

Susan Tsui Grundmann

Chair Merit Systems Protection Board

Susan Tsui Grundmann was nominated by President Barack Obama on July 31, 2009 to serve as a Member and Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board. She was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on November 5, 2009. Ms. Grundmann's term expires on March 1, 2016.

Previously, Ms. Grundmann served as General Counsel to the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), which represents 100,000 Federal workers nationwide and is affiliated with the International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers. At NFFE, she successfully litigated cases in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. In 2004, Ms. Grundmann represented NFFE and other labor unions in the statutory "meet and confer" process with officials from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), which sought agreement on how to proceed with new DHS personnel regulations. She represented NFFE and the United Department of Defense Workers Coalition, consisting of 36 labor unions, and has served on the Coalition's litigation team in a coordinated response to proposed personnel changes at the Department of Defense (DoD). In addition to DoD employees, Ms. Grundmann represented employees in the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Passport Services, Veterans Administration, General Services Administration, and some 25 additional Federal agencies. From 2003 to 2009, she was a regular instructor on Federal sector labor and employment law at the William W. Winpisinger Education Center in Placid Harbor, Maryland. Prior to joining NFFE, Ms. Grundmann served as General Counsel to the National Air Traffic Controllers Association. She began her legal career as a law clerk to the judges of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Virginia, and later worked in both private practice and at the Sheet Metal Workers National Pension Fund.

Ms. Grundmann earned her undergraduate degree at American University and her law degree at Georgetown University Law Center.

Chai Feldblum

Commissioner of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Chai Feldblum has served as a Commissioner of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission since 2010, having been nominated to serve by President Barack Obama, and confirmed by the Senate, initially for a term ending on July 1, 2013. President Obama nominated her to serve a second term ending on July 1, 2018, and she was confirmed by the Senate on December 12, 2013.

Prior to her appointment to the EEOC, Commissioner Feldblum was a Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center where she has taught since 1991. At Georgetown, she founded the Law Center's Federal Legislation and Administrative Clinic, which represented clients such as Catholic Charities USA, the National Disability Rights Network, and the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law. She also founded and co-directed Workplace Flexibility 2010, a policy enterprise focused on finding common ground between employers and employees on workplace flexibility issues.

As Legislative Counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union from 1988 to 1991, Commissioner Feldblum played a leading role in helping to draft and negotiate the ground-breaking Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Later, as a law professor representing the Epilepsy Foundation, she was equally instrumental in drafting and negotiating the ADA Amendments Act of 2008.

Commissioner Feldblum has also worked to advance lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights, was one of the drafters of the Employment Nondiscrimination Act, and is the first openly lesbian Commissioner of the EEOC. She clerked for Judge Frank Coffin of the First Circuit Court of Appeals and for Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun after receiving her J.D. from Harvard Law School. She received her B.A. degree from Barnard College.

Jenny R. Yang

Chair of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Ms. Yang was named Chair by President Barack Obama on September 1, 2014. She was first nominated to serve on the Commission by President Obama on August 2, 2012, and was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on April 25, 2013, to serve a term expiring July 1, 2017. Ms. Yang had served as Vice Chair of the EEOC since April 28, 2014.

As a member of the Commission and Vice Chair, Yang has led a comprehensive review of the agency's systemic program, which addresses issues of alleged discrimination that have broad impact on an industry, profession, company or geographic area. She also represents the agency on the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and on the White House Equal Pay Enforcement Task Force.

Throughout her career in the private, government, and nonprofit sectors, Ms. Yang has worked to ensure fairness and equal opportunity in the workplace. Ms. Yang was a partner of Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC. She joined the firm in 2003, and represented employees across the country in numerous complex civil rights and employment actions. As chair of the firm's hiring and diversity committee, Ms. Yang gained experience with the myriad issues employers confront in making hiring and other personnel decisions.

Prior to that, Ms. Yang served as a Senior Trial Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Employment Litigation Section, where she enforced federal laws prohibiting discrimination in employment by state and local government employers from 1998 to 2003. Before that, she worked at the National Employment Law Project to enforce the workplace rights of garment workers. Ms. Yang clerked for the Honorable Edmund Ludwig on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Ms. Yang received her B.A. from Cornell University in Government. She received her J.D. from New York University School of Law, where she was a Note and Comment Editor of the Law Review and a Root-Tilden Public Interest Scholar.

Mark Cohen

Office of Special Counsel's Principal Deputy Special Counsel

Mark Cohen is the Principal Deputy Special Counsel at the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, a position he has held since 2011. In May of this year, President Obama nominated Mr. Cohen as a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board and, upon appointment, to be designated Vice Chairman.

Mr. Cohen previously served as Executive Director of the Government Accountability Project; National Bureau Chief at the audio legal news service LAWCAST and Managing Editor of Law Reporters, Inc.; Director and Chief Counsel of the Financial Crimes Unit of the National Association of Attorneys General; and Senior Legal Consultant to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Mr. Cohen is also an award-winning TV producer and host, and film-maker. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh, a J.D. from the Antioch School of Law, and an L.L.M. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Beth Cobert

Office of Personnel Management's Acting Director

President Obama appointed Cobert as Acting Director of the Office of Personnel Management on July 10. She comes to OPM from the Office of Management and Budget, where she served as the Deputy Director for Management and the U.S. Chief Performance Officer since October 2013.

At OMB, she led the efforts to drive the President's Management Agenda to make government more effective and efficient so it can deliver better, faster, and smarter services to citizens and businesses.

She oversaw the Government's performance, procurement, and financial management offices, as well as the Office of the Chief Information officer. Under Cobert's leadership, the Administration made progress on efforts to improve the management of Federal information technology (IT) spending, and modernize and improve citizen facing services through teams like the US Digital Service, and reduce the Federal Real Property footprint.

She also led OMB's work on the people and culture pillar of the President's Management Agenda—including initiatives to improve employee engagement within agencies, enhance the Senior Executive Service (SES), and recruit and retain a talented and diverse federal workforce.

Before joining government, Cobert worked for nearly 30 years at McKinsey & Company as a Director and Senior Partner. During her tenure, she worked on key strategic, operational and organizational issues across a range of sectors, including financial services, health care, legal services, real estate, telecommunications, and philanthropies. She led major projects to improve performance through process streamlining, enhanced customer service, improved use of technology, more effective marketing programs, and strengthened organizational effectiveness. Over the course of her career, she led McKinsey's initiatives on recruitment, training, development, performance evaluation, and retirement services and championed efforts to support the advancement of women into leadership positions.

Cobert also previously served as a board member and chair of the United Way of the Bay Area and as a member of the Stanford Graduate School of Business Advisory Council. Cobert received a bachelor's degree in economics from Princeton University and a master's degree in business administration from Stanford University. She and her husband, Adam Cioth, have two children.