



Valerie Nelan*

Chief of Staff

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Valerie Nelan is Baker Donelson's chief of staff.

Ms. Nelan works with and on behalf of the Firm's CEO and COO. In this role, she operates at a tactical, strategic, and operational level to execute on a variety of Firm priorities and initiatives. She regularly collaborates with multiple departments across the Firm, launching and overseeing special projects, monitoring them as needed, ensuring follow-through, and sustaining the necessary momentum for completion. Throughout her workday, she is a listener, advisor, proxy, doer, goalkeeper, implementer, integrator, and air traffic controller.

Ms. Nelan joined Baker Donelson in 2004 as a marketing assistant. She was named chief of staff in 2019.



Education

- Queens University of Charlotte, M.F.A. in Fiction, 2005
- University of Memphis, B.A., 1998, cum laude

** Baker Donelson professional not admitted to the practice of law.*