

# JO COLBERT STANLEY

## ARBITRATOR | MEDIATOR | ATTORNEY

Licensed in Delaware and Florida, Jo has practiced law for more than 20 years, focusing on employment law (Title VII, ADEA, ADA, wrongful termination, restrictive covenants, discrimination, and retaliation claims), insurance defense (first party property, PIP, and Medicare/Medicaid secondary payer reimbursement claims), human resource diversity education, and sensitivity training. She blends this wealth of experience with her remarkable dispute resolution skills, crafted through years of additional specialized training and advanced education.



Jo is a Florida Supreme Court qualified arbitrator, certified circuit civil and county mediator, a FINRA public arbitrator, a certified arbitrator on the International Yacht Arbitration council roster, and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

A proud Penn State grad (*summa cum laude*), she received her J.D. with high honors from Widener Law Commonwealth in Harrisburg, PA, and her LL.M. in Alternative Dispute Resolution from Nova Southeastern University's (NSU) Shepard Broad College of Law in Davie, FL. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis & Resolution at NSU's renowned Halmos College of Arts & Sciences.

Nominated by her peers, Jo was recently awarded the prestige of membership in The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation. She is also a past Fellow of the American Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Section.

A published author and sought-after presenter, Jo regularly delivers training seminars to attorneys and other professionals. She also leads panels on topics such as ADR, employment law, and maritime-related themes.



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**JO COLBERT STANLEY**  
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(954) 224-6999 | [jo@lawstanley.com](mailto:jo@lawstanley.com) | [www.lawstanley.com](http://www.lawstanley.com)

## EXPERIENCE

### Stanley Legal Services LLC, Fort Lauderdale, FL

2004 – present

#### Managing Member

Independent mediator, facilitator, and arbitrator with special focus on employment law, insurance defense, maritime law, and commercial litigation matters. Prolific presenter and trainer on topics including alternative dispute resolution, anti-discrimination, EEOC compliance training, other HR-related seminars, and admiralty.

- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil and County Mediator
- Florida Supreme Court-Qualified Arbitrator
- FINRA Public Arbitrator
- International Yacht Arbitration Council
- Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law Dispute Resolution Clinic volunteer
- Quimbee Legal Educator- CLE trainer and presenter

### Colodny Fass, Sunrise, FL

2005 – present

#### Of Counsel

Consultant to leading insurance and regulatory law firm providing litigation and counseling services in diverse areas including regulatory compliance, business transactions, commercial and civil litigation, administrative law, employment law, and appellate practice.

- Prepares legal memoranda, appellate briefs, pleadings, discovery, and other litigation documents
- Prepares for and participates in hearings, depositions, mediations, discovery review, expert witness preparation, and trials
- Prepares and presents training seminars on insurance regulatory compliance and employment law

### Stanley Yacht Services, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL

2004 – present

#### Vice President and COO

Stanley Yacht Services offers year-round management and maintenance programs for yacht owners, including project management and oversight, routine maintenance and repairs, painting, and show staging, as well as yacht concierge services. Charter, sea trial and delivery services.

- In-house counsel; regulatory compliance and safety officer
- Social media manager and marketing director
- Mate/deckhand, purser, and chief steward on Stanley Yacht Services' charter yacht 61' M/Y *Freedom*

### Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, Wilmington, DE

2000-2003

#### Associate

- General litigation and employer defense in federal and state court cases
- Prepared for and participated in appellate arguments, trials, administrative hearings, depositions
- Forensic data collection and analysis in advance of litigation; document review, and case evaluation



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- Employer counseling and training on sexual harassment, employee evaluations, and legal updates
- Prepared visa petitions on behalf of foreign workers; counseled employers on immigration regulatory compliance

**Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, Wilmington, DE**

**1998-1999**

**Summer Associate**

- Selected for internship during two consecutive summers while attending law school
- Drafted research memoranda and case analysis correspondence; prepared for and attended mediations and arbitrations
- Traveled extensively to conduct on-site client document review and due diligence in advance of maritime asset acquisition

**Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, Harrisburg, PA**

**1994-1998**

**Regional HR manager**

- Supervised two branch offices' support staff and associate attorneys; conducted performance reviews, training, and recruitment
- Oversight of regulatory compliance and facilities management

**EDUCATION**

**Nova Southeastern University, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences, Davie, FL (*currently enrolled*)**

- Ph.D. Student (Conflict Analysis & Resolution) – Department of Conflict Resolution Studies

**Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law, Davie, FL - 2020**

- LL.M. Alternative Dispute Resolution and Litigation; Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

**Widener University School of Law, Harrisburg, PA - 2000**

- Juris Doctor (*magna cum laude*). President - Moot Court Honor Society; Outstanding Minority Scholar; Widener Scholar; Chief Justice Nix Scholar; Outstanding Service Award; Order of the Barristers; Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

**Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg, PA - 1996**

- Bachelor of Science - Criminal Justice (*summa cum laude*); GPA 4.0; Class rank: 1. Merit scholar; Andrew S. Donahue Criminal Justice Scholar Award; Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- Stanley, J. (2022). "To Break Out or Not To Break Out: Caucus Considerations." Florida Academy of Professional Mediators.
- Stanley, J. (2022). "Negotiation Tactics & Strategies." The Florida Department of Health.
- Stanley, J. (2021). "Maritime Law 101." Quimbee.
- Stanley, J. (2021). "Escrow-A-Go-Go: Making money moves." *Compass*, (August/September), 36.
- Stanley, J. (2021). "Mediation Preparation for Attorneys: The ABC's To Your Client's Best Mediation" webinar. The Florida Bar. <https://bit.ly/2SKE0hS>



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- Stanley, J. (2020). "Boatyard & Marine Insurance Tips: Your Yacht's In The Slings; Who's On The Hook" webinar. Broward County Bar Association. <https://bit.ly/2TiSrtx>
- Stanley, J. (2019, Fall/Winter). "Tech-ethical considerations for Florida mediators offering virtual dispute resolution services." *The Common Ground*, 1(3), 3–6.
- Stanley, J. (2019). "Why choose private yacht mediation? Mitigate the mutiny, don't litigate the suit." *Compass*, (October/November), 32.

## LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, & MEMBERSHIPS

- Licensed Attorney - Admitted to the Bar in Florida and Delaware; U.S. District Courts of Northern District of Florida, Southern District of Florida, District of Delaware, and the United States Courts of Appeal (Third Circuit)
- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil and County Mediator
- Florida Supreme Court-Qualified Arbitrator
- Member, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb)
- IYAC Certified Arbitrator
- FINRA Public Arbitrator
- Delaware Bar Association; The Florida Bar; Federal Bar Association (current Executive Board member, ADR Section & Admiralty Law Section); American Bar Association (Fellow, Dispute Resolution Section 2021); Broward County Bar Association (Chair – Admiralty Law Committee); South Broward Bar Association
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation
- Association of South Florida Mediators & Arbitrators
- Association for Conflict Resolution
- Florida Academy of Professional Mediators
- Fort Lauderdale Mariners Club
- Mediate.com & Arbitratre.com
- National Association of Women Business Owners
- Claims & Litigation Management Alliance
- National African American Insurance Association
- Marine Industries Association of South Florida
- International Yacht Brokers Association
- Port Everglades Association
- U.S. Coast Guard/Maritime Professional Training (SCTW and certified medical first aid provider)
- USCIB (US Council for International Business)
- WISTA (Women's International Shipping & Trading Association)




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