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Assessor versus Assessed Debates on PCI DSS topics





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Who are these guys?

- Shared history of performing assessments since the beginning days of PCI DSS
- Now on opposite sides of the table
 - Todd runs GRC for fast-moving fintech firm
 - Jacob still conducts and manages assessments
- Want to share our collective insights and hard-won experience with you



Rough Agenda

- Scope and applicability: the oldest argument
- Identity and access management
- Dealing with vulnerabilities



Few caveats

- We know we won't coincidentally land on your exact scenario, configuration, or scope configuration
- We're party to some of the goods on upcoming draft of PCI DSS
 4.0 standard and also the relevant NDA
- We speak for ourselves and not our employers, past or present, nor PCI SSC, card brands, the White House, etc.

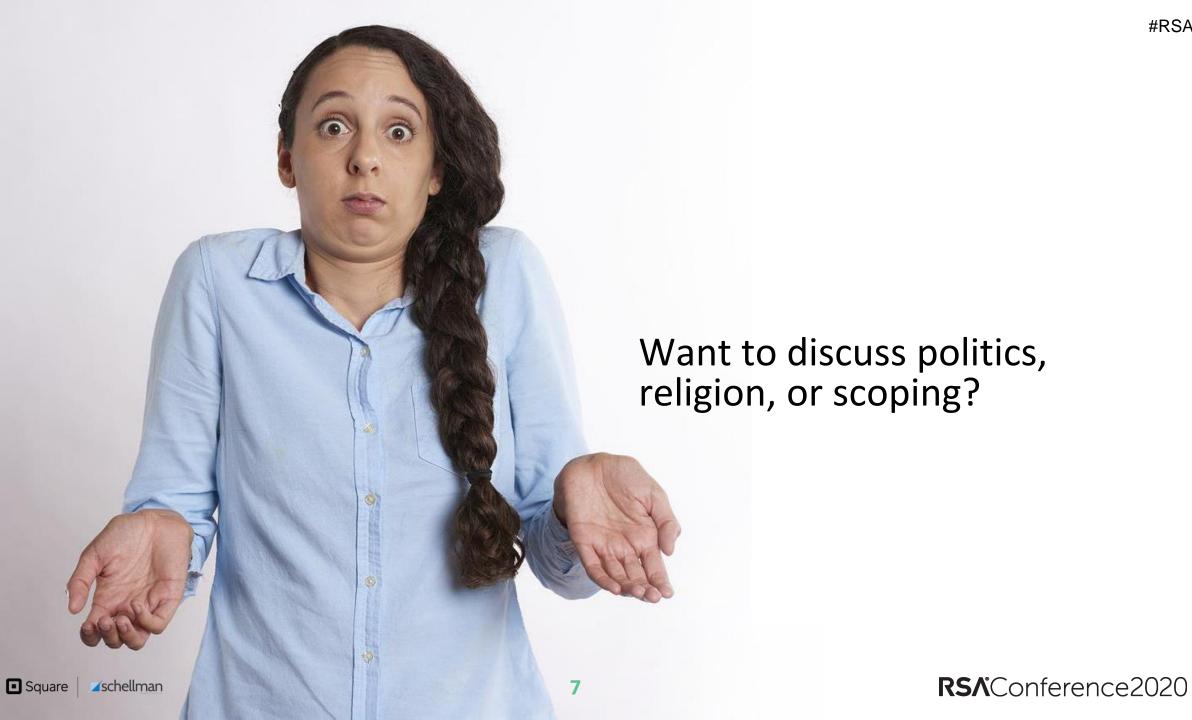
Here's what we can do

- Give you some sharpened questions to ask your teams and your assessors
- Point out some pitfalls we've encountered along the way of our journeys
- Help you break the ice on contentious topics

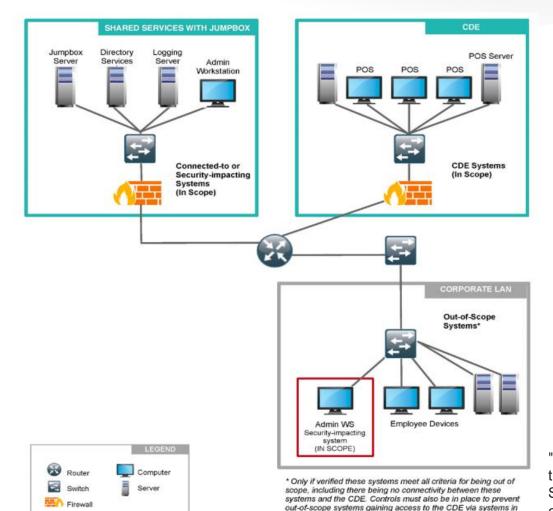


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Scope and applicability



Maybe you've seen this diagram



"The PCI DSS Example Network Diagram has been extracted from the PCI SSC Information Supplement • Guidance for PCI DSS Scoping and Network Segmentation • May 2017 and appear courtesy of PCI Security Standards Council, LLC. © 2006-2020 PCI Security Standards Council, LLC. All Rights Reserved."

the Shared Services network.

Scope isn't a naughty word

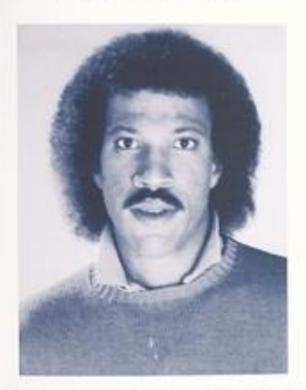
- Consider the applicability of requirements to an in-scope system
- In scope means you consider it and assess it, not that you apply all requirements to it
 - Maybe some lesser set of requirements apply



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Identity and Access Management

Hello?



Is it me you're looking for?

Are you somewhere feeling lonely?

NIST 800-63B: "Do not require that memorized secrets be changed arbitrarily (e.g., periodically) unless there is a user request or evidence of authenticator compromise."

PCI DSS v3.2.1: "Change user passwords/passphrases at least once every 90 days."

DISCUSS.



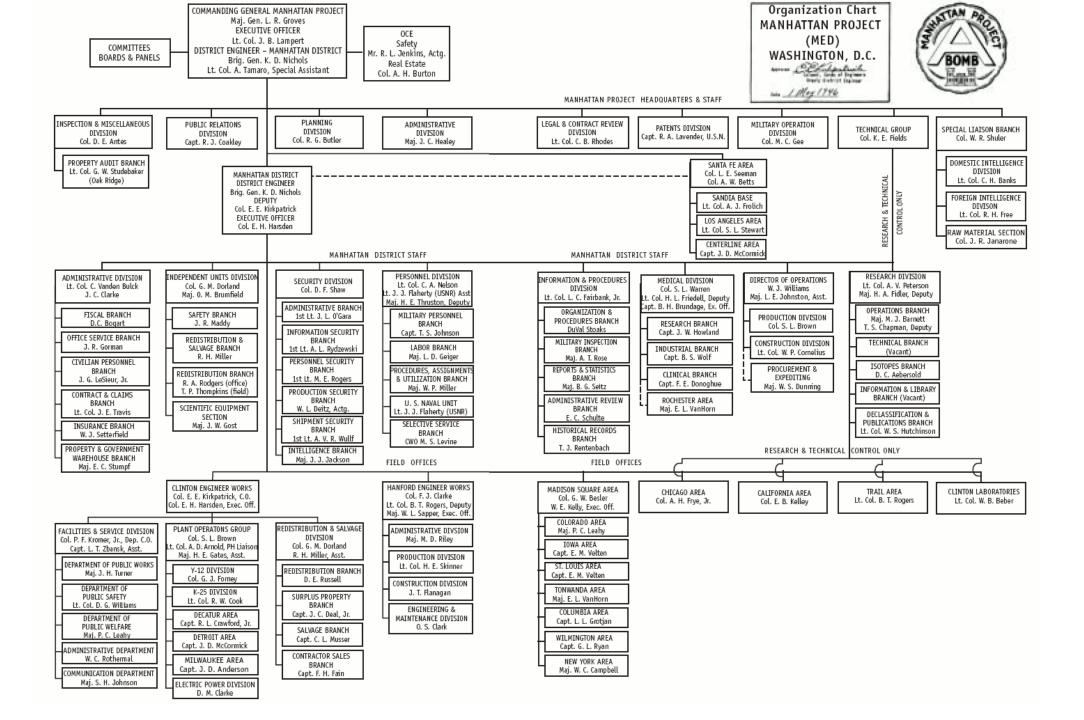
Service accounts and friends

- Current version of DSS doesn't give you much to work with
- Categorize your accounts:
 - Service
 - Default
 - Emergency access
- Control access to credentials:
 - Password vault
 - Alert on use
 - Change password values after use









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Vulnerability Management

tagcloud of tech service providers hit by ransomware in 2019 would go here, but our lawyers no.

How I learned to stop worrying and love scanning

- You may always have vulnerabilities show up in your scan results
- How long does a vulnerability stick around in your organization?
- More priority for applying fixes to software components



Variations on the theme

- Lots of pentest-like options available
- Consider the sort of testing that gives you results with the clearest picture of what an attacker could do (even if they're the most damning)
- What meets Requirement 11.3? What achieves other things?



Sounds like marriage counseling

- Plan your strategic conversations now
 - Figure out your ongoing communication
- Changes to environment and scope implications
 - Start discussing with the other party now
- Sustainability and Maturity
 - How do you demonstrate your mature understanding of risk?

