Rocky Vaz is Director of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for the City of Dallas. As a member of the Executive Management Team, Mr. Vaz coordinates the City’s Emergency Management programs. He is responsible for oversight of the City’s efforts to effectively prevent, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters. In this capacity, Mr. Vaz is also responsible for managing homeland security grant programs administered by the City, including the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). The City has received over $120 million in federal grant programs to improve the City’s resilience to natural and man-made disasters.

Under his leadership, the City of Dallas has achieved full accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), the second largest City in the nation to receive this accreditation. Mr. Vaz has overseen the expansion of Dallas Alert, the City’s emergency notification system, and a city-wide community preparedness initiative meant to educate Dallas residents about the hazards they may face and empower them to be prepared.

During his tenure, Mr. Vaz has successfully coordinated the City’s response to several large-scale event/disasters. Most recently, Mr. Vaz managed the Emergency Operations Center during the 2014 Ebola event, the 2015 Flooding, 2016 Police shooting in Downtown Dallas, 2016 Mega Shelter Operations for Hurricane Harvey Evacuees, and the 2016 Natural Gas Explosion and evacuations.

Before his appointment, Mr. Vaz worked in the City’s Intergovernmental Services Department, where he managed the City wide Fund Development/Grants section. In this role he was responsible for applying for the grants, creating the homeland security division grant monitoring processes and protocols, and completing federal reporting requirements.