



## **2022 National George Texido Legislative Officer of the Year** Lt. Col. Joyce Nader, Florida Wing

Civil Air Patrol volunteer Lt. Col. Joyce Nader distinguished herself as the wing government relations advisor (GRA) accomplishing the ultimate National Legislative Day goal for all GRAs nation-wide – 100%! With dogged determination and a never-quit attitude, Nader was able to achieve for Florida Wing an unprecedented 100% participation for meetings with members of Congress and/or their staff. This effort required repeated and numerous emails and repeated, countless phone calls, even to those who were recalcitrant or who had never participated in any NLD meetings over the past several years.

This was done despite the challenges due to the COVID pandemic which required a hybrid approach with meetings to be held in person as well as virtually. Nader was able to schedule the maximum number of in-person meetings attended by the wing commander in Washington, D.C., as well as put together a team that completed all the remaining meetings virtually, while utilizing varied online platforms as required by the different congressional offices. This effort included meeting with the newly elected U.S. Representative whose office was in the process of being established. Nader was able to increase the number of meetings by 275% from 8 meetings in 2021 to 29 meetings in 2022. While brand new to the GRA position, Nader demonstrated her commitment to the CAP government relations program by being a Florida Wing NLD team member for 4 years and traveling to Washington, D.C., for meetings with congressional offices as well participating in virtual meetings when in-person meetings were suspended due to the pandemic.

Nader also initiated the process of building, from the ground up, the state legislative program, which would cover the state delegation, as well as the legislative squadron, to include relationships with both the state Division of Emergency management, and the office of the Governor.