

Christopher G. Thel

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Chris Thel is a partner in the Pittsburgh office and focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, private equity, corporate finance, and general corporate law matters.

Chris represents financial and strategic businesses in connection with their acquisitions and divestitures, financing transactions, and other corporate matters. He routinely represents private equity funds and their portfolio companies in a wide variety of transactions and growth initiatives. He has also represented other private and public companies, founders, and mezzanine lenders in connection with their middle-market buyout and financing transactions.

Chris has broad-based transactional experience across a number of industries, including extensive experience in the value-added distribution, business and consumer services, and light manufacturing sectors.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Chris served as a shareholder at a U.S.-based law firm in Pittsburgh, where he was chair of the private equity practice. Through this role, he focused his practice on private equity, mergers and acquisitions, mezzanine lending, and general corporate matters.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Private equity buyouts: middle-market (Up to $500m), 2024

EDUCATION

- J.D., Boston University School of Law, 2002
- B.S., Duquesne University, 1999 *(cum laude)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Pennsylvania
- United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

NEWS & EVENTS

- 1 December 2025, K&L Gates' Corporate Practice Ranked in Q3 2025 Global League Table Rankings
- 22 September 2023, K&L Gates Advises Incline Equity Partners in Connection With Sale of Foundation Source
- 23 January 2023, K&L Gates Bolsters Corporate/Private Equity Practice With Addition of Seven-Partner Team in Pittsburgh Office

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Private Equity Transactions

INDUSTRIES

- Financial Services
- Private Credit

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented Incline Equity Partners, a leading private equity firm, in its acquisition of Command Investigations, LLC.
- Represented Incline Equity Partners, a leading private equity firm, in its sale of Certified Collision Group.
- Represented Incline Equity Partners, a leading private equity firm, on its partnership with White Label Communications, LLC.