

James Patrick Ross was born at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey in Patterson Army Hospital on May 9, 1968. He grew up in Hamilton, New Jersey and graduated from Hamilton High West in 1986. He received an appointment to the United States Military Academy and graduated from West Point in 1990 with a degree in Economics. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in Field Artillery upon graduation.

Following the Artillery Basic Course, Lieutenant Colonel Ross was assigned to the 5th Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment (8 inch) in Giessen, Germany. He served as a Fire Direction Officer and Platoon Leader. When the unit redeployed back to Fort Sill, Oklahoma in 1992 as part of the post-cold War drawdown, he served as the Headquarters Battery XO as the unit re-equipped to the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS). Following the Artillery Advanced Course, Lieutenant Colonel Ross remained at Fort Sill and was assigned to the Field Artillery Training Center where he initially served as the Brigade Adjutant. In December 1995, he took command of Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 78th Field Artillery. His battery was responsible for the training of all soldiers entering the Army as a self-propelled howitzer crewman. Following 22 months of battery command his unit was awarded the TRADOC Commander's Award for Excellence in firing over 11,000 artillery rounds during the 1996 Fiscal year without incident.

Lieutenant Colonel Ross was accessed into the Acquisition Corps in 1997 as a contracting officer and immediately following battery command began his graduate degree in Acquisition and Contract Management at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He graduated with distinction in 1999, earning the Army Acquisition Corps Award as the top Army graduate of his class. In July 1999, he was assigned to Letterkenny Army Depot, Pennsylvania, where he served for 2 years as a contracting officer. In 2001 Lieutenant Colonel Ross was selected for the resident Command and General Staff Officer School in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Following CGSC, he was assigned to Fort Monmouth in 2002 as an Assistant Product Manager in the Distributed Common Ground System-Army (DCGS-A) program office. In 2004, Lieutenant Colonel Ross was selected to serve as the PEO IEW&S Executive Officer until his deployment to Iraq in June of 2005.

In Iraq, Lieutenant Colonel Ross served in the Joint Contracting Command, first as the Operations Officer for the PARC-Forces command in Baghdad, and then as the Director of Contracting for southern Iraq in Tallil Air Base. He redeployed to Fort Monmouth in late May of 2006 and was assigned as the Deputy Project Director for Signals Warfare. In 2008, he took over as the Director of Operations for PEO IEW&S.

Lieutenant Colonel Ross is Airborne and Air Assault qualified and is Level 3 certified in Contracting and Program Management. He has also earned the Certified Professional Contracts Manager (CPCM) distinction. He is a member of the Army Acquisition Corps. His awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal and Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

Lieutenant Colonel Ross is married to the former Leslie Zier of Yardville, New Jersey. They have 3 boys, Ryan 15, Matthew 13 and Kevin 10.