

Colonel Dion E. DeCamp Ground Team of the Year
Lieutenant Colonel Carlos M. Arroyo, Squadron Commander
Group 2
Puerto Rico Wing



As the Group 2 Commander, Lt Col Carlos Arroyo and the members of the Group 2 Ground Team worked tirelessly with the Emergency Services program in response to devastating earthquakes and the COVID-19 pandemic. When the earthquakes hit in December 2019, the Ground Team provided two-dimensional ground images of structures to help evaluate damage in affected areas. They also helped distribute food and essential items to shelters, individuals, and families who had lost their homes. The Ground Team worked seven days a week in eight-hour shifts, totaling more than 14,400 hours worked and 308 ground sorties.

When the pandemic hit, the Ground Team joined forces with the Puerto Rico Department of Health to provide support. Members completed 376 ground sorties while working more than 3,072 hours. During that time, they delivered 145 samples to laboratories, 637,000 face masks and shields, 450,000 gloves, 71,461 units of hand sanitizer, and more than 12,000 water packs. They also delivered more than 81,000 pounds of food to people in need.

