



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Waterstone Mortgage Expands in Wisconsin, Adding Branch in Marshfield**  
*Branch Manager Laura Leonhard joins the company to serve customers in the Marshfield, Wausau, and Stevens Point communities*

**Marshfield, Wis. (September 16, 2016)** – National mortgage lender Waterstone Mortgage Corporation is pleased to announce that the company is further expanding in the Wisconsin market with the opening of a new branch in Marshfield. The new branch is led by seasoned Branch Manager Laura Leonhard, and includes two additional loan originators and five processing/administrative staff members.

“We are excited to have Laura join our experienced team of branch managers,” said Waterstone Mortgage SVP – National Sales Manager Kevin Allen. “Her strong work ethic, dedication to serving homebuyers, and extensive background in the industry make her an ideal fit for our organization. Her goals and strengths align strongly with our culture and will contribute greatly to Waterstone Mortgage’s future success.”

Originally from Colby, Wis., Leonhard has been originating mortgages in the Marshfield area since 2000, and has experienced widespread success in the industry. She was named one of the top four loan originators in the nation for USDA/Rural Development loans by *Scotsman Guide* for four consecutive years; for two of those years – 2012 and 2013 – she was in the number one slot.

Throughout her career, Leonhard has reached the USDA Million Dollar Lender Platinum level for seven years, the USDA Million Dollar Lender Gold level for two years, and the USDA Million Dollar Lender level for one year.

In the past several years, Leonhard was recognized on the *Mortgage Professional America (MPA)* annual “Hot 100” list (which highlights movers and shakers in the mortgage industry) and the *MPA* “Elite Women in Mortgage” list. She was also featured as a spotlight professional in *Top Agent Magazine*.

“I’m thrilled to be part of the Waterstone Mortgage team,” Leonhard said. “My loan origination experience in the Marshfield area, combined with the substantial product variety that

Waterstone Mortgage offers, will allow me to effectively serve homebuyers in this community and beyond.”

With a primary focus on purchase loan financing, Waterstone Mortgage offers a broad range of products, including FHA, VA, USDA, condo, and conventional loans. The lender also has a variety of niche products that will be new to the Marshfield, Wausau, and Stevens Point communities, such as the no down payment Wealth Building Loan. As a Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Ginnie Mae approved lender, Waterstone Mortgage is able to deliver loans directly and get its customers to the closing table on time.

To learn more about Laura Leonhard and Waterstone Mortgage, visit [MortgageExp.net](http://MortgageExp.net).

**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 has the ability to lend in 41 states.

In 2015, Waterstone Mortgage surpassed \$2 billion in annual loan origination volume. The company has been named to the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's* Top Workplaces, *National Mortgage Professional Magazine's* Top 100 Mortgage Employers, *Mortgage Executive Magazine's* Top 50 Mortgage Companies to Work For, *Inside Mortgage Finance's* Top 100 Mortgage Lenders, *Scotsman Guide's* Top Mortgage Lenders, and the *Milwaukee Business Journal's* Fastest Growing Firms. Waterstone Mortgage was awarded the 2015 Ellie Mae Hall of Fame Award for Outstanding Efficiency & Return on Investment and the 2016 Ellie Mae Hall of Fame Award for Exceptional Achievement in Business Growth.

Headquartered in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, Waterstone Mortgage is a wholly owned subsidiary of WaterStone Bank SSB (NASDAQ: WSBF) with assets of more than \$1.8 billion. To learn more about Waterstone Mortgage, visit [www.WaterstoneMortgage.com](http://www.WaterstoneMortgage.com).