



## Leslie Petro

### Special Counsel

Sydney  
+61.2.9513.2380

[leslie.petro@klgates.com](mailto:leslie.petro@klgates.com)

## OVERVIEW

Leslie Petro focuses on all taxation issues associated with inbound and outbound investment, cross border financing, structured products and corporate and international tax. He has extensive experience advising both the adviser side and the client/intermediary side. Leslie has over 25 years' experience advising on structured finance transactions, structured products, and domestic and international tax issues.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Leslie was a tax consultant at an international law firm and spent a number of years as an executive director of an international investment bank.

Leslie completed a Professional Year at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and has received level one and two accreditations as an ASX derivatives adviser.

## EDUCATION

- LL.B., University of Sydney, 1985
- B.A., University of Sydney, 1983

## ADMISSIONS

- Supreme Court of New South Wales

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- March 2019, A Taxing Year Ahead: Hot Tax Issues for 2019
- 29 June 2015, Goods and Services Tax in Australia to Apply to Offshore Digital Supplies (and More)

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 10 August 2021, K&L Gates Acts for Dicker Data in AU\$68 Million Acquisition

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Tax

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Putting offshore structures in place to facilitate expansion of Australian groups offshore
- General corporate transactions (mergers, acquisitions, divestments)
- Structuring investment by offshore investors (Spain, Canada) into Australian energy assets (solar, wind)
- Advising on investment into Australia by sovereign wealth funds, offshore pension plans, family offices, foundations
- Structuring investment into Australian real estate (agricultural, commercial, logistics facilities) by offshore investors (US, China, Korea)
- Investment into the Australian venture capital space by domestic and offshore investors
- Tax dispute resolution (including full ATO audits)
- Employee share incentive programs (advice, design, implementation)
- Merging an offshore mining group and an Australian mining group
- Advising domestic property developers (structuring of arrangements between landowners and developers, structuring of land acquisition)