

Michael S. Solender -- Biography

Michael Solender is the Americas Chair and General Counsel of Ernst & Young. From June through October 2008, he was the Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Washington Mutual – the nation’s largest savings and loan—and its public holding company. From January 2004 until June 2008, he served as General Counsel of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc., the global financial services firm, where he was the chief legal officer of the public company and its principal broker-dealer subsidiary. From January 2007 until June 2008, he was also Chairman of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association’s (SIFMA) General Counsels Committee.

Prior to joining Bear Stearns in February 2002, Mr. Solender was a partner at the Washington, D.C.-based law firm of Arnold & Porter, specializing in litigation and regulatory matters. In 2000 and 2001, Mr. Solender was the General Counsel of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) – the federal government agency with the mission of protecting the public from dangerous consumer products. At the CPSC, he received the Chairman’s Award for distinguished service, and participated in a number of matters that received national attention.

In 1989-90, Mr. Solender was a law clerk to Judge Leonard B. Sand of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. He graduated from Yale Law School, where he was a Senior Editor of the Yale Law Journal, and from Columbia University, from which he received a B.A. summa cum laude and where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Mr. Solender is a Visiting Lecturer in Law at the Yale Law School and is teaching a course during the spring 2009 semester at the law school called, “Anatomy of the Financial Crisis.” Mr. Solender serves on the Board of Visitors of Columbia College; the Executive Committee of the Yale Law School Association; and the Advisory Committee of the Yale Law School Center for the Study of Corporate Law. From 2004-2008, he served on Board of Directors of the Lawyer’s Alliance for New York; the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts’ Counsel’s Council; and the Executive Committee (and as Secretary) of the New York American Inn of Court. In 2005, he was the recipient of the Urban Justice Center’s Community Service Award and was honored by the Boy Scouts of America. In 2007, he received the New York UJA/Federation’s Stephen E. Banner award.