

Dr. Gerald Parker

Dr. Gerald W. Parker is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the Department of Health and Human Services. The Office coordinates and leads HHS-wide efforts with respect to preparedness for and response to public health and medical emergencies, and serves as the focal point for operational and policy coordination with the White House, other federal departments, agencies, Congress, state and local officials, international authorities, and private sector leaders responsible for emergency medical preparedness and the protection of the civilian population from acts of terrorism and other public health emergencies.

Prior to joining the Department of Health and Human Services in July 2005, Dr. Parker already had over 28 years of distinguished public service. This included service at the Department of Homeland Security from April 2004 to July 2005, and active U.S. Army service as a researcher, teacher, team leader, division director, program director and laboratory commander from 1977 to 2004.

During his career, Dr. Parker held a variety of positions including Assistant Deputy for Research and Development, Director for the Medical Chemical and Biological Defense Research Program, and Deputy Director for the Combat Casualty Research Program at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. Dr. Parker is also a former Commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Parker graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelors of Science in Veterinary Medicine and with a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. He holds a Doctorate in Physiology from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas and a Masters of Science in Resourcing the National Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.