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Waterstone Mortgage Names Matt Fenster as Branch Manager in Newport, Rhode Island Fenster will lead the newest branch of the Waterstone Mortgage East region

Newport, R.I. (June 13, 2022) – National mortgage lender Waterstone Mortgage Corporation is pleased to announce the opening of a new branch in the greater Newport/Middletown area, led by industry veteran Matt Fenster.

Fenster has nearly 20 years of experience in the mortgage lending industry, and has worked with thousands of homebuyers throughout the years.

"Matt brings a great deal of experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to our customers," said Waterstone Mortgage SVP – Chief Sales Officer Rich Harkwell. "We are excited to have him join our team, as he continues to expand our presence in the greater Newport market."

According to Fenster, the Newport County area is an ideal place for homebuyers to begin or continue their homeownership journey. "There is a sense of pride that we have when we say we are able to do business in one of the most scenic, historical, and thriving markets in the nation," he said. "The Newport area has become a melting pot of cultures and backgrounds that continues to broaden and grow thanks to ever-growing tourism, a robust education environment, milder New England weather, and a bustling social scene."

When deciding to make the transition to Waterstone Mortgage, Fenster was drawn to the company's operational excellence, dedication to finding home loan solutions for virtually every customer, and commitment to innovative technology.

"I liken Waterstone's technology culture to having two monitors for your computer. Imagine how much time you save by not flipping back and forth between application windows; and how much money you save when you don't have to print everything to reference it," Fenster said. "Waterstone's innovativeness allows my team to do their jobs well, in a streamlined fashion, that produces a positive experience for all stakeholders."

Through Waterstone Mortgage, Fenster offers a variety of mortgage options, including the <u>Community Heroes Program</u> – a 1 percent down-payment loan for eligible police officers, law enforcement employees, firefighters, teachers/school district employees, EMTs/paramedics, and nurses/CNAs.

The new Waterstone Mortgage office is located at 1 Corporate Place, 1st Floor, in Middletown, Rhode Island. In the coming months, Fenster is planning to expand the team by hiring several loan officers and support staff members.

About Waterstone Mortgage Corporation:

Waterstone Mortgage Corporation is an innovative, strong, and forward-thinking company that has maintained a reputation as an elite mortgage lender for more than two decades. The company's mission is to streamline the mortgage process via innovative technology, unique loan products, and effective communication – which gives their customers a clear path to homeownership. Waterstone Mortgage focuses primarily on purchase loans, and offers a variety of home loan programs, including conventional, FHA, VA, and USDA loans; along with several no- and low-down-payment options and many specialty programs for medical professionals, first-time homebuyers, and more. Founded in 2000, the company lends in 48 states.

In 2021, Waterstone Mortgage helped more than 17,000 individuals and families achieve their homeownership goals. 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 "Most Loved 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 ICE Mortgage Technology (formerly 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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