

## **NREMT Executive Director William E. Brown, Jr. Receives NAEMSE Lifetime Achievement Award**



*Bill Brown (front center) poses with NAEMSE Past-President Debra Cason (front right), and NREMT staff members after being awarded the 2010 NAEMSE Lifetime Achievement Award.*

September 20, 2010

Columbus, OH- The National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) honored National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) Executive Director William E. Brown, Jr., RN, MS, NREMT-P, with the Lifetime Achievement Award during the 2010 NAEMSE Educational Symposium & Trade Show in Schaumburg, IL, which was held September 7-12, 2010.

In the fifteen-year history of the NAEMSE, the organization has only awarded three other Lifetime Achievement Awards. Nominations for this award were taken from Mr. Brown's peers; a committee of NAEMSE members then chose Mr. Brown as the recipient prior to the Symposium.

"On behalf of President Chris Nollette, the NAEMSE Board of Directors and myself, the National Association of EMS Educators was honored to present our Lifetime Achievement Award to Mr. Brown at our annual symposium last week in Schaumburg, Illinois," said NAEMSE Executive Director, Joann Freel. "We wanted our entire membership to recognize what an extraordinary supporter, friend and mentor Mr. Brown is to the National Association of EMS Educators and to the entire EMS community. The NAEMSE Board of Directors felt Mr. Brown's innovative efforts as Executive Director of NREMT and his importance to the EMS community made him truly deserving of this award."

Mr. Brown has been with the NREMT for 25 years, first being appointed the Advanced Level Certification Coordinator, and also serving as a Registry Representative. In just four year's time, he rose to the position of Executive Director. Since then, Mr. Brown has been a part of many national committees and has spoken about the NREMT and/or national EMS initiatives in all 50 states.

During Mr. Brown'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 US Army and US Air Force medical personnel. The NREMT's budget has increased 10 fold and the staff size has tripled. The Registry moved from pencil-paper examinations to computer based (CAT) 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. Mr. Brown was the author of the NREMT's self-study that achieved accreditation for all NREMT certifications by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

"As a former EMS Paramedic educator at Youngstown State University, I know that the role of the NREMT's National EMS Certification stands on the shoulders of quality education," Bill stated. "When education presents candidates for certification who are entry-level competent and ready for the occupation, certification becomes more meaningful to the profession and the public. It is with great pride that I accept this award on behalf of my team, who should feel proud to join me in this award. Regardless of my individual recognition, none of this would have been possible without the support of the people I work for (the Board of Directors), the people I work with (the staff of the NREMT) and the larger supporting cast who assists and assisted me (my Lord, my family and my background) throughout my life. Receipt of this award was a surprise to me and was greatly appreciated. After all, we are working toward the same goal: safe and effective practice of providers by way of the education, certification and licensure processes."

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