



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2025

Port Blakely Announces Mike Warjone as Next CEO

René Ancinas to Continue as Board Chair in Planned Transition for Family-Led Company

Seattle, Wash. – The Board of Directors of Port Blakely announced today its intention to appoint Mike Warjone as the company's next Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective January 1, 2026. Warjone will succeed René Ancinas, who will continue serving as Board Chair, ensuring continuity for the family-owned, renewable forest products company's 160-year legacy in the Pacific Northwest.

"Port Blakely has always been guided by a long-term view rooted in stewardship, sustainability, and our deep commitment to people and communities," said Warjone. "I'm excited to build on René's leadership and work with our incredible teams to shape the company's next chapter." Warjone, a fourth-generation family descendant, has served as president of the company's US Forestry operations since 2020. He is a recognized leader in the forestry industry and a champion of responsible forest management. During his tenure, he has supported the company's growth while advancing strategic priorities centered on sustainable forestry practices and environmental stewardship.

"This transition is a testament to Port Blakely's unwavering commitment to carrying its legacy forward," remarked Board Member Debra Somberg. "René has made exceptional contributions that have positioned the company's operational and family governance structures for long-term success. Mike is the right person at the right time to lead Port Blakely into the future."

A fourth-generation family member, Ancinas joined Port Blakely in 2005 and has served as CEO since 2010. At the end of 2025, he will retire from the CEO role and continue his leadership as Chair of the Board.

"This is a pivotal moment for Port Blakely as we begin the next chapter of family leadership," said Ancinas. "I have complete confidence in Mike's vision to steward Port Blakely for future generations."

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Warjone joined Port Blakely in 1997 and has held various roles, including Forester, Silviculture Manager, Director of Strategy, and VP of Operations. He led significant timberland acquisitions and played a key role in advancing policy efforts that enabled Port Blakely to enter the voluntary carbon market. He holds an MBA from the University of Washington and serves on the boards of the Washington Forest Protection Association and Sustainable Northwest. He also chairs the Operating Committee for the National Alliance of Forest Owners.

Ancinas added, “It has been a privilege to serve as CEO, and I’m deeply grateful for the incredible team and partners who have helped shape our company through stewardship, collaboration, and shared values.”

Gareth Waugh has been named US Forestry President, succeeding Warjone effective January 1, 2026. With 25 years of experience at Port Blakely, Waugh has held key leadership roles in both the U.S. and his native New Zealand.

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About Port Blakely

Port Blakely grows and markets renewable forest products worldwide, owning and managing sustainable working forests in Washington, Oregon, and New Zealand. The company operates two business units: US Forestry and NZ Forestry. A family-owned company with forestry roots dating back six generations in the Pacific Northwest, Port Blakely is committed to advancing the ideals and best practices of stewardship – for its business, communities, and the environment – to help cultivate a healthy world. For more information, visit <https://portblakely.com>.