

Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 6, 2005

Granite Mortgage Promotes Thuss to Vice President

Tom L. Thuss has been promoted to vice president at Granite Mortgage. His office is in the Bank of Granite's downtown Lenoir location. Gary Lackey, President and Chief Executive Officer for Granite Mortgage, made the announcement from the company's Winston-Salem headquarters. "This promotion is so well deserved," Lackey stated. "Tom's dedication to his customers and willingness to go the extra mile for them is what this company is all about. He exemplifies our philosophy."

Thuss is a native of Caldwell County where he graduated from West Caldwell High School. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Thuss joined Granite Mortgage in 1998 as mortgage loan officer after seven years in banking as a commercial lender.

Active in community and civic organizations, Thuss is president of Collettsville School Athletic Boosters Club, board member of the Caldwell Council on Adolescent Health and a Board of Trustees member at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute.

Thuss and his wife, Vicki, reside in Collettsville with their eleven-year-old son, Mason, and eight-year-old daughter, Carly. They are active members of Whitnel Pentecostal Holiness Church in Lenoir.

Bank of Granite Corporation is the parent company of Bank of Granite and Granite Mortgage, Inc. The bank operates 21 full service banking offices in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Forsyth, Mecklenburg, Watauga and Wilkes Counties. Granite Mortgage, headquartered in Winston-Salem, originates home mortgages in these areas, as well as, in Hilton Head, S.C.

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Tom Thuss, Granite Mortgage Vice President