

EDY AEL CASAPERALTA

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AMERIND Risk Management Corporation, Santa Ana, NM

Project Manager, AMERIND Critical Infrastructure, June 2020 – Present

AMERIND is a federally-chartered tribally-owned risk management corporation with insurance coverage business lines. AMERIND Critical Infrastructure is a groundbreaking new business line supporting broadband access in Indian Country.

- Provide management services for AMERIND Critical Infrastructure projects designed to help Tribal Nations plan for and deploy high-speed broadband. Oversee and support completion of projects to assess and determine broadband needs, draft comprehensive broadband plans, evaluate new broadband business opportunities and partnerships, prepare and execute strategy to secure spectrum licenses, analyze emerging and established telecommunications policy, comply with legal, regulatory, and deployment requirements, and assess eligibility for and apply to federal grant and subsidy programs.
- Support AMERIND Critical Infrastructure business development. Develop proposals, materials, and cost estimates for project bids submitted to Tribal governments and entities. Participate as a tribal broadband expert in panels. Research and draft language for formal testimony, presentations, and interviews given by senior staff.
- Support AMERIND legal affairs and litigation matters.
- *Highlight:* Facilitated a client relationship through which AMERIND Critical Infrastructure is likely to secure significant work. Identified the potential client and assessed their needs, cultivated a strong relationship based on trust and exemplary service, and designed and executed a major licensing pro-bono project that was instrumental in the client's assessment of our ability to get them results and seek further work from us.

Casaperalta Law, LLC, Denver, CO

Founder & Attorney, October 2019 – August 2020

- Represented nonprofits serving rural communities and indigenous peoples in telecommunications and spectrum matters and rule-making proceedings before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Tracked rule-making proceedings, drafted and submitted comments, letters, and ex-parte letters supporting client's position, represented client in meetings with federal agencies, tribal governments, and other stakeholders, prepared and submitted Petition for Reconsideration of FCC rules, and drafted a Request for Waiver of FCC rules.
- Provided pro-bono assistance to tribal governments and institutions in spectrum licensing matters. Prepared, filed, and secured Special Temporary Authorization (STA) applications, drafted spectrum license lease and use agreements, and drafted spectrum leasing and subleasing memos for clients.
- Conceptualized, organized, and facilitated panels about rural broadband policy for client.
- Managed the administrative, compliance, and business development affairs of a solo legal practice.
- *Highlights:* Filing Petition for Reconsideration allowed client to participate in unique licensing opportunity, client obtained waiver of FCC rule that allowed it to secure critical licenses, client secured STAs to build wireless internet networks, final rules reflected the needs of client.

American Indian Law Program, University of Colorado Law School, Boulder, CO

Fellow, September 2018 – August 2019

- Researched and wrote memoranda, articles, and reports regarding federal Indian law, international human rights, indigenous peoples' rights, and issues at the intersection of telecommunications law and indigenous peoples. Assisted faculty on research for amicus briefs, United Nations reports, and legal scholarship.
- Fostered collaborations with federal Indian law academics, United Nations representatives and bodies, Tribal government representatives, renowned institutions serving indigenous peoples, and grassroots organizations.
- Coordinated and promoted program activities such as monthly faculty meetings, speaker series, student and alumni engagement events, and newsletter drafting and publication.
- *Management experience:* Supervised two junior administrative support staff, and two law student research assistants. Coordinated fundraising strategy such as drafting and submitting grant applications and crowd-sourcing initiatives.

Oversaw the appropriate allocation of the program's budget to ensure sufficient funding for programming. Processed reimbursements, procurement, and timesheets and class credit for support staff.

- *Highlights:* Coordinated every administrative aspect of a two-day conference gathering 44 speakers and over 150 community members to discuss implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – under the allotted budget. Drafted a conference report with contributions from all speakers, and secured its publication online by legal journal.

Telecommunications Management Group, Arlington, VA

Summer Intern, June – August 2017

- Researched and drafted memoranda for clients with international telecommunications projects. Drafted comments regarding spectrum policy submitted to regulatory agencies in Latin America. Assisted in drafting proposals for government contract bids.

Kissinger & Fellman, P.C., Denver, CO

Clerk, September 2016 – May 2017

- Researched and wrote memoranda regarding local, state, and federal telecommunications issues, as well as local government, utilities, litigation, and land-use matters in Colorado.

Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Washington, DC

Intern, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, May – August 2016

- Assisted in drafting orders about E-rate (Schools and Libraries Universal Service Fund program) funding decisions. Analyzed E-rate funding appeals and drafted memos about appeals decisions. Drafted memos about the implementation of new E-Rate rules.

Public Knowledge, Washington, DC

Internet Rights Fellow, September 2014 – August 2015

- Served as an expert on rural issues in federal and state telecommunications policy. Provided guidance on federal policies regarding access and affordability of communications technologies. Designed and implemented advocacy plans to advance public-interest telecommunications policy on Capitol Hill, at the FCC, with advocacy groups, and with the press.
- Directed policy strategy for the Rural Broadband Policy Group. Directed the group's strategic engagement in key policy issues such as telephone and internet regulation, spectrum access, Network Neutrality, Universal Service Fund programs, and funding for telecommunications infrastructure. Drafted advocacy documents, policy briefs, and comments supporting public interest positions in proceedings at the FCC, NTIA, RUS, and state Public Utility Commissions. Fostered relationships with agency staff, policymakers, private-sector stakeholders, funders, and public interest groups across the country.
- *Highlights:* The RBPG became an influential voice in telecommunications policy. The Federal Communications Commission cited RBPG's policy positions in its *2015 Open Internet Order*. RBPG outreach efforts helped establish the Rural Broadband Experiments, an FCC program that distributed \$100 million to rural broadband deployment projects. Organized and facilitated a Congressional briefing about the FCC *Technology Transitions* proceeding featuring rural advocates from the utilities, public safety, and opportunity youth sectors.

The Center for Rural Strategies, Whitesburg, KY

Programs & Research Associate, July 2007 – September 2014

- Launched and managed the Rural Broadband Policy Group (RBPG), a national ad-hoc coalition of rural organizations advocating for policies that increase broadband access in rural areas. Organized and facilitated multi-day meetings where members collectively discussed policy priorities and strategy. Oversaw the list-serv facilitating information-sharing for the group. Recruited new members and engaged existing members. Represented the RBPG in media requests, and managed the group's social media channels. Represented the RBPG in conferences, events, and expert panels regarding rural broadband issues. Drafted and submitted grant proposals to fund the work of the RBPG, oversaw budget allocation for programming, and completed end-of-grant reports as needed.
- Directed policy strategy for the Rural Broadband Policy Group. Directed the group's strategic engagement in key policy issues such as telephone and internet regulation, spectrum access, Network Neutrality, Universal Service Fund programs, and funding for telecommunications infrastructure. Drafted advocacy documents, policy briefs, and

comments supporting public interest positions in proceedings at the FCC, NTIA, RUS, and state Public Utility Commissions. Fostered relationships with agency staff, policymakers, private-sector stakeholders, funders, and public interest groups across the country.

- Assisted in developing policy strategy to advance policies that support immigrant youth in rural communities.
- Conducted, transcribed, and translated interviews with Latinx immigrants to be featured in documentaries about rural life and immigrant communities in rural America.
- Fostered relationships with policymakers, private-sector stakeholders, rural organizations, public interest groups, and funders interested in rural policy.
- *Highlights:* Raised \$250,000 in foundation grants to advance the work of the RBPG. The RBPG became an influential voice in telecommunications policy.

EDUCATION

University of Colorado Law School, J.D., 2018

Honors: 2018 Edward C. King Award, presented by faculty for outstanding leadership.
 2017 Silicon Flatirons WilmerHale Writing Competition Winner • MALDEF Scholarship
 2016 Hatfield Scholar • Federal Communications Bar Association Foundation Scholarship

Law Journal: *Colorado Technology Law Journal*, Lead Student Note Editor. Note selected for publication.

Moot Court: 2018 National Telecommunications and Technology Moot Court, Best Brief.

Ohio University, M.A., Latin American Studies, 2007

Occidental College, B.A., Psychology, 2005

BAR ADMISSION

Colorado Supreme Court

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Kristen Carpenter, Edyael Casaperalta, & Danielle Lazore-Thompson, Conference Report, *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the United States, A Call to Action for Inspired Advocacy in Indian Country*, U. COLO. L. REV. (Apr. 2, 2020), <http://lawreview.colorado.edu/undrip/>.

Edyael Casaperalta, *The New Atravesados: Tech Workers in the Digital Borderlands*, RIO BRAVO: A JOURNAL OF THE BORDERLANDS (2020).

Edyael Casaperalta, Note, *Achieving Universal Service in Developing Areas: Three Policies from Latin America and What They Can Teach the United States*, 16 COLO. TECH. L.J. 399 (2018).

Module 7: Access to Internet, in OPEN INTERNET COURSE (Natalie Green & Carolina Rossini eds., 2015. Course designed for Net Neutrality advocates in Latin America, available at Peer 2 Peer University in Spanish).

VOLUNTEER WORK & SKILLS

Take Back Tech Fellowship, Just Futures Law & Mijente

Fellow 2020-2021

- Provide legal research assistance to grassroots organizers and campaigns fighting surveillance technology deployed against immigrant communities.

Social Justice & Technology Symposium, University of Colorado Law School, April 17, 2018

Creator & Lead Organizer

- Conceptualized symposium theme and panel topics addressing telecommunications law and social justice issues. Recruited speakers, panelists, moderators, and student volunteers; and raised \$9,000 to cover travel and lodging expenses for 15 speakers traveling from across the country.

Skills: Native Spanish speaker • Experienced translator