CONNECT, INSPIRE, AND LEAD

Who She Is – [Amanda Applegate](#), [CoFounder and Partner](#) of Soar Aviation Law

Amanda is a business aviation attorney who started her career in aviation law while working for NetJets shortly after she graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 1998. Through her work, she rose to the position of Associate General Counsel and Vice President of NetJets Services. She transitioned to Partner at Aerlex Law Group where she worked with a variety of aircraft owners and aviation service firms, most notably representing 25 Avantair fractional owner groups comprised of 300 fractional owners following the grounding of the Avantair fleet. She and fellow IAWA Member, Sarah Northcraft Spann, cofounded Soar Aviation Law in 2022 and are taking their woman owned and led business to new heights in the business aviation industry.

[**Why You Should Listen to Her**](#) – Amanda possesses a mindset that we can all admire in our leaders and her journey to a leadership position is one that we can all follow. She started her career as a true "Impact Player" (see the IAWA Book Club for details) where she found ways to create efficiencies for her teams. Her focus attracted both mentors and sponsors who supported her throughout her career. When she stepped into the role of a leader, she did not hire people for the job they could do today, she looked for how they could grow in the future. While many people she mentored eventually sought opportunities with other employers, they are empowering their teams to be their best. Her impact on the aviation industry is still being written.

In our podcast, Amanda also speaks about the importance of communication and asking for what you need, particularly as women who are seeking work-life balance. She also shares how she tapped into her creativity to share her solutions to complex issues that she observed in the industry, which continues to make an impact on those in business aviation.

How You Can Apply Her Wisdom To Your Career – A few of the take-aways to contemplate:

- What are the task/processes/procedures that you can implement to help your team overcome a hurdle?
- When you hire, can you examine the person's abilities and support their growth beyond the position they will do for the next 12 months?
- Does your definition of success include developing team members and watching them empower others?
- Do you define your boundaries so that you are able to maintain work-life balance and communicate what you need?
- Are you developing your connections that can leverage your time and empowering others in the process?