

Clarke Demas & Baker

Bruce Baker is an attorney and principal with the Burlington, Vermont law firm of Clarke Demas & Baker. Bruce has over 18 years of experience in advising financial institutions, banks, credit unions and factors in matters involving secured transactions, asset based lending and factoring. Bruce's commercial practice encompasses the following areas:

Business Planning

Bruce represents business clients in all aspects of business planning including contract negotiations, entity choice, entity formation, maintenance, management and business succession planning. Bruce's business practice involves negotiating and preparing shareholder agreements and operating agreements that are sensitive to tax considerations, governance considerations as well as succession planning and estate planning needs. Bruce represents clients in business sales, reorganizations, mergers, acquisitions, asset sales and purchases, membership interest sales and purchases and stock sales and purchases

Real Estate Development

Bruce represents clients in the development of commercial, industrial, retail, office, residential, mixed-use and other development projects. Bruce's development practice includes advising as to organization and structure of development entities; negotiating and preparing option agreements, commercial leases, purchase and sale contracts, development agreements and construction contracts.

Real Estate Transactions

Bruce represents commercial clients in the purchase and sale of residential properties, warehouses, industrial sites, hotels, office buildings, manufacturing facilities and other commercial properties. Bruce's expertise encompasses tax advantaged mechanisms such as "1031" like-kind exchanges, self-directed retirement account acquisitions and other deferred tax mechanisms.

Land Use and Zoning

Bruce has extensive experience assisting clients in working through the complexities of the state and local regulatory processes, including municipal zoning, state and municipal subdivision and Act 250.

Bruce is also an experienced commercial real estate investor, participating in ownership and management of multi-family and mixed-use projects in Vermont.

Bruce received his BA, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Vermont and his J.D. degree from the Wake Forest University School of Law, where he served on the Editorial Board of the Law Review.

Bruce resides in Burlington, Vermont where he has been active in numerous non-profit organizations including the Forever Young Treehouse Foundation, the Burlington Police Officers Charitable Foundation, the American Red Cross, the Burlington International Games, and the Boys & Girls Club.