

Kayvon Karimi

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Professional Statement

Detail-oriented Cybersecurity professional completing a Master's in Cybersecurity Engineering with a foundation in penetration testing, network defense, and digital forensics. Skilled in network security, vulnerability assessment, security operations, and risk management. Completed a Cyber Security Pre-Apprenticeship program, further strengthening expertise in SIEM tools, cloud security, and governance frameworks. Passionate about securing systems, protecting sensitive data, and contributing to resilient cybersecurity teams.

Skills

- **Technical Skills:** Network Exploitation, Web Application Testing, Vulnerability Assessment, Penetration Testing, Digital Forensics, Incident Detection & Response, Packet Analysis & Traffic Decryption, Malware Investigation, Cloud Security Configuration, VPN & Firewall Management, Bash & Python Scripting, Linux & Windows Administration, Security Monitoring & Log Analysis, Authentication & Cryptographic Protocols, CTF Problem Solving, TLS Key Logging, Security Automation & Scripting, Proxy Server Configuration, VPN Deployment, Privilege Escalation
- **Offensive Security Tools:** Wireshark, Nessus, Nmap, OpenVAS, SQLmap, MySQL, Burp Suite, Metasploit, FFUF, Gobuster, Nikto, John the Ripper, Hashcat, aircrack-ng, airmon-ng, WebGoat, Selenium, Hydra
- **Defensive Security & Monitoring Tools:** Wazuh, Splunk, Snort, Security Onion, tcpdump, PowerShell, CMD, Autopsy, Volatility, Regripper, FTK Imager
- **Cloud & Virtualization Tools:** AWS (EC2, S3, IAM, Security Groups), Azure Basics, Docker on AWS, Kubernetes, VirtualBox, Pi-hole, WireGuard, Tailscale
- **Cryptographic & Web Security Tools:** OpenSSL, PuTTYgen, TLS Key Logging, Apache2 HTTPS, Certificate Authority, PKI, Diffie-Hellman, X.509 Chain Validation
- **Systems & Admin Tools:** Linux (Debian/Ubuntu), Windows Server, Active Directory, Group Policy Management, RDP, Local Security Policy, WordPress Hardening, C Panel, bash scripting, iptables
- **Frameworks & Compliance:** Frameworks & Compliance, NIST 800-53, MITRE ATT&CK, OWASP Top 10, CVE/CVSS Scoring, CIS Benchmarks, DISA STIFs, SOC 2, ISO 27001

Education

University of San Diego

Dec 2025

Master of Science, Cybersecurity Engineering (GPA: 4.00)

San Diego, CA

- **Achievements:** Advanced research and applied engineering

Texas A&M University

May 2012

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Minor in Business Administration (GPA: 3.4)

College Station, TX

- **Achievements:** Men's D1 tennis team

Certifications & Training

- **Cyber Proud: Cybersecurity Pre-Apprenticeship Program:** May 2025
 - *Completed cybersecurity training in computer fundamentals, cryptography, cloud security, focused on security operations and vulnerability management.
 - *Gained hands-on experience with Windows/Linux, Active Directory, PowerShell, AWS, Docker, and Kubernetes.
 - *Developed practical skills in penetration testing, vulnerability assessments, network exploitation, SIEM tools, and IDS/IPS.
 - *Proficient in securing sensitive data, configuring proxy servers, and managing firewalls and VPNs.
- **CompTIA Security+:** December 2025
- **Google: Foundations of Cybersecurity:** August 2023
- **Harvard: VPAL Cybersecurity - Managing Risk in the Information Age:** July 2023

Cyber Security Projects

Internal Penetration Test | Active Directory & Network Exploitation | [Report](#)

Sep 2025 - Oct 2025

Design World

- Simulated full-scope internal penetration test targeting AD and segmented enterprise hosts.
- Exploited SMBv1 vulnerabilities (MS17-010/EternalBlue) to demonstrate remote code execution and lateral movement.
- Detected weak SSL/TLS cipher suites (SWEET32, RC4) and advised cryptographic hardening.

Internal Web Application Vulnerability Assessment | eCommerce Platform | [Report](#)

Jul 2024 - Aug 2025

Court Crate

- Performed network reconnaissance and service enumeration using Nmap (SYN stealth scans, service version detection) and Tenable Nessus Essentials, identifying 26 distinct vulnerabilities across 4 severity tiers (0 critical, 2 medium).
- Mapped discovered vulnerabilities to OWASP Top 10 categories and provided risk ratings based on CVSS, supporting executive and developer-friendly remediation reporting.

VPN Client Monitoring with Wazuh SIEM | AWS Cloud Deployment | [Report](#)

Jun 2024 - Jul 2025

University of San Diego

- Provisioned and configured AWS EC2 instance to deploy a secure, cloud-based VPN infrastructure using Pi-hole for DNS-level ad/tracker blocking and PiVPN (WireGuard) for encrypted remote access.
- Integrated Wazuh SIEM/XDR to enable centralized log aggregation, correlation rules, and alerting mechanisms for VPN client activity.

Wireless Traffic Capture & WPA2 Cracking | Capstone Project | [YouTube](#)

Feb 2025 - Apr 2025

Cyber Proud

- Captured and decrypted 5,000+ WPA2-encrypted 802.11 frames using monitor mode, airmon-ng, and aircrack-ng to crack weak passwords.
- Analyzed decrypted traffic in Wireshark, exposing DNS, TLS, ARP, SSDP, LLMNR metadata and endpoint behavior.

Kali Linux GRUB Menu Login Bypass | Cracking a Kali Linux User | [YouTube](#)

Jan 2025 - Feb 2025

Independent Project

- Demonstrated local privilege escalation via bypassing GRUB authentication and modifying kernel boot parameters to gain root shell access.
- Analyzed the boot process, GRUB configuration, and Linux runlevels to enable unauthorized access without credentials.

Forensic Investigation | System Artifact Analysis with Autopsy | [Report](#)

Nov 2024 - Dec 2024

Independent Project

- Processed and parsed 300+ Windows registry artifacts (NTUSER.DAT, OpenSaveMRU, MUICache, UserAssist) to reconstruct user activity timelines and detect anomalous behavior.
- Employed Autopsy, RegRipper, and manual registry inspection to perform layered forensic analysis, event correlation, and artifact extraction.

Work Experience

Court Crate | *Project Manager - (Present)*

Oct 2019 - Present

- Built and managed a secure e-commerce platform with WordPress hardening, user authentication, HTTPS/TLS, and uptime SLAs exceeding 99.9%.
- Implemented robust web application security controls, including SSL/TLS enforcement, plugin audits, and regular vulnerability patching to protect user data and maintain platform resilience.
- Oversaw end-to-end platform development lifecycle, coordinating with developers, content teams, and hosting providers to ensure system scalability, secure deployment, and continuous uptime.

Broadstone Sports Club | *Tennis Professional - (Part-Time)*

May 2023 - Present

- Mentor and coach players of all skill levels, building individualized development plans to foster growth, resilience, and strategic thinking.
- Cultivate strong communication skills by translating complex techniques into clear, actionable steps.

Golden Gate Realty | *Real Estate Agent*

Jan 2020 - Nov 2022

- Built trusted relationships with investors, utilizing strong analytical skills to identify high-value opportunities across the DFW metroplex.
- Delivered \$10M in cumulative sales by leveraging strategic planning, attention to detail, and market analysis.

Tri-Force Marketing | *Web Developer*

Feb 2015 - May 2021

- Developed 100+ full-stack websites (HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL) with secure form handling, authentication, and server-side validation.
- Implemented input sanitization and parameterized queries to prevent XSS, CSRF, and SQL injection per OWASP Top 10.
- Configured SSL/TLS, access controls, and log analysis to strengthen deployment security and operational monitoring.