UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: September 7, 2023

FORWARD AIR CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| TN | | | | 62-1120025 |
|--|------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | | | (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) | |
| 1915 Snapps Ferry Road | Building N | Greeneville | TN | 37745 |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | | | | (Zip Code) |
| | | | | |

000-22490

(Commission File Number)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (423) 636-7000

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of each class | Trading Symbol(s) | Name of each exchange on which registered |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value | FWRD | NASDAQ |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. \Box

SECTION 7. REGULATION FD

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

On September 7, 2023, Forward Air Corporation (the "Company") issued a press release providing a mid-quarter update regarding operational performance for quarter-to-date through August 2023. A copy of the Company's press release is furnished with this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

All information in the press release is furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Exchange Act or the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

SECTION 9. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits. The following exhibits are being furnished as part of this Report.

| No. | Exhibit |
|-------------|--|
| <u>99.1</u> | Release of Forward Air Corporation dated September 7, 2023. |
| 104 | Cover Page Interactive File (the cover page tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document) |

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: September 12, 2023

FORWARD AIR CORPORATION

By: /s/ Thomas Schmitt Thomas Schmitt President and Chief Executive Officer



NEWS RELEASE

Forward Air Provides Mid-Quarter Update on Third Quarter 2023 Performance

GREENEVILLE, Tenn., September 7, 2023 - Forward Air Corporation (NASDAQ: FWRD) (the "Company", "Forward", "we", "our", or "us") today provided the following key Expedited Freight Operating statistics for the quarter-to-date period through August 2023. Weight per shipment increased 7.8%, revenue per shipment excluding fuel increased 0.9% and pounds per day decreased 3.0% over the same period last year. While pounds per day for July decreased by 5.9%, it improved in August as pounds per day were relatively flat over the same period last year.

Tom Schmitt, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Forward Air commented: "In the month of August, we started seeing positive momentum in volumes. In the first few days of September, we are seeing a continuation of the increase in volumes."

Mr. Schmitt further stated: "We believe our Grow Forward initiative, a focus on high value freight, is continuing to gain traction. Our freight quality continues to improve as reflected in the 7.8% increase in weight per shipment through August 2023 over the same period last year. Similarly, our revenue quality remains at top levels as our revenue per ton mile excluding fuel increased 2.2% and our revenue per shipment excluding fuel increased 0.9% for the quarter-to-date period through August 2023 over the same period last year."

The Company's expectations regarding the Company's performance in the third quarter and in any future period are based on information available at the time of this release, and are subject to changing conditions, many of which are outside of the Company's control.

About Forward Air Corporation

Forward Air is a leading asset-light provider of transportation services across the United States, Canada and Mexico. We provide expedited less-than-truckload ("LTL") services, including local pick-up and delivery, shipment consolidation/deconsolidation, warehousing, and customs brokerage by utilizing a comprehensive national network of terminals. In addition, we offer final mile services, including delivery of heavy-bulky freight, truckload brokerage services, including dedicated fleet services; and intermodal, first-and last-mile, high-value drayage services, both to and from seaports and railheads, dedicated contract and Container Freight Station warehouse and handling services. We are more than a transportation company. Forward is a single resource for your shipping needs. For more information, visit our website at www.forwardaircorp.com.

This press release may contain statements that might be considered as forward-looking statements or predictions of future operations including with respect to the Company's expectations regarding (i) its performance for the third quarter of 2023, (ii) volumes in 2023 and (iii) performance of the Company's initiatives. Such statements are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and are based on management's belief or interpretation of information currently available. These statements and assumptions involve certain risks and uncertainties including that the Company's performance in 2023 is worse than anticipated. Actual events may also differ from these expectations as a result of the risks identified from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We assume no duty to update these statements as of any future date.

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Forward Air Corporation Brandon Hammer, 423-636-7173 bhammer@forwardair.com