



Christopher Melberzs

Senior Associate

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OVERVIEW

Christopher Melberzs is a senior associate in the firm's Finance practice focusing on restructuring and insolvency.

Christopher has acted for Australia's Big Four Banks, institutional lending clients, private equity funders, Liquidators and Bankruptcy Trustees, as well as Australian and International public and private companies. Christopher regularly acts for and appears in complex debt recovery matters, trials and court proceedings.

Christopher focuses on corporate and personal insolvency and has demonstrated experience in debt recovery and security enforcement. Christopher routinely practises across several jurisdictions including Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory and has considerable experience in Queensland.

Christopher is an experienced advocate in the Supreme, County and Magistrates Court of Victoria, the Federal Court of Australia and the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Christopher worked as an associate in the insolvency & disputes team at a large Australian commercial law firm in Melbourne.

EDUCATION

- Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, College of Law, 2017
- LL.B., Griffith University, 2017
- Michigan State University Law, Michigan State University, 2016

ADMISSIONS

- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of Queensland

NEWS & EVENTS

- 16 April 2026, More Than 80 K&L Gates Lawyers Across Asia-Pacific Recognised in 2027 Best Lawyers, Ones to Watch Editions

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes
- Restructuring and Insolvency

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised on corporate restructuring and associated risks, including in relation to 'Creditor Defeating Dispositions' under s 555FDB of the *Corporations Act 2001*.
- Advised a global catering group based in Switzerland on Australia's Safe-Harbour provisions and director liability under the Corporations Act.
- Acted for Big 4 Banks and non-bank lenders in complex and litigated debt recovery matters.
- Acted for a trustee in bankruptcy to successfully recover uncommercial transactions made by a bankrupt individual in conjunction with one of Australia's largest Ponzi schemes.
- Acted for and advising a mortgagee in a matter involving a registered mortgage, a restraining order pursuant to the *Confiscation Act 1997* (Vic.), and an intervening application to have the restraining order set aside.
- Acted for a mortgagee in possession of a commercial property in NSW, involving claims of passing off under the *Trademarks Act 1995* (Cth) and a breach of mortgagee's duties.
- Acted for private purchasers in a property transaction dispute concerning allegations of fraud on behalf of the vendors and delivering a successful, timely, and cost-effective outcome.
- Acted for a global construction and engineering supplier to successfully settle an unfair preference claim under the Corporations Act worth AU\$139,701.00 for the amount of AU\$45,000.00.
- Advised a high net worth individual on personal financial structuring to minimise liability in an insolvency scenario.