



## Lessons Learned Oral History Project

### Gary Cohen

---

The Yale Program on Financial Stability (YPFS) interviewed Gary Cohen regarding his time as General Counsel for the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission established in the aftermath of the financial crisis of 2007-09.

Cohen, a corporate lawyer for Sidley Austin specializing in financial services, took a sabbatical from his practice at the request of commission chairman Phil Angelides and on the advice of colleague and longtime public servant, Newton Minow, to provide wide-reaching advice to the commissioners and staff, helping them to set administrative policy, obtain interviews, conduct public hearings, and edit the final report.

Cohen returned to Sidley Austin once the FCIC fulfilled its mission and retired from practicing law in 2018.

[Full Interview Transcript](#)

[Lesson Learned Summary](#)

---