

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. John (JC) Cook to Join CoAEMSP as Assistant Director

November, 2024 - CoAEMSP is pleased to announce John (JC) Cook, EdD, MBA, NRP, will join the CoAEMSP team as Assistant Director, beginning January 2, 2025. Dr. Cook currently serves as program director of the Emergency Services program at Radford University in Roanoke, VA.

Dr. Cook will work closely with Dr. Hatch and Dr. Michael Miller, Assistant Director, to support the operations and activities of CoAEMSP and manage accreditation services in collaboration with the staff.

"The 2023–25 <u>Strategic Plan</u> adopted by the Board of Directors lays out a bold path forward for both CoAEMSP and the field of paramedic education," said Dr. George Hatch, Executive Director. "We have redoubled efforts to support new and existing program directors throughout the accreditation process. With the launch of voluntary AEMT accreditation beginning January 1, 2025, we must ensure CoAEMSP can provide professional resources to new programs while maintaining the highest standards existing programs have come to expect. Bringing Dr. Cook – JC to everyone who knows him – on board will do just that. He has been an exceptional volunteer site visitor for CoAEMSP since 2010. His passion for accreditation and willingness to invest in programs and people is legendary. I am thrilled that he will bring his decades of experience to the organization, and I know that his insights will truly benefit the field of paramedic education."

"I am passionate about accreditation because I know first-hand it matters," said Dr. Cook. "Accreditation helps students feel confident that they are receiving a quality education. Program directors benefit from the accreditation process and the robust mentoring and problem-solving opportunities it provides. And I believe voluntary AEMT accreditation has and will continue to advance our profession in many meaningful ways. I could not be more excited about joining the CoAEMSP team at this pivotal moment, with the launch of voluntary AEMT accreditation. And I look forward to working with my program director colleagues as we move the field of EMS education forward together."

Dr. Cook has had an exceptional career in EMS, beginning with his service as a paramedic and firefighter before joining the faculty of Jefferson College of Health Sciences, which later merged with Radford University. He has been in his current role as program director since 2010. Dr. Cook received his Bachelor of Science from George Washington University in 2004, graduating

Magna Cum Laude with a concentration in Emergency Medical Services Management. He earned a Masters of Business Administration from Averett University in 2007, a Graduate Certificate in Emergency Services Management from George Washington University in 2009, and a Doctor of Education from Nova Southeastern University in 2018.

The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (COAEMSP) works to advance the quality of EMS education through accreditation. CoAEMSP is the only organization recognized by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) to provide accreditation services for Paramedic and, beginning in 2025, AEMT education programs.