

Morgan Lewis Adds K&L Gates Benefits Pro In Pittsburgh

By **Christine DeRosa**

Law360 (February 3, 2025, 3:47 PM EST) -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP has grown its employee benefits practice in Pennsylvania with the addition of a K&L Gates LLP attorney.

Matthew Chapman has joined Morgan Lewis as a partner in Pittsburgh, returning to the firm where he began his legal career, Morgan Lewis said Monday. Also joining Morgan Lewis' employee benefits and executive compensation practice from K&L Gates is senior counsel Charles Smith.



Matthew Chapman

"Having started my career out at Morgan Lewis, I am deeply familiar with the team's strength as collaborators, skill as lawyers, and commitment to finding creative solutions for clients' pressing concerns," Chapman told Law360 Pulse in an emailed statement. "I look forward to reuniting with, and working alongside, my colleagues, both old and new, and hit the ground running."

Chapman focuses his work on advising both public and private companies, boards of directors, senior management and more on matters related to transformative corporate events and structuring and planning issues, according to the firm.

He represents clients in domestic and international mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and employee stock ownership plans, including ESOP refinancing and re-leveraging transactions, Morgan Lewis said. He also advises clients on general corporate matters and has negotiated hundreds of purchase/commitment agreements and group annuity contracts with insurers in pension risk transfers.

Jami McKeon, the chair of Morgan Lewis, said in the statement that there's a growing interest in ESOP transactions and an increase in the PRT market throughout the business community.

"As more companies explore these approaches, there is an essential need for sound guidance on navigating the many complex legal, financial and operational considerations," McKeon said. "With years of experience and significant ESOP and PRT representations under his belt, Matt brings a wealth of knowledge to these matters that will be tremendously valuable to our clients."

Chapman returns to Morgan Lewis from K&L Gates, where he was a partner for over two years, his LinkedIn profile shows.

He previously worked in-house at power management company Eaton Corp. as vice president of human

resources for the company's global M&A business, according to his profile.

Before joining Eaton, Chapman worked at K&L Gates for nearly five years, his profile shows. He joined the firm as an associate in 2017 before becoming counsel in 2021.

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Chapman joined Morgan Lewis as an associate in 2014.

"Matt brings additional strength to our ESOP capabilities as well as national recognition in the pension-risk transfer space that will be beneficial to many of our clients as their needs in this area continue to expand," Craig Bitman, leader of the firm's employee benefits and executive compensation practice, said in the statement. "We know Matt to be a smart, collaborative colleague and we are thrilled to welcome him back to Morgan Lewis."

--Editing by Patrick Reagan.