



National Homeland Security Association



Rocky Vaz

*Director of Emergency Management
City of Dallas, TX*

Rocky Vaz has been employed with the City of Dallas for the last 26 years in various capacities. Since joining the City of Dallas in 1988, Rocky has served in several City departments starting with Dallas Police Department in charge of its Criminal Documents section. While in the Police Department Rocky was also responsible for creating and implementing policies for the federally mandated Brady Gun Law, and the creation of the Nuisance Abatement Unit. This was followed by managing the City's Weed and Seed program and successfully overseeing the addition of 3 additional Weed and Seed sites.

In 1990 Rocky moved to the City's Office of Intergovernmental Services, overseeing the City's Fund Development Unit. In this role, Rocky managed City-wide grant coordination, oversaw a staff of grant writers, and was responsible for reviewing proposals for state and federal grant funding. In the last 5 years the city has received over \$400 million in competitive and formula grants that were overseen by this office. The Fund Development unit also manages the implementation of all public safety grant programs with a team of grant coordinators/analysts and auditors. In addition, Rocky serves as the Principal Point of Contact for the DFWA Urban Area and in this capacity manages the implementation of the Dallas area UASI strategic plan and provides leadership to the DFWA UASI region.

Rocky is currently serving as the President for the National Homeland Security Association, a 501(c)3 dedicated to information sharing and increased collaboration between the nation's homeland security professionals. The National Homeland Security Association hosts the annual National Homeland Security Conference (formerly the National UASI Conference). The Conference is the annual meeting of local Homeland Security and emergency management professionals from the Nation's largest metropolitan areas. It has become the best attended and most highly anticipated homeland security and emergency management conference of the year as it focuses on all emergency response disciplines at all levels of government.

In December 2012, Rocky was appointed the Director of Emergency Management for the City of Dallas. As the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City, Rocky is responsible for coordinating the activities of volunteer, public and private agencies in all phases of emergency management (Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation).