

Major General Jack A. James, Commanding General of the 42nd Infantry Division, assumed command of Task Force Spartan on 28 July 2025.

Major General James was commissioned in 1992 and has served in key leadership and staff positions as an Army Aviator prior to his promotion to general officer. Major General James has commanded American Soldiers at the platoon, company, battalion, brigade, and general officer levels. Key assignments include attack helicopter platoon leader, attack helicopter troop commander, battalion logistics officer, battalion operations officer, battalion executive officer, brigade operations officer and battalion commander. He led the 42d Combat Aviation Brigade until 2019. Prior to his current role, Major General James served as Deputy Commanding General - Operations, 42d Infantry Division and Commanding General, 53d Troop Command. During his career, General James has deployed on multiple occasions. In addition to overseas service, Major General James has participated in numerous domestic crises and emergency responses including Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Sandy and others.

Major General James' awards include the Legion of Merit (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (with 4 Bronze OLCs), Army Commendation Medal (with 4 Bronze OLCs), Army Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze OLC), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 4 Bronze OLCs), National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass and M Device), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with Numeral 3), Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, and North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal. He also holds the Master Army Aviator Badge, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and several state awards.

Major General James is a 1992 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, and a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Army War College. Major General James also holds a Master of Business Administration from New York University. Major General James is married and has three children.

