

Education

MS in physics,
US Air Force Institute of Technology
BA, United States Military Academy
at West Point

Professional certifications

Professional Engineer
(Virginia & South Carolina)

Memberships & citations

Member, Tau Beta Pi
Fellow, National Academies
Chairman, Executive Committee,
Transportation Research Board
US Army Distinguished Service Medal

Maj. Gen. (Ret) James van Loben Sels

Senior Advisor

James van Loben Sels joined Dawson & Associates in 2008 as a Senior Advisor after a stellar 35-year US Army career that included command of the Army Corps Corps of Engineers North Atlantic, North Pacific and Europe Divisions.

A West Point graduate, Jim commanded combat engineer soldiers at all levels from platoon to brigade. As a senior officer, he commanded three US Army Corps of Engineers' Divisions. It was in these assignments that Jim gained his expertise in water resources, coastal engineering, hydroelectric power, and environmental regulation.

Jim also commanded Fort Leonard Wood, now home of the Army Corps of Engineer School. He retired at Fort Monroe as Deputy Commanding General, US Army Training and Doctrine Command.

After retiring from the Army, Jim served as Director of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), managing more than 20,000 employees, supported contractors and consultants for seven years. He led the swift recovery of California's freeways following the North Ridge Earthquake and instituted programs in the Department to reduce overhead and bureaucracy, streamlining delivery. He also built partnerships with local, regional, state and federal regulatory agencies.

He was married to the former Joan Pisko. They have three sons.