Colonel (R) James A. Laterza is a Veteran of the United States Army where he served 32+ years before retiring at the rank of Colonel in November 2017. He grew up in Windham, NY and joined the Army at age 17 as an enlisted Soldier in 1983. Later, he won a Reserve Officer Training Corps “Green to Gold” scholarship receiving his commission into the Army Medical Service Corps in 1989.

He is a seasoned healthcare executive with over 20-years of experience in a myriad of hospital leadership roles. He most recently served as the Director of the Fayetteville VA Medical Center caring for over 250,000 Veterans in its main hospital and 7 clinics dispersed along the North Carolina coast. He culminated his military career as Commander of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and its seven clinics located in Germany, Belgium and Italy serving 209,000 beneficiaries as the only Department of Defense Medical Center outside the United States. Prior to that assignment he served as the Commander of the US Army Aeromedical Center, Fort Rucker, AL, the Chief of Staff of the Regional Medical Command Europe, Deputy Commander for Administration in multiple hospitals, and Division Chief roles of Clinical Support and Financial Officer.

Colonel (R) Laterza was decorated with numerous awards including three Legions of Merit and achieved esteemed membership in the Order of Military Medical Merit and Order of St. Michael for significant contributions to the Army Medical Department and Aviation Communities. Colonel (R) Laterza is also a recipient of the CIA Seal Award. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College, the Defense Resource Management Institute and earned the Parachutist and Expert Field Medical Badges.

Colonel (R) Laterza holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance from Cameron University, Lawton, OK and a Master of Public Administration degree from Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI. He is a recipient of the Lifetime Fellow Award in the American College of Healthcare Executives and is a past President of the Network of Overseas Healthcare Executives.