

## SUMMIT PRESENTERS



**Ann McNellis Elmore** is Legal Consultant with the Counterfeit Trademarks Enforcement Team and the Investor Education, Business Outreach and Advance Health Care Directive Registry Awareness Program within the Securities Division at the NC Department of the Secretary of State in Raleigh. Coming from a family that includes small business people and having explored starting her own, Ann is keenly aware of the challenges. Now she builds awareness and skill navigating SOSNC tools for business registration, trademark registration, and securities-based capital formation. Ann has been with the Division since August 2018.

Prior to joining the Securities Division, Ann served as a prosecuting attorney in both Georgia and Florida for 29 years. As an Assistant District Attorney in Georgia, Ann prosecuted instances of manufacturing and sale of counterfeit goods.

Ann graduated from the Mercer University School of Law and the University of Georgia (Journalism). She is an active member of the NC Bar and an inactive member of both the Georgia and Florida Bars.



**Linda Hughes**, an accomplished award-winning Air Force veteran, college professor, and information technology specialist. She joined the Women's Business Center of Charlotte as a volunteer in October 2017, transitioning from part-time to now full-time as the Program Director. In her position, she provides overall programmatic support in the execution and delivery of programs, marketing, and technical operations for the Women's Business Center of Charlotte.

Linda has a Master of Science in Computer Information Systems and Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Information Systems. She is a native of Alabama but moved to the Charlotte area in 2017 from Virginia. She enjoys spending time with her 17-year-old son.



**Eileen Joyce** is the Lead Economic Development Specialist for the US Small Business Administration's North Carolina District Office. With over 30 years of experience at SBA, she has served in several capacities including media relations, congressional relations, event planning and small business counseling. She also has oversight responsibility for SBA's counseling and training programs: Emerging Leaders, Boots to Business, SCORE, SBTDC, Women Business Centers and the Veterans Business Outreach Center.

Prior to joining SBA, she worked for Procter and Gamble in Field Advertising in Kansas and Oklahoma. She has an MBA from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and a Finance degree from Auburn University. She lives in Cornelius with her husband and her bulldog, Toad.



**Adrian Marable** is a native of Danville, Virginia. He graduated from Old Dominion University with a degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master's in Business from Queens University. He began his career in the financial services industry and later moved into the fields of engineering and IT. Among his education, he holds over 10 certifications in business process improvement, strategy delivery, and leadership.

His corporate experience has afforded him the opportunity to work with executives, highly successful leaders, and high-performing teams to create opportunities in business. While working with companies like New York Life, the Department of Defense, Ingersoll Rand, Goodyear Tire and Rubber, and Bank of America, Adrian has driven organizational transformations, business processes initiatives, and led the delivery world-class software tools.

Adrian's hard work and planning have created a fast track toward the founding of Eunoia Equity Partners, a private technology investment group where he is a Managing Partner. In addition to Eunoia Equity Partners, Adrian is also an author and the founder of Groopwork, an education and technology company.

His philosophy is "the most important life goal should be to use our time and talents to touch the lives of others in a positive way." Each year, Adrian works with approximately 200 budding entrepreneurs, supporting their business ideation or growth through training, workshops, and mentorship.