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## **THE GREAT FOOD TRUCK RACE TAKES ON THE WILD WEST IN RETURN OF SUMMER PRIMETIME SERIES**

### **Host Tyler Florence Kicks Off Season Nine with New Fleet of Food Truck Hopefuls on Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 9pm ET/PT**

**NEW YORK – June 20, 2018 – *The Great Food Truck Race*** takes a culinary road battle through the Wild West this summer, with seven teams of food truck hopefuls competing to win a \$50,000 grand prize. Hosted by **Tyler Florence**, the trip hits hot spots in the Southwest to test the competitors' cooking chops, selling skills and business savvy. Each week, the teams hit a new city for fierce food challenges, and the least successful truck heads home – until the one team left standing is awarded \$50,000. *The Great Food Truck Race* kicks off Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 9pm ET/PT and the winning truck will be named in the season finale on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 9pm ET/PT on Food Network.

"Every summer, our viewers look forward to hitting the highway for a scenic road trip with a brand-new roster of food trucks," said Courtney White, Executive Vice President, Programming, Food Network and HGTV. "These teams bring their food and business A-game to the race, but only one will cross the finish line \$50,000 closer to achieving their dreams."

This season's competitors are: **Buns N' Thighs – Chicago, Illinois** (Marla Nones, Victoria Elena Nones, Ian M. Sherwin); **Chops' Shop – Pearland, Texas** (Sonia Buckelew, Bryan Soliz, Sandra Soliz); **Heroes on a Half Shell – Frederick, Maryland** (Clinton Sheron, Danni Sheron, Donna Sheron); **Just Wing It – New York, New York** (Steven Crowley, Kevin Pettice, Sharon Shvarzman); **Mobile Moo Shu – Detroit, Michigan** (Michelle Gautier, Chelsea Smith, Marley Vanderbrook); **New England Grill – Newport, Rhode Island** (Kevin Des Chenes, Christine Hurley, Ed Gallagher) and **Sassy Soul – Silver Spring, Maryland and Washington D.C.** (Lauren Carson, Paris Henry, Parris Jewel).

In the season premiere, the race kicks off at a cattle ranch outside of Los Angeles, where the teams must hand squeeze orange juice to get the keys to their truck. Later, each team has to create a dish with cuts of beef won in an auction and add it to their menu. Upcoming episodes feature an ultimate shrimp dish challenge in Las Vegas; battle of the beverages in Phoenix; a visit to the historic Territory Prison in Yuma; a date-themed competition in Coachella Valley and a Mexican-flavored return to Los Angeles for the finale where the last truck standing wins \$50,000.

Viewers can meet the competing teams and browse photo highlights of the challenges at [FoodNetwork.com/FoodTrucks](http://FoodNetwork.com/FoodTrucks). **Tell us who you think should take home the grand prize on social media using the hashtag #GreatFoodTruckRace.**

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