



PARTNER

# Isra Shah

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📍 Irvine



Isra Shah is a Partner in BBK's Municipal Law practice who has devoted her career to serving public agencies. Isra draws on her years of experience working for municipalities in both "in house" and private practice settings to advise clients on a wide range of governmental law issues, including land use laws, open government and ethics laws, contract, ordinance, and regulation drafting, and compliance.

Prior to joining Best Best & Krieger, Isra served as Senior Deputy City Attorney for the City of Huntington Beach. In private practice, she advised a variety of city, special district, and JPA clients, including as Interim City Attorney for the City of Buena Park. In addition, Isra clerked for two years for the Honorable Catherine E. Bauer at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

Isra's leadership accomplishments include serving as president of the Orange County City Attorneys' Association, where she also served as a board member for several years. She has also served on the Board and as President of the UCI Law Alumni Association, and has been honored as a California Super Lawyers Rising Star in State, Local, and Municipal Law.

## Accolades

- California Rising Star in State, Local & Municipal Law, *Super Lawyers*, 2020-2021

## Professional & Community Involvement

- Orange County City Attorneys' Association, 2017-2022 (President, 2022)
- Association of California Cities - Orange County, Member, 2018-Present
- California State Bar Public Law Section, Member, 2015-Present
- UCI Law Alumni Association, Board Member, 2012-2021 (President, 2015)

## CORE PRACTICES

Land Use, Planning & Zoning  
Open Government & Ethics  
Municipal Law  
California Public Records Act

## EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

### Education

University of California, Irvine School of Law, J.D.  
University of California, Irvine,

### Bar Admissions

California

## Thought Leadership

### Publications

- “Chapter 5: Finance and Economic Development,” *Cal CEB Municipal Law Handbook*, 2018 (Contributing Editor and Reviewer)
- “Democracy in America and the Federal, State, and Local Government Battles Over SB 54,” *Public Law Journal*, Winter/Spring 2018

### Presentations

- "Graduate Seminar," University of La Verne, Masters of Public Administration Curriculum, April 13, 2026
- “Federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA): How it Differs from and Informs California’s PRA, Law Seminars International: Sixth Annual Seminar on the California Public Records Act, June 22, 2018
- “Looking Back and Looking Ahead: Key Cases and Legislation to Know About in 2018,” Orange County City Attorneys' Association, November 16, 2017