Bradley D. Lawson

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Professional Summary

Cloud Engineer with hands-on experience in designing and implementing scalable, secure cloud infrastructures, with a focus on Azure. Proven track record of enhancing security, optimizing performance, and driving compliance, achieving an 83% reduction in vulnerabilities on key resources. Adept at collaborating with cross-functional teams to deliver cloud environments that meet organizational goals. Committed to staying at the forefront of cloud technologies and best practices to deliver efficient and innovative solutions.

Technical Skills

- Networking Fundamentals: IP addressing, subnetting, routing
- Web Development with JavaScript and NodeJs
- Basic Scripting Knowledge with Powershell, Bash, and Python
- KQL Azure Resourcec Graph
- Identifying and resolving common technical and networking issues
- Cybersecurity Principles and Awareness
- Azure IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS
- DevOps Azure DevOps and Github Actions
- Github Version Control
- Terraform IaC
- Identity and Access Management
- Azure KeyVault
- Azure Policy
- Jira and Azure Boards
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Certifications

- AZ-400 Microsoft Certified: DevOps Engineer Expert
- AZ-104 Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate
- Cloud Operations Specialist Apprenticeship
- HashiCorp Certified: Terraform Associate
- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
- AZ-900 Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals
- ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity (CC)

Professional Experience

Conoco Phillips

December 2023 – Present

Cloud Engineer

Created Automation Processes

- Created automation for repetitive and error prone addition of IP address to Azure Policy Repo.
- Created the function App using Powershell
- Utilized an internal Firewall API and the Github API
- Created the logic to update the Azure Policy Repo if there was a change to the Firewall API, merge it through a Dev branch and then create a Pull Request into the Release Branch, finishing with sending a message to the Cloud Engineering TEAMs channel for approvals to merge.

Mitigated Security Risks

- Created Azure Policy as Code with Terraform to reduce the attack surface on key Azure
 infrastructure such as denying public access, restricting network access to non-COP IP addresses,
 and enforcing minimum TLS versions.
- Researched and upgraded all Azure resources using Python Scripts and collaborated with multiple teams to ensure all were upgraded before the version was EOL.
- Remediated non-compliant and vulnerable resources decreasing non-compliance 100% for specific resources I headed.
- Collaborated with IT Security and Security Architecture to document exceptions to policy for business necessary resources.
- Identified VMs not successfully onboarding to Microsoft Defender for Endpoint and then worked with the resource owners to install.

Streamlined Communication

- Conducted research for existing Azure resources using technologies such as KQL, communicating with Microsoft, and online documentation to understand the current environment and implement strategies for upgrading or remediating.
- Documented processes and procedures such as what resources are non-compliant, how to remediate non-compliant resources, security exceptions including network diagrams, research findings, such as the Azure Python environment, who owns the resources, the best upgrade version and how to upgrade.
- Utilized Terraform to update code for tagging resources to coordinate a consistent tagging strategy

View my Github for more: https://github.com/BradleyLawson/portfolio/blob/master/README.md

Cloud Operations Specialist

SkillStorm

Microservice Architecture Java with Kubernetes

Collaborated with a team of engineers to transform an existing Java web application into a microservices architecture using containerization and Kubernetes orchestration. As part of a three-member DevOps group, I was responsible for the following:

- Automated the deployment process by creating YAML configuration files and implementing "Infrastructure as Code" testing.
- Worked closely with the Identity and Governance team to enable Just-In-Time access for secure resource utilization.
- Coordinated with the Infrastructure team to streamline the application's deployment, and built continuous integration and delivery pipelines using GitHub Actions for seamless and efficient updates.

Wordpress on Azure

Collaborated with a team of engineers to design and deploy a WordPress application in Azure.

- Leveraged Terraform for infrastructure provisioning.
- Developed deployment scripts to automate the launch of the WordPress app once the infrastructure was in place.
- Deployed the application into a VNet and subnet configured through Terraform, and integrated an Azure Application Gateway to ensure secure and scalable access.

Pearland ISD, Pearland, TX

June 2020 – July 2023

September 2023- Present

History Teacher and Football and Basketball Coach

- Designed, planned, and executed educational projects
- Collaborated with colleagues to implement learning benchmarks
- Analyzed test data to plan instructional strategies for struggling students
- Identified individual student challenges and adapted teaching methods to address them
- Overhauled football and basketball team to a championship in one year

Dickinson ISD, Dickinson, TX

February 2019 - June 2020

History Teacher

- Collected and analyzed data to evaluate student performance and make data-driven instructional decisions
- Recognized by the Dean of Instruction for creating a website for students during the Covid lockdown
- Planned and provided instruction and training for a diverse classroom

Education

Luther Rice, Lithonia, GA Bachelor of Arts in Religion

December 2014

Relevant Training/Courses in Software Development

Apprenti and Department of Labor Apprenticeship

September 2023 – September 2024

1 Year Cloud Apprenticeship recognized by the Department of Labor

- Cloud Fundamentals
- Azure
- Network Fundamentals
- Basic Linux and PowerShell Scripting
- Terraform Fundamentals

University of Central Florida Coding Bootcamp Orlando, FL

October 2017 – April 2018

24 week Full Stack Web Development Bootcamp

- Front End
 - o HTML
 - o CSS
 - Bootstrap
 - JavaScript
 - o ReactJS
- Back End
 - o NodeJs
- Databases
 - o MongoDB
 - o SOL

Microsoft Learn Online

August 2020 – Present

Continuous Learning

- https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/users/bradleylawson/achievements
- https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/users/bradleylawson/credentials?tab=credentials-tab