.

According to a press release distributed by the NAEMT, Ken was nominated for this award “due to his tireless and dedicated service to EMS in the many capacities he has served.” He is considered an instrumental leader and voice for EMS at all levels.

Prior to retiring, Ken was the Campbell County, Kentucky Emergency Manager. Charles M. O’Neal, B.A., NREMT-P, Assistant Division Director, Kentucky Division of Emergency Management, has served with Ken on a number of state level EMS committees and councils. He recalled Ken’s “sincere desire” to see the citizens

Honoring U.S. Military Who Lost Their Lives in the War on Terror

Nearly 200 U.S. Military, who were also Nationally Certified EMS Providers, have lost their lives in the line of duty while serving in The War on Terror. The NREMT wishes to honor these men and women for their courage in protecting our great country.

The following is a list of those men and women who have lost their lives since The War on Terror began in 2003. We apologize if any name was unintentionally omitted.

Army Medic Casualties
- SSG Eric D. COTTRELL August 13, 2007, Alabama
- SPC Charles D. PARRISH June 4, 2009, Alabama
- SPC Brian A. VAUGHN June 21, 2005, Alabama
- SSG Carletta S. DAVIS November 5, 2007, Alaska
- PFC David N. CROMBIE June 7, 2006, Arizona
- SGT Justin B. ONWORDI October 25, 2007, Arizona
- SGT Tyler D. PREWITT September 28, 2004, Arizona
BILL BROWN, conditions. I also want to say “thanks,” for a job enduring the past number of years. I thank these dedicated workers for EMS Offices, I feel we all need to raise our hands, doing more with less, and days, small (or non-existent) pay in the service provided to all of us. State Budget Woes

LEADERSHIP

Maxie Bishop has been the EMS Director for the state of Texas since 2006. Prior to that, Maxie was EMS Training Coordinator Firefighter and Paramedic for the Dallas Fire Rescue Department for 28 years. Maxie’s expertise lies in working with state and federal agencies, professional organizations, and EMS stakeholders. He was one of the original appointments to the Tarrant County EMS Advisory Council (TCEMC). Filling the EMS Education position and then serving as Chair of its Education Committee. Maxie is also on the Board of Directors for CECEMB. is a certified EMS instructor and firefighter, and possesses critical incident stress management training. Maxie currently holds licenses as both an EMT-P and RN. He received his Nursing ADN from El Centro College, and a B.A. in Organizational Leadership, and is a regular educator for ambulance management, Emergency Medicine Residency. Kevin fulfilled his Affiliated Fellowship in Emergency Medicine at the University Health Science Center, University of Pittsburgh. He holds a Doctorate of Medicine from St. Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri. Aaron Reinton is the Executive Director for Lakes Region EMS in North Branch, MN, a rural ambulance service covering a 450 square mile service area with 40 full-time staff for non-profit operations. Aarri was the Field Services Manager for the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board. Aaron is considered a national expert in EMS data collection and also a leader in training for current and future leaders in EMS. He has served as a subject matter expert for numerous states, such as Georgia, Nebraska, and New Hampshire, as they developed statewide EMS data collection systems. He also assisted the country of Ireland in exploring the development and implementation of a national EMS data collection system. Aaron was recently appointed Chairperson of the NHTSA National EMS Advisory Council (NEMASC). He has pioneered the use of the Blood Donor Card within ambulance services. He continues to be a practicing paramedic of 18 years, has a B.A. in Organizational Leadership, and is a regular educator for ambulance management, and a consultant for public safety communications and EMS data collection. Aaron is a partner in SafeTech Solutions. José Salazar is the Deputy Chief of EMS & Training for Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, Leesburg, VA. He has been part of the EMS field for nearly 10 years, as a provider educator and administrator. He is also President of José Salazar & Associates. José received his Masters of Public Health Degree in Health Systems Management and Policy in EMS from New York Medical College in New York. Among the many EMS projects, publications and presentations for which José can be recognized, he helped achieve CoEMSP accreditation for fire-based Paramedic programs, worked with the NREMT Board of Directors to gain approval of the AEM’s Emergency Response national program; and was a contributing writer for the EMS Educational guidelines for the EMT and Paramedic. Outgoing board members are John R. Clark, 20 NREMT, FP-C; Dan Mancini, BS, EMT-P, and Juliette M. Sauxy, MD, FACEP. The NREMT is appreciative of their support and contributions.

Message from NREMT Chairman of the Board

When I first became certified as an EMT in 1973, I thought this would be an exciting and rewarding career I have not been disappointed. For the past 37 years, I have made a full-time career in EMS operations, advancing from a BLS provider, to an ALS provider, a field supervisor; and an operations director. Our profession has come a long way since then, and yet, we have a long way to go on our journey to the independent recognition and professional standing enjoyed by other branches of the allied health care field.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines a professional as one as an occupation, whose income is derived from it, and who possesses a broad educational background and a long period of specialized training and experience which involves much altruism and promotion of the public good. These commitments form the basis of a social contract that binds the profession autonomy in practice and the privilege of self-regulation.

I have been Nationally Registered for the majority of my career, but like so many of my colleagues, I considered it as only a test I had to pass to be eligible for a license to practice. I did not understand the importance of a nationally recognized standardized examination as a step in achieving professional recognition. When I was first nominated to a seat on the National Registry Board of Directors, I knew little about the complexities that go into developing such an exam that is psychometrically sound and legally defensible as a measure of entry-level competency. Forty-five states now have the National Registry exam as part of their requirement for entry into the practice of EMS, and a growing number of states are requiring maintenance of the National Registry as a requisite for maintenance of a state license.

As the Nation’s EMS Certification™, the National Registry has a responsibility to our professions, to you—the registered EMS professional—and to the public we serve, to assure that the requirements to attain and maintain National Certification remain congruent with the knowledge and skill base necessary for competent and safe practice in our field. During my tenure as Chair of the Board of Directors, I committed to ensure the organization to evaluate these requirements, to provide greater opportunities for EMS professionals to attain, retain and earn National Certification and to recognize the commitment to excellence among those who do so.

Editor’s Note: Thomas (Tommy) Loyaca was elected as chair of the Board in November 2011. He is Chief EMS Operations Officer for metropolitan Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
The two additional Coordinators at the NREMT will help streamline and improve the processes for examinations, training, and Trauma Life Support Provider and PEPF. Todd also currently holds certifications with FEMA, National Fire Academy, and the Emergency Services Technology Extension Service, Northeast Countering Terrorism Center. Prior to his current position Todd has been a member of the Bucks County EMS Chiefs Association, and recently served as its President.

Todd received a B.S. in Applied Science—Allied Health Management, and an A.A.S in Applied Science—Emergency Paramedics.

The NREMT Paramedic Psychomotor Competency Portfolio project has just recently implemented Phase 2. This portfolio of exams that enrolled in the study during academic year 2010-11, a total of 17 were able to be withdrawn from the study cited interchanges, program director changes and financial considerations. Of those 17 withdrawn programs, programs in the United States. These forms include History Taking and Physical Examination; Airway, Oxygenation and Ventilation; Trauma; Medical; Cardiac; and EMS Operations) prior to the Examination Department Adds Two Coordinators

The fees are the result of the contract the NREMT renewed with Pearson VUE as its computer based exam provider. Although it was necessary to implement these fees, the NREMT does not anticipate any cost increase for National EMS examinations through 2016.

Current National EMS Certification Exam Fees

First Responder & Emergency Medical Responder $15

EMT-Basic / Emergency Medical Technician $70

Advanced EMT/Intermediate-B / Intermediate-A $110

Paramedic /Paramedics $130

The project requires 400 first-year candidates to respond to each piloted item. Candidates see 30-40 items during their examination experience. After receiving 400 responses, the item is analyzed to ensure it accurately reflects safe and effective care before moving on to the standard psychomotor testing. Candidates do not know which items are pilot questions when they are taking their exam; and pilot questions do not count towards the candidate’s final score.

There is no single role for the national testing program in this context. The entire process from item development to the candidate's final results has taken over a year. The process takes many months of development and analysis, professional expertise, and the use of the latest technology to ensure the entry-level competency of the candidate. The ultimate goal in the development of each examination question is to protect the public.

The original concept of the paramedic scenario psychomotor examination was the direct result of implementing National EMS Education Program Accomplishments envisoned in the EMS Education Agenda for the Future. A Systems Approach (2000). Our premise was that psychomotor education become more consistent and a universal system of public accountability and continual improvement of academic quality for paramedic programs was implemented by CoAEMSP.

EXAMINATION

Where Do You Get Those $#&*! Exam Questions?!

The first question that the candidate experiences is called the pre-test, which is a set of questions that are not scored and are designed to establish a baseline of the candidate's knowledge of the content. Each pre-test consists of 35 different forms was developed, refined, and has been pilot tested during the testing and skills assessments for the current paramedics in the United States. These forms include History Taking and Physical Examination; Airway, Oxygenation and Ventilation; Trauma; Medical; Cardiac; and Osteoarticular. A combination of instructor check-off and peer evaluation was utilized in the skill lab phase until the students demonstrated the ability to adequately perform the skills. Students then practiced the learned skill in the context of a related scenario similar to an out-of-hospital call to which paramedics would respond. The Scenario lab phase was designed to evaluate the students’ abilities to function on simulated EMS calls as both a team leader and a team member. There were also several behavioral Clinical Evaluation forms in which the clinical practitioners documented student’s abilities to actually ventilate, administer medications, and obtain 12-lead ECGs on real patients in a controlled environment. Each student completed a Skills Evaluation Worksheet to summarize every clinical rotation and included feedback from the Clinical Preceptor on his/her progress. The Field Evaluation phase completed the portfolio: Each student filled out a Field Shift Evaluation Worksheet. At the end of every field rotation and he/she was critiqued by the Field Instructor.

The Phase Two of Paramedic Psychomotor Competency Portfolio Project (PPCP) Work Continues on Exam That Better Reflects Out-of-Hospital Practice

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The fees are the result of the contract the NREMT renewed with Pearson VUE as its computer based exam provider. Although it was necessary to implement these fees, the NREMT does not anticipate any cost increase for National EMS certifications through 2016. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live’. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live’. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live’. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live’. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live’. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live’. Each exam question costs an average of $1,000 to develop and takes 9-12 months to become ‘live'.
NREMT Seeks to Fill Positions of Director of Research and Educator Board Member

**Director of Research Employment Opportunity**

The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), located in Columbus, OH, is pleased to announce the recruitment of a Director of Research. The NREMT is the Nation’s EMS Certification agency and credentialing nearly 300,000 EMS professionals throughout the country. The NREMT research program is growing and is seeking a highly motivated individual to lead a small team of researchers. The NREMT Board of Directors has approved an ambitious research agenda, which focuses on community, health/social/wellness, and EMS workforce issues. These exciting lines of inquiry combined with the resources of the NREMT provide a unique opportunity for scholarship and impact the future of EMS.

A doctoral degree is required. The ideal candidate will have EMS/public health/wellness care experience. We are seeking candidates with strong research methods/statistical background and experience in the development and submission of peer-reviewed research. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Interested applicants should send a cover letter and curriculum vitae to Monica Yanscik, SPHR, Human Resources Director, National Registry of EMTs, P.O. Box 29239, Columbus, OH 43229.

* Individuals expecting to graduate within the next two terms are encouraged to apply.

**NREMT Board of Directors Seeks EMS Educator Applications**

The National Registry of EMTs (NREMT), the Nation’s EMS Certification agency, announces an open at-large EMS Educator position on their Board of Directors. Interested educators should have active experience in EMS education, local and national-level EMS leadership experience, and previous involvement in NREMT activities as desirable.

The Registry is currently part of the EMT licensure process in 45 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force. The NREMT examines about 130,000 EMS personnel annually. The mission of the NREMT is to help protect the public by providing a valid, uniform process to assess the knowledge and skills required for competent practice required by EMS professionals throughout their careers and by maintaining a registry of certification status.

Board membership requires attendance at two meetings per year (one a day meeting and one two-day meeting) usually in Columbus, OH (as well as committee work, including additional meetings and conference calls). The NREMT Board of Directors develops national registration/certification policies and procedures and oversees the mission of the Registry.

Those interested in serving on the Board should send a letter and curriculum vitae to Jimm Murray, Nominations Committee Chairman, NREMT, P.O. Box 29239, Columbus, OH 43229 by April 15, 2012. The Nominations Committee will prepare a slate of candidates from responses received, and one new EMS Educator will be elected to a four-year term by the full Board of Directors at the June meeting.

**NREMT Executive Director Announces Retirement**

The NREMT invites applications from candidates with a minimum of a Bachelor’s degree (graduate degree preferred) and the abilities and experience described in the Executive Director profile at nremt.org. About the NREMT Executive Director Profile. The Executive Director is responsible for leading the Nation’s EMS Certification®. The ideal candidate will have a background in EMS and experience in leadership, organizational vision, examination development, budget preparation and management. The successful candidate must relocate to Columbus, Ohio. Compensation and benefits are negotiable and commensurate with experience and qualifications.
FAST FACTS & STATS

NREMT by the Numbers

- The NREMT has 34 full-time staff members
- 45 States plus the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force use National EMS Certification as part of their licensure process
- 126,153 National EMS Certification exams were provided in 2011
- 4336 EMS Education programs are enrolled in the NREMT Network (EdNet)
- National Certification for the Advanced EMT (AEMT) launched on 6/1/2011 and 145 candidates took the exam in 2011
- Since the National Registry began in 1970, there have been only 2 Executive Directors
- Website hits (new) per month: 130,000
- Number of Pearson VUE test sites for NR exams: 412

NREMT 2011 Entry Level Exam Volumes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Level</th>
<th>Number of Exams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Responder</td>
<td>4,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>96,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/85</td>
<td>5,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEMT</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/99</td>
<td>1,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paramedic</td>
<td>18,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>126,153</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NREMT 2011 First-time Pass Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Level</th>
<th>Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Responder</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMT-Basic</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate/85</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate/99</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMT-Paramedic</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EMS Stats

The 2011 National EMS Assessment Report commissioned by the Federal Interagency Committee for Emergency Medical Services (FICEMS), and funded through the National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA) found the following regarding EMS:

- An estimated total of 19,971 Credentialed EMS Agencies exist in the U.S.
- Over 93% of the Agencies respond to 911 emergent events
- An estimated total of 826,111 Credentialed EMS Professionals at the EMT-Basic, Intermediate, and Paramedic levels exist in the U.S.
- 64% [of providers] are EMT-Basic, 24% Paramedic, 6% Intermediate

You can read the full report at www.ems.gov/ficems

Ken Knipper 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award...continued from page 1

of Kentucky receive first-rate prehospital medical care, and EMS in Kentucky be recognized as a legitimate part of the public safety community.

Ken also was a volunteer EMT and Chief of the Silver Grove Fire Department in Northern Kentucky. He served as Director of the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services, was inducted into the Kentucky Firefighters Association Hall of Fame in 2008, and was the recipient of a Special Recognition Award from the EMS Branch of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services. He initiated the EMS division of his local department over 30 years ago.

In addition, Ken has been involved in the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), representing the organization at various national meetings.

Currently, Ken is serving a second term on the National EMS Advisory Council, representing volunteer EMS practitioners. He also is a member of the Culture of Safety Project Steering Committee, and a liaison to the NREMT Board of Directors. Ken has also served the EMS community on a national level in other significant capacities.

The Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award is the NAEMT’s most prestigious award, named after one of the founding members of NAEMT, and sponsored by the NREMT. Director of the NREMT, William E. Brown, Jr., who presented Ken with the award, was quoted in the NAEMT press release as saying “...Ken is a living legend of leadership in EMS in Kentucky.”