

Gerald “Gerry” Parker, DVM, PhD

Associate Dean

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Texas A&M University

Dr. Parker’s testimony is expected to focus on the capacity and technologies needed to investigate and establish attribution for disease outbreaks, including infectious disease pandemics and terrorist incidents. His testimony is expected to draw on his decades of work in public health, biodefense, and the military. Notably, Dr. Parker was heavily involved in both the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2001 anthrax attacks.

Dr. Gerald W. Parker is Associate Vice President for Public Health Preparedness and Response, and principal investigator for the Texas A&M Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing.

Prior to his appointment to Texas A&M University, Dr. Parker was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Chemical and Biological Defense at the Department of Defense from 2010 to 2013, and the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the Department of Health and Human Services from 2005 to 2010. He also served at the Department of Homeland Security from 2004 to 2005. He was a 2009 recipient of the Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award, and was awarded the Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service in 2013.

Before his civilian government service, Dr. Parker held a variety of assignments during his 26-year military career in the U.S. Army (1977-2004), including: assistant deputy for medical research and development; director for the Medical Chemical and Biological Defense Research Program; deputy director for the Combat Casualty Research Program at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command; and commander and deputy commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Parker graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Medicine in 1976 and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine the following year. He holds a Doctorate in Physiology from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and a Master of Science in Resourcing the National Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.