



2024 Annual Forum
Downton Marriott, Austin, TX
July 28th to July 31st

Sunday - July 28

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Forum Welcome Reception - Cooper's Old Time Pit Barbeque (217 Congress Ave)

An outstanding networking event to kick off the NHDA FORUM.

Hosted by: Tenstreet

Monday - July 29

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

NHDA Board of Directors Meeting - Waterloo Salon 5

Open to members of the NHDA

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Registration and Box Lunch - Waterloo Ballroom Foyer

Hosted by: The Tenney Group

GENERAL SESSION - Waterloo Salons 3-4

1:00 PM to 1:15 PM

Hosted by: Checkr

Forum Welcome

Rob Davis, President NHDA

Emily Phillips, Incoming President

1:15 PM to 2:15 PM

Featured Speaker – Dr. Marianne Wannamaker, Dean, Howard Baker School of Policy – Univ. of Tennessee

An Overview on the labor economics impacting the supply chain.

2:15 PM to 3:15 PM

Featured Speaker – Dr. Liya Palagashvili, Senior Research Fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

An analysis of the economic impacts of AB5 in California.



3:15 PM to 3:30 PM

Coffee Break -- Hosted by: Ryder Last Mile

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Fighting for the Independent Contractor model

Moderator: Prasad Sharma, Co-chair, NHDA Advocacy Council

Panelists: *Evan Armstrong, Chairman, Coalition for Innovative Workforce*

Jim Paretti; Littler Mendelsohn

Marc Blubaugh, Co Chair, Transportation & Logistics Practice Group -Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

The Women in Home Delivery Council Wine and Cheese Reception - Waterloo Salons 1-2

Hosted by: Enterprise Rental Trucks

Tuesday – July 30

GENERAL SESSION - Oval Room

Hosted by: The Hub Group

8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

Regulatory Roundtable: Advocacy in Action – Addressing the state regulatory environment.

Moderator: Sarah Wellman – Co-chair, NHDA Advocacy Council; Ryder Systems

Panelists: *Paul Mello, NHDA Outside General Counsel; Hanson Bridgett*

Mike Pugh, Sr. VP, Enterprise Truck Rentals; Vice-Chairman, Truck Renting and Leasing Association (TRALA)

John Esparza, President & CEO, Texas Trucking Association (INVITED)

9:30 AM to 9:45 AM

Coffee Break -- Hosted by: Ryder Last Mile

9:45 AM to 10:45 AM

THE NEW WORKFORCE EXPEDITION: Building Meaningful Employment Environments™

Featured Speaker - Matt Melrose - CEO, TrailPaths Inc. (INVITED)

10:45 AM to 12:00 PM

Workforce Roundtable:

Retaining Talent in a Tight Labor Market

Moderator: Scott Robider, EVP Final Mile, Hub Group

Panelists: *Dan Filby, CEO, AccuSourceHR*

Heidi Ratti, CHRO, RXO

Pete Punwani, Managing Director, Global Executive Solutions Group

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

Luncheon and Keynote Address - *Waterloo Salons 1-2*

Hosted by: Vanliner Insurance

One of the most inspirational athletes in sports history and a true symbol of courage and perseverance, Anthony Robles was born with one leg and grew up to become an unstoppable phenomenon in NCAA wrestling, competing against able-bodied challengers, ultimately winning the NCAA Champion title, and inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Robles was the recipient of the “Jimmy V Perseverance Award” at the ESPN ESPYs and he has also received the NFL “Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award”. Robles is a Nike athlete, the first signed to an agreement after having retired from active participation in a sport. He was inducted to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2012 and is the author of *Unstoppable: From Underdog to Undefeated: How I Became a Champion*. In 2013, President Obama appointed Robles as a member of the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:45 PM to 3:15 PM

Assembly and Installation Roundtable - *Waterloo Salon 6*

“Sourcing reliable assembly partners to avoid turning away business”

Moderators: Adam Staples – AIT Worldwide

Panelists: *Mike Giaccone, MG Holdings*

Dean Fink, Diakon Logistics

M&A Roundtable: *Meeting Room 502*

“An overview of the factors driving investment in the Big & Bulky segment.”

Moderators: Spencer Tenney, President - The Tenney Group

Risk Management Roundtable - *Waterloo Salon 5*

“Solving for Risk in Bulky Goods Last Mile Logistics”

Moderators: Renee Paul, Executive VP, BizChoice Transportation



*Panelists: Alison Rogers, General Counsel; 98 Ventures
Todd Rubenstein, Partner, Taylor Nelson – former Gen Counsel at Ashley Furniture
Tarek Timol, CEO, Understudy Insurance Solutions (INVITED)*

3:15 PM to 3:30 PM

Coffee Break -- Hosted by: Ryder Last Mile

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

The Technology Roundtable - Waterloo Salon 5

“Navigating AI and Data Privacy in the Final Mile”

Moderator: Wendy Greenland, CEO, Openforce

Panelists: Ryan Wise, CIO, SCI

Bryan Nelson, Partner, Taylor Nelson PC

Onur Aksan, Manager of Business Development & Field Services, GeoTab

Matt Mittlesteadt, Research Fellow, Mercatus Center at George Mason University

The Compliance Roundtable - Waterloo Salon 6

“Elevating Compliance Standards in Bulky Goods Final Mile”

Moderators: Adam Lounsbury, Jackson Lewis & Peter Berg, TrueNorth Companies

Co-chairs of the NHDA Risk Management Council

Panelists: John Vargo, Director of Operations, JB Hunt Final Mile

Timothy-James Henry, CEO, Haul

Kevin Allen, VP of Compliance, Fox River Services (INVITED)

The Sustainability Roundtable - Board Room 502

“Translating emissions regulations into business strategy.”

Moderator: Emily Phillips, Founding Partner, Emission Advisory

Panelists: Stephane Gagne, VP of Product, FarEye Technologies

Angie Hargesheimer, Business and Customer Development Manager, Ryder Systems

PINNACLE AWARDS CELEBRATION – Austin Public Library

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

NHDA Pinnacle Awards Reception - Terrace

The Pinnacle Awards Reception opens an evening of celebration and comradery with your industry peers to start the annual awards dinner.

Hosted By: Openforce

8:00 PM to 10:00 PM

NHDA Pinnacle Awards Dinner - Museum Pavilion



The annual NHDA Pinnacle Awards Dinner is a terrific evening of fine dining and fellowship. The 2024 Lifetime Achievement honorees include Duane Smith, founder of TrueNorth Companies; Jay Waldman, founder and CEO of Select Express; and Geoff Chasin, founder of NRX Logistics and NHDA founding director and past-president.

Hosted By: Hub International

Wednesday – July 31st, 2021

7:00 AM to 10:00 AM

The NHDA Fellows Breakfast

The closing networking breakfast will host the presentation of the inaugural NHDA Fellows class. This is a great chance to recognize the class for their achievement, learn more about the Leadership Institute, and to connect with colleagues, do a little business, and catch a bite to eat before heading to the airport.

Hosted By: TrueNorth Companies