



Ernie L. Cochran II

Partner

Charleston
+1.843.579.5630

New York
+1.212.536.3900

ernie.cochran@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Ernie Cochran is a partner in the firm's Finance practice. He focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and general corporate matters. Ernie advises Fortune 500 companies as well as middle-market and emerging growth companies in a wide variety of corporate matters. He regularly represents private equity sponsors, hedge funds, venture capital firms and corporate investors. He also has experience involving real estate development and transactions and represents borrowers and lenders in connection with secured and unsecured credit facilities, asset-based loans and acquisition financing.

Ernie has worked on transactions involving companies in many industries, including technology, paper and packaging, aerospace, distribution, energy, healthcare and real estate.

He regularly advises clients in the following areas:

- Stock and asset acquisitions and dispositions, mergers and other similar transactions for both public and private companies;
- Private equity and venture capital financings;
- Distressed debt acquisitions and dispositions;
- Joint ventures, partnerships and strategic alliances;
- Corporate recapitalizations, reorganizations and restructurings;
- Commercial lending and corporate finance;
- Real estate acquisition, disposition and development;
- Technology transactions; and
- General corporate and commercial matters, including contract negotiation and the formation and capitalization of corporations, limited liability companies, and partnerships.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Ernie worked for firms in Atlanta and Charleston.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Named "Lawyer of the Year" by *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Corporate Law in Charleston SC, 2024
- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Charleston
 - Mergers and Acquisitions Law and Venture Capital Law, 2024
 - Corporate Law, 2018-2024
- Named a 2015 BTI *Client Service All-Star*

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- One80 Place, Board Member, 2016 - Present
- Leadership Charleston, Class of 2012
- Charleston County Bar Association
- Urban Land Institute, Member

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 2004
- B.S., North Carolina State University, 2001 (*summa cum laude*)

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Georgia
- Bar of New York
- Bar of South Carolina

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 15 October 2019, South Carolina's New Private Fund Adviser Exemption — A Boost for an Emerging Industry

NEWS & EVENTS

- 17 August 2023, Nearly 400 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2024 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 27 August 2019, K&L Gates Advises Kaman Corporation on \$700 Million Sale of Distribution Segment

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Private Equity Transactions

INDUSTRIES

- Aviation
- Consumer Products
- Financial Services
- Luxury Products and Fashion
- Private Equity
- Resort, Hospitality, and Leisure
- Transportation and Logistics