DCJ 720 Written 3: Semi-Structured Interview Questions

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April 4th, 2022

**Semi-structured cybersecurity questions:**

Topic: Organizational perceptions of cybersecurity

Interview subject: Cybersecurity professional employed at a local college

1. Why did you choose the occupation of cybersecurity professional?
   1. How did your family influence your decision?
   2. Discuss if movies or the media influenced your decision?
2. Please walk me through a cybersecurity incident that has recently occurred.
   1. What was the context of the incident?
   2. How did you react to the incident?
   3. How did you work with administrators to address the incident?
3. Discuss the level of confidence in your organization's security monitoring software.
   1. Talk about the impact of the security monitoring software on the amount of time you spend checking on security alerts and notices.
   2. Discuss what your biggest fears are when reviewing security alerts.
4. Talk about the level of seriousness or commitment the administration has taken for cybersecurity.
   1. What actions have they taken or not taken to make you feel this way?
5. What are your thoughts on the budget for cybersecurity?
   1. What areas of cybersecurity have sufficient or insufficient funding for the increase in cyber-malware?
6. Explain the IT plan for dealing with a ransomware attack?
   1. Can you Explain what under conditions the administration would pay hackers to remove the ransomware?
7. How has the IT administration adjusted for the increased risk to college data security?
   1. Discuss the use of external IT auditors and their perceived effectiveness.
   2. How has an increase or decrease in funding impacted IT cybersecurity?
8. What training has been offered to faculty, staff, and students to counter cyberattacks?
   1. How practical has this training been?
   2. Discuss improvements that could be made for cybersecurity training.
9. How has the college adjusted the physical security of sensitive computing devices, such as data centers, server rooms, routers, cable connections, etc.?
   1. Discuss the administration's understanding of the importance of physical security.
   2. What policies have been implemented to counter a physical cyber-attack?
10. What changes or modifications have accommodated new laws and policies?
    1. How have these changes or modifications impacted the IT budget?
    2. Discuss the level of commitment from organizational administration to implement changes to the IT/organization to comply with new laws.

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**INFORMED CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH**

Investigator: Robert Chapa, 12345 Sesame ST. 727.277.4748

Title of Study: Why do some IT departments fail to take appropriate countermeasures for ransomware and other cyberattacks?

Purpose of Study: To identify areas of improvement by the administration/organization for increasing cybersecurity countermeasures. The data is for the class DCJ 720. No data will be used outside of the class.

Procedures: You will be asked to reflect on your day as a cybersecurity expert. Discuss methods/policies implemented or poorly implemented at your institution. You will be asked questions about how you feel and your anxiety levels about possible ransomware attacks. You will also be asked to evaluate your administration's level of seriousness towards cybersecurity. You will be asked to discuss any obsessive compulsions that have emerged due to stress from system alerts and ransomware attacks at similar organizations.

Benefits: Some of the benefits may be that you will have a fuller picture of your cybersecurity position and level of protection by reflecting on and discussing these topics. You may also have ideas that might be teased out during our conversation that you may want to consider implementing.

Risks: None more significant than those of daily life.

Costs/incentives: None.

Confidentiality: Thomas Anderson will be the pseudonym for the participant. The campus will be the pseudonym of the school. There will be no identifying information in the study. All data will be kept on a personal laptop and in a Kaspersky vault with a strong password. There will be two layers of security. The systems CMOS password, the windows login password, and the vault password. All the passwords are different. All backups will be kept on the laptop's secondary hard drive. After the end of the DJC-720 class, all collected data will be destroyed.

Use of information: The information will be used only for the DCJ 720 class assignment.

Voluntary, the participants may withdraw from the study at any time or decline to participation participates without any penalty.

Signature: The investigator has discussed the project with me and answered all my questions. I understand that additional questions regarding the study, participant rights, or other concerns should be directed to Dr. Cheryl Chambers at cheri.chambers@saintleo.edu. I agree with the terms above and acknowledge that I have been given a copy of the consent form. I agree to participate in this research project by signing this consent form.

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Signature of the Participant Date

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Signature of Investigator Date

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Signature of Reader/Translator Date