



Tracy Guarino

FORMER PRESIDENT AND CEO
FORCEX, INC

Tracy Guarino, a skilled STEM executive, is one of very few women who have led companies developing Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) technology for the military and security industries. ForceX, Inc. creates unique, custom video processing, mapping, surveillance and target tracking software for commercial and federal government entities. Tracy oversaw the corporation's transition from a start-up and grew it into one of the largest government contractors in Tennessee. When the company was at the forefront of developing the world's most technologically relevant solutions, she sold it to a defense contracting powerhouse. This further propelled the organization's mission of protecting life and liberty and simultaneously solidified Tennessee as a destination for aerospace and defense companies.

A strategic, tactical operations leader, Tracy develops key alliances and partnerships with diverse stakeholders. She creates collaborative relationships with business, government and community members that generate profitable revenue streams. As a result of these efforts, she and ForceX earned a number of prestigious awards and nominations. The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Nashville Entrepreneur Center presented Tracy the NEXT Award for "Market Mover in Technology," recognizing excellence in business and entrepreneurship. ForceX received two nominations for the *Nashville Business Journal's* "Best in Business." In addition, the company was a finalist for the Nashville Technology Council's "Company of the Year."

An advocate for the STEM and business communities, Tracy focuses on solutions to grow the technology workforce and supports efforts to expand STEM education. In addition, she makes a point to motivate future leaders and to encourage young women in high school and college to build solid foundations for careers as industry and technology leaders. Tracy also serves as a Prosperity Leader and Business Conditions Council member for the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, where she campaigns for a strong business environment, contributes insights about emerging economic conditions and focuses on policies that support 21st-century workforce skills.

As a member of the Nashville Technology Council's Executive committee and Chair of their Advocacy Committee, Tracy was invited to meet with U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez to discuss labor force issues and how to improve the pool of skilled workers. She also authored talking points for technology issues for Nashville's mayoral candidates in 2015. Tracy is a member of the Women Presidents' Organization, the Society of International Business Fellows and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Tracy earned a Master of Business Administration from Vanderbilt University's Executive MBA Program and her Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the State University of New York at Oswego.