



Connect. Solve. Inspire.

Gary W. Black is the Managing Partner of On Point Strategies Inc., a consulting firm dedicated to providing “mission possible solutions” for clients in the food and fiber arena.

Gary served as the 16th Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Georgia from 2011-2023. Prior to serving as an elected Constitutional Officer, Black led the Georgia Agribusiness Council and managed young farmer leadership development activities for the Georgia Farm Bureau.

As President of the Georgia Agribusiness Council for 21 years, Black earned the bipartisan trust and respect of state and federal elected officials as an expert on issues impacting rural America and agriculture. His advice has helped develop reasonable solutions for problems impacting transportation, environmental stewardship, taxation, and private property rights just to name a few.

Over three terms in office, Commissioner Black’s vision for executive leadership, information technology, marketing, and food safety garnered national acclaim. He led the development of the nationally recognized **Georgia Grown** brand opening opportunities for small business dreamers, expanding trade across the globe, and building bridges with culinary and school nutrition professionals. Commissioner Black crafted and implemented landmark disaster relief efforts for Georgia farm families in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, one of our nation’s most devastating weather events. For this work, Black was recognized as the 2017 Georgian of the Year by Georgia Trend, the state’s leading business magazine and entered the magazines Most Influential Georgian’s Hall of Fame in 2024.

As Commissioner, Black led state trade delegations to Israel, Turkey, China, Gabon, Panama, and Taiwan. From 2018 to 2020, he represented agriculture as a member of the EXIM Bank Advisory Committee. He implemented a regulatory professional exchange program with Ireland. Black built and continues to maintain solid relationships with members of the Consular Corps of Atlanta.

Black’s business experience includes forming and managing AgriTrust of Georgia, a workers’ compensation insurance company for the agribusiness industry. He recently joined the Board of Trustees for the company. For 12 years he served as Chairman of the Board of the Georgia Development Authority, a \$180 million agricultural lending institution.

CropLife, Leadership Georgia, the Georgia Restaurant Association, and many other business specific trade and commodity associations have recognized Black for his career contributions to the agricultural industry.

Black is a 1980 graduate of the University of Georgia. He and his wife, Lydia, raise commercial and registered SimAngus cattle on their family farm in Commerce, Georgia, and actively serve in various ministries of Maysville Baptist Church.