

# Aviation Year in Review

O'Melveny

To our clients and other friends,

As 2026 kicks off, we write to express our appreciation for your continued partnership and reaffirm our commitment to helping you achieve your goals. O'Melveny's Aviation Group soared to new heights in 2025, and was once again named a Transportation Practice Group of the Year by *Law360*. Among the highlights, we guided Asiana Airlines through global regulatory clearances to complete its transaction with Korean Air; handled dozens of financings and acquisitions for financiers, lessors, and airlines; and continued to support infrastructure projects at JFK, LAX, and LaGuardia airports. Our litigators secured resounding victories in trial and appellate courts across the country, deflecting threats so you can get back to business.

Thank you all for a great 2025. We look forward to building on this success with you in 2026.



Jason Kaplan  
Co-Chair, Aviation Group



Mark W. Robertson  
Co-Chair, Aviation Group

## REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS



## CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS



Represented Avports LLC in connection with a 40-year lease agreement with Manassas Regional Airport



Represented Morgan Stanley, as administrative agent, in connection with a US\$600 million term loan B facility for a leading aircraft leasing company, secured by a portfolio of aircraft



Represented FTAI Aviation in connection with the acquisition of multiple aircraft portfolios



Represented Jackson Square Aviation in various financings and aircraft acquisitions and dispositions



Representing JFK Millennium Partners in an agreement to build, finance, and operate a new \$4.2 billion terminal at JFK International Airport

## CORPORATE HIGHLIGHTS



Representing LaGuardia Gateway Partners on its \$4+ billion redevelopment and operation of the Central Terminal at LaGuardia Airport



Advised the Debt Holder group, including National Westminster Bank in connection with a US\$2 billion facility for a major US airline for the acquisition of 24 aircraft and three engines



Advised UMB Bank in connection with several aircraft backed securitizations worth over US\$8 billion

## LITIGATION HIGHLIGHTS



Prevailed on motion to dismiss in a proposed consumer class action claiming Alaska impermissibly reduced the number of flights available to members of its flight pass subscription program



Prevailed on motion to dismiss a proposed class action asserting violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

## LITIGATION HIGHLIGHTS



Prevailed on summary judgment in long-running litigation arising from American's roll-out of new uniforms for its pilots, flight attendants, and customer service agents



Prevailed on summary judgment in a wage and hour class action regarding wage statements and pay frequency brought on behalf of NY-based flight attendants



Guided Asiana Airlines through complex international regulatory clearances to complete its transaction with Korean Air, positioning the combined airline among the world's top 10 carriers



Prevailed on motion to dismiss as to 121 out of 125 plaintiffs (flight attendants and pilots), who alleged claims for disparate impact, disparate treatment, and retaliation under Title VII and the Americans with Disability Act based on Southwest's Covid-19 quarantine policies



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## LITIGATION HIGHLIGHTS



Won full dismissal of a putative class lawsuit (currently on appeal), where thousands of former United employees sought pay and other retirement benefits that were part of COVID-era voluntary separation programs

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2025 Transportation Practice Group of the Year – *Law360*
- Mark W. Robertson Named a 2025 Transportation MVP – *Law 360*
- Jason I. Kaplan Recognized for Transportation: Aviation Finance – *Chambers USA*
- “A national powerhouse with a strong practice in aviation finance” – *Chambers USA*
- “Notable expertise in the issues affecting airlines under the Railway Labor Act” – *Chambers USA*
- Recognized as a top firm for Aviation Finance & Aviation Litigation – *Legal 500 US and UK*
- Patrick Brophy Recognized as a Leading Lawyer for Transport Finance and Leasing – *Legal 500 UK*