Stephen F. Donahoe

Partner

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 200, Washington, DC USA 20004
t 202.508.5818 | f 202.585.0074
sdonahoe@ktslaw.com

Services

Business & Finance

Corporate Governance

Joint Ventures & Strategic Alliances

Mergers & Acquisitions

Securities

Industries

Financial Institutions

Financial Services

Fintech

Consumer Financial Services

Steve Donahoe focuses his practice on corporate and securities matters, mergers and acquisitions, and regulatory matters for financial institutions, including compliance and supervisory matters. He also regularly advises boards of directors and committees of boards of directors on all aspects of corporate governance.

Steve represents a variety of companies in the financial services industry, including public and private financial institutions, mutual financial institutions, investment banking firms and private investors. He has extensive experience in a wide variety of business transactions involving financial institutions and public companies, including mergers, acquisitions, stock purchases and asset transfers.

Steve has significant experience representing issuers and underwriters in initial and secondary public securities offerings. In addition, he regularly counsels public companies with respect to their reporting obligations under the federal securities laws and routinely advises clients on the full range of securities regulations applicable to corporations and their officers, directors, and principal shareholders.

Steve also regularly advises financial institutions on a wide range of regulatory and compliance matters before the federal and state banking agencies, including the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Federal Reserve Board, and assists clients in responding to supervisory findings and regulatory examinations.

Steve has led or co-led many of the Financial Institutions team's merger and acquisition and capital-raising transactions for which the firm has been consistently recognized, including national practice area recognition by *Chambers USA* (2014–2022). He was recommended by *Legal 500 US* in 2023 for Mergers & Acquisitions. In 2022, 2023 and 2025, Steve was named to the Capital Pro Bono High Honor Roll, which recognizes the contributions of those D.C. Bar members who donated 100 hours or more of pro bono service during the previous calendar year and in 2021, he was named to the Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll, which recognizes the contributions of those D.C. Bar members who donated 50 hours or more of pro bono service during the previous calendar year. He has also been recognized as a 2014 and 2015 Washington D.C. "Rising Star" in the area of Securities and Corporate Finance by *Super Lawyers* magazine.

Experience

Represented Sandy Spring Bancorp, Inc., a banking company, in the sale of its insurance business to Hub International Limited, a leading global insurance brokerage and financial services firm.

Represented Sandy Spring Bancorp in connection with its $200 million public subordinated debt offering.

Served as underwriter’s counsel to Piper Sandler in connection with the $31 million subordinated debt offering conducted by First Savings Financial Group.

Represented Columbia Bank and its holding company, Columbia Financial, Inc., in its merger with Stewardship Financial Corporation, the holding company for Atlantic Stewardship Bank.

Represented Sandy Spring Bancorp in a $175 million public subordinated debt offering.

Represented Beneficial Bancorp, Inc. (“Beneficial” – NASDAQ: BNCL) in its $1.5 billion merger with and into WSFS Financial Corporation (“WSFS” – NASDAQ: WSFS), in one of the largest bank mergers announced in the U.S. in 2018.

Represented Audubon Savings Bank in its merger with William Penn Bancorp, Inc., the holding company for William Penn Bank.

Represented SI Financial Group, Inc. (NASDAQ:SIFI) and its subsidiary, Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company, in its all-stock sale to Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. valued at $182.2 million.

Represented United Community Bancorp in its $114.1 million acquisition by Civista Bancshares, Inc.

Represented Liberty Bancorp, Inc. and its subsidiary, BankLiberty, in its $103.7 million merger into Central Bancompany, Inc. BankLiberty will also be merged into Central Bancompany’s affiliate bank, Central Bank of the Midwest.

Represented Coastal Financial Corporation, Everett, WA, in its $42 million underwritten initial public offering.

Represented Grasshopper Bank, N.A., a de novo national bank that will fully utilize digital banking to serve innovation economy companies and venture capital firms in New York and other major US innovation economy centers, in obtaining a national bank charter and in connection with its $116 million private placement offering to capitalize the Bank.

Represented Sage bank, a closely held Massachusetts state-chartered cooperative stock bank, in its $9 million sale to Salem Five Bank, a subsidiary of Salem Five Bancorp.

Represented Central Bancorp Inc. in its issuance of $10.0 million of preferred stock and warrants to purchase shares of its common stock through its participation in the U.S. Department of Treasury's TARP Capital Purchase Program.

Represented Central Bancorp, Inc. in its issuance of $6.3 million of trust preferred securities in a pooled trust preferred securities offering.

Represented the underwriter, Sandler O'Neill + Partners L.P., in the $3.8 million initial public offering by St. Joseph Bancorp, Inc.

Represented the underwriter, Stifel Nicolaus Corp., in the $78.2 million initial public offering by Cape Bancorp, Inc.

Represented the underwriters, led by Sandler O'Neill + Partners L.P., in the $1.2 billion public offering by Capitol Federal Financial, Inc.

Represented Beneficial Mutual Savings Bank in its $236 million initial public offering and its simultaneous $183 million acquisition of FMS Financial Corp., Burlington, New Jersey.

Represented First Federal Savings Bank, a federally chartered savings bank headquartered in Clarksville, Tennessee, in its mutual to stock conversion and the related $52.6 million initial public offering by its newly formed holding company, First Advantage Bancorp.

Represented the underwriter, Sandler O'Neill + Partners L.P., in the $11.1 million initial public offering by Hibernia Homestead Bancorp, Inc.

Represented Fox Chase Bank in its mutual holding company reorganization and the related $64.0 million initial public offering by its newly formed holding company, Fox Chase Bancorp Inc.

Represented Beneficial Mutual Bancorp Inc. in its acquisition of CLA Agency Inc., an insurance agency, in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania.

Represented the underwriter, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, in the $25.3 million initial public offering by MSB Financial Inc.

Represented Jefferson Bancshares Inc. in its $10.9 million acquisition of State of Franklin Bancshares Inc., the parent company of a Tennessee chartered bank.

Represented the underwriter, Sandler O'Neill + Partners L.P., in the $98.2 million initial public offering by Roma Financial Corp.

Represented Advance Bank in its acquisition of a Baltimore branch office and related deposits from Susquehanna Bank.

Represented Central Bancorp, Inc. based in Somerville, MA in a $54.8M transaction with Independent Bank Corporation based in Rockland, MA. The firm counseled and negotiated the terms of the merger agreement, handled employment and benefit matters, managed the due diligence and disclosure process.

Represented Cordia Bancorp Inc. headquartered in Midlothian, VA in its acquisition by First Citizens BancShares, Inc. based in Raleigh, NC. The firm counseled the Board of Directors, negotiated the terms of the merger agreement, and prepared shareholder disclosure materials and other SEC filings.

Represented Jefferson Bancshares, Inc. based in Morristown, TN in a merger with HomeTrust Bancshares, Inc. based in Asheville, NC. The firm counseled the Board of Directors, negotiated the terms of the merger agreement, handled employment and benefit matters, and managed the due diligence and disclosure process.

Education

University of Pittsburgh School of Law J.D. (2005) *cum laude*

Mary Washington College B.A. (2000) *cum laude*

Admissions

District of Columbia

Maryland

Professional & Community Activities

University of Pittsburgh Law Review, Former Associate Editor

Insights

News Releases

Kilpatrick Represents American Community Bancorp, Inc. and American Community Bank in Merger with Alma Bank

July 31, 2026

News Releases

Kilpatrick Represents Performance Trust Partners LLC in $13.8 million Initial Public Offering

July 31, 2026

News

Kilpatrick Serves as Legal Counsel to Placement Agents in Shore Bancshares' $60 Million Private Placement

November 14, 2025

News

Kilpatrick Represents Hometown Financial Group in Acquisition of Colonial Federal Savings Bank

November 1, 2025

News

Kilpatrick Counsels The Victory Bancorp, Inc. in Merger with QNB Corp.

September 24, 2025