



## TANYA STANISH: BOLD, CREATIVE, TIRELESS ADVOCATE

*Tanya Stanish, a Senior Partner of Schiller DuCanto & Fleck, LLP has a 25-year family law career that has been defined by her innate care for her clients. Her practice centers on her clients' needs and a commitment to helping them toward a new life on the other side of divorce.*

WORDS BY CAITLIN MCCAULEY  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES GUSTIN

**T**anya Stanish's practice is focused on representing her clients, both men and women, with the utmost skill and integrity. She understands that each case, each story, and each circumstance is different and unique to that specific client.

Stanish has built a reputation as a fierce and accomplished "litigator," a term she has not always been particularly fond of due to its negative connotation. "Sometimes you say 'litigator' and people think negatively, but I'm tough. This is my forte, and I do a great job in the courtroom," says Stanish. Litigation is a true talent that not everyone has or can learn, but Stanish has mastered and excelled in this field.

"I would love to settle a case every day of the week if possible, but sometimes cases require the courtroom because people are too far apart and you need the judge to call it. At the end of the day, I want a fair outcome for my client, and I'm determined to get it," says Stanish. What makes her such an asset to her clients is that she's equally as comfortable and skilled in practicing in all different forums. Stanish realizes that not every case requires litigation, and she's just as strong (and successful) in settling cases in mediation or through attorney negotiation.

Stanish provides her clients with several different avenues, all of which will achieve the end goal, but she lets her clients determine which avenue feels right for them. She's always on hand to work with clients to help them determine which path may be the best fit for them if they're struggling to select that themselves.

Stanish works primarily with high net-worth clients and has a history of working with particularly high profile clients in the Chicago area as well. These cases are often accompanied by complex financials and can include sensitive family matters as well. Stanish doesn't shy away from these cases. With a background in economics, mathematics, and accounting, Stanish confidently handles complex financial issues and is able to quickly assess the client's goals and potential outcomes. Compassionate and understanding, Stanish also knows how to navigate delicate non-monetary familial issues, particularly as it relates to the best interests of the children involved in a case. She genuinely cares about her clients and wants to see them succeed in all aspects of their personal and professional lives.

A key component to Stanish's successes is also keeping her clients in a positive mindset, even amidst an overwhelming case. She always reminds her clients that even if they're on a bumpy road right now, they're working toward an end and on the other side of that bumpy road is a whole new life.

It's not uncommon, sometimes just a month after a divorce is finalized, or sometimes over a year later, for her former clients to reach out to Stanish with an update to let her know they're doing well and are in a really great place.

"At the end of a long road, seeing the client happy and better off ... that's when I know I'm making a difference," says Stanish.

One of the biggest mistakes she sees throughout the divorce process? Not trusting your lawyer. Stanish advises that if you have a good lawyer, you should listen to them. She also notes that it's ok to switch lawyers if you don't like the results you're getting (or not getting). Stanish herself often takes on cases mid-way through, where she can then reframe the case and help her clients determine a new direction.

Above all, Stanish understands and advises the importance of feeling comfortable with and having trust in your representation. That way, you can work together as a team, as she does with her clients, and get the results you want and deserve.

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