

# Bank of Granite

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## **Bank of Granite Names Warlick Chief Administrative Officer**

GRANITE FALLS, NORTH CAROLINA—Karen Beal Warlick was recently promoted to chief administrative officer at Bank of Granite by the bank's corporate board of directors. She joined Bank of Granite as senior vice president and human resources director in 2003. In her new role, Warlick will continue to head the human resources department and assume leadership of the bank's administrative functions, including public relations, marketing, compliance, investor relations and vendor-provided services.

"Karen's experience and proven track record in human resources, strategic planning and program management makes her an outstanding choice to broaden her leadership at Bank of Granite in this newly-created capacity," said Chief Executive Officer and President R. Scott Anderson. "As the most senior female executive of the bank, she will continue to be an invaluable member of the bank's executive committee and I'm very excited to have her step into this critical new role."

Now with 34 years of banking experience, Warlick began her career in 1974 at First National Bank of Catawba County in administrative and personnel services. After the bank's merger with Wachovia/First Union in 1981, her expanded leadership role as human resources team leader included supporting more than 1,400 employees at more than 200 financial centers. Named human resources senior generalist in 1998, Warlick

supported commercial and government initiatives, as well as teams in the Carolinas and Georgia. In 1999 she was promoted to vice president and in 2001, until her departure to join Bank of Granite, she was a commercial administrative officer, for the Carolinas and Georgia.

Warlick graduated from Granite Falls High School in 1975 and has attended both Caldwell Community College and Catawba Valley Community College. She also has achieved numerous certifications including organizational effectiveness development and diversity awareness and has a diploma from the American Institute of Banking. She is a member of the Catawba Valley Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management and currently serves on its board of directors.

“I’m honored by the confidence the bank’s board of directors has placed in me,” said Warlick. “I’m committed to aligning our internal organization with our bank customers so that we continue to exceed expectations at every stage of the banking experience.”

A life-long resident of Granite Falls, Warlick and her husband of 33 years, Mike, are members of Dry Ponds Baptist Church in Granite Falls where she is a Sunday school teacher. They have a daughter, 20-year-old Kari, who, immediately upon graduation from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this spring, will begin the masters of accounting program there.

“Karen has made a tremendous impact since joining Bank of Granite just four and a half years ago,” said Anderson. “With her stellar performance, this well-deserved promotion will prove beneficial to the bank and its customers. I’m proud to have her in this expanded role on my senior management team.”

*Bank of Granite and Granite Mortgage are subsidiaries of Bank of Granite Corporation, whose stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol “GRAN.” The bank operates 22 full-service banking offices in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Forsyth, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Watauga, and Wilkes counties, and a lending office in Guilford County. Granite Mortgage, headquartered in Winston-Salem, originates home mortgages in these counties and in Fayetteville and Salisbury, N.C.*

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*For further information, please contact:*  
Karen Clark-Caruso, Public Relations & Marketing Director  
PO Box 578 • Hickory, NC 28603 • Ph. 828-345-6863 • Fax: 828-345-0809  
[kcaruso@bankofgranite.com](mailto:kcaruso@bankofgranite.com) - [www.bankofgranite.com](http://www.bankofgranite.com)



Karen Beal Warlick

