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## **The Bank of Washington Names Larry Houk Chief Executive Officer and President**

Community-based The Bank of Washington has named Larry Houk chief executive officer and president with the retirement of founding CEO Gary Schmitt.

Houk has served as the bank's president and chief operating officer the past two years and was elected to the bank's board of directors as well as to the board of the parent Washington Bancorporation, Inc.



**Larry Houk**



**Gary Schmitt**

Schmitt was among organizers of the six-branch system in 1996 when it was established as the Bank of Edmonds. He served as CEO the past 12 years and will continue as board chairman.

"I am excited to have a leader of Larry's experience and ability leading our company as we continue to change and grow," Schmitt addressed bank shareholders in announcing his retirement.

Houk has been active in regional and community banking in the Puget Sound area since 1982. He and his wife and two children reside in Carnation. A graduate of Washington State University, Houk is a board member of the Aerospace Futures Alliance (AFA), a non-profit organization working with aerospace companies throughout the state.

The Bank of Washington operates branches in Issaquah, Kirkland and Redmond in King County and in Edmonds, Mukilteo and Lynnwood in Snohomish County. A branch in south Everett is to open in March.

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