

### Katten Partners Discuss #MeToo and the PE Industry With *Private Equity Law Report*

May 3, 2019

Kimberly Smith, Co-Chair of the National Private Equity practice, and Michelle Gyves, Employment Law and Corporate partner, spoke with *Private Equity Law Report* on the #MeToo movement's impact on private equity diligence and the acquisition process. In the first article of this two-part series, Kim and Michelle address how the private equity industry has recognized and responded to the #MeToo movement, and how it has impacted the diligence process. Kim noted the increased focus on risk management and due diligence, examining everything from anti-harassment policies to reporting procedures in order to assess the company's ability to respond as problems occur. Michelle added that this diligence extends not only to workplace policies, but also target companies' history of litigation and even internal complaints. ("[#MeToo and the PE Industry: How Managers Can Mitigate Risk Through Portfolio Company Diligence](#)," Part One of Two, April 23, 2019)

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