

PA CHAMBER INNOVATION SUMMIT

Presented by Deloitte. Google

November 10, 2026 | Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel

AGENDA

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Registration, Breakfast, Networking**

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. **Welcome & Opening Remarks**
- **Luke Bernstein**, President & CEO, PA Chamber
- **Chad Firestone**, Managing Director, Deloitte

9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **Setting the Stage: Building Stronger Communities Through Innovation**
A forward-looking discussion examining how artificial intelligence is improving public services, workforce development, healthcare, education, economic growth, and quality of life across Pennsylvania

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **BREAKOUT SESSION 1: Preventing Accidents, Saving Lives: Innovation in Safety and Healthcare**
From the jobsite to the hospital, emerging technologies are transforming how organizations prevent accidents, train employees, and respond to emergencies. This session will explore how predictive analytics, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality are helping employers identify risks before incidents occur, improve workforce training, and build safer, healthier communities.

Panelists:
- **Ryan Wilson**, Financial Planning & Analysis Manager, Flagger Force
- **Trevor Mathey**, Project Manager, UPMC Health Plan
- **Matthew Kinney**, Technical Director of the WonderSeed Foundation

BREAKOUT SESSION 2: From Brownfield to Breakthrough: Reimagining Data Center Development in Pennsylvania
As AI drives unprecedented demand for computing power, Pennsylvania has an opportunity to lead in attracting responsible data center investment. Using Lancaster City's brownfield redevelopment efforts as a case study, this panel will explore how collaborative approaches to site development, energy infrastructure, and community engagement can support the AI economy while delivering lasting economic benefits.

Moderator
- **Jessica Cicali**, General Counsel, Senior Vice President of Government Relations & Sustainability, Armstrong World Industries

Panelists
- **Jeff Sturla**, Vice President of Critical Facilities, Wohlsen Construction
- **Aidan Hayes**, Managing Director, Strategic Development, Cedar Investment Group
- **Ezra Rothman**, President, Lancaster EDC
- **Rebecca Darling**, Director of Community Affairs and Partnerships, CoreWeave

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Networking Lunch & Innovation Showcase
Lunch served in exhibit hall with continued access to demonstration stations.

12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Fireside Chat: Expanding Economic Opportunity Through AI
This fireside chat will explore how AI is transforming financial services and increasing access to capital, enhancing customer experience, and creating more economic opportunities for individuals, families, and businesses.

- **Mike Wilson**, President & CEO, Members 1st Federal Credit Union
- **Luke Bernstein**, President & CEO, PA Chamber

12:55 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSION 1: Operating at the Speed of Business: Use AI Cases Across Industries
Artificial intelligence, automation, and advanced analytics are helping organizations streamline operations, improve decision-making, and boost productivity. Through real-world examples from manufacturing, construction, and business services, this session will explore how companies are using emerging technologies to reduce administrative burdens, enhance quality and efficiency, and deliver better outcomes for customers and employees.

Panelists:
- **Michael McHale**, CEO, PSA Systems
- **Shanmuga Arumugam**, Quality Inspection Manager, Mack Trucks
- **Sarar Shah**, Quality Engineer, Volvo Construction Equipment

BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Live Simulation Sponsored by Google

2:05 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.

Pennsylvania's Innovation Moment: How Public Policy Can Power the Commonwealth's Next Era of Growth
As states and nations compete for leadership in the innovation economy, Pennsylvania is uniquely positioned to capitalize on its strengths in technology, talent, energy, research, and entrepreneurship. This conversation will bring together state and federal leaders to explore the policies, partnerships, and investments needed to accelerate innovation, foster responsible AI adoption, and ensure the Commonwealth remains competitive in the years ahead.

Moderator:
- **Alex Halper**, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, PA Chamber

Panelists:
- **Kevin Miller**, Commercial Development Officer, Senator Dave McCormick
- **Neil Makhija**, Montgomery County Commissioner

3:05 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.

Closing Remarks
- **Jon Anzur**, Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, PA Chamber

3:10 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Innovation Showcase Open

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Luke Bernstein, President and CEO, PA Chamber of Business and Industry

A seasoned financial, government, and public policy professional, Luke came to the organization in 2022 with more than 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors.

Before leading the PA Chamber, Luke was most recently executive vice president, chief operations and technology officer at Orrstown Financial Services. He had served as Orrstown's corporate spokesperson since 2017.

He was previously senior vice president of external affairs at the Pennsylvania Bankers Association from 2015 to 2017 and deputy chief of staff for former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett from 2011 to 2015.

In addition to his executive leadership roles in the private sector and state government, Luke has experience working at the federal level, as a former appointed advisor in the Administration of President George W. Bush and as an aide in the U.S. Senate. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and policy studies from Dickinson College, where he also served as an adjunct professor.

Luke also completed the Duke Leadership Program at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. He is a very active member of his community, serving on numerous boards and as a youth sports coach.



Chad Firestone, Managing Director, Deloitte

Chad Firestone serves as Deloitte's Pennsylvania Account Leader focused on State, Local and Higher Education sectors. He has spent the last 30 years working in, with or for the Commonwealth in various leadership roles.

Prior to Deloitte, he served as Executive Deputy Chief Information Officer for the Commonwealth and Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Justice Network (JNET) before transitioning to the private sector. Chad has led strategic initiatives and transformations across core business operations, technology, human resources and procurement and holds a special affinity for public safety.

Chad earned a BA in Criminology from IUP and an MPA from Penn State. He lives is southcentral PA with his wife of 30 years, two daughters and one very special granddaughter.



Ryan Wilson, Financial Planning and Analysis Manager, Flagger Force

Ryan Wilson is the Financial Planning & Analysis Manager at Flagger Force, the industry leader in short-term traffic control. He brings five years of experience in financial analysis and analytics, along with hands-on experience in driver evaluation and safety-focused training. Ryan draws on this background to use data and artificial intelligence to address operational challenges and strengthen Flagger Force's Safety-Driven® culture. He developed the company's driver risk prediction model, which analyzes AI-powered telematics data from more than 1,000 vehicles to identify high-risk driving behaviors and support timely coaching before incidents occur. Since the program launched in January, damage-related costs have declined by 30%. Ryan holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a Master of Business Administration from The Pennsylvania State University.



Jeff Sturla, Vice President of Critical Facilities, Wohlsen

Jeff serves as Vice President of Critical Facilities for Wohlsen Construction Company. Wohlsen is a $900 million-plus Construction Management and General Construction firm with offices in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Regions (from Massachusetts to Virginia).

Having Joined Wohlsen in 2017, Jeff leads all preconstruction efforts for Wohlsen's Critical Facilities group. . In addition, Jeff works closely with all of Wohlsen's regional team members to enhance the firms focus on client relationships and support the commitment to providing best-in-class services to our clients,

Jeff brings incredible business acumen and a wealth of knowledge with over 45 years of experience in preconstruction services, and construction management. He is a graduate of University of Pittsburgh. Jeff and his wife reside in Lancaster, PA,



Jessica Cicali, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary, Armstrong World Industries

Jessica Cicali is Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary of Armstrong World Industries (NYSE: AWI), where she advises the CEO, executive leadership team and Board of Directors and leads the Legal, Compliance, Sustainability and Government Relations functions. With more than 25 years of experience, Jessica has held senior legal and executive leadership roles across the infrastructure, manufacturing, automotive and technology industries in public and private equity-backed companies, with a focus on creating value, building strong teams and leading through change.



Ezra Rothman, President, EDC Lancaster County

Ezra Rothman is the President of EDC Lancaster County, the lead economic development entity serving Lancaster County. In this role, he leads EDC Lancaster County as well as its sister organizations: EDC Finance Corporation, an organization that provides financing to growing businesses in partnership with local banks and government lending programs, and EDC's Center for Regional Analysis, which focuses on proving business and community leaders with local economic trends and insights. Ezra has been with the organization since 2018, previously leading EDC's strategic initiatives and partnerships. That work included projects related to the long-term economic viability of Lancaster County focused on industrial land availability, water/ sewer infrastructure, broadband and urban redevelopment.



Aidan Hayes, Managing Director, Strategic Development, Cedar Investment Group

Aidan Hayes is Managing Director of Strategic Development at Cedar Investment Group, where he supports the company's business and strategic development initiatives. Cedar is focused on originating, financing and delivering complex, next-generation AI compute infrastructure to the highest technical and environmental standards. Aidan brings a multidisciplinary perspective to Cedar's development platform, with a focus on projects at the intersection of real estate, power, technology and economic development.



Michael McHale, CEO, PSA Systems LLC

Michael has been an entrepreneur for the last 25 years of his career. He is a business executive delivering unparalleled operating results in the design, development, construction, manufacturing of complex technologies for domestic start-up's and private equity companies. Michael is recognized for propelling businesses through organizational transition, construction, financial and performance turnarounds utilizing change management skills and process improvement expertise necessary to drive profitability and productivity gains in a collaborative way. He has demonstrated leadership in conceptualization, team assemblage, product rationalization and delivery of complex projects.Michael operates a private company, Production Systems Automation (PSA), which he purchased in 2016. PSA is a system integrator and manufacturer of robotic solutions, experimental ammunitions, drive systems, controls and custom machine building. Since purchasing PSA, the company has grown from 5 employees to 100 employees. PSA also was ranked #761 in INC Magazines fastest growing 5000 companies in the US. Michael is experienced in the development, design, installation and start- up of small to large scale commercial and industrial projects. His experience includes over $5 billion of construction and operational management including large-scale (+$2 billion) construction of commercial and industrial projects. Michael possesses the ability to manage projects from the conceptual phases through project implementation and completion. Michael's strong understanding of both financial and business assets and limitations help him to find ways to innovate utilizing a company's current strengths to produce company success.



Jon Anzur, Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, PA Chamber

Jon Anzur is a Mechanicsburg native with a decade of experience managing communications and political campaigns at the state and federal levels. Anzur most recently served as chief of staff and campaign manager to Congressman Fred Keller (PA-12). As Congressman Keller's top political and legislative aide, Anzur managed Keller's successful special election campaign—the first of the 116th Congress that attracted involvement from both national party committees—and successful re-election effort, as well as his Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania legislative offices. Anzur also previously worked as a top aide to former Congressman Lou Barletta, managing Barletta's U.S. House re-election and U.S. Senate campaigns and serving as communications director in his Washington, D.C. office. At the state level, Anzur worked in both the legislative and executive branches in Harrisburg in a variety of communications roles for Gov. Tom Corbett and the Pennsylvania General Assembly. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh.



Mike Wilson, President & CEO, Members 1st Federal Credit Union

With over 20 years of senior leadership experience, Michael Wilson has a passion for people and entrepreneurial thinking. As President & CEO of Members 1st Federal Credit Union, Wilson guides the credit union's mission to serve its members, associates and communities through support, empowerment and meaningful relationships.

Prior to his current role with Members 1st, Wilson served as a Cabinet official at the state level and went on to spend many years growing local businesses and organizations. He then brought his strong business and leadership background to Members 1st in July of 2016 as vice president of relationship management and has held several leadership roles within the credit union since joining the Members 1st FaM1ly, including his previous role as Chief Experience Officer.

Growing up in a military family that moved often, he found stability in his credit union. Since joining Members 1st, Wilson has focused on delivering an unparalleled member experience. Under his leadership since 2023, the credit union has grown significantly, expanding to 12 counties, surpassing 640,000 members and serving nearly 25,000 small businesses. He has also driven key achievements, including four consecutive Forbes Best-In-State Credit Union awards. In 2020, the credit union underwent a full digital transformation and brand evolution under Wilson's leadership, enhancing online banking and introducing the credit union's unique, personalized MyConcierge™ service. A dedicated leader who prioritizes service and mentorship, Wilson champions career growth and helped shape the credit union's "Culture of WE" in 2018.

The credit union philosophy of "people helping people" has remained the cornerstone of Wilson's leadership approach. A lifelong advocate of the tenets of servant leadership, he helped to found the Members 1st Charitable Foundation—a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is to support grassroots organizations within southcentral and northeastern PA to make them stronger, healthier and more financially sound. In addition to his role at Members 1st, Wilson serves in several leadership positions across the credit union industry and the broader community. He currently serves as Vice Chair of The National Credit Union Foundation and is actively involved with the CrossState Credit Union Foundation, Zest AI Advisory Board, Allied Solutions Advisory Board and America's Credit Unions NCUR Advisory Committee. Wilson was recently named a Member Owner of Circuit, a collaborative network of more than 80 credit unions and industry leaders dedicated to advancing innovation across the financial services industry.

He has been recognized as a member of the Central Penn Business Journal's Power 100 List and was named to the Most Influential Leaders List for both Central Penn and Lehigh Valley's Business Journals among many other awards and recognitions.

Wilson holds a Bachelor of Science in Business and an MBA, and recently received the distinction of honorary Doctorate in recognition for all of his community support, charitable efforts, and contributions to the small business community over the years. A respected member of the credit union movement, he graduated from the Credit Union Executive Society (CUES) CEO Institute Program, earning executive certificates from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business and Cornell University's Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management. Wilson is also a graduate of the Leadership Harrisburg, Cumberland, Lancaster and Lebanon programs.

Outside of Members 1st, Wilson and his wife Amy love to travel and experience new places, enjoy delicious cuisine and sample new wines. They share a love for music, especially Hall & Oates, as well as their pug Marshall Mathers. With a deep understanding of the organization and a demonstrated history of leadership, Wilson looks forward to guiding the financially sound credit union toward further success.



Neil Makhija, Montgomery County Commissioner

Neil Makhija serves as Montgomery County Commissioner and Chair of the Board of Elections. Montgomery County is Philadelphia's largest collar county of 865,000 people, more populous than 4 U.S. states and Washington D.C.

As Commissioner, Neil oversees a $1.3 billion budget and 3,000 county employees covering critical functions including infrastructure, public safety, human services, and the criminal justice system. As Chair of the Board of Elections, Neil oversaw the highest number of votes cast in county history with an 83% turnout. A short film he wrote, produced, and narrated about Montgomery County's protection of voting rights was published in the New York Times and honored with two 2025 Emmy Awards.

In his first two years in office, Neil and his Board colleagues increased affordability and expanded opportunity for residents across the County. Montco raised the minimum wage to $20.52/hour for 3,000 employees and passed the most robust public paid leave policy in Pennsylvania, made major investments in affordable childcare, and made strides in tackling the housing crisis. The County also broke ground on a first-of-its-kind, 24/7 emergency behavioral health center — a $21 million investment in getting people help right when they need it most.

And in 2025, under Neil's leadership as Chair, Montgomery County launched a pathbreaking AI initiative and created an Office of Innovation, Strategy, and Performance that saved taxpayers millions, helping the Board of Commissioners to pass the first bipartisan budget in nearly a decade.

Prior to elected office, Neil taught election law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School for seven years. As an attorney, he represented Pennsylvania counties battling the opioid crisis. Neil also served as the Executive Director of Impact, a national civic organization that helped nearly double turnout among key underrepresented communities in the 2020 election.

Neil earned his J.D. from Harvard Law School on the Horace Lentz Scholarship. He received his B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College. He is the child of immigrants and grew up in Carbon County, a small coal and steel town in Northeast Pennsylvania. Neil and his wife Dr. Rachel Nash, an internal medicine physician, are now raising their toddler son Avi, a fourth generation Montgomery County resident.



Rebecca Darling, Director of Community Affairs and Partnerships, CoreWeave

Rebecca Darling is a globally recognized external affairs expert with over 20 years of experience driving innovative social performance initiatives for multinational organizations. Known for fostering trust-based relationships, Rebecca delivers strategies that integrate sustainable development, risk mitigation, and business transformation.

Rebecca brings her extensive external affairs expertise to her current role as Director of Community Affairs and Partnerships at CoreWeave, where she is building and leading strategies that ensure meaningful community engagement, responsible site selection, and lasting partnerships that support social license to operate. Having built her career navigating the complex community dynamics of the extractive industries, Rebecca now applies that same rigor to the technology sector, where rapid infrastructure growth presents similar challenges around community trust, impact, and partnership.

Prior to CoreWeave, Rebecca served as Group Head of Social Performance at Newmont Corporation, where she shaped enterprise-wide social performance strategies, including human rights, Indigenous affairs, artisanal and small-scale mining and land access. Through her leadership, Rebecca championed efforts that aligned corporate goals with social risk and impact management. Her professional experience and leadership include prior roles at Barrick, Rio Tinto, the International Finance Corp, and The Asia Foundation.

As an educator and Visiting Scholar at Cornell University for nearly a decade, Rebecca designed and taught a graduate-level course on stakeholder engagement strategies, equipping future leaders with tools to advance sustainable development.

Personally, Rebecca is deeply committed to fostering community resilience and empowerment through hands-on leadership and volunteerism. Over the years, she has led initiatives in diverse global settings, from coordinating youth education programs in refugee camps to supporting entrepreneur development in underserved communities.

Rebecca holds a Master of Public Administration from Cornell University and a Bachelor of Arts in Government from California State University, Sacramento.



Alex Halper, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, PA Chamber of Business and Industry

Alex Halper serves as Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for the PA Chamber and oversees public policy development, advocacy and outreach, as well as the organization's political efforts.

Halper serves on the Pennsylvania Minimum Wage Advisory Board, Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children Board of Directors, Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Advisory Council, the Governing Board of the Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau, the Pennsylvania Association for Chamber Professionals Board and the Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations Board and was appointed to Gov. Josh Shapiro's Transition Advisory Committee. He regularly speaks to local chambers of commerce, trade associations and employers across the Commonwealth about key legislative issues impacting business and Pennsylvania's overall political landscape.

Alex Halper joined the PA Chamber's Government Affairs team in 2011. He previously served as a legislative assistant in Washington, D.C. to former U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter where he worked on numerous areas of public policy, including transportation and infrastructure, homeland security and appropriations.

Originally from Allentown, Halper graduated from the George Washington University in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. He lives in Lower Paxton Township with his wife, two children, and their dog, Kelce.