



## **Wilson Ariza**

### **Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired**

Wilson is currently the National Associate Director for Simulation-Based Medical Education Training at the National Simulation center, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Mr. Ariza is responsible for providing simulation-based training solutions to be delivered to 23 Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) and **150 VA Medical Centers**.

After 25 years of Military Service, LTC Ariza retired as the U.S. Army Medical Simulation Program Manager, Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI). Wilson was responsible for providing the U.S. Army medical simulation capabilities to support the full Continuum of Medical Care throughout the world, building 30 Medical Simulations Centers and training over 150,000 Students annually.

Prior to joining PEO STRI, LTC Ariza was Chief of Readiness Branch, Office of The Surgeon General, Chief Information Office, **Pentagon, Washington D.C.** In this capacity, he oversaw AMEDD policy and plans for Telehealth programs, Information Technology system development and integration for numerous Army and Department of Defense (DoD) programs. Previous to that assignment, LTC Ariza was the Program Manager for Medical communications for Combat Casualty Care (MC4). During this tenure at MC4, he was responsible for deploying the electronic medical record to the field during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). LTC Ariza was instrumental in the deployment for **first time in history** of the Department of Defense of a Comprehensive, **life-long electronic medical record** for all Service members forward deployed on the battlefield.

In 2006, Wilson was selected as **Manager of the Year** in the Department of Defense and was awarded the Arthur S. Flemming Award; This award is recognized by the President of the United States, Past winners include such luminaries as Neil Armstrong and Elizabeth Dole. He was also named **Chief Information Officer of the Year in 2002**, and in **2005 his division earned the Army Medical Information Management Team of the Year Award**.

A graduate of the U.S Army Command and General Staff College, LTC Ariza also holds Master's degrees in Health Services Administration and Information Management from Webster University and is completing his PhD in Modeling & Simulation at the University of Central Florida. Wilson is also a Certified Professional in Information Technology Management and Project Management and a member of the Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), The Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH), and the American Telemedicine Association (ATA).