

Andrew D. Black

QUALIFICATIONS

Strong Governmental and Community Organizing Experience: Served on the staff of U.S. Senators Bingaman and Heinrich overseeing outreach to various federal and state agencies, local governments, non-profits, businesses and education institutions. Organizing an unprecedented cross-jurisdictional collaboration in Colorado and New Mexico focused on building a coalition of elected officials, state, federal, and tribal entities, private land owners, sportsmen and women, veterans, traditional land users, non-profits and local communities to promote wildlife corridors and protect critical habitat for elk, mule deer, bighorn sheep, pronghorn and cutthroat trout.

Experienced Public Land and Conservation Advocate: Spearheaded U.S. Senators Bingaman and Heinrich's organizing efforts to protect the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness and Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. Currently, working collaboratively to lead and support campaigns to protect our national monuments and public lands, and adequately fund national parks and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Developed and delivered numerous public presentations on federal and state legislation focused on public lands transfer, industry development, national monument defense, forest planning and wild and scenic rivers. Taught a course on Adaptive Management, Resilience, and Collaboration at University of Louisville Law School.

Excellent Oral and Written Communication Skills: Wrote the case statement for the proposed Caja del Rio National Monument and presented it to the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Drafted official public comments signed by various conservation organizations for the Rio Grande, Santa Fe, and Carson National Forests, Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and to protect threatened native species. Delivered over 100 presentations statewide for Senators Bingaman and Heinrich on public lands, healthcare, and immigration.

Coalition Building in Diverse Communities: Founder of EarthKeepers 360 and as an ordained Presbyterian Minister work with spiritual leaders throughout the U.S. on conservation issues. Spearhead the Caja del Rio Coalition, working to protect and preserve over 106,000 acres of BLM and U.S. Forest service land in Northern New Mexico. Led and organized a delegation of nearly 40 multi-faith spiritual leaders from Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah to Bears Ears National Monument to meet with tribal leaders and advocate for the protection of America's sacred lands; NBC Nightly News and various national news agencies reported on this trip. Led a community wide anti-poverty coalition of city councilors, non-profit leaders, and community members focused on promoting civic education, engagement, empowerment and equity in low-income Hispanic communities.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

National Wildlife Federation
Public Lands Field Director

Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 2018-Present

- Lead, design and implement national public lands campaigns for America's largest conservation organization including defense of national monuments, preservation of critical wildlife habitat and protection of key cultural and historical sites. Developing a diverse movement of conservationists to support polices to conserve and restore our nation's public lands and waterways.
- Overseeing the Upper Rio Grande Wildlife Corridors Initiative focused on bringing together Colorado and New Mexico leaders to develop science, policy, and implement planning around protecting wildlife connectivity.
- Successfully led a 15 state campaign to get Congress to reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- Worked with veterans and community leaders across the country to successfully protect Greater Sage Grouse and other key species during the congressional National Defense Authorization Act process.

First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe
Minister/Associate Pastor

Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 2016-Present

- Oversee congregational outreach on poverty, immigration, environmental issues and children, youth and families. Led social justice and mission trips to the U.S./Mexico border.
- Lead worship, preach, teach, and tend to the spiritual growth and pastoral care of congregation members.
- Oversee EarthKeepers 360-a national conservation organization that works with spiritual and tribal leaders.

New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Director of Community Relations, Education and Veterans Outreach

May 2016-May 2018

- Developed the Federation's strategic plans for community organizing and education focused on protecting public lands and promoting conservation to sportsmen and women, veterans, and faith communities.
- Directed the campaign to create public access to the Sabinoso Wilderness and worked with U.S. Senators and BLM staff to host the Secretary of the Interior. Drafted op-eds and developed educational resources on expanding the wilderness, opening public access and creating recreational and economic opportunities.
- Lead and participated in coalitions to protect the Rio Grande del Norte and Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monuments. Traveled to D.C. to lobby for permanent LWCF reauthorization and increased appropriations and served as the coalition's featured sportsman to kick-off the national campaign.
- Created the Federation's veterans' initiatives. Serve as an Associate Program Lead for Project Healing Waters.

Eckerd College

St. Petersburg, FL

Associate Dean of Students & Adjunct Faculty

Jan. 2015-May 2016

- Oversaw the College's Departments of Career Services, Service-Learning, Employer Relations, and Internships. Supervised a staff of nine and served as a liaison between academic faculty and staff.
- Awarded the *Tampa Bay Business Journal* "Up and Comer" award for outstanding community relations. Organized the college's largest Career & Internship Fair with over 50 major employers.
- Developed the College's partnership with the City of St. Petersburg and Chamber of Commerce focused on promoting economic development, small business, and entrepreneurialism in low-income areas.
- Wrote the College's manual, policies and procedures governing the Federal Work-Study and Service-Learning programs to ensure compliance with federal laws, best practices and risk management.
- Served as the College's Associate Director of Religious Life and Associate Chaplain from 2008-2009.

United States Senate--The Honorable Martin Heinrich

Santa Fe, NM

Field Representative & Sportsmen's Coordinator

Jan. 2013—Jan. 2015

- Served as the Senator's statewide sportsmen conservation coordinator organizing leaders from environmental non-profits, local businesses and federal agencies to promote public access and protection of public lands, including the Columbine-Hondo Wilderness and Rio Grande del Norte Monument.
- Spearheaded the Senator's health, education, immigration, veterans and anti-poverty initiatives in northern New Mexico. Drafted and delivered presentations and public statements on the Senator's behalf.
- Worked collaboratively with non-profits, foundations, businesses, colleges and elected officials to develop a community-wide initiative focused on improving quality of life in low-income Hispanic communities. Led a two-day anti-poverty symposium with 20 organizational co-sponsors and over 200 community members. This work led to two new health clinics, better transportation, and increased food access.
- Drafted an amendment introduced by Senator Heinrich to the comprehensive immigration reform bill allowing higher education institutions to obtain funding for civics training of prospective citizens.

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Louisville, KY

Associate Stated Clerk and Director of Constitutional Services

Sept. 2011--Jan 2013

- Served as the chief constitutional officer and Associate Stated Clerk of the two million-member Presbyterian Church (USA). Oversaw all matters related to church governance, discipline and the Office of Immigration.
- Drafted official church opinions and advised the church on signing U.S. Supreme Court *Amicus Curiae* briefs in favor of Health Care Reform and against Arizona's Immigration Law SB-1070.
- Led a legal negotiation skills seminar for national church leaders on amicable resolution of church conflicts.
- Conducted over 40 presentations throughout the U.S. on multigenerational leadership, building healthy communities, conflict resolution, and the church's form of government.

United States Senate--The Honorable Jeff Bingaman

Santa Fe, NM

Field Representative

July 2009--Sept. 2011

- Served as Senator Bingaman's point person in northern New Mexico covering issues of public lands, education, health, poverty, veterans, immigration, and the Los Alamos National Labs. Developed the Senator's statewide presentations on health care reform, immigration and education policy.
- Acted as the Senator's liaison with ranchers, landowners, community organizations, and government officials in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Taos, Colfax, Union and Harding Counties.

- Served as the primary author on various congressional letters to the Veterans Affairs Secretary aimed at improving healthcare for New Mexico's veterans; these efforts led to four new VA health clinics.
- Served as a military and defense intern in the Washington D.C. in 2001 helping organize the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony for the Navajo Codetalkers. Interviewed the Codetalkers compiling press information.

Legal Aid Society

Louisville, KY

- Domestic Violence and Family Law Extern--Provided domestic violence victims with legal representation and obtained Domestic Violence Orders on their behalf. (January-May 2007)
- HIV/AIDS Legal Project Law Clerk--Provided legal services to HIV+ clients below the federal poverty line in cases involving discrimination in housing, employment and healthcare. Helped clients manage debt, acquire government benefits and prepare their wills. (May 2006-March 2007)

Amy Biehl Foundation Trust

Cape Town, South Africa

Truth, Restorative Justice and Reconciliation Fellow

June--August 2005

- Interviewed Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Truth and Reconciliation Commissioners as part of a fellowship exploring the intersection of race, poverty and HIV/AIDS in South Africa and the U.S.
- Collaborated with South African pastors on how to theologically address HIV/AIDS issues with compassion, love and restorative justice. Developed the Foundation's HIV/AIDS Education Curriculum.

Americorps

St. Petersburg, FL

Athletes in Service to America

Oct. 2000--August 2002

- Served as a mentor and tutor in inner-city public schools working with low-income middle school boys with no positive male role models. Awarded Pinellas County Schools Volunteer of the Year (2001).
- Taught classes on racial tolerance, civil rights, and violence prevention. Coached an inner-city baseball team winning Coach of the Year (2002). Served as National Youth Sports Program instructor.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, University of Louisville-Brandeis School of Law, 2008

- *Magna Cum Laude*, G.P.A.: 3.5, Ranked in the Top 5% of the Graduating Class
- *University of Louisville Law Review: Brandeis Law Journal* Member
- Louis D. Brandeis Writing Award
- Brandeis Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, & Immigration Law Society
- Top Grade Honors in: Environmental Law; Land Use; & Legal Problems of the Poor

University of North Carolina School of Law-Chapel Hill

- Dean's List, G.P.A.: 3.0
- Gressman-Pollitt Award for Outstanding Oral Advocacy (2003)
- UNC Center for Civil Rights First Year Representative Executive Committee

Master of Divinity, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 2008

- Presidential Scholar, G.P.A.: 3.9 & Jackson Preaching Award for Most Outstanding Male Preacher

B.A. Political Science & Religious Studies, Eckerd College, 2002

- Graduated with High Honors, Dean's List (8 times), G.P.A.: 3.9
- Outstanding Student Award (2002) & Presidential Award for Outstanding Community Service (2002)
- Played NCAA College Baseball & worked for the Tampa Bay Rays Major League Baseball Team

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

- "Out of the Desert Springs Forth Hope" Southwest Fly-Fishing, May/June 2019 with Gabe Vasquez
- "The Legend, Legacy and Transformation of Earnest Thompson Seton and Aldo Leopold," *The Outdoor Reporter* (Spring 2018). "From Generation to Generation: New Mexico Veterans Fight for Public Lands," *The Outdoor Reporter* (Fall 2017).
- "Attacking One Sacred Place is An Attack on All Sacred Places: Defending Bears Ears" *The New Mexican* Co-authored with Rabbi Nahum Ward-Lev (12/10/17).
- "No Sportsmen Don't Support Erasing National Monuments," *The Hill* (9/1/17).
- "The War on People": Reframing "The War on Drugs" By Addressing Racism Within American Drug Policy

Through Restorative Justice and Community Collaboration, *46 University of Louisville Law Review* 179 (2007)

- “Despair and Hope—the Long Hard Road to Reconciliation,” *The Mosaic Magazine* (2006).

CIVIC AWARDS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Ordained Presbyterian Minister, Presbyterian Church (USA) & Member of the Santa Fe Presbytery
- Parish Associate for Environmentalism and Social Justice at First Presbyterian Church Santa Fe (Current)
- State Land Commissioner’s Conservation Advisory Committee Member (Current)
- Habitat for Humanity Board Member—Santa Fe Habitat (Current)
- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Master Angler Award (2017)
- Tampa Bay Business Journal “Up & Comer” Award (2015)
- Pinellas County Schools Volunteer of the Year, St. Petersburg, Florida (2001)
- Led volunteer and student service trips to Cuba, Peru, Miami, Mexico, and Washington DC.

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Fly-Fishing, Hiking, Camping, Baseball, SCUBA Diving, and Meditation