

Geoffrey Cravatt Blackwell
Chief Strategy Officer and General Counsel
AMERIND Risk Management Corporation

Mr. Blackwell joined the AMERIND executive team in October of 2015. He is the executive manager of AMERIND's legal, finance, IT, HR, communications, and broadband teams. Mr. Blackwell is a recognized expert in tribal economic and corporate development as well as communications infrastructure deployment. Mr. Blackwell is very active in Federal-Tribal policy advocacy. He has testified before Congress on seven occasions, both as a tribal representative and as a senior federal policymaker. He serves as Co-Chair of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Economic, Finance & Community Development Committee, and also NCAI's Technology and Telecom Subcommittee. He is Vice-Chair of the American Indian Policy Institute of Arizona State University. He has formerly served on the Boards of Directors of the National Small Business Association, the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, Native Public Media, and Acoma Pueblo Business Enterprises.

Mr. Blackwell is the former founding Chief of the Office of Native Affairs and Policy at the Federal Communications Commission. In 2000, he was the first enrolled member of a federally recognized Tribe to work at the FCC. During two separate tours of duty at the FCC he worked on seminal FCC tribal programs and policies, including Universal Service Fund programs and carrier designations, spectrum licensing, tower siting, and radio and TV broadcast licensing, among other matters. He helped oversee economic subsidy regulations for hundreds of companies.

In between his two periods of federal service at the FCC, Mr. Blackwell was a Corporate Director at Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc., helping structure, develop, and guide over a dozen very diverse LLCs and federal contracting companies. Prior to his federal service, he began his legal career in the Litigation Department of Hale and Dorr, LLP, in Boston (now Wilmer Hale). Raised in Oklahoma and New Mexico, Mr. Blackwell comes from a family of Tribal leaders and federal officials dedicated to service in Indian Country. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Virginia School of Law. Mr. Blackwell is Muscogee (Creek), Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Omaha.