In October of 2007, James G. Featherstone was appointed General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department. A native of Washington D.C. and veteran of the United States Navy, Mr. Featherstone began his years of service to the City of Los Angeles in 1986 with the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD).

Mr. Featherstone responded to a variety of emergencies during his tenure with the LAFD. They included the 1992 Civil Disturbance, the 1993 Firestorm, the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, and numerous local major emergencies and regional campaign incidents. In the spring of 2000, he was detailed to a multi-agency team to develop the Fire Department's Operational and Tactical plans for the 2000 Democratic National Convention (DNC). In this role, he collaborated with a variety of federal, state and local public safety agencies.

Mr. Featherstone is an alumnus of the National Fire Academy and the Executive Leaders Program at the Naval Postgraduate School’s Center for Homeland Defense and Security. He has also served as an Adjunct Instructor at the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center at Texas A&M University. Mr. Featherstone is a member of the National Incident Management Working Group, and the current Chair of the National Advisory Council for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.