FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Evergreen Home Loans® Expands Andrew Leff's Leadership Role to Drive Construction Lending Strategy and Growth

Bellevue, WA — September 10, 2026 — Evergreen Home Loans® today announced an expansion of **Andrew Leff's role as SVP, Head of National Business Development**, adding leadership responsibility for the company's construction lending department, strategy and execution that has been a focus and strategic pillar of Evergreens business since 2015. Leff's expanded role reflects Evergreen's continued commitment to continually grow its presence and partnerships in the new construction space while continuing to enhance the experience it delivers to builders and homebuyers.

Since joining Evergreen in 2025, one of Leff's first major initiatives was the development and launch of **BuildersEdge**, a comprehensive suite of financing solutions designed to give builders and Evergreen Loan Officers more ways to compete for and convert new-home buyers. This launch has helped secure many new builder relationships for Evergreen across the country as well as enhance existing relationships.

BuildersEdge provides builders with a broad range of rate-management strategies they can promote in the market, including **forward commitments, spec locks, extended rate locks and other rate-lock options, paired with a variety of temporary and permanent buydown solutions**. The program is designed to help builders address affordability, manage interest-rate uncertainty and create compelling financing strategies across communities and individual homes.

"Andrew understands that strong builder business starts with strong relationships," said **Robert Lipston, Executive Vice President, Head of Production at Evergreen Home Loans**. "Since joining Evergreen, he has brought both a strategic vision and an ability to turn that vision into actionable solutions. The launch of BuildersEdge is a great example. Expanding his role into construction lending strategy and execution allows us to bring that same approach to another important area of opportunity for Evergreen."

In his expanded role, Leff will focus on growing Evergreen's Construction to Perm and Renovation lending market share. His strategy will center on combining technology, product innovation and business development with the deep construction lending expertise already within Evergreen.

A key part of that effort will be working closely with Evergreen's experienced construction team, **led by Kim Rawls**, to identify opportunities to streamline the lending process, expand builder and referral relationships, and use technology to further enhance an already strong customer and builder experience.

Internal business use.

"Evergreen already has tremendous construction lending expertise and a team that understands this business at a very deep level," said Leff. "The opportunity is to build on that foundation—leveraging technology, our experienced construction team and our Loan Officers to make it easier to do business with Evergreen and ultimately capture greater market share."

Leff added, "Whether we're working with a large production builder, a custom builder or a manufactured home partner, the objective is the same: understand their business and bring solutions that help them sell homes and better serve their customers. **Builders don't need another lender showing up with a rate sheet. They need a partner who understands what they're trying to accomplish and can help them get there.**"

Leff brings more than 20 years of mortgage banking experience, including senior leadership roles with **Wells Fargo, Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase and U.S. Bank**. Throughout his career, he has developed and led national builder, construction lending, business development and strategic partnership initiatives.

The expanded construction lending responsibility complements Leff's leadership of Evergreen's national business development strategy and further aligns the company's builder, construction and strategic partnership initiatives around a common objective: **providing differentiated solutions that help Evergreen Loan Officers create deeper relationships and generate sustainable growth.**

About Evergreen Home Loans

Headquartered in Bellevue, Washington, Evergreen Home Loans™ is a full-service direct lender with a robust presence across the United States. We're licensed in 37 states and have more than 56 branch locations. For over 38 years, we've focused on one thing: helping people achieve homeownership. We offer a variety of loan types, including FHA, VA, Conventional, Jumbo, USDA, refinancing, and construction loans, while delivering On Time and As Promised®. Our commitment extends beyond transactions; we believe our solutions provide financial stability and contribute to the creation of generational wealth for the communities we serve.
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