

# Bank of Granite

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **Bank of Granite names Easley chief credit officer**

Jefferson (Jeff) C. Easley has joined Bank of Granite as senior vice president and chief credit officer announced Charles M. Snipes, chairman and CEO. "We're delighted to have Jeff assume this critical position at Bank of Granite," said Snipes. "He brings leadership and experience to this role that will greatly benefit the bank and its shareholders. It's a true pleasure to have someone with Jeff's passion for excellence to lead our credit operations."

A native of Buies Creek, N.C., Easley has nearly 24 years experience in the banking industry. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from Campbell University in Buies Creek in 1984. Easley is active in the Buies Creek Kiwanis Club and was vice president of the Buies Creek Recreation Association. He and his wife Susanne attend Memorial Baptist Church in Buies Creek. They are in the process of relocating to Hickory with their two sons: Jay, a 14-year-old rising high school freshman, and Preston, an 8-year-old rising third-grader.

"Bank of Granite's history of solid service and banking excellence attracted me to join in its future," said Easley. "I'm looking forward to helping the bank continue that legacy." The role of chief credit officer is to oversee the bank's lending operations and related functions.

Easley reports to R. Scott Anderson, president and chief operating officer. Former chief credit officer, John S. Gabriel, has assumed the position of special assets officer for the bank.

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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Jeff Easley