



Murray Landis

Partner

Sydney
+61.2.9513.2535

murray.landis@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Murray Landis is assistant general counsel, Australia for K&L Gates. He provides advice on legal professional conduct and responsibility, conflicts of interest, ethics and risk management. Murray presents seminars to in-house legal teams on these issues.

Murray also has extensive experience with regard to mergers and acquisitions. He is known for creating lateral solutions in structuring transactions and providing corporate advice across a broad range of industries, such as food and beverage, agribusiness, manufacture and distribution, energy generation and distribution (including alternate energy) and transport infrastructure (rail and air).

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Life Governor of Wolper Jewish Hospital, Sydney

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 'The Honest Lawyer' and 'Risk Management for In-House Counsel'. Murray regularly presents to clients on legal ethics, professional responsibility and risk management including NSW Police Service October 2015; major banks and the Australian Taxation Office, March 2019
- 'The Honest Lawyer', Australian Corporate Lawyers Association National Conference, March 2012

EDUCATION

- LL.M., University of Sydney, 1980
- LL.B., University of Sydney, 1974
- B.A., University of Sydney, 1972

ADMISSIONS

- Supreme Court of New South Wales
- Supreme Court of Queensland
- Supreme Court of Victoria

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 12 May 2021, The Conscience of the Fictional Reasonable Person and the Concept of "Doing the Right Thing" - Their Impact on Directors Duties
- 2 December 2019, Protecting Your Corporate Keys
- March 2019, The Honest Lawyer: Why do People Laugh at the Notion of an Honest Lawyer?
- 26 November 2015, Will you be Penalised for a Penalty?
- 14 July 2015, New Obligations for Foreign Investors in Agricultural Land in Australia

NEWS & EVENTS

- 13 February - 21 February 2024, 2024 CPD Program—Australia
- 23 September 2019, K&L Gates Advises on Redevelopment of Sydney Fish Market

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Products
- Food and Beverage

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Food and Beverage / Agribusiness

- Currently advising on the redevelopment of the Sydney Fish Market with the NSW Government in a AU\$250m+ project. The market is one of the leading markets in the world and is a top ten tourist destination in Australia attracting over 3 million visitors each year.
- Advising a food and beverage company on liquor licensing requirements, conducting a licensing audit of its operations in multiple states and strategic initiatives for liquor.

- Advising Kerry Ingredients, a global ingredients group, on its AU\$225 million disposal of one of the largest prepared bakery businesses in Australia, Pinnacle Bakery, to private equity group Pacific Equity Partners.
- Advising Sydney Markets on the privatisation and acquisition of the operator of the largest wholesale farm produce and flower market in Australia.
- Advising the NSW Seafood Industry Council on the restructure of the NSW Fishing Cooperatives including amalgamations, constitutional and governance issues.
- Advising Green's General Foods Pty Limited in relation to food and labelling advice.
- Acting for a global alcoholic beverage company in the AU\$110 million acquisition of a leading Queensland distillery.
- Advising a global food ingredients company in respect of an acquisition of a baby and infant food manufacturer in Queensland for AU\$38 million.
- Advising on research and development cooperation and aquaculture agreements between a University, a state government and a major U.S. food group to breed and cultivate rock lobsters.
- Advising one of the largest Australian operators of macadamia farms in respect of a joint venture with a leading Queensland property business.
- Acting on the AU\$35 million sale of an Australian refrigeration company to a global non-alcoholic beverage company.
- Advising on the sale of the business and assets of a Tasmanian cheese company for AU\$30 million.
- Advising a global forestry and resources group on a wood pellet biomass manufacturing facility and supply agreements to Asian power stations.
- Advising on the restructure of a leading Australian processor and distributor of coffee products.

Energy

- Acting for three energy industry generators on a range of corporate issues including under the State Owned Corporations Act 1989 in New South Wales.
- Advising an energy infrastructure investment consortium on the AU\$170 million sale of the New South Wales and Queensland electricity inter-connector.
- Advising on the AU\$170 million sale of a company converting waste coal methane gas to electricity to a funds management organisation.
- Acting for a mining machinery supplier in the supply of an AU\$90 million state of the art longwall mining system to a large Australian mining company.
- Advising a New South Wales provider of occupational health and rehabilitation services for workers engaged in the coal industry on an investment of AU\$30 million in a provider of rescue services and facilities to deal with emergencies in coal mines in New South Wales.

- Acting for a German-based solar energy company on the management buyout of its Australian wind farm operations.
- Advising the national peak body representing the bulk of the downstream gaseous fuels industry (LPG, LNG and CNG) on a range of regulatory and safety issues.

Transport

- Acting for an Australian consortium led by an operations, maintenance, and construction services business with a transport group in the lease/franchise of a light rail operation as part of the privatisation of the Melbourne public transport system.
- Acting for a global industrial participant and airport operator in the AU\$5.6 billion acquisition of a major Australian airport. This included negotiation of the joint venture documentation with an Australian bank, review of all documentation relating to the acquisition and negotiation of documentation for the provision of services to the airport.
- Advising on the sale of an Australian project management company specialising in rail infrastructure projects to an Australian projects company.
- Advising Austrian parent company of Swietelsky Rail (Australia) Pty Ltd on its joint venture with a substantial contractor for major planned rail maintenance in Australia.
- Advising a global farm machinery manufacturer on regulatory and other issues with computer controlled unmanned operation of major agricultural equipment.

Financial Services, IT and Industrial

- Acting for an Australian bank in the AU\$450 million acquisition of the margin lending business of a global financial services and banking company.
- Advising on the AU\$350 million acquisition by an Australian timber company of a national Australian timber products business.
- Advising on the sale of a specialist software provider to the funds management industry in Australia and the United Kingdom to a securities transaction and online trading technology provider (AU\$70 million).
- Advising Landis+Gyr AG in respect of its AU\$2.3 billion sale to Toshiba.
- Advising a listed South African group on the acquisition of a consumer lending business.
- Advising a global pest control company on a number of pest control acquisitions and disposals in the Australian market.
- Advising a listed South African group on several acquisitions of substantial specialized labour and contract hire businesses.
- Advising KPMG and in particular its clients on a number of disposals and acquisitions.
- Advising a Sydney based animal specialist hospital on the acquisition of a veterinary practice in Sydney.

- Advising an international electronic manufacturer on the acquisition of a substantial interest in a related consulting company.
- Advising KPMG and its client, a renowned global supplier of pens and pencils and other office supplies, in respect of an internal restructure.
- Advising in relation to the restructure of an Australian owned hardware distributor prior to being listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.
- Advising a Queensland property and development management company in respect of a joint venture with an Australian specialist investment partnership to provide investment solutions for developments in Australia.
- Acting for an Australian IT company in the AU\$24 million sale of its hardware distribution business to a leading global technology company.

Wagering and Gaming

- Acting for the New South Wales and South Australian Governments in the restructure of their respective racing industries for the privatisation of their racing and betting organisations.
- Advising a Sydney hotel group on its AU\$75 million restructure to enhance operational performance of its 14 hotels.
- Advising an Australian workers compensation insurer in respect of a joint venture with the NSW Clubs and Hotels industry.