

BRENTWOOD

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THE EXPLORE ISSUE

*JENNI KAYNE AND THE
DISTINCTLY CALIFORNIA
WAY OF LIFE THAT BECAME A
GLOBAL LIFESTYLE EMPIRE*

*PLUS: TRAVEL, DESIGN, DINING
AND THE EFFORTLESS SPIRIT OF
SUMMER ON THE WESTSIDE*

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IN GOOD HANDS



Emily Webb Duskow
of Webb & Baker

Emily Webb Duskow of Webb & Baker is quietly redefining luxury home management through highly personalized oversight, trusted relationships and meticulous attention to detail

ARTICLE BY AMANDA EBERSTEIN
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Emily Webb Duskow has always been someone who pays attention. Long before she launched Webb & Baker, the Brentwood-based home and estate management company quietly redefining what luxury property oversight can look like in Los Angeles, Duskow built her career behind the scenes—first in television



Webb & Baker will
oversee all aspects of
managing a home

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and magazine publishing in New York, then managing the homes and operations of ultra-high-net-worth families with residences across the country and abroad. But even then, what fascinated her most wasn't status or spectacle. It was systems. Relationships. The invisible details that make a home feel seamless, cared for and calm. “I started Webb & Baker after realizing there was a real gap in the market,” Duskow says. “Luxury homes have become increasingly complicated to manage, and I kept thinking about homeowners with just one property who could benefit from this same level of expertise and support—without the need to build a full in-house team.”

That understanding of home feels deeply personal for Duskow, whose relationship to Los Angeles began with a leap of faith. In 2015, she and her husband left behind a full life in New York and moved west with their one-and-a-half-year-old twin boys in search of

more space, nature and possibility. “We were really happy in New York, but we felt drawn to California and knew we'd regret not trying it,” says Duskow. “We both sensed that if we didn't do it, our lives would be a little bit smaller.”

After renting in Santa Monica, the family eventually found what felt like their dream home in Pacific Palisades—a house perched north of Sunset Boulevard with sweeping views of both a vineyard and the Pacific Ocean. It was the quintessential westside fantasy: raising children near the beach and mountains, surrounded by beauty and community. And Duskow quickly fell in love with Los Angeles. “The wonders of LA just never get old,” she says. “The architecture, the Santa Monica Mountains, the ocean, the palm trees—it still takes my breath away.”

That chapter of idyllic Palisades life was profoundly disrupted in January 2025, when the fires

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Facilities manager Juan Padilla tending to a pool umbrella



Floral designer Brenda Berkley is part of Webb & Baker's team of trusted experts

swept through the community. Duskow's home survived but sustained damage, and the family is currently renting nearby while navigating insurance and remediation. Like many residents, the experience has reshaped her understanding of home in deeply emotional ways. "It's hard to explain how much this experience has strengthened friendships and community," she says. "You realize that home is so much more than a structure."

Long before building a life in Los Angeles, however, Duskow's career began in New York. After college, she moved to Manhattan and started working at ABC News in production, later serving as longtime White House correspondent Sam Donaldson's assistant before transitioning into magazine publishing at *Lucky* during its iconic early-2000s era. But as her career evolved, she found herself unexpectedly drawn toward estate management and private household operations—a field blending logistics, hospitality and problem-solving in equal measure.

For more than a decade, Duskow held senior roles with single family offices, overseeing luxury properties in London, St. Barth, Aspen, New York City, the Hamptons and Los Angeles. The experience gave her a rare behind-the-scenes understanding of how much coordination goes into making a home run seamlessly. "People want to feel that someone competent, thoughtful and accountable is truly paying attention," she says.

That realization became the foundation for Webb & Baker. Named partly after Duskow's maiden name and partly after Caroline Baker, the legendary London-based estate manager who became both mentor and partner, Webb & Baker was designed to provide highly personalized home oversight in a more flexible and modern way. Today, the company manages properties throughout Los Angeles while also supporting clients with second homes in destinations like Ojai and Montecito, with additional aid from Baker available in New York, London, Paris and beyond. Services range from vendor management and maintenance oversight to accounting, staffing, project management and emergency response.

And in many ways, the company feels tailor-made for summer travel season. "We manage homes, so the care is consistent whether the owner is there or not," Duskow says. "People should be able to travel without quietly worrying about what's happening." For Webb & Baker clients, that can mean everything from weekly property visits and emergency troubleshooting to fully customized post-departure and pre-arrival preparation. After owners leave town, the team resets the property entirely—protecting artwork, securing outdoor furniture, monitoring



Webb & Baker will protect art and other valuables during travel or in case of an emergency

systems and preparing the home for extended absence. Before clients return, Webb & Baker shifts into hospitality mode, overseeing deep cleaning, refreshing pantry inventory, preparing fireplaces, stocking toiletries, arranging flowers and adjusting HVAC systems so the home feels seamless upon arrival.

The level of detail is exhaustive, but intentionally so. "Owning a beautiful home is rewarding, but it can also become surprisingly overwhelming," says longtime client Jason Kakoyiannis. "Emily and her team naturally remove that stress. They're proactive, incredibly dependable and genuinely care about the people they work with."

"A home is often one of the most significant investments a person will make, and protecting that investment requires consistent care and attention," adds Brentwood real estate agent Shelton Wilder, who regularly recommends Webb & Baker to clients. "Webb & Baker understands that a well-cared-for home isn't just about maintenance—it's about giving people the freedom to truly enjoy living there without the stress of managing it themselves."

At the center of the operation alongside Duskow is facilities manager Juan Padilla, a former custom-home site superintendent whose understanding of residential systems has become invaluable to clients. Together, the pair oversees a vast network of experts ranging from electricians, plumbers and AV consultants to landscapers, roofers, security specialists and fire mitigation teams. Duskow's carefully cultivated "little black book" includes some of the most sought-after talents in Los Angeles. Take floral designer Brenda Berkley, whose arrangements grace the homes of the city's most discerning families. "I work with a lot of estate managers, and there is no one like Emily," says Berkley. "She is just

so thoughtful and amazing." For Duskow, those trusted relationships are at the heart of what makes the company work. "Luxury homes are living systems," she says. "There are so many moving parts, and small issues can quickly become major problems if no one is paying attention."

Sometimes, the work extends far beyond traditional property management. Webb & Baker has coordinated renovations, sourced domestic staff, installed owl boxes and beehives, overseen smart-home upgrades and developed emergency preparedness plans for clients concerned about future fires or disasters. One memorable Los Angeles client with an organic farm in Ojai wanted fresh milk, so Webb & Baker helped source a pregnant cow for the property. Soon afterward, the family became concerned the cow might be lonely, prompting the team to locate a companion cow, oversee construction of a custom shed, hire caretakers and establish an entire care system for the animals. "We built the team to support the dream," Duskow says, laughing.

The anecdote may be whimsical, but it perfectly captures what makes Webb & Baker so unique: the company adapts entirely to the lives, routines and priorities of each client. For Duskow, the work has never simply been about maintaining houses. It is about creating ease, trust and the freedom for people to fully enjoy the homes—and lives—they have worked so hard to build.

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