

Ron Prater

Executive Director, Big City Emergency Managers
Chief Operating Officer, Bent Ear Solutions LLC

Ron Prater has been the Executive Director of BCEM since March of 2013. He is also a co-founder of Bent Ear Solutions LLC, a small consulting firm focused on helping public safety agencies plan for and implement emerging technologies. He has more than 25 years' experience helping the private sector and Federal, state, and local branches of government address some of their most pressing issues.

His original career goal was to work in the aerospace industry like his father. After completing his engineering degree, he quickly pursued other interests. Though over the last twenty years Ron has primarily focused on helping organizations define and address public safety and homeland security requirements, there are few customer challenges he hasn't supported. Information technology project design and management, strategy development, outreach, human resources, organizational design, training, facilitation, budgeting, strategic sourcing, etc...he has helped clients address many of their topic challenges. He feels incredibly lucky to have worked with such great people (coworkers and clients) throughout his career.

As the Executive Director of BCEM he gets to help the Directors of Emergency Management from fifteen of the largest jurisdictions in the country discuss and debate the emerging trends effecting safety across the country and promote lessons learned and best practices. In addition, he is the facilitator of the annual BCEM Emerging Leaders Program.

Prior to starting Bent Ear Solutions in 2017, Ron was a founder and owner of Corner Alliance Incorporated. Other jobs included starting and leading the Public Safety Business Unit at SRA International's Touchstone Consulting Group and serving as a Manager at Arthur Andersen LLP and several other small DC-based consulting firms.

He holds an MS from Catholic University and a BS in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Virginia. He lives in Alexandria, VA with his wife and strives to find time to hang out with his adult kids.