

A professional headshot of Susan Cresto Baker, a woman with shoulder-length reddish-brown hair and bangs, wearing glasses, a white turtleneck, and a dark blazer. She is smiling and standing outdoors with a blurred background of trees and a street lamp.

Susan Cresto Baker Of Counsel

Susan Cresto Baker previously served as Division Vice President – General Counsel for the Northern California Division of CommonSpirit Health, covering the Bay Area, Sacramento and the far North State. She has 24 years of experience as in-house counsel for CommonSpirit Health and its affiliate Dignity Health. Prior to her work with CommonSpirit, Susan was a Deputy County Counsel for the County of Shasta for eleven years.

At CommonSpirit, Susan provided a broad spectrum of legal advice in multiple operational settings including complex contract negotiations and drafting; development, implementation and management of strategic plans; real estate and construction transactions; human resource issues including policy-development and corrective actions; supervision of outside counsel related to complex litigation and

transactions; and attended and advised local hospital boards related to governance, organizational issues and conflicts of interest.

The announcement of her retirement with CommonSpirit concluded with this message: “In all of her roles, Susan has served as a thoughtful and insightful legal leader, trusted by both her clients and colleagues. Susan is known for her wide-ranging expertise, and her knowledge and collaborative manner. She has been an invaluable Legal Team member and made countless contributions to CommonSpirit.”

Susan is currently enjoying her time by pursuing some travel adventures, and most importantly, enjoying her role as grandmother.



Projects

- At CommonSpirit, advised clients and boards focusing on statutory and regulatory compliance through interpreting law and regulations, drafting compliant policies and procedures, and providing education programs to board members, executive management, and employees
- As Deputy County Counsel for Shasta County, provided legal services and advice to multiple county departments including the Courts, Sheriff's department, Treasurer-Tax Collector, Planning, and Health Services
- Advised the Shasta County Human Resources department and department managers and assisted with policy development and corrective actions

Credentials

- J.D., UC Hastings College of the Law
- B.A., University of California, Berkeley



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