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Referral

1 message

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Fri, Aug 16, 2024 at 1:35 PM

Chad,

I appreciate the call and the interest. In response to your request, I will outline some of my current professional qualifications, and attach my resume summarizing my educational background. I regularly sit as general counsel for a wide variety of public agencies, corporations, and special districts. Some of the public and private entities I currently represent include: Tuolumne Utilities District in Tuolumne County; Brophy Water District, Hallwood Irrigation Company in Yuba County; Feather Water District and Tudor Mutual Water Company in Sutter County; Juliana Mutual Water Company in Napa County; Lake Alpine Water Company in Alpine County; Reclamation District 1667 in Solano County; Timber Cove County Water District in Sonoma County; and Reclamation Districts 341 and 1601 in Sacramento County. Our office has worked as special counsel for the Cities of Lincoln, Fontana, St. Helena, Vallejo, and Yuba City. The vast majority of my clients are small, local public agencies that do not have the resources to maintain in-house general counsel, so I fill the niche of outside general counsel.

As general counsel, I advise the above-referenced clients in matters such as water rights, property rights, environmental law, public contracting obligations, Brown Act compliance, ethics, conflicts of interest, Prop 218 procedures, LAFCO expansions and detachments, and elections.

I have been practicing public agency and water law for over twenty years and have assisted clients in matters ranging from the standard Brown Act compliance situation to negotiating complex water right settlements among numerous parties. I could assume the role of general counsel if requested, and would have time immediately available should you desire to meet with me and/or request my services. My current rate is \$300/hr. I do not charge a retainer. I bill strictly on an as-requested basis.

As general counsel, I see my job as covering three broad subject areas: 1) keeping my client compliant with the law; 2) implementing Board decisions (while staying within the boundaries of the law, of course); and 3) anticipating problems to avoid disputes, short of litigation. Granted, sometimes litigation is inevitable, but many times it can be avoided with a little forethought.

I appreciate your interest in my services, and should you require additional information from me, please feel free to give me a call. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jesse W. Barton

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*** ATTENTION ***

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