



Lessons Learned Oral History Project

Steven Rattner

The Yale Program on Financial Stability (YPFS) contacted Steven Rattner by email to request an interview regarding his time as the Counselor to the Secretary of the Treasury and head of the Obama Administration's Task Force on the Auto Industry, established during the financial crisis of 2007-09.

The group was charged with restructuring the industry, particularly Chrysler, General Motors, and Ally (formerly GMAC). The Auto Task Force worked intensively from early 2009 through July 2009 to swiftly negotiate with the corporate leadership, unions, investors, and stakeholders, to save the auto industry and millions of jobs in the United States. Rattner chronicled their efforts in his book, *Overhaul: An Insider's Account of the Obama Administration's Emergency Rescue of the Auto Industry*.

He is currently the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Willett Advisors LLC, the investment arm for former New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's personal and philanthropic assets. In addition, he serves as the Economic Analyst on MSNBC's Morning Joe and is a contributing writer to "The New York Times" Op Ed page.

This transcript of a telephone interview has been edited for accuracy and clarity.

[Full Interview Transcript](#)

[Lesson Learned Summary](#)
