

STAFF BIOGRAPHY

Thomas J. Fitzgerald III

Deputy Director

Thomas J. Fitzgerald III is the Deputy Director at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. He was appointed to the position February 2013.

His duties and responsibilities include serving as the Chief Operating Officer for the Health Care System. As a member of the executive leadership team, he oversees one of the most complex facilities in the VA system with an annual budget in excess of \$891 million, more than 6,300 staff and volunteers, 808 operating beds spread between three divisions, and a myriad of special programs. He also has an important role in maintaining a cooperative and supportive relationship with the health care system's educational affiliate Stanford University School of Medicine, as well as other affiliations in allied health programs and community health institutions.



Mr. Fitzgerald is a service-connected disabled Veteran who served in the U.S. Army for 16 years as a medical non-commissioned officer. During that time, he served in support of Operation Desert Storm. Mr. Fitzgerald began his VA Career in 1988 as a Nursing Assistant at the North Chicago VA Medical Center, Ill., in numerous positions, including Housekeeping Aid, Housekeeping Assistant General Foreman, Assistant Chief Environmental Care and Operations, and the Chief of Environmental Care and Operations. He served as Chief of Environmental Management Service at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, and the Assistant Director at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System from October 2006 to May 2011 and the Associate Director May 2011 to February 2013.

Mr. Fitzgerald attended Grambling State University, La., on a football scholarship. He is also a graduate of American Intercontinental University, the VA management development course (VAMD, in conjunction with the University of Alabama Birmingham), the Leadership VA 2003 class, and Health Care Leadership Institute 2007. He is a Certified Healthcare Environmental Services Professional (CHESP) by the American Hospital Association affiliate the Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE). He is also a member of the American College of Health Care Executives.