

Christopher J. Valente

Partner

Boston
+1.617.951.9071

Washington, DC
+1.202.778.9000

christopher.valente@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Chris Valente is an experienced trial lawyer and international arbitration practitioner with a focus on representing companies in high-stakes commercial litigation and cross-border disputes. He regularly defends and advances claims for a broad range of clients, including financial institutions, aerospace and defense, construction and manufacturing companies, and emerging technology and biotechnology innovators. Clients turn to Chris when facing bet-the-company litigation, complex multi-jurisdictional disputes, and matters involving cutting-edge legal issues, such as artificial intelligence and the use of technology in commerce.

Chris has significant experience in US federal and state courts as well as in international arbitration seated in the US, Europe, and Asia. Chris leverages this experience to help clients align their dispute resolution strategies with their business goals, whether that means achieving favorable settlements, securing precedent-setting rulings, or making the case to a tribunal, judge, or jury.

Recognized by *Chambers USA* for General Commercial Litigation (Massachusetts, 2024–2026) and by *The Legal 500 United States* for Construction Litigation (2025-2026), Chris is also a thought leader at the intersection of dispute resolution and emerging legal technologies. From 2023-2026, Chris co-led the firm's Artificial Intelligence Solutions Group and frequently speaks on the opportunities and risks of generative AI.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Litigation: General Commercial in Massachusetts, 2024-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Construction (Including Construction Litigation), 2025-2026

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Chris has a passion for innovation. Chris continues to serve on the firm's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Solutions Group, which he co-led from 2023 to 2026. In that role, and through his ongoing work, Chris helps advance the safe and responsible use and adoption of AI solutions both within the firm and for clients. He regularly speaks on the opportunities, challenges, and risks of AI and, in particular, generative AI. Chris is also certified in legal project

management (LPM) and seeks to leverage LPM strategies, tools, and concepts to drive innovation and efficiency across his practice.

Chris is also committed to further diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. Chris is a member of the firmwide Opportunity and Inclusion Committee and of its LGBTQ+ Subcommittee. Chris also serves on the Boston Opportunity and Inclusion Committee. Chris is a 2022 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Fellow.

Chris is an active member of the Boston legal community. Chris is a member of the Boston Bar Association. He is a fellow of the Boston Bar Foundation (BBF) and has chaired and served on the steering committees of numerous fundraising efforts to advance the BBF's mission of helping thousands of individuals and families through pro bono programs, grants to legal services organizations. Chris is also active in the Boston International Arbitration Council.

On 1 July 2026, Chris began his two-year term as President of the Tufts University Alumni Association (TUAA). In that role, he will lead the Tufts Alumni Council, the governing body of the TUAA, in advancing the TUAA's mission of engaging with Tufts Alumni. In recognition of his service to the TUAA, Chris was recognized with the Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award in 2013, the Alumni Chapter Leadership Award in 2016, and the Presidential Award in 2023 and 2025.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Co-Speaker, *AI in the Workplace,* K&L Gates: People Power Hour, 12 February 2026
- Panelist, *Jurisdiction Entanglements in International Arbitration, Perspectives and Lessons from Different Jurisdictions*, 2025 Hong Kong Arbitration Week, Panel Discussion, K&L Gates & Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), 20 October 2025
- Co-Speaker, *AI Powered Mortgages: Trends, Challenges & Opportunities*, American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators Annual Conference, 6 August 2025
- Co-Speaker, *AI Note-Taking Tools: Compliance Insights for Investment Advisers*, Investment Adviser Association, 24 July 2025

EDUCATION

- J.D., Boston University School of Law, 2009 *(cum laude) (Sylvia Beinecke Robinson Award)*
- B.A., Tufts University, 2005 *(cum laude) (Tufts University Alumni Association Senior Award)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia
- Bar of Massachusetts
- Bar of New Hampshire

- Bar of Rhode Island
- Bar of Vermont
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
- United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire
- United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island
- United States District Court for the District of Vermont
- United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 20 May 2026, Litigation Minute: Preserving AI-Generated ESI in Anticipation of Litigation
- 13 February 2026, Building Value Through AI in Litigation Goes Beyond Hours Saved, *Bloomberg Law*
- 16 December 2025, Litigation Minute: Proof Required: Evaluating AI in Litigation Practice
- 20 November 2025, Litigation Minute: Hype Responsibly: Legally Promoting Your AI
- October 2025, Jurisdiction Entanglements in International Arbitration: Perspectives and Lessons From Different Jurisdictions
- 20 December 2024, CFTC Staff Takes a "Measured First Step" in Artificial Intelligence
- 13 December 2024, New House AI Bills for the Financial Services Sector
- 4 November 2024, Mass. SJC Limits Website Tracking Technology Claims Under Wiretap Act
- 16 May 2024, Litigation Minute: The Generative AI Litigation Landscape
- 22 March 2024, Tennessee Moves First on AI Protections With ELVIS Act
- 4 March 2024, New USPTO Guidelines on AI-Assisted Inventions Leave Many Questions Unanswered
- 29 February 2024, New USPTO Guidelines on AI-Assisted Inventions Leave Many Questions Unanswered
- 14 September 2023, Litigation Minute: Pixel Tools and Personal Financial Information
- 5 September 2023, Recent Trends in Generative Artificial Intelligence Litigation in the United States
- 30 August 2023, Federal Court Rules Work Generated by Artificial Intelligence Alone Is Not Eligible for Copyright Protection
- 29 August 2023, Litigation Minute: Pixel Tools and the Video Privacy Protection Act

- 26 May 2022, Arbitration World: U.S. Cases and International Arbitration — International Arbitration Clauses in Insurance Policies: Are They Valid in States With Anti-Arbitration Insurance Statutes?
- February 2022, February 2022 Accolades
- 7 February 2022, Litigation Minute: International Arbitration Clauses in Insurance Policies: Are They Valid in States With Anti-Arbitration Insurance Statutes?
- 4 March 2021, COVID-19: Massachusetts Proposed Bills Addressing Coverage for Small Businesses – A Different Approach
- 6 May 2020, COVID-19: Congress, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and South Carolina Join Other Jurisdictions Proposing Legislation Addressing Insurers' Obligations to Pay for Pandemic-Related Losses
- 6 May 2020, COVID-19: Massachusetts Joins the Five Other New England States in Temporarily Permitting Remote Notarization
- 10 April 2020, COVID-19: New England States Embrace Remote Notarization as Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont Temporarily Eliminate "In-Person" Requirements
- 6 April 2020, COVID-19: Growing Number of U.S. States Propose Legislation Requiring Insurers to Pay for COVID-19-Related Losses Incurred by Small Companies
- 31 March 2020, COVID-19: Impact on Consumer Financial Service Providers
- 9 April 2018, District Court Finds No Violation of First Amendment in TCPA Suit Brought By Coalition of Bi-Partisan Political Organizations
- 28 July 2017, District Court Set to Rule on Cross Motions for Summary Judgment in First Amendment Challenge to TCPA
- 27 July 2017, District Court Set to Rule on Cross Motions for Summary Judgment in First Amendment Challenge to TCPA
- 27 March 2017, Federal Government Not Successful in Moving to Dismiss First Amendment Challenge to TCPA
- 24 March 2017, Federal Government Not Successful in Moving to Dismiss First Amendment Challenge to TCPA
- 23 November 2016, Trump's Campaign to go it Alone on the First Amendment Challenge to the TCPA
- 23 November 2016, Trump's Campaign to go it Alone on First Amendment Challenge to the TCPA
- 7 November 2016, As Campaign Draws to a Close, Trump’s First Amendment Challenge to the TCPA Continues On
- 7 November 2016, As Campaign Draws to a Close, Trump's First Amendment Challenge to the TCPA Continues on

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "USA: The VPPA - Navigating a legacy privacy regime in the digital age," *DataGuidance*, 17 September 2025
- "A practical guide for advisers considering the use of AI," *AIMA Journal - Edition 141*, 24 March 2025
- "Technology in Arbitration," *LexisNexis*, 2026
- "New US Patent and Trademark Office Guidelines on Artificial Intelligence Assisted Inventions Leave Many Questions Unanswered," *Intellectual Property & Technology Law Journal*, May 2024
- "Developers Are Testing Defenses In Generative AI Litigation," *Law360*, 15 September 2023
- Parties, Chapter 24 of the treatise, entitled Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts, Thomson Reuters and the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation, Fifth Edition, 2021

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 4 December 2024, Asset Management and Investment Funds Fall Conference—New York
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 28 February 2022, K&L Gates Selects 2022 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow, Pathfinders
- 2 March 2018, K&L Gates Names 34 New Partners Across Global Platform

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, "Mandate to Modernize: A Deep Dive into Priorities for Litigators in 2024," *UnitedLex,* 13 June 2024
- Quoted, Know Your (IP) Rights, *GOLD The Business Magazine of Cyprus*, 20 October, 2019

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Data Protection, Privacy, and Security
- Financial Institutions and Services Litigation
- Insurance Recovery and Counseling
- International Arbitration

- Real Estate Litigation

INDUSTRIES

- Aerospace and Defense
- Energy
- Financial Services
- Manufacturing
- Technology

EMERGING ISSUES

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Financial Services

- Represented a placement agent/underwriter of municipal securities in litigation arising out of the collapse of 38 Studios, LLC, a startup video game development company.
- Represented a Massachusetts-based financial institution in class action challenging overdraft and non-sufficient funds fee practices.
- Represented a commercial loan servicer, acting on behalf of a lender and GSE, in a multimillion-dollar insurance coverage dispute concerning excess property and business interruption coverage following a catastrophic loss.
- Represented clients in litigation involving a US$20+ million financing scheme, pursuing claims against insurer, agents, financial advisors, and related parties across multiple US jurisdictions.
- Represented major financial institutions in multijurisdictional investigation relating to mortgage foreclosure practices.
- Represented large institutional investors as victims of a US$1.5 billion investment fraud scheme in parallel civil and criminal cases pending in the Southern District of New York.
- Represented an indenture trustee in civil action brought by minority bondholders following going-concern sale of bond-financed continuing care retirement facility.

Construction and Infrastructure / Manufacturing / Aerospace and Defense

- Represented a global EPC contractor in multibillion-dollar ICC arbitration involving the design and construction of one of the largest refineries in Latin America.

- Represented a Qatar-based commercial real estate enterprise and affiliated entities in a cross-border dispute arising from claims stemming from liquidation proceedings in Qatar.
- Represented a leading US aerospace and defense contractor in an international arbitration concerning offset obligations associated with the sale of defense articles to a foreign military.
- Represented a leading US aerospace and defense contractor in connection with third-party discovery efforts undertaken as part of an international arbitration award enforcement campaign.
- Represented a European process technology company in high-stakes, cross-border dispute with a Russian oil and gas company involving security instruments governed by Swiss and Singaporean law and impacted by EU and US sanctions. Secured injunctive relief in the Southern District of New York preventing fraudulent draws on a standby letter of credit pending resolution of parties' dispute through international arbitration.
- Represented a global diversified industrial manufacturing company in connection with breach of warranty claims, working closely with technical expert to drive a favorable resolution.
- Represented a global supplier of outdoor consumer products in a complex trade secrets, intellectual property, and false advertising dispute against a competitor, serving as second chair at trial.
- Represented the quasi-public agency responsible for the solid waste disposal for the State of Rhode Island in connection with multiple actions against various entities arising from widespread mismanagement and abuse involving the former commissioners and executives of the agency. This representation has resulted in the recovery of in excess of US$15 million from a variety of sources, including the agency's D&O liability and commercial crime policies.
- Represented an infrastructure client in malpractice and breach of contract lawsuit against former accounting and auditing firm, which resulted in a multimillion-dollar jury verdict in the client's favor.

Technology and Biotechnology

- Represented an international technology development company in a multimillion-dollar contract dispute, securing a favorable settlement on eve of commencing AAA/ICDR arbitration.
- Represented a publicly listed biotechnology company focused on developing cell therapies and AI-driven diagnostics in litigation pending across various jurisdictions across the United States.
- Represented a Switzerland-based biotech manufacturing company and its US distribution arm across a range of corporate, commercial disputes, and regulatory matters.