

## **Jim Featherstone**

### **President and CEO of the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC)**

#### **Speaker Bio:**

James Featherstone became President and CEO of the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) in March 2016, after serving the City of Los Angeles for thirty years. At HSAC, Jim continues to strengthen the greater Los Angeles region's preparedness and resilience through HSAC's mission.

A native of Washington D.C. and a veteran of the United States Navy, Jim began his public service to the City of Los Angeles in 1986 with the Los Angeles Fire Department and was later appointed Interim Fire Chief (2013-2014). In 2007, Jim was appointed General Manager of the Los Angeles Emergency Management Department, where he led a successful departmental reorganization and restructured the City's emergency management protocols and processes.

Jim holds a Master of Leadership from the University of Southern California, a Bachelor of Public Administration from Union Institute and University, and is an alumnus of the Executive Leaders Program at the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Jim is also a Senior Fellow in the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government's Program on Crisis Leadership.

#### **Presentation:**

##### **Cross-Sector Leadership: An Essential Element in Crisis Management**

As every crisis manager knows, the need for collaboration across sectors is essential. This applies not only to their region, but also to every sector within the region. Crisis managers, public safety officials, business leaders, and academic institutions must come together if we are to have a truly comprehensive approach to how we address crises.

Such cross-sector collaboration depends upon several factors. Open and effective communication is required if we are to invite varied and valid perspectives and new ideas among forward-thinking leaders. At the same time, it is necessary to integrate technical expertise and evidence-based research into effective and accessible solutions pre-, trans-, and post- crises. In order to facilitate these objectives, we

must first establish partnerships by creating opportunities for leaders across each sector to learn from each other. Join us as we discuss practical solutions to ensure we can create the collaboration necessary for cross-sector leadership in crisis management.