

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Washington, DC, December 10, 2009) -- Phil Angelides, Chairman of the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, and Bill Thomas, Vice Chairman, today announced the appointment of additional senior staff effective immediately. The Commission was created to investigate the causes of the financial collapse and to provide a full and fair accounting to the American people.

New key hires are as follows:

- Wendy Edelberg, an expert in macroeconomics, consumer spending and real estate, has been appointed Research Director. Since 2008 she has been a senior economist at The White House Council of Economic Advisors. She has been an economist at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System since 2003 in the Macroeconomic Analysis Section of Research and Statistics, and has written on these and related subjects for numerous publications. Ms. Edelberg has a B.A. in economics from Columbia University, an M.B.A. in econometrics and finance from the University of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago.
- Beneva Schulte has been named Assistant Director of the Commission. A communications and strategy expert with more than 20 years' experience, she has represented a broad range of clients in the private sector and was a political editor for National Public Radio's *Tell Me More* program. She also served as the Communications Director for the Dodd for President campaign and Chief of Staff for Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy. Ms. Schulte has a B.A. from Florida International University and an M.A. from George Washington University.
- Matthew Cooper joins the commission as a Senior Adviser. He will assist the Commission in writing its reports and in its investigative work. Cooper was most recently correspondent for *The Atlantic* and editor-at-large for *Talkingpointsmemo.com*. As Washington Editor of *Conde Nast Portfolio* he covered the financial crisis. Prior to that he was White House correspondent and deputy bureau chief for *Time* magazine. He has served as a national correspondent for both *Newsweek* and *U.S. News & World Report*, senior editor for *The New Republic*, an editor at *The Washington Monthly*, and has written for *Slate*, *The New York Times* and other media. From 1984 to 1986, Cooper served as a writer and researcher at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. He is a graduate of Columbia College.

"The Commission is extremely fortunate to have these talented professionals join our senior team," said Tom Greene, who was appointed as Executive Director of the Commission in September. "Their skills will enable us to conduct the full and fair inquiry into the financial meltdown that the American people deserve."

The 10-member bi-partisan Commission was created this year by Congress and is charged with examining the causes of the financial meltdown. It will also examine causes of the collapse of major financial institutions that failed or would have failed had they not received exceptional government assistance. The Commission has already begun its work, with findings and conclusions to be provided in a formal report to Congress and the President by December 15, 2010.