



## **Nongovernmental Organization AHIMTA Board of Director Position**

Since the beginning of government led disaster response, there has been philanthropic organizations working side by side with governments to provide disaster relief, ease suffering, and provide resources that governments would not provide. In fact, the American Red Cross has had a Federal Charter signed by Congress to provide a system of disaster relief since 1905. In conjunction with FEMA's concept of "Whole of Community," Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs) provide international and domestic disaster relief resources. The government needs NGOs and NGOs need the government.

AHIMTA seeks to inspire excellence in incident management. Typically, that incident management occurs at disasters and large-scale emergencies. At such incidents are NGOs. These NGOs are larger, have more financial and material resources, and have political influence that AHIMTA does not have. These NGOs participate in incident management, while others may need to adopt the use of ICS, NIMS, and the use of incident management teams to improve their disaster relief processes.

The AHIMTA NGO At-Large Board Member shall act as a connection to all NGOs involved with disaster response. This board member shall also seek to advocate and influence stakeholder NGOs and partner with these NGOs on projects of similar interest. These NGOs may be able to fully or partially fund projects that will advance AHIMTA's cause. NGO's may be able to support AHIMTA members that are deployed with various resources including fiscal resources and equipment and supplies. A partnership with NGOs in our advocacy pursuits will also be beneficial as the NGOs can assert influence through channels that AHIMTA does not have.

The AHIMTA At-Large NGO should be an individual that understands AHIMTs while also understanding the business workings and process of large NGOs. This board member would work to develop relationships with all relevant NGOs and helping AHIMTA to understand the NGOs position and needs on issues while concurrently helping AHIMTA to understand the positions of the various NGOs on matters pertaining to disaster relief, funding, and NGO challenges.