

## If This is Your First NCBFAA Government Affairs Conference (GAC), Welcome! If You've Attended Before, Welcome Back!

Advocating on behalf of the industry is at the heart of everything that we do. Throughout the year, NCBFAA's various committees, counsel, and representatives keep a close eye on the host of legislative and regulatory issues affecting our members and our industry. The GAC is your chance to join your voice with ours to help educate those in power on the complex issues facing our industry and ensure they have the information they need to make informed policy decisions. By attending the Trade's most important political event of the year, you are not only showing your dedication and commitment to helping your business, but the industry as a whole. And for that, we can't thank you enough!

To help you with this momentous task, on Monday, we have scheduled a packed day of informative panels and sessions led by senior government officials and industry subject matter experts. Our program covers CBP's 21st Century Customs and Trade Framework (21CCF) and new licensed customs broker continuing education requirements, the FMC's ongoing implementation of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act (OSRA) of 2022 and recent demurrage and detention regulations, TSA Roadmap Update, BIS export controls, Partner Government Agencies (PGAs) regulatory updates, and much more. These agencies undoubtedly have an impact on the daily business operations and compliance programs of our customs brokerage, freight forwarding, and NVOCC industry.

That's not all! We've also put together a session specifically tailored to prepare you for your day on Capitol Hill. Our "Preparation for Hill Visits and Discussion of Issues from Congressional Meetings" session features a Hill orientation, contemporary politics, and how to negotiate the partisan divide.

All of this leads up to Tuesday's visit to the Hill! During your meetings with legislators and their staff members, make sure to inform them, in personal and anecdotal terms, how each of these issues affects our ability to facilitate the nation's commerce and how their support of our efforts will be translated in the advancement of America's interests. Don't forget to get a picture with your Senator or Representative as a keepsake and to share with the NCBFAA for promoting the GAC's effectiveness. Please send a copy to [cgillis@ncbfaa.org](mailto:cgillis@ncbfaa.org) after the Conference.

And while you're at it, be sure to keep your colleagues up to speed on your efforts and your Conference experience through social media by using the hashtag #GAC2024 via the [NCBFAA "X" \(formerly known as "Twitter"\) account](#).

In closing, please remember to wear your badge while participating in official GAC events (especially while visiting the Hill), and be prompt for all the sessions to take advantage of this opportunity to gain important insights into the pressing issues facing our industry today. This knowledge will help your company successfully tackle these challenges when they arise down the road.

Again, we thank you for your participation and support at the 2024 NCBFAA GAC. If you have any questions or comments, please bring them to the NCBFAA staff at the registration desk.

**Warm Regards,**



A blue ink signature of Jose D. Gonzalez.

Jose D. Gonzalez, NCBFAA President



A blue ink signature of Eduardo 'Lalo' Acosta.

Eduardo "Lalo" Acosta, NCBFAA GAC Chair