Cliffton C. Benford

Cloud & DevOps Engineer | AWS • Terraform • Kubernetes • Docker • CI/CD
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Cloud/DevOps engineer designing, deploying, and operating cloud■native infrastructure on AWS.
Hands■on with Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes (EKS), and CI/CD (GitHub Actions, Jenkins).
Known for clean infrastructure-as-code, secure defaults, and repeatable deployments.
Career transition from operations to Cloud/DevOps; documented projects and labs on GitHub.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Cloud: AWS (EC2, S3, RDS, VPC, IAM, CloudWatch, ALB, Auto Scaling, Route 53)
- IaC: Terraform, AWS CloudFormation
- Containers & Orchestration: Docker, Kubernetes (EKS), Amazon ECS, ECR
- CI/CD & Automation: GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Bash, Python scripting
- Networking & Security: VPC design, subnets, security groups, load balancers, IAM least privilege
- OS & Tools: Linux (Ubuntu, Amazon Linux), Git/GitHub, monitoring & logging

SELECTED PROJECTS

Two■Tier AWS Web App (Terraform, ALB → EC2 ASG → RDS)
- Provisioned VPC, subnets, route tables, security groups, and IAM with reusable Terraform modules.
- Deployed highly available web tier behind ALB with Auto Scaling and parameterized variables.
- Improved repeatability and auditability via IaC and remote state; included destroy safety checks.
- Repo: github.com/Tallboycadi/vpc-alb-private-ec2-ssm

Static Portfolio Website (HTML/CSS on S3 + Route 53 + Formspree)
- Built responsive single■page site with contact form, hosted via S3 static hosting and custom DNS.
- Added Formspree endpoint with inline success/fail messages; published via GitHub Pages as well.
- Live: tallboycadi.github.io/vscode-git | Repo: github.com/Tallboycadi/vscode-git

Containerized App Deployment (Docker → ECR/ECS; EKS exploration)
- Containerized Node.js sample app; built/pushed images to ECR via GitHub Actions.
- Deployed on ECS with task definitions and service; experimented with EKS workloads and manifests.
- Repo: github.com/Tallboycadi/my-starter-scaffold

Infrastructure Automation
- Created Terraform modules for VPCs, subnets, NAT/IGW, and IAM roles with sensible defaults.
- Wrote make-like scripts to lint, validate, plan, and apply across environments.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- Cloud Engineering Certificate — Completed 2025

- A.A.S., Computer Networking — Robert Morris College, Chicago, IL
- Terraform & Kubernetes — hands■on labs (projects in GitHub)