

Lieutenant Colonel John McLaughlin joined the Army in 1997 from Hawthorne, New York. In 1997, he graduated from the University of Scranton and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry.

After completing the Infantry Officer Basic Course, he served as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, and Assistant Battalion S3 in 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia. Upon arrival at Fort Benning, Georgia, LTC McLaughlin assumed command of C Company, 2nd Battalion, 54th Infantry Regiment, Infantry Training Brigade.

Upon completion of the Infantry Captains Career Course in 2003, LTC McLaughlin was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky where he served as the Division Future Operations Officer and as the B Company Commander and Battalion S3, 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. While at Fort Campbell, he deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Following his assignment at Fort Campbell, he was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia as the TRADOC Capability Manager – Future Combat Systems Unmanned Systems Team Lead.

Upon completion of the Command and General Staff College, LTC McLaughlin was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division as the Security Working Group Deputy in Tikrit, Iraq and G3 Operations Officer. He was then assigned as Executive Officer, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. In June July 2012, he was reassigned as the Executive Officer, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team and deployed to Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan.

Following his assignment with the 3rd Infantry Division, LTC McLaughlin served as the Cavalry Squadron Executive Officer Observer, Coach / Trainer at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California. In October 2014, he was selected to serve as the Task Force Senior Trainer for the Panther Team when the National Training Center created the third Combined Arms Battalion Training Team.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (2 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (3 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (Silver OLC), National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal (6 campaign stars), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NATO – ISAF Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon (numeral 3), Meritorious Unit Citation (3 OLC), Navy Unit Commendation, Army Superior Unit Award, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Pathfinder Badge.