

Jo Claire Spear

Senior Counsel

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Overview

Jo Spear is Senior Counsel in the firm's Real Estate and Lending Transactions Practice Group. She is experienced in a broad range of commercial real estate transactions, representing owners, tenants, and lenders in acquisitions, financing, leasing, and dispositions. Matters include sale/leaseback transactions.

Most recently, her transactions have involved data center portfolios, warehouse properties, hospital and medical office buildings, multi-family communities, multi-tenant office buildings, wind and solar energy projects, and real property diligence (including leasing and occupancy reviews) associated with multi-state or cross-border mergers and acquisitions.

Jo also consults on the Florida documentary stamp tax and intangible tax statutes and regulations, and Florida counsel opinions.

Representative Matters

- Represented a global logistics company based in Germany in the sale and leaseback of its 230,000 SF warehouse facility located on a 12-acre site in Miami-Dade County, Florida, with related amendments to the warehousing service agreements and defeasance of the mortgage loan
- Assisted a data center REIT in the acquisition of a portfolio of U.S. data centers, including the analysis and/or drafting of leases, subleases, licenses, colocation agreements, and telecom access agreements
- Real estate diligence for a London-based investment group in the acquisition of a U.S. Company operating 170 leased locations
- Facilitated a private equity fund in its acquisition of 55 leased retail locations throughout the U.S. with associated lease due diligence
- Represented U.S.-based multi-family developer in the acquisition and financing of a mixed-use commercial development in Miami-Dade County, Florida, structured as a vertical subdivision
- Analysis of real estate assets for a U.S.-based company in connection with its acquisition of a Canadian rail line
- Represented lender in the refinancing of a multi-state portfolio of micro-hospitals and medical office buildings comprising 153,000 SF, under construction
- Represented a developer of wind and solar energy projects in its multi-state parcel assembly, with associated negotiation and drafting of acquisition documents, leases, and transmission line easements

Professional Involvement

- Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section
- Florida Bar Business Law Section

Thought Leadership

Alternate Contact

Silvia Fletcher
Legal Assistant
(727) 824-6113

Practice Areas

- Real Estate and Lending Transactions

Education

J.D., with honors, Stetson University, 1989

- Executive Board and Comments Editor, Stetson Law Review, 1988 - 1989

M.S., University of Tampa, 2013

Admissions

Florida
United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida



- ["Consider a Sale-Leaseback When Marketing Commercial Property,"](#) Author, *Tampa Bay Business & Wealth Magazine*, January 2023