

# Bug Hunters dump user data.

Can they keep it?

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Well they're keeping it  
anyway.



# Who?



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**Whitney Merrill**  
@wbm312

Data Protection Officer &  
Privacy Attorney - a lawyer,  
but not your lawyer



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**Dylan Ayrey**  
@InsecureNature

Co-Founder of Truffle Security,  
TruffleHog author, bug hunter,  
security researcher, etc...



# Do bug hunters touch your data?

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the URL [hackerone.com/uber?type=team](https://hackerone.com/uber?type=team). The page has a dark header with the 'hackerone' logo and navigation links for 'SOLUTIONS', 'PRODUCTS', 'PARTNERS', and 'COMP'. A pink arrow points from the text above to the 'hackerone' logo. Below the logo is a list of rules enclosed in a red box:

- Do not attempt to extract, download, or otherwise exfiltrate data that may have PII or other sensitive data other than your own.
- Do not change passwords of any account that is not yours or that you do not have explicit permission to change. If ever prompted to change a password of an account you did not register yourself or an account that was not provided to you, stop and report the finding immediately.
- Do not do anything that would be considered a privacy violation, cause destruction of data, or interrupt or degrade our service.
- Do not interact with accounts you do not own.



Google

Bug Hunters

# Investigating and reporting bugs

When investigating a vulnerability, please, only ever target your own accounts. Never attempt to access anyone else's data and do not engage in any activity that would be disruptive or damaging to your fellow users or to Google.

## Program Ground Rules

- Respect our users' privacy.
- Leave the Site as you found it.
- Don't violate our Terms of Service or the law.
- Don't access the data of others.
- Don't impact our services.



hackerone.com/starbucks?type=team

# hackerone

SOLUTIONS ▾

PRODUCTS ▾

PARTNERS ▾

Login



Dashboard Pro

- Do not attempt to extract, download, or otherwise exfiltrate data which you believe may have PII other than your own.
- Do not change passwords of any account that is not yours or that you do not have explicit permission to change. If ever prompted to change a password, stop and report the finding immediately.
- Do not publicly disclose vulnerability reports that are not resolved and approved for disclosure by Starbucks.

• When investigating a vulnerability, please only target your own account and do not attempt to access data from anyone else's account.

**Job done.**



# Crap.



Blind XSS on [REDACTED].com admin endpoint leads to dump of entire user database

\$400

20 points

(Private) · Updated a year ago

P2

Resolved

Comments 10

Yes.

---





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**Not yet**

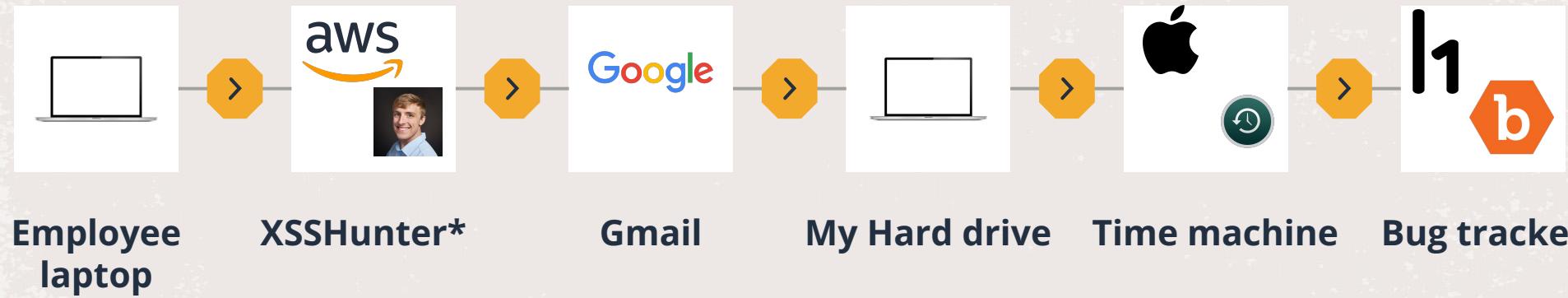
---

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There's data  
everywhere



# Data flow diagram



\*and/or other similarly situated third-party tool

# XSSHunter isn't clear

XSS Hunter BETA

Home Features Sign Up Contact/Abuse XSS Hunter Donate ❤ Logout

Run by [@IAmMandatory](#)

Served at: /xsitescripting 121.244.182.249 http://localhost:80

Hi jdjdj

The Password is null

---

PREV 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 NEXT



# The bug platform itself



Files attached

[dom \(6\).html \(481 KB\)](#)

Delete button???

Two red arrows are overlaid on the image. One arrow points to the right, highlighting the text "Delete button???". Another arrow points to the left, highlighting the file attachment icon (a small document icon) next to the file name "dom (6).html".

# This incident isn't isolated



“Uh... yeah”

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—All the bug hunters I asked





# Never hurts to ask

## Disclose report to CrowdStream

Open a request to disclose this report to [CrowdStream](#). We recommend requesting disclosure after the vulnerability is marked as resolved.

Disclosure requests **will not speed up** submission transition.

Please review our [Public Disclosure Policy](#) before submitting a request.

[Request disclosure](#)



[REDACTED] has cancelled the request to disclose [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] does not disclose reports of this type, and does not consent to the disclosure of this specific report. [REDACTED]

[View details on HackerOne.](#)

---

Dang.



## Disclose report to CrowdStream



**Disclosure request approved:** Your disclosure report has been approved and published — [View disclosure report](#)

---

Holy crap that worked.



Blind stored XSS on from https://talent.indeed.com to http://auscorp-analyticstest1.indeed.net:8012/notebooks/8221

Submitted about 5 years ago

Reference	2e9e06884509a278ca14e95aa6d7e7207f031a172ef31927c6a368a793cf45b7
Submitted	20 May 2017 18:26:27 UTC
Target Location	https://*.indeed.com
Target category	Other
VRT	Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) > Stored > Non-Admin to Anyone

#### Status

Resolved

Duplicate

This submission has been fixed!

#### Reward

5 points

“Your PoC exfiltrated **email addresses** but it seems other PII could have been hypothetically at risk. The user base was relatively small (**a few thousand**) as this was an experimental project.”

“Be sure that any **PII** that was in your PoC should **be obfuscated**. We are excited that we can be included in your talk and help give back to the security community.”

@yahoo.com	1
@comcast.net	1
@yahoo.com	1
@gmail.com	1
@outlook.com	1
@24gmail.com	1
016	1
@yahoo.com	1
@mail.mil	1
@gmail.com	1
garbage.com	1
@gmail.com	1
@gmail.com	1
@hotmail.com	1
@gmail.com	1
@grr.la	1
@hoo.com	1
@hotmail.com	1
@gmail.com	1

# Asked to delete data?

---

No.

# Maintain data access through ticket?

---

Yes.

# Disclosure notifications?

---

Not to my knowledge.

C issuetracker.google.com/u/1/issues/152549045?pli=1

# IssueTracker

Search IssueTracker

signed to me  
red by me  
d to me  
orted by me  
oe verified  
kmark groups  
ed searches

310543 152549045

XSS in https://n-3yyj2lia5ofgy376pcztho2merhjrjwypn7fqra-0lu-script.googleusercontent.com

Comments (29) Dependencies (0/1) Duplicates (0) Blocking (0) Resources (18)

I'd say conservatively there's thousands of emails, names and other information in this file. Here's a few:

@umich.edu @canyonisd.net y@gmail.=  
@gemal.co @gmail.comr @gmail.com =  
l@gemal.con @gmail.com @gmail.com @g=

[@talktalk.net](#)

[@talktalk.net](#) @googlemail.com @gmail.com=

[@gmail.com](#)

Reporter	Type	Priority	Severity

“Re: notification. We are following our usual privacy incident process, that includes notification of customers in case it's necessary. **Not sure if it was necessary in this case, our team doesn't see that part of the process.**”

# Asked to delete data?

---

No.

# Maintain data access through ticket?

---

Yes.

# Disclosure notifications?

---

Not to my knowledge.

# Wait hold up....



**ev...@google.com <ev...@google.com> #28**

Hi Dylan!

Thanks for the heads up! And congrats on the Blackhat talk. Also nice to chat with you again.

We've looked back into this incident and concluded that we had to make a few changes to our processes, but for now we would just like to ask you to delete the copies (if any) you have of these emails.



Stored XSS on http://...  
Submitted over 5 years ago



Reference

Submitted

Target Location

Target category

31 Mar 2017 03:21 (39 min ago)

Website Testing

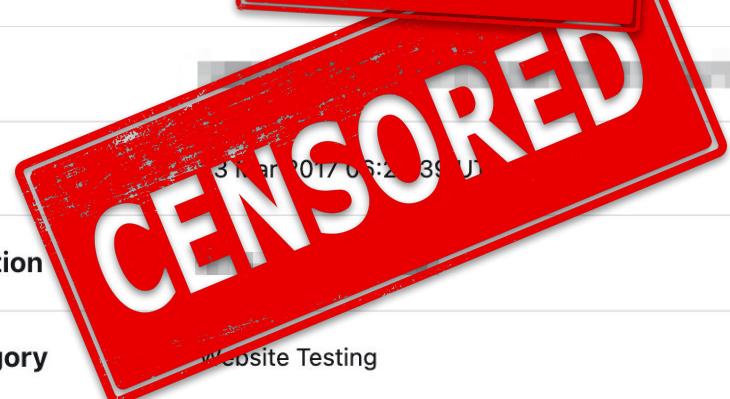


bigBugGuy sent a message

The affected data was exposed to the following clients:

All exposed data was collected from the following clients:

Also exposed data was collected from the following clients:



# Asked to delete data?

---

No.

# Maintain data access through ticket?

---

Yes.

# Disclosure notifications?

---

Not to my knowledge.

# What about other researchers?

---



# What about other researchers?

---



blog.assetnote.io/bug-bounty/2019/01/14/gaining-access-to-ubers-user-data-through-ampscript-evaluation/

The screenshot shows a blog post on the Assetnote website. The header includes the Assetnote logo, navigation links for 'Continuous Security Platform', 'Use Cases', 'Company', 'Blog', 'Labs', and a 'REQUEST A DEMO' button. The main title of the post is 'Gaining access to Uber's user data through AMPScript evaluation', dated 'Jan 14, 2019'.

<https://blog.assetnote.io/bug-bounty/2019/01/14/gaining-access-to-ubers-user-data-through-ampscript-evaluation/>

# Making it rain Shubs

*Data returned from Uber for all users named 'Shubs'*

# Asked to delete data?

---

No.

# Maintain data access through ticket?

---

Yes.

# Disclosure notifications?

---

Not to his knowledge.

# What about other researchers?

---



→ C 🔒 samcurry.net/hacking-starbucks/

## Hacking Starbucks and Accessing Nearly 100 Million Customer Records

© June 20, 2020 ·  [samwcyo](#)

After a long day of trying and failing to find vulnerabilities on the Verizon Media bug bounty program I decided to call it quits and do some chores. I needed to buy gifts for a friends birthday and went online to order a Starbucks gift card.

While trying to purchase it on the Starbucks website I couldn't help but notice a lot of API calls that felt immediately suspicious. There were requests being sent under an API prefixed with "/bff/proxy/" that returned data that appeared to be coming from another host.

<https://samcurry.net/hacking-starbucks/>

“I tried my best to limit it as I didn't want to cause any problems from their side, so I only included like **5-6 other peoples** records”

---



```
/bff/proxy/stream/v1/users/me/streamItems/web\..\..\..\..\..\.\.
.\..\..\..\.\Search\vl\Accounts?
$filter=startswith(UserName, 'redacted') HTTP/1.1
Host: app.starbucks.com
```

```
{
  "@odata.context":
  "https://redacted.starbucks.com/Search/v1/$metadata#Accounts",
  "value": [
    {
      "Id": 81763022,
      "ExternalId": "59d159e2-redacted-redacted-b037-
e8cecedf354",
      "UserName": "redacted@gmail.com",
      "FirstName": "Justin",
      "LastName": "Gardner",
      "EmailAddress": "redacted@gmail.com",
      "Submarket": "US",
      "PartnerNumber": null,
      "RegistrationDate": "2018-05-19T18:52:15.0763564Z",
      "RegistrationSource": "Android",
      "LastUpdated": "2020-05-16T23:28:39.3426069Z"
    }
  ]
}
```

# Asked to delete data?

---

No.

# Maintain data access through ticket?

---

Yes.

# Disclosure notifications?

---

Not to his knowledge.

---

These aren't  
one-off's.



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# Why does it happen?

A blind XSS fired on this domain that I put in here months ago. It's an admin endpoint, and the purpose of the endpoint is to return a list of all users. This means I accidentally dumped all users.

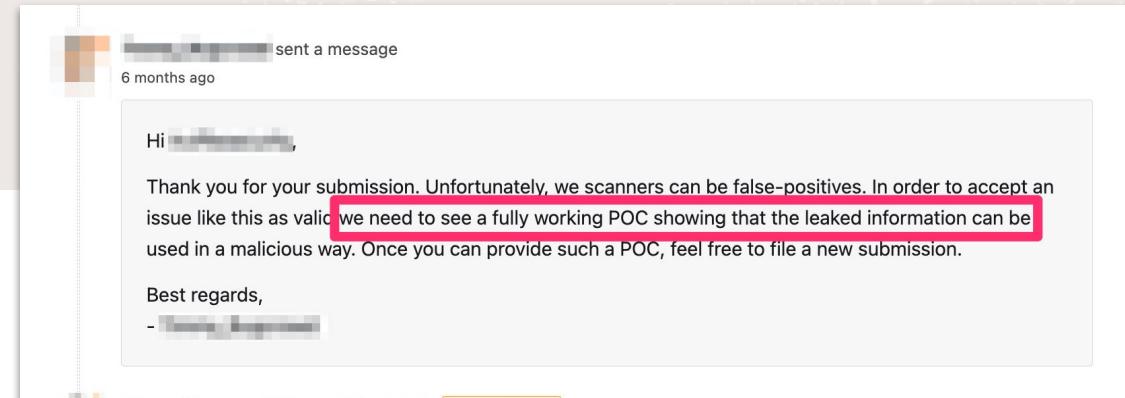
This was an accident. I really try to not dump all users. [REDACTED]

---

# Sometimes it's an accident.

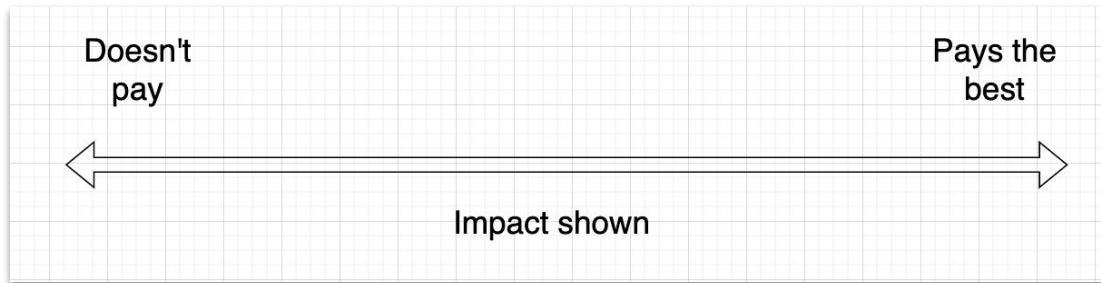


# Sometimes it's not an accident.



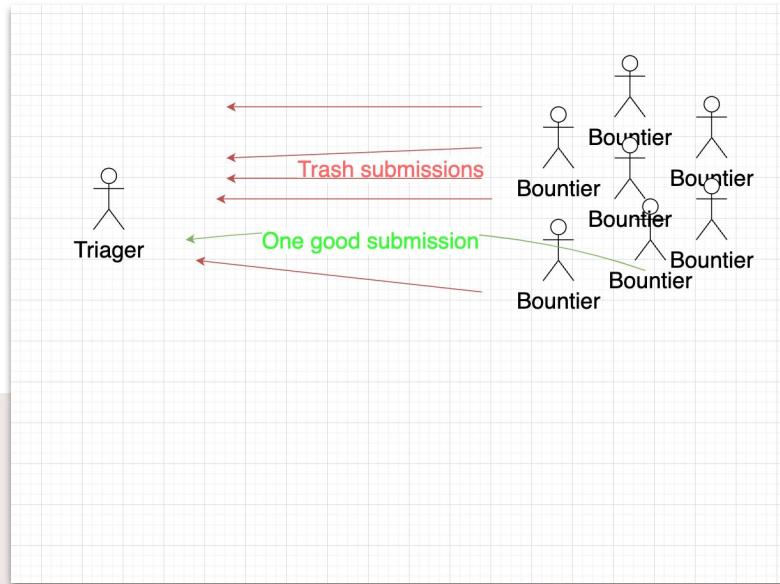
# Bountier incentives

---



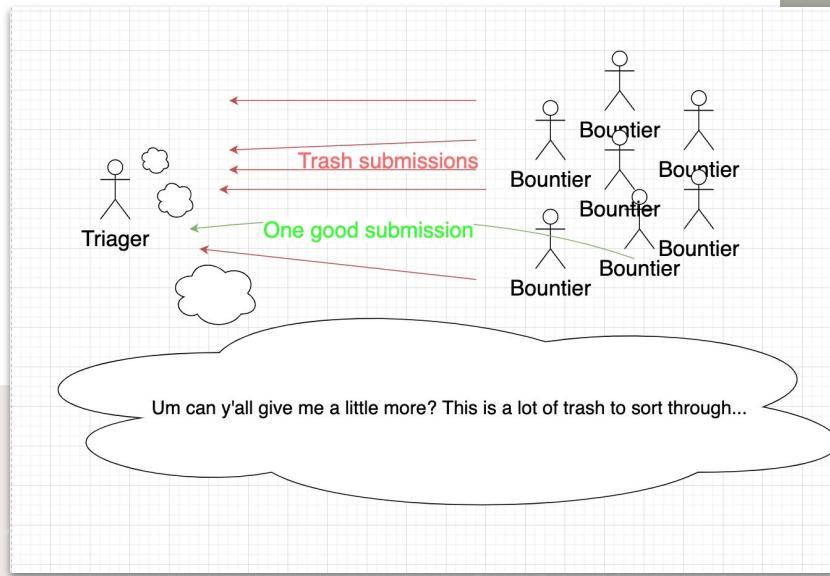
# Triager incentives

---



# Triager incentives

---



Thank you to the companies that let us talk about it

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**Shame on journalists punishing transparent companies**



Not helpful

→ C arstechnica.com/information-technology/2019/12/hackerone-breach-lets-outside-hacker-read-customers-private-bug-report

**ars TECHNICA**

BIZ & IT TECH SCIENCE POLICY CARS GAMING & CULTURE STORE

CASE OF THE \$20,000 COOKIE —

# HackerOne breach lets outside hacker read customers' private bug reports

Company security analyst sent session cookie allowing account take-over.

12/4/2019, 5:00 AM



How bout this?

→ C arstechnica.com/information-technology/2019/12/hackerone-breach-lets-outside-hacker-read-customers-private-bug-reports/

The screenshot shows a news article from Ars Technica. The header features the site's logo ('ars' in white on orange, 'TECHNICA' in white on black) and a navigation bar with categories: BIZ & IT, TECH, SCIENCE, POLICY, CARS, GAMING & CULTURE, and STORE. The main title is 'CASE OF THE \$20,000 COOKIE — HackerOne shares internal incident most companies wouldn't tell their users about'. Below the title is a subtitle: 'Company security analyst sent session cookie allowing account take-over.' A timestamp indicates the article was published on 12/4/2019 at 5:00 AM. The background of the article area is a blurred image of a digital interface displaying numerous numerical values.

CASE OF THE \$20,000 COOKIE —

# HackerOne shares internal incident most companies wouldn't tell their users about

Company security analyst sent session cookie allowing account take-over.

- 12/4/2019, 5:00 AM

A blurred background image showing a digital interface with many numbers, likely representing a database or log file.



# Why should you care?



So what if this data is  
everywhere?

# XSSHunter has 1.66TB of data in it

---

## Cloud SQL details

Storage used

1.66 TB of 1.74 TB used

# 2 weeks ago

---

My bounty account didn't have 2fac

## Two-factor authentication

Two-factor authentication ( 2FA ) makes your account more secure by requiring a special code in addition to your password to log in.



Two-factor authentication is **not enabled**

We recommend enabling two-factor authentication to provide an extra layer of security to your account.



1. Install a two-factor authentication app



# It's a trend

Time to clean up and try to contain sensitive data while still advancing security programs



If you build  
it...

**Prepare for  
the worst...**

# Major requirements



## Prevent

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Be ready.

Set policies to prevent data leaks and continually enhance them.

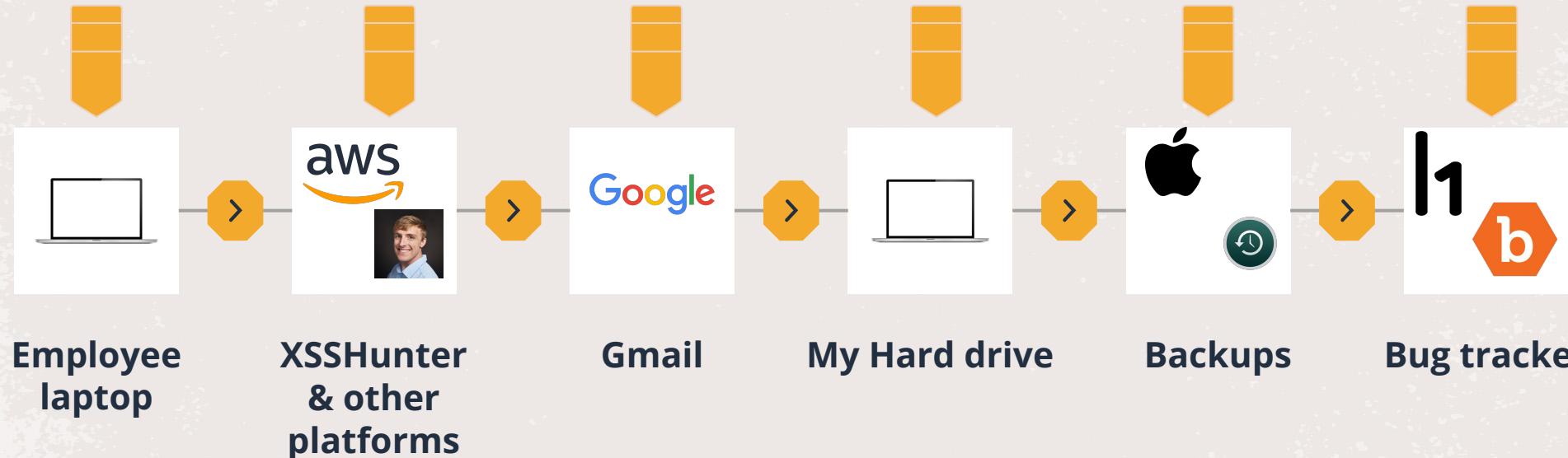
Work with your privacy team or compliance teams.

## Cleanup

---

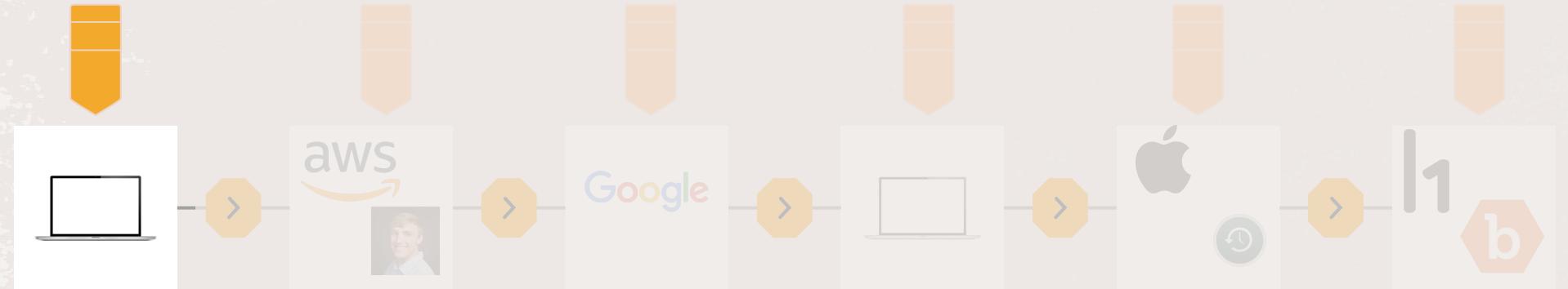
If you know confidential or personal data is on a system, clean it up - and keep a record of the clean up.

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



Employee  
laptop\*

XSSHunter  
& other  
platforms

Gmail

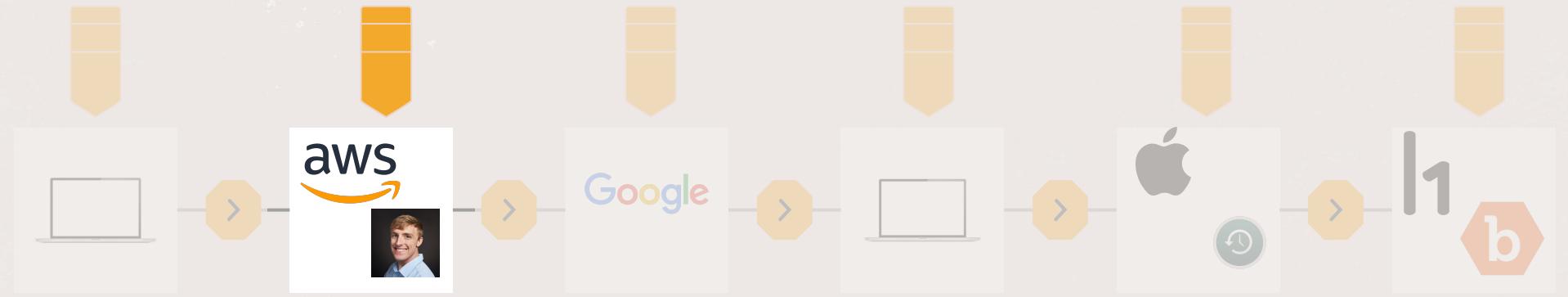
My Hard drive

Backups

Bug tracker

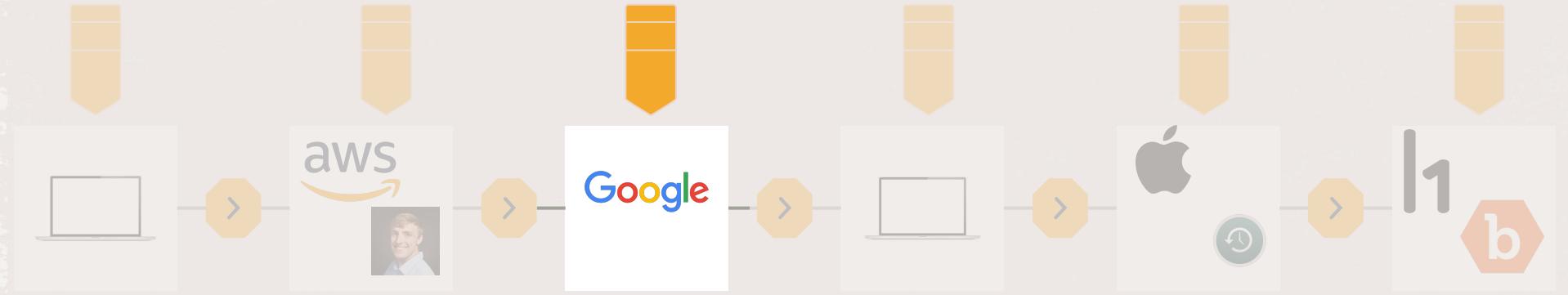
\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



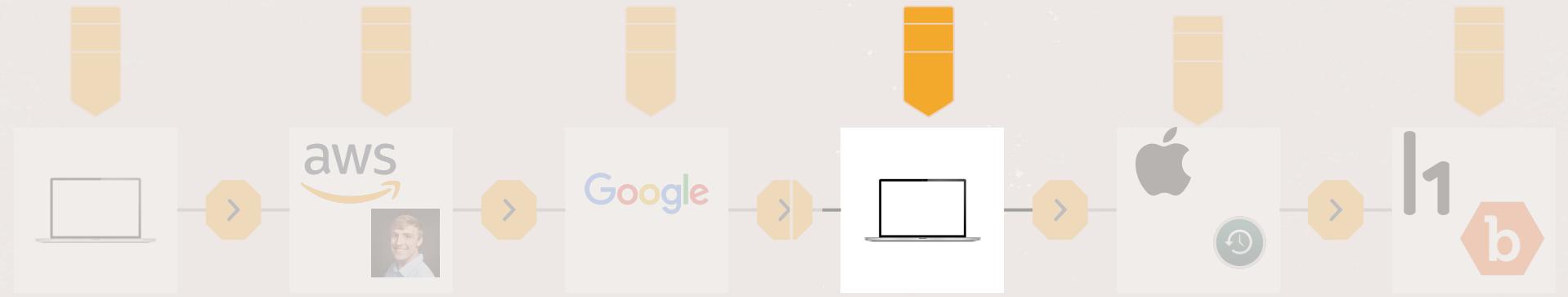
\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



Employee  
laptop\*

XSSHunter  
& other  
platforms

Gmail

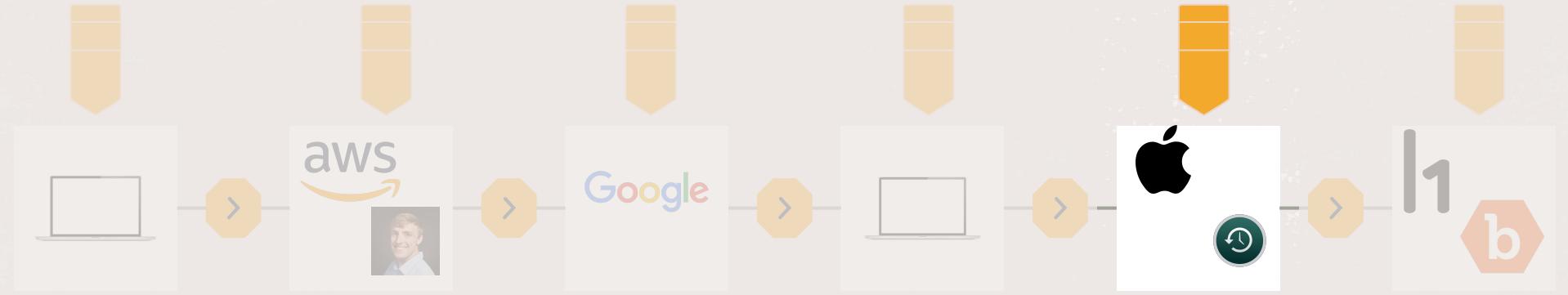
**My Hard drive**

Backups

Bug tracker

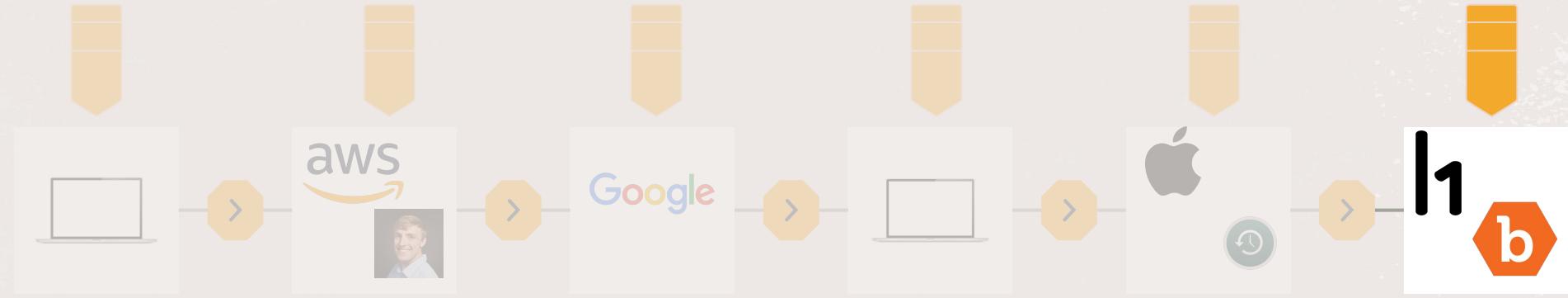
\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



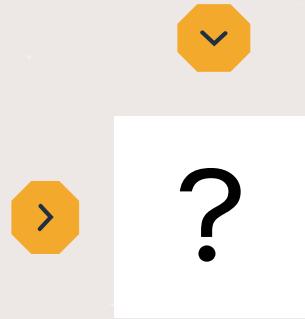
\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



\*or company assets

# Prevention & cleanup opportunities



Other  
unknown third  
parties

# Ideal data flow

**Who knows???**

**This stuff is complicated**

# Legal obligations?



## The company

Running the bug bounty  
program

## The platforms

That facilitate the bug  
bounty program and  
researcher tools

## The researcher

Bug hunter hoping to  
get \$ for bugs

**“It depends”**

# Bug bounty & the law



## CFAA (US)

“knowingly accessed a computer without authorization or exceeding authorized access”



## Bug bounty / Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure

Authorized?  
Potentially limited by terms



## Privacy laws

Personal data handling requirements could apply

# Lawyer help & other resources

- [EFF Coder's Rights Project:  
<https://www.eff.org/issues/coders>](https://www.eff.org/issues/coders)
- Luta Security
- Your in-house legal team



The screenshot shows the official website of the United States Department of Justice. At the top, the seal of the Department of Justice is on the left, followed by the text "THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE". To the right is a search bar with the placeholder "Search this site" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "ABOUT", "OUR AGENCY", "TOPICS", "NEWS", "RESOURCES", "CAREERS", and "CONTACT". The "NEWS" link is currently selected, highlighted in blue. Underneath the menu, a breadcrumb trail shows "Home » Office of Public Affairs » News". On the far right of the header is a "SHARE" button with icons for social media. The main content area has a black header bar with the text "JUSTICE NEWS" in white. Below this, the "Department of Justice" logo is centered, with "Office of Public Affairs" underneath it. A horizontal line separates the header from the main article. The date "Thursday, May 19, 2022" is on the right. The main article title is "Department of Justice Announces New Policy for Charging Cases under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act". The text of the article discusses the revision of policy regarding charging violations of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA). It states that the policy directs that good-faith security research should not be charged. Good faith security research means accessing a computer solely for purposes of good-faith testing, investigation, and/or correction of a security flaw or vulnerability, where such activity is carried out in a manner designed to avoid any harm to individuals or the public, and where the information derived from the activity is used primarily to promote the security or safety of the class of devices, machines, or online services to which the accessed computer belongs, or those who use such devices, machines, or online services.

THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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JUSTICE NEWS

Department of Justice  
Office of Public Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, May 19, 2022

**Department of Justice Announces New Policy for Charging Cases under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act**

The Department of Justice today announced the [revision of its policy](#) regarding charging violations of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA).

The policy for the first time directs that good-faith security research should not be charged. Good faith security research means accessing a computer solely for purposes of good-faith testing, investigation, and/or correction of a security flaw or vulnerability, where such activity is carried out in a manner designed to avoid any harm to individuals or the public, and where the information derived from the activity is used primarily to promote the security or safety of the class of devices, machines, or online services to which the accessed computer belongs, or those who use such devices, machines, or online services.

RELATED LINKS

Speeches and Press Releases  
Videos  
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Blogs  
Podcasts

# No but really, legal obligations?



## The company

Running the bug bounty  
program



## The platforms

That facilitate the bug  
bounty program and  
researcher tools



## The researcher

Bug hunter hoping to  
get \$ for bugs

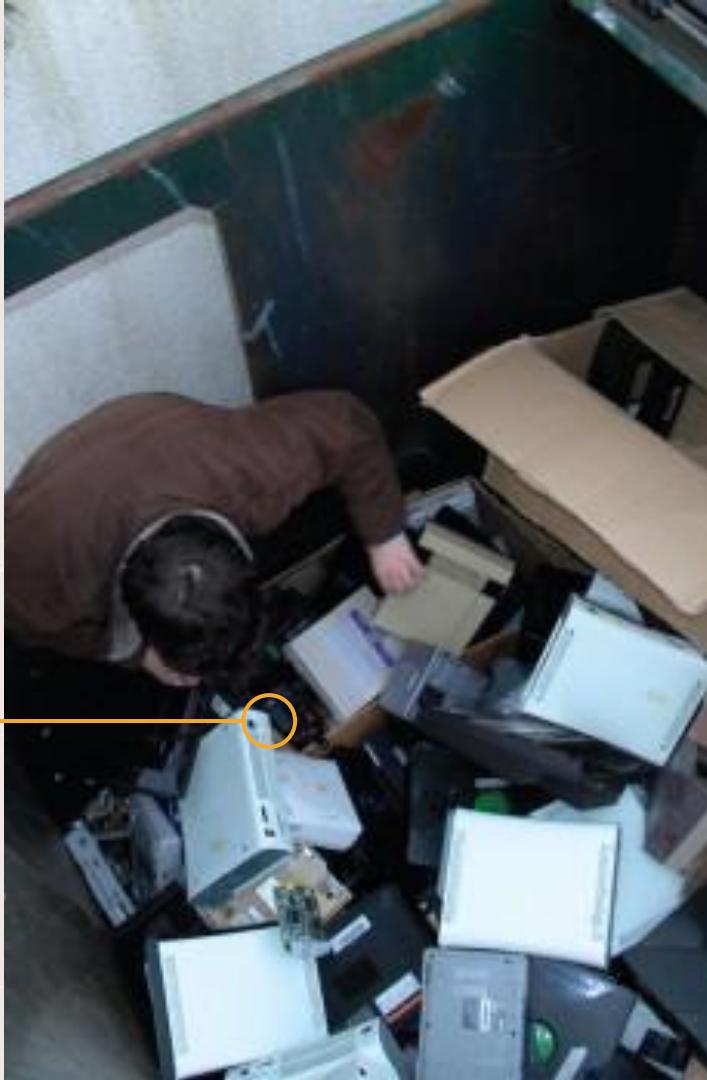


# Company takeaways



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As original stewards of the data, you have legal and contractual obligations to end users or customers - be aware of those. Work with your legal team. Don't hold on to data forever.

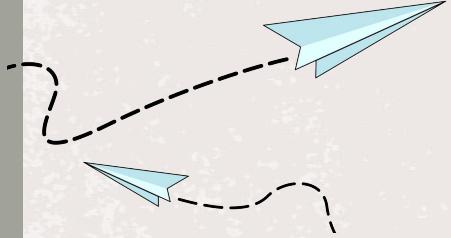




# Researcher takeaways

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Tell the truth.  
Say it, don't spray it.  
Don't hold on to data.  
Stay within bounty terms.  
Use 2FA on our H1 and Bugcrowd accounts.





# Platform takeaways



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Give customers control.  
Consider privacy by design.  
Clearly communicate privacy practices.  
Allow for retention policies for attachments & tickets.



# General takeaways

## We <3 Bug Bounties

This is not unique to bug bounties, it will exist in general pentesting ecosystem

## Good data handling prevents security incidents

Good data governance and a strong foundation will set everyone up for success

# Thank you! Questions?

|

**Dylan Ayrey**  
@InsecureNature

|

**Whitney Merrill**  
@wbm312

