

Jason Opperman

Managing Partner, Australia

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OVERVIEW

Jason Opperman is regional managing partner at the firm and serves as a member of the firm's global management committee. He is responsible for the strategic leadership and management of the firm's offices and operations in Australia and is dedicated to delivering exceptional client service across the K&L Gates global platform as the firm continues its growth trajectory in the Australian market and enhances its global connectivity.

Jason is a market-leading, internationally recognised restructuring and insolvency lawyer. He has more than 25 years of experience acting for and advising Australia's largest banks and financial institutions on a range of insolvency, turnaround, special situations and securities enforcement matters. Jason also acts for insolvency practitioners in relation to complex formal appointments, investigations, asset tracing and recovery, contentious litigation and informal workouts.

Jason is highly experienced in cross-border insolvency matters, including the recognition of foreign insolvency proceedings and the coordination of parallel court proceedings and the distribution of assets in multiple jurisdictions involving complex corporate group structures. Jason has been at the leading edge of proceedings involving cross-border judicial cooperation and communication protocols, including in the precedent-setting joint sittings of Australian and New Zealand courts in the Halifax Investment Services liquidation. This work is now shaping the development of cross-border insolvency reform and practice regionally and globally.

Jason is also an experienced litigator and has been involved in a variety of corporate and commercial disputes and fraud-related matters, including urgent court applications to secure and recover assets on behalf of banking and corporate clients. He has successfully resolved many sensitive banker and customer disputes and other contentious cases through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including formal mediation and non-binding evaluative determination.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to his appointment as Regional Managing Partner, Australia on 1 July 2023, Jason served as Co-Practice Area Leader of the firm's global Finance practice and actively guided the Restructuring and Insolvency practice group. He has also served as a member of the firm's Advisory Council since 2015.

Jason was the practice leader of the banking, restructuring and insolvency practice and a board member at an Australian commercial law firm and also previously worked in-house at a major Australian bank.

ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Recognised by *Chambers Asia-Pacific* in Australia
  - Eminent Practitioner for Restructuring/Insolvency, 2025-2026
  - Restructuring/Insolvency, 2017-2024

Clients find: *"He is an extremely measured and sophisticated operator. He's a calming influence, with a very clear and well-reasoned approach to complex or volatile situations."*

- Recognised by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* as a Recommended Lawyer in Australia, 2024-2026
  - Restructuring and Insolvency
  - Banking and Finance

Clients find: "*Jason Opperman is a truly exceptional practitioner who has exceptional technical knowledge in the restructuring and insolvency areas and excellent client service.*"

- Listed in the *The Best Lawyers in Australia*™
  - Banking and Finance Law, 2025-2026
  - Insolvency and Reorganization Law, 2021-2027
  - Litigation, 2021-2027
  - Alternative Dispute Resolution, 2020-2024, 2027
- Recommended by *Doyle's Guide* as a Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyer in New South Wales, 2016-2019
- Recognised in *Australasian Lawyer's* Hot List, 2016
- Recognised by *Australasian Lawyer* for his work on the Atlas Iron Restructure, awarded "Restructuring and Insolvency Deal of the Year," 2016

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association (ARITA) member
- International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals (INSOL) member
- Banking and Financial Services Law Association (BFSLA) member

- Law Society of New South Wales member
- Turnaround Management Association (TMA) member

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Jason routinely publishes and speaks on significant insolvency and restructuring topics and is a Fellow of INSOL International.

EDUCATION

- M.B.A., University of Melbourne, 2013
- B.Com, The University of New South Wales, 1992
- LL.B., The University of New South Wales, 1992

ADMISSIONS

- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of New South Wales

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 19 May 2021, Halifax Update: "Unique" Joint Sitting of Trans-Tasman Courts
- 25 March 2020, COVID-19: (Australia) Real Estate: Key Considerations in the Face of Corporate Tenant Insolvencies
- 23 March 2020, COVID-19: (Australia) Temporary Changes to Insolvency Laws to Support Businesses During Coronavirus Crisis
- 27 August 2019, Cross-border cooperation: Federal Court of Australia considers "classic candidate" for coordination with High Court of New Zealand
- 6 May 2019, Federal Court Grants Electronic Notice Application
- 2 June 2017, Mortgage broker remuneration reforms – what you need to know
- 25 May 2017, A Bridge Over Troubled Water: Singapore's New Restructuring & Insolvency Framework Is Being Introduced When It Is Most Needed
- 5 July 2016, Malaysia’s New Insolvency Regime

NEWS & EVENTS

- 20 November 2026, K&L Gates Welcomes Sydney Tax Partner
- 16 April 2026, More Than 80 K&L Gates Lawyers Across Asia-Pacific Recognised in 2027 Best Lawyers, Ones to Watch Editions
- 11 December 2025, *Chambers Asia-Pacific* 2026 Guide Recognises K&L Gates
- 28 April 2025, K&L Gates Bolsters Energy, Infrastructure, and Resources Practice With Melbourne Partner
- 14 December 2023, Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024 Guide Recognises K&L Gates
- 3 July 2023, K&L Gates Names New Regional Managing Partner Following Stepping Aside of Long Time Australia Leader
- 16 December 2021, Chambers Asia-Pacific 2022 Guide Recognises K&L Gates
- 16 December 2020, K&L Gates Recognized in Chambers 2021 Asia Pacific and FinTech Guides

MEDIA MENTIONS

- 13 May 2026, *Australasian Lawyer* | K&L Gates appoints Jake Bernstein as first-ever global AI and innovation partner
- 9 April 2026, *IT Brief Australia* | K&L Gates rolls out Legora across Australian offices
- 9 April 2026, *Lawyers Weekly* | K&L Gates rolls out Legora across Australian offices
- 12 January 2026 , *LawFuel* | K&L Gates Is Betting Big on Australia (Because It Has To)

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, "How K&L Gates is preparing for future headwinds and opportunities", *Lawyers Weekly*, 19 November 2025
- Quoted, "Inside K&L Gates' game plan to dominate Australia's legal market", *Lawyers Weekly*, 8 October 2025
- Mentioned, "What the future holds for K&L Gates, Down Under and globally", *Lawyers Weekly*, 10 September 2025
- Quoted, "K&L Gates takes tax partner from Deloitte", *Lawyers Weekly*, 9 August 2025
- Quoted, "K&L Gates nabs Deloitte tax partner with transfer pricing dispute chops", *Lawyerly*, 6 August 2025
- Quoted, "K&L Gates Hires White & Case Energy and Resources Partner in Australia", *ALM/Law.com International*, 24 April 2025

- Quoted, "'Happy days': Trump presidency poised to Benefit Australian law firms", *Australian Financial Review*, 21 November 2024
- Quoted, "Want to be busy? Look at cyber, IR and energy", *The Australian*, 1 September 2024
- Quoted, "Energy transition lights a rocket under law firms", *Australian Financial Review*, 27 June 2024
- Quoted, "Decibels and drinking: why this global law firm loves Aussies", *Australian Financial Review*, July 2023
- Quoted, "What now for the collapsed SVB? The future for Silicon Valley Bank could one of two scenarios: a merger and recapitalisation or the start of a series of bank runs.", *Australian Financial Review*, March 2023
- Quoted, “Trans-Tasman courts deliver judgement in first-ever joint sitting”, *LawyersWeekly.com.au*, May 2021

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Restructuring and Insolvency

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Goods and Services
- Household Goods