



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Granite Supports Polar Plunge to Benefit Special Olympics***

(February 19<sup>th</sup>)- Quincy, MA—Granite Telecommunications, LLC, a provider of communications solutions to businesses, contributed **\$3,832.69** to the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Polar Plunge, an annual fundraiser that benefits Special Olympics Massachusetts. Granite's contribution was the latest in its weekly series of Jeans Day contributions, where Granite employees give to worthy local or national charities. Employee Mark Ward made this week's suggestion for his Polar Plunge team, inspired by his daughter Ashley. Mark has been involved with the Special Olympics for over 20 years.

"It's because of the initiative of supporters like Mark that events like the Polar Plunge are successful. Couple this with a work culture that promotes giving like Granite, and you get a good idea about the kinds of people that help non-profits like Special Olympics Massachusetts thrive," said Chris Richie the Communications Manager for Special Olympics Massachusetts.

Since the event's founding in 1999, volunteers have raised over \$2.9 million for Special Olympics Massachusetts. This year's Massachusetts Polar Plunge will be held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Mark's team will be taking the plunge at Nantasket Beach in Hull.

**About Granite Telecommunications**

Granite provides communications products to multi-location businesses throughout the United States and Canada. Granite's core services are local and long distance telephone services, which Granite centralizes and offers a single point of billing and contact for its customers over incumbent carrier networks. Granite offers an array of other communications products, including broadband data, network and voice services, inside wiring and alarm and security and monitoring installation and services. Granite furnishes services to more than two-thirds of the Fortune 100 companies in the United States, and 1.3 million phone lines under management. Granite employs over 1,100 people, most of whom work at its headquarters in Quincy, MA. For more information, visit [www.granitenet.com](http://www.granitenet.com).

**About Jeans Day**

Through weekly Jeans Days, held every Friday, Granite employees have the option to wear business casual attire or jeans with a donation of \$3 to the selected charity. Each week, the Granite Cares Committee, comprised of Granite employees, chooses a

qualifying nonprofit organization nominated by other employees. Granite then matches the amount raised by employees.

**About the Massachusetts Special Olympics**

Special Olympics Massachusetts provides year-round sports training, athletic competition and other health-related programming for athletes with intellectual disabilities throughout the state.