



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Waterstone Mortgage Names Steve Strother as Area Manager in Jacksonville, Florida
Strother will lead the newest branch of the Waterstone Mortgage Florida region

Jacksonville, Fla. (April 5, 2021) – National mortgage lender Waterstone Mortgage Corporation is pleased to announce opening of a new branch in Jacksonville, led by industry veteran Steve Strother.

With more than 30 years of experience in the mortgage lending and financial services industries, Strother will serve as Waterstone Mortgage’s Area Manager for the greater Jacksonville market. Throughout his career, Strother has worked in a variety of sales and leadership roles for companies such as Southland Mortgage of Jacksonville, Lehman Brothers, and VyStar Credit Union.

“With his impressive experience in the mortgage industry and his extensive knowledge of the Jacksonville real estate market, Steve will make an excellent addition to our Florida leadership team,” said Dustin Owen, Waterstone Mortgage Regional Vice President – SE. “In addition to growing and leading the Jacksonville market, Steve and his team will continue to serve their clients, borrowers, and referral partners with the same high level of professionalism and experience they have grown accustomed to over the last 30+ years.”

“I am excited to join the Waterstone Mortgage team,” said Strother. “I look forward to the opportunity to mirror the growth and success of the company’s other Florida markets here in Jacksonville. With its beautiful beaches, rich history, and arts and entertainment scene, this area is the perfect spot for homebuyers.”

With the addition of Strother, Waterstone Mortgage is currently looking to acquire an office space, which will serve as the first of three anticipated Jacksonville area offices. The company will also hire for a variety of Jacksonville-based positions, including loan originators, mortgage processors, and sales assistants.

Waterstone Mortgage opened its first Florida branch in Winter Park in 2008 and has since expanded to additional markets across the state, including Ft. Walton Beach, Port Orange, Orlando, Jupiter, and Ft. Myers. In 2020, Waterstone Mortgage’s flagship Florida branch, which serves homebuyers and homeowners in the greater Orlando area, funded more than \$800

million in residential real estate loans. Overall, Waterstone Mortgage funded just shy of \$1 billion in mortgages in Florida in 2020.

About Waterstone Mortgage Corporation:

Waterstone Mortgage Corporation is an innovative, strong, and secure mortgage lending company that has maintained a reputation for exceptional service and competitive mortgage financing. Founded in 2000, the company lends in 48 states.

In 2020, Waterstone Mortgage set a company record of more than \$4.4 billion in annual loan origination volume, serving upwards of 19,000 individuals and families across the nation. The company has been named to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel’s “Top Workplaces” list; the Milwaukee Business Journal’s “Best Places to Work” list; National Mortgage Professional Magazine’s “Top 100 Mortgage Employers;” Mortgage Executive Magazine’s “Top 100 Mortgage Companies in America;” MReport’s “Top 25 Companies to Work For;” and Scotsman Guide’s “Top Mortgage Lenders.” Waterstone Mortgage was ranked as the #2 company in Mortgage Executive Magazine’s “Top 50 Mortgage Companies to Work For” in 2018 and is a three-time Ellie Mae Hall of Fame Award winner.

Headquartered in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, Waterstone Mortgage is a wholly-owned subsidiary of WaterStone Bank SSB, which, in turn, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Waterstone Financial, Inc. (NASDAQ: WSBF). To learn more about Waterstone Mortgage, visit www.WaterstoneMortgage.com.

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