

At National Emergency Services Academy, Civil Air Patrol Members Experience Where Missions Intersect

The National Emergency Services Academy's Incident Command Staff School participated this summer in a joint training exercise leveraging resources across the emergency services spectrum. More than 70 participants from 21 wings got the opportunity to prepare to serve in real-world missions and serve their communities, states, and nation.

Over a two-week period, the Civil Air Patrol members worked together to build mission-critical skills in an environment led by seasoned emergency services personnel.

During the joint exercise, small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) pilots provided air support to Wilderness Advanced First Aid trainees, who delivered a rapid, coordinated emergency response.

The exercise helped hone skills they had been working to develop in the classrooms.

The joint exercise was supported by the Chaplain Emergency Services Support School. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Marcus Taylor, the school's chief, said the activity showed students how Civil Air Patrol's variable training opportunities work in concert to help accomplish a mission.

Cadet Lt. Col. Izen Thornton of the Alabama Wing's Mountain Lakes Composite Squadron participated as a ground branch director trainee and as a staff member for the Advanced sUAS course. Thornton reported "a great experience, being able to both learn and teach alongside wing commanders, fighter pilots, incident commanders, and other experts. There is no other place I could have gotten these amazing experiences as a cadet but NESAs."

Col. Ricky Oeth, commandant of the Incident Command Staff School, said he's excited to see participants with a passion for deepening their skills and is proud of their and the NESAs staff's accomplishments.

For more information about how you can participate in NESAs, visit [this link](#) and watch the website for information about participating next year.



This infrared image from the joint exercise was taken by an sUAS piloted by senior member Adam Price of the National Capital Wing's Mount Vernon Composite Squadron.