



## Christopher J. Bellavia

### Partner

Seattle  
+1.206.370.5966

[Chris.Bellavia@klgates.com](mailto:Chris.Bellavia@klgates.com)

### OVERVIEW

Christopher Bellavia is a partner in the firm's Seattle office. He is a member of the Mergers and Acquisitions practice group. Chris has over 20 years of experience as a corporate, securities, and transactional lawyer working with companies at all stages of development in a variety of industries. Chris' practice includes M&A transactions (both sell-side and buy-side), general corporate advice and drafting and negotiating complex commercial contracts, including product distribution, supply and vendor agreements. Chris also represents startups and early-stage companies on formation and general corporate matters and seed and venture capital financings.

Additionally, Chris has significant experience advising private and public companies on corporate governance, securities disclosure, and compliance issues, and he represents founders, investors, and senior executives on general corporate and finance matters.

Chris has worked with companies in a number of industries including software and technology, fintech, consumer packaged goods, forest and wood processing products, food and beverage, media and entertainment, and financial services.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Chris' experience includes both senior executive-level in house legal work for public and venture-backed companies and work in private practice as a corporate, securities, and M&A lawyer for several other national law firms.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Corporate Counsel of the Year Award Finalist, Puget Sound Business Journal

### PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Washington State Bar Association

- Business Law Section of the WSBA
- Past Vice President and Director, Sammamish Little League

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Judge at the 2021 Dempsey Startup Competition organized by the Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Washington
- Speaker at The Seminar Group 19th Annual CLE Bootcamp: Corporate and Business Law Amid a Pandemic
- Speaker at E8 Angels Convertible Notes Term Sheets Webinar
- Speaker and Panelist at National Association of Corporate Directors Northwest Chapter Dealing with Activist Investors: Perspectives for Independent Directors Program
- Speaker and Panelist at Seattle Women Corporate Directors Quarterly Meeting: Shareholder Activism and Proxy Contests
- Guest Lecturer at University of Washington Foster School of Business: Shareholder Activism Graduate Student Program

## EDUCATION

- J.D., Cornell Law School, 1994
- B.A., St. John Fisher College, 1991 *summa cum laude*

## ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Washington

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 24 February 2020, K&L Gates Adds Experienced Corporate Partner in Seattle Office (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Capital Markets
- Corporate Governance
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital

- Public Companies

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Acquisition of Seattle-area retail business.
- Sale of publicly-held broadcast-media company to strategic buyer for approximately \$375 million.
- Sale and leaseback of multi-building commercial and office complex in Seattle, WA for \$160 million.
- Acquisition of NBC television affiliate in Oregon and sale of multi-station Montana radio group.
- Sale of financial institution's mortgage servicing rights to strategic buyer for \$2.8 billion.
- Acquisition of retail bank for \$983 million.
- Acquisition of credit card issuer for \$6.5 billion.
- Sale of maritime company's domestic shipping and logistics operations to strategic buyer.
- Sale of manufacturer of siding and vinyl windows to strategic buyer.
- Sale of manufacturer of residential building supplies to private equity buyer.
- \$7.2 billion private equity financing of financial institution.
- \$3 billion registered convertible preferred stock offering of financial institution.
- \$500 million registered preferred stock offering of financial institution.
- \$2.7 billion merger of two publicly-held internet software service providers.
- Series of acquisitions for publicly-held digital media company.
- Series of acquisitions for publicly-held internet infrastructure solutions company.
- Series of acquisitions for publicly-held IT services provider.
- '34 Act and NASDAQ regulatory compliance work for broadcast media, news, and entertainment company.
- '34 Act and NYSE regulatory compliance work for Fortune 100 financial services company.
- Public company defense against hedge fund-initiated proxy contest and hostile takeover attempt.
- Underwriter's counsel for medical device company's IPO.
- Financial institution's accelerated share repurchase transactions.
- Broadcast-media company's \$89 million special cash dividend and stock option repricing.
- General counsel of venture-backed consumer packaged goods and lifestyle-brand company.
- General counsel of public company broadcast, media, and communications company.

- Assistant general counsel of Fortune 100 public company financial institution.
- \$40 million Series C financing for consumer packaged goods company.
- \$19 million Series B financing for consumer packaged goods company.
- \$26 million Series B financing for Ethernet products and solutions provide.
- \$15.5 million Series C financing for mobile advertising and search company.
- \$10.5 million Series B financing for medical device company.
- Strategic investment in SaaS Web technology company's Series B financing.
- Sale of venture-backed automated directory company to publicly-held internet search company.