

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Kofi Appenteng

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Appenteng Kofi, 1957-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng,
<b>Dates:</b>	August 14, 2022 and March 25, 2019
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2019 and 2022
<b>Physical Description:</b>	14 uncompressed MOV digital video files (7:23:02).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Lawyer Kofi Appenteng (1957 - ) served as partner at Thacher Proffitt & Wood LLP, senior counsel at Dentons, chairman of the Ford Foundation's board, and president of the Africa-America Institute. Appenteng was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 14, 2022 and March 25, 2019, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts and New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2019_019
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Lawyer Kofi Appenteng was born on June 14, 1957 in Accra, Ghana to Felicia and Samuel Appenteng. He attended Gateway School and Aldenham School in England and later immigrated to the United States in 1977, where he attended Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. There, he was a member of the men's soccer team and participated in track and field. Appenteng received his B.A. degree from Wesleyan University in 1981 and his J.D. degree from Columbia University School of Law in New York City in 1984.

After graduation, Appenteng was hired by the law firm of Webster & Sheffield as an associate. In 1991, he joined Thacher Proffitt & Wood LLP, where he specialized in merger and acquisitions, private placements, corporate governance, mortgage finance transactions, and not-for-profit law. Appenteng was promoted to partner in 1994, where he advised foreign and domestic individuals and companies on matters related to corporate governance, securities law compliance, acquisitions, corporate finance, regulatory compliance and crisis management. He then became CEO and director of Constant Capital Ghana Limited from 2008 to 2014. In 2014, Appenteng served as senior counsel at Dentons and became chair of the board of directors for the Ford Foundation. In 2016, he became president of the Africa-America Institute.

He served on Wesleyan University's Board of Trustees from 1990 to 2006, and chaired the presidential search committee that recommended Michael S. Roth as the sixteenth president of Wesleyan University in 2007. He also served as non-executive director at Intravenous Infusions Limited and joined the board of directors of the Ford Foundation in 2007. He was later appointed to the board of directors at the International Center for Transitional Justice in 2015. He also served on the International Advisory Board of IE University, Spain and on the board of Instituto de Empresa Fund, Inc., Panbros Salt Industries Limited, the University of Cape Town Fund and the World Scout Fund.

Appenteng received the Baldwin Medal in 2007, the highest honor bestowed by the Wesleyan Alumni Association for service to the university and to society, and was inducted into the Wesleyan Athletics Hall of Fame in 2009. In 2013, Appenteng was named a “Great American Immigrant” by the Carnegie Corporation.

Kofi Appenteng was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 25, 2019 and August 14, 2022.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Kofi Appenteng was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on August 14, 2022 and March 25, 2019, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts and New York, New York, and was recorded on 14 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Lawyer Kofi Appenteng (1957 - ) served as partner at Thacher Proffitt & Wood LLP, senior counsel at Dentons, chairman of the Ford Foundation's board, and president of the Africa-America Institute.

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## Restrictions

### Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

### Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

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## Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Appenteng Kofi, 1957-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Appenteng Kofi, 1957- --Interviews

## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## Occupations:

Lawyer

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

LawMakers

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## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

### Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, August 14, 2022 and March 25, 2019. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

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## Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_001, TRT: 1:30:53 ?

- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_002, TRT: 2:32:19 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_003, TRT: 3:32:28 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_004, TRT: 4:31:39 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_005, TRT: 5:30:23 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_006, TRT: 6:31:48 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_007, TRT: 7:31:47 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_001\_008, TRT: 8:34:51 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_002\_009, TRT: 9:29:12 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_002\_010, TRT: 10:37:48 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_002\_011, TRT: 11:30:15 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_002\_012, TRT: 12:35:49 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_002\_013, TRT: 13:33:51 ?
- Video Oral History Interview with Kofi Appenteng, Section A2019\_019\_002\_014, TRT: 14:19:59 ?