



SUSAN RUSSO KLEIN

PARTNER

Susan is experienced in helping employers, businesses and nonprofits of all sizes resolve employment law issues and create strong business contracts. As former in-house counsel, Susan understands the needs of general counsel and other C-suite executives.

Susan advises organizations of all sizes on challenging employment issues, from training and compliance to defending labor audits and discrimination complaints. Her business experience includes negotiating and drafting contracts, including service agreements, commercial leases and acquisitions.

Susan has lived in Asheville for more than 20 years. She is active in the community, serving on the Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority, serving on the Executive Committee as Secretary for the Buncombe County Bar, and participating in the North Carolina Bar Association's Call 4All. She has served on numerous boards in the Asheville area.

PROFESSIONAL

- Buncombe County Bar, President, 2025-2026; Member, 2000 – Present
- North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys, Member, 2012 – 2014
- North Carolina Bar Association, Member, Corporate Counsel and Real Property Sections, 2012 – Present
- North Carolina Bar Association, Small Firm Pro Bono Service Award, 2012
- North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, 2020

EDUCATION

St. Andrews Presbyterian College, BA, *cum laude*, 1992

Southwestern University School of Law, JD, 1995

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Business, Banking, Contract & Corporate Law

Employment Law

Estates, Trusts & Elder Law

Hospitality, Craft Beverage & Tourism Law

Nonprofit Law

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

North Carolina State Bar

COMMUNITY

Greater Asheville Regional Authority Board
Member, 2020-Present

Pisgah Legal Services, Hotline Attorney –
Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyer, 2000-
Present

North Carolina Bar Association Call 4All,
2011-Present

North Carolina Association of Women
Attorneys Education Chair, 2012-2013

Asheville Area Paralegal Association, Co-
Founder, 2003-Present

St. Eugene Catholic Church Parish Council,
2017-Present

Council on Aging of Buncombe County Board
Member, 2011-2014

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- *The Best Lawyers in America*: Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), 2024; Commercial Litigation: 2024-present; Employment Law-Management, 2026-Present
- *Business North Carolina* magazine's Legal Elite: Employment, 2022-present