

Michael S. Solender -- Biography

Michael Solender is the Global Vice Chair and General Counsel of EY (formerly Ernst & Young) – the Big Four accounting and professional services organization with 200,000 personnel in 150 countries. In that role, he oversees the organization’s more than 300 legal personnel in 46 countries. He also serves as legal advisor to the senior leadership of the organization and its Global Executive. From 2009 to 2013, he was the Americas Vice Chair and General Counsel for EY.

Since 2008, he has also been a Visiting Lecturer at Yale Law School, where he has taught several courses. He also taught at Harvard Law School as a Distinguished Visitor from Practice from 2012 to 2014.

Before joining Ernst & Young (from 2004-08), Mr. Solender was the General Counsel of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc., the global financial services firm, where he supervised the Legal and Compliance Department around the world and was advisor to senior management and the board of directors. In 2007-08, he chaired the General Counsels Committee of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association’s (SIFMA).

In 2000-01, Mr. Solender was the General Counsel of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) – the federal government agency charged with protecting the public from dangerous consumer products – where he received the Chairman’s Award for distinguished service and participated in a number of matters that received national attention. From 1991-2000, Mr. Solender was a partner and an associate at the Washington, D.C.-based law firm of Arnold & Porter, specializing in litigation and regulatory matters.

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 in 1989 from Yale Law School, where he was a Senior Editor of the Yale Law Journal, and in 1986 from Columbia University, from which he received a B.A. summa cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He attended Oxford University (Lady Margaret Hall) in 1984-85.

Mr. Solender serves on the Advisory Committee of the Yale Law School Center for the Study of Corporate Law and the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts’ Counsel’s Council. He is President-elect and a member of the Executive Committee of the New York American Inn of Court. He served on the Board of Visitors of Columbia College from 2007-13, the Columbia Undergraduate Campaign Council from 2011-14, the Board of Directors of the Lawyer’s Alliance for New York from 2004-08, and the Executive Committee of the Yale Law School Association from 2006-10. He was a 2014 recipient of Columbia University’s John Jay Award, the 2012 recipient of the Brennan Center for Justice’s Legacy Award, the 2007 recipient of the UJA-Federation of New York’s Stephen E. Banner Award, the 2005 recipient of the Urban Justice Center’s Community Service Award, and the 2005 recipient of the annual Boy Scouts of America honor.

Mr. Solender lives in Westchester County, New York, and has four children. He grew up in Geneva, Switzerland and Baltimore, Maryland and is a passionate Baltimore Ravens and Orioles fan.