



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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May 26, 2016 — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **CALIFORNIA MOVING & STORAGE ASSOCIATION HOLDS ITS 98th ANNUAL CONVENTION IN OLYMPIC VALLEY**

CERRITOS, Calif., (May 26, 2016) — The California Moving & Storage Association (CMSA) held its 98th Annual Convention from May 10–15, at the Resort at Squaw Creek in Olympic Valley. Approximately 300 moving professionals and their families attended the Convention.

At the start of the Convention, CMSA convened its executive board committee. The insurance, government affairs, membership and military affairs standing committees held their meetings on Wednesday morning. On Wednesday afternoon, the outgoing and incoming board of directors convened their meetings to close all old business agenda items remaining and to explore new business topics that the board needs to address for the 2016–2017 year.

The annual Convention golf tournament was held at the Old Greenwood Golf Course on Thursday morning. Golfers were met with great weather and idyllic scenery. Golfers enjoyed the day with good company and camaraderie.

On Thursday night, this year's Convention exhibitors met with moving company executives to show off new and improved products and services during the Exhibitors Welcome Reception. Mover members visited each booth and socialized throughout the night as a photo slideshow of past CMSA events played on.

The Friday and Saturday General Business Session programs addressed a variety of industry and business topics. The sessions included a motivational speech from keynote speaker Darren Kavinoky, TV personality and well-known California attorney; a review of interstate moving trends by AMSA President and CEO Scott Michael; a look at international shipping regulations by International Association of Movers (IAM) President Terry Head; a CARB update and outlook summary by CleanFleets.net Director Sean Edgar; Move For Hunger Program update by Adam Lowy, its founder and executive director; and a van line discussion panel that included

representatives from Arpin, Atlas, National, North American, Stevens Worldwide, UniGroup and Wheaton|Bekins.

CMSA also hosted a military breakout session with a special presentation from IAM Senior Vice President Charles White. White also moderated the discussion panel that included Scott Kelly of The Suddath Companies, Tim Helenthal of National Van Lines, Matt Connell of Total Military Management and Jeanette Homan of Lambert Enterprises.

The Friday luncheon program involved a review of current California Legislative actions by CMSA Counsel Mark Hegarty and a review of California Highway Patrol's Motor Carrier Safety Program by Cullen Sisskind, program manager. At the Saturday awards luncheon, CMSA made a special \$5,000 donation presentation to the Northern California Special Olympics and also announced its \$5,000 donation to Alzheimer's Orange County, 2015-2016 Chairman Patrick Longo's Chairman's Choice Charity. Also during the awards luncheon, CMSA recognized 27 scholarship recipients, and paid recognition to the Association's 12 chapter presidents and retiring board members for their support and dedication to the organization throughout the year.

Attendees enjoyed a fun-filled Mardi Gras themed party Friday night on property. It was a night filled with good food, beaded necklaces, a rockin' DJ, crazy photo booth pictures and game booths setup by some of the chapter presidents.

On Saturday night at the Chairman's Ball/Dinner, CMSA formally installed Robert Fraser of Redwood Moving & Storage in Healdsburg, California, as the 2016–2017 Chairman. Convention attendees celebrated the Association's new chairman by dancing to the musical styling of the Paul Covarelli & Jo Mama Band.

The CMSA is a nonprofit trade association representing more than 375 licensed and insured movers operating in California. The CMSA also includes more than 195 associate member companies. Established in 1916, the Association is comprised of 12 chapters strategically located throughout California.

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