



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Aquesta Bank Announces New Chief Operations and Compliance Officer & Executive VP

May 4, 2018 (Cornelius, NC) – Aquesta Bank announced in April that it has hired Carrie Hewitt as its new Chief Operations and Compliance Officer. Carrie joined the company on April 16th and is based in Cornelius.

Carrie brings with her 14 years of banking experience. She also brings an additional 10 years of finance and audit experience from other industries. She most recently served as Director of Internal Audit and Compliance Officer for Uwharrie Bank. Carrie's experience also includes serving as Chief Auditor for Yadkin Bank as it grew from \$2B to \$7B in assets through multiple mergers and acquisitions. Before assuming the role of Chief Auditor for Yadkin, Carrie held various management positions in the finance area of Yadkin Bank as well as with First Charter Bank prior to its acquisition by Fifth Third Bank.

In her new role at Aquesta, Hewitt will be responsible for oversight of all regulatory compliance risks for Aquesta Bank. As Chief Operations and Compliance officer, she will ensure that all areas of the company meet compliance management responsibilities and abide by all applicable laws and regulations.

“Aquesta is committed to maintaining a strong compliance program,” said CEO Jim Engel. “The current regulatory environment demands strong compliance leadership and Carrie's extensive compliance experience is a welcome addition.”

Carrie enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time at the beach with her family. She and her husband are also avid supporters of animal rescue and adoption. She resides in Davidson, NC with her husband and two daughters.

Aquesta Bank is the largest community bank headquartered in Mecklenburg County and has branches in Davidson, Huntersville, Cornelius, Mooresville, Charlotte, and Wilmington and loan production offices in Raleigh, Greenville and Charleston. Aquesta Insurance Services, Inc. ---an independent agency--- has offices in Cornelius, Huntersville, Mooresville, Wilmington, Hampstead and Murrell's Inlet, SC.

For additional information, please contact Jim Engel (Chief Executive Officer and President) at 704-439-4343 or visit us online at www.aquesta.com.