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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington Federal Promotes Kim Robison to Manage Operations

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON –Washington Federal, Inc. (NASDAQ: WAFD) today announced that effective April 1, 2017, Kim Robison will be promoted to Senior Vice President of Operations and join the Company's Executive Management Committee.

Robison's career at Washington Federal began in 2008 in Washington Federal's retail network, after working for 20 years in commercial banking and wealth management in the Pacific Northwest. During her tenure at Washington Federal, she transitioned into various support functions, including acquisition integration and the creation of the company's first call center, which has grown to service more than 500,000 client inquiries annually. Additionally, Robison was a key figure in Washington Federal's successful upgrade to a new core banking platform in 2015.

Washington Federal President & Chief Executive-Elect Brent Beardall said, "Kim has developed a reputation as someone that is a quick study, pays attention to detail, and finds a solution that works for both our clients and the bank. She is adept at balancing compliance requirements with our strategic objectives. Kim consistently builds up those around her and is a believer that a well-organized team executing a plan can deliver exceptional results. We are proud to welcome Kim as part of our executive team and are confident she will lead our operational teams to even higher levels of performance."

Robison graduated from Le Moyne College, Syracuse, New York and is an alumna of the Washington Federal Executive Leadership Academy. A native of upstate New York Kim lives in West Seattle with her husband.

Washington Federal is a national bank that operates 238 branches in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Texas, Nevada, and New Mexico. Established in 1917, the bank provides consumer and commercial deposit accounts, financing for small to middle market businesses, commercial real estate and residential real estate, including consumer mortgages, home equity lines of credit and insurance products through a subsidiary. As of December 31, 2016, the Company reports \$14.9 billion in assets, \$10.6 billion in deposits and \$2.0 billion in stockholders' equity.

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