

Stephen Hume

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Stephen Hume is a partner in the firm's Finance practice. He is recognised as a leading insolvency and reconstruction and litigation lawyer and has 20 years' experience acting for Australia's largest banks and financial institutions.

Currently serving as the Australian practice group coordinator for the Restructuring and Insolvency practice group within the firm, he advises on all aspects of insolvency (reconstructions, work-outs and formal appointments), securities enforcement, risk management, banking and finance and commercial litigation. He has extensive experience leading teams in delivering high quality services to and developing strategic partnerships with institutional clients.

Stephen also acts for listed and unlisted companies, accounting firms and other clients in commercial disputes across the manufacturing, distribution, retail, property, pharmaceutical and transport sectors.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* as a Recommended Lawyer for Restructuring and Insolvency in Australia, 2024-2026
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in Australia*™
  - Alternative Dispute Resolution, 2025-2027
  - Insolvency and Reorganisation Law, 2021-2027
  - Litigation, 2016-2027
- Listed by *Doyle's Guide* as a Recommended Leading Lawyer in Victoria
  - Insolvency & Restructuring, 2018-2025
  - Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution, 2018-2019, 2021, 2025

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Insolvency Practitioners Association of Australia member

EDUCATION

- LL.B., Monash University, 1998
- B.Sc., Monash University, 1995

ADMISSIONS

- Federal Court of Australia
- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of Victoria

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Off the rack," *Ragtrader*, September 2015

NEWS & EVENTS

- 11 June 2026, K&L Gates Advises Cannatrek on Merger With Little Green Pharma
- 16 April 2026, More Than 80 K&L Gates Lawyers Across Asia-Pacific Recognised in 2027 Best Lawyers, Ones to Watch Editions
- 24 July 2025, K&L Gates Advises Australian Seafood Producer Yumbah on AU$60 Million Takeover of Yellowtail Kingfish Farmer

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Mentioned, "K&L Gates Advises Australian Seafood Producer Yumbah on AU$60 Million Takeover of Yellowtail Kingfish Farmer", *Legal Desire*, 30 July 2025

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Restructuring and Insolvency

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Obtaining a leading Supreme Court judgment against a guarantor who resisted liability under a guarantee on the basis of alleged breaches the Code of Banking Practice, reported in *Commonwealth Bank of Australia v Wood [2016] VSC 264*.
- Acting for the administrators (now liquidators) of a major national retailer including providing advice on the rationalisation of its business, the surrender and renegotiation of the majority of its property lease portfolio (across multiple jurisdictions), providing advice on myriad legal issues arising during ongoing trading during the administration, the sale of the company's business and the prosecution of preference and insolvent trading claims, as well as insurance claims, on behalf of the liquidators.
- Advising on the restructure of facilities provided by a big four financer to five major property trusts which were operating unregistered managed investment schemes involving the operation of chains of hotels and motels across the eastern seaboard of Australia.
- Advising syndicate members on their AUD105 million exposure to the developer, owner and operator of high tech solar powered green house facilities in South Australia.
- Advising on the exposure a big four financer as a major secured creditor to MAdE Establishment, owned by high profile hospitality and restaurant owner George Calombaris.
- Restructuring facilities provided to a major manufacturing company, including innovatively extending the bank's security to cover valuable IP assets, the sale of which facilitated substantial debt reduction.
- Acting in connection with a big four financier's exposure to a large franchising group, which involved protracted negotiations of management and funding agreements to facilitate ongoing trading and the sale of the businesses as going concerns.
- Acting for the voluntary administrators of Omnifloor Australia Pty Ltd (administrators appointed), a building company providing contract flooring services to major builders and developers.
- Acting for a major Australian technology retailer and consumer finance provider in the managed wind down of its business, involving the negotiated exit of its retail leasing sites, the rationalisation of its business, repayment of its financiers and the wind down and ultimate sale of its consumer loan book.