UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| stimated average burden | | | | | | |
| ours per response 0.5 | | | | | | |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of RUBLE CHRIS C | 2. Issuer Name an FORWARD AIR | | | 0, | ol | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|------------|---|---|---|-------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| (Last) 1915 SNAPPS FER | 3. Date of Earliest T 12/07/2017 | ransaction | (Mon | th/Day/Y | ear) | X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) President - Expedited Services | | | | | |
| GREENEVILLE, T | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person _Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| (City) | (Zip) | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | ned | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | of (D) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | Ownership Form: | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
| | | | (Wolfin Day Tear) | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | (IIISU. 3 and 4) | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock | | 12/07/2017 | | M | | 7,980 | A | \$ 37.14 | 28,279.2869 | D | |
| Common Stock | | 12/07/2017 | | М | | 7,349 | A | \$ 42.48 | 35,628.2869 | D | |
| Common Stock | | 12/07/2017 | | M | | 4,564 | A | \$ 50.71 | 40,192.2869 | D | |
| Common Stock | | 12/07/2017 | | M | | 3,127 | A | \$ 43.67 | 43,319.2869 | D | |
| Common Stock | | 12/07/2017 | | S | | 23,020 | D | \$ 57.75 | 20,299.2869 | D | |
| Reminder: Report on a | separate line for ea | ach class of securities | s beneficially owned | | | • | | nd to t | ne collection of information | SEC | 1474 (9-02) |
| | | | | | ers | ons who | respo | mu to t | ie collection of information | SEC | 14/4 (9-02) |

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number. Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| Security | Conversion | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code | | of Der Sect Acq (A) Disp of (I | ivative urities urities uritied or posed D) tr. 3, 4, | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | ate of Underlying | | f Underlying Derivative E Security (Instr. 5) | | Ownership Form of | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--|---|------|---|--|--|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------|----------------------|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 37.14 | 12/07/2017 | | M | | | 7,980 | (1) | 02/07/2020 | Common Stock | 7,980.00 | \$ 0 | 0 | D | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 42.48 | 12/07/2017 | | М | | | 7,349 | (2) | 02/06/2021 | Common Stock | 7,349.00 | \$ 0 | 0 | D | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 50.71 | 12/07/2017 | | M | | | 4,564 | (3) | 02/09/2022 | Common Stock | 4,564.00 | \$ 0 | 2,282 | D | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 43.67 | 12/07/2017 | | M | | | 3,127 | <u>(4)</u> | 02/08/2023 | Common Stock | 3,127.00 | \$ 0 | 6,252 | D | |

Reporting Owners

| P (0 N /41) | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| RUBLE CHRIS C | | | | | | | |

| 1915 SNAPPS FERRY ROAD BUILDING N | | President - Expedited Services | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| GREENEVILLE, TN 37745 | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Michael L. Hance, Attorney-in-Fact | 12/11/2017 |
|--|------------|
| -**Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) This option vests 33-1/3% each year over a three year period commencing on 2/7/14.
- (2) This option vests 33-1/3% each year over a three year period commencing on 2/6/15.
- (3) This option vests 33 1/3% each year over a three year period commencing on 2/9/16.
- (4) This option vests 33 1/3% each year over a three year period commencing on 2/8/17.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.