

# AWS Incident Response

AWS Security Workshop



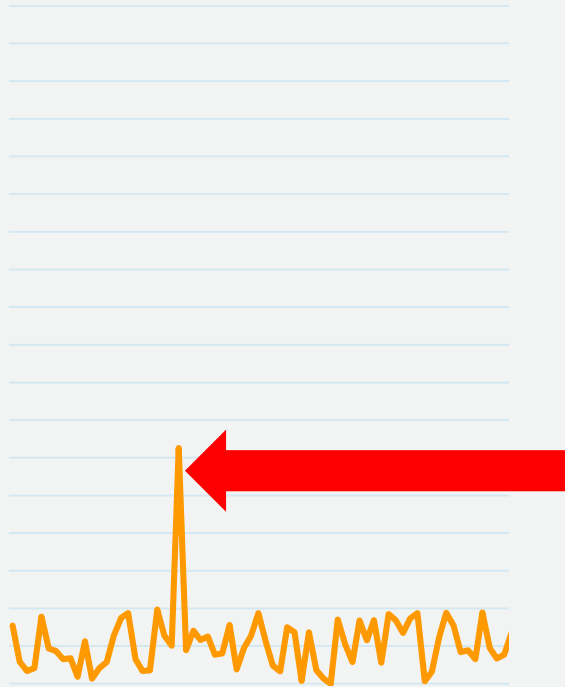
# Agenda

- Different types of incidents
- Infrastructure related incidents
- Service related incidents
- Incident management

# Goals

- Become aware of indicators of security incidents
- Classify incident types
- Discover sources of information to respond to an incident
- Understand incident response workflows
- Learn to prepare for incidents

# Incident Response – Understanding Normal

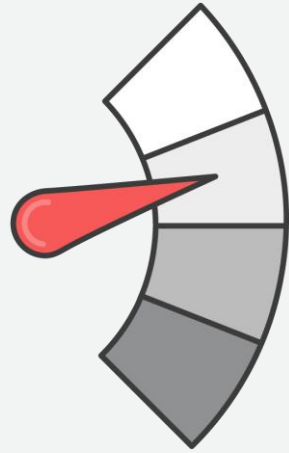


**Incident:** deviation from  
your [security] baseline

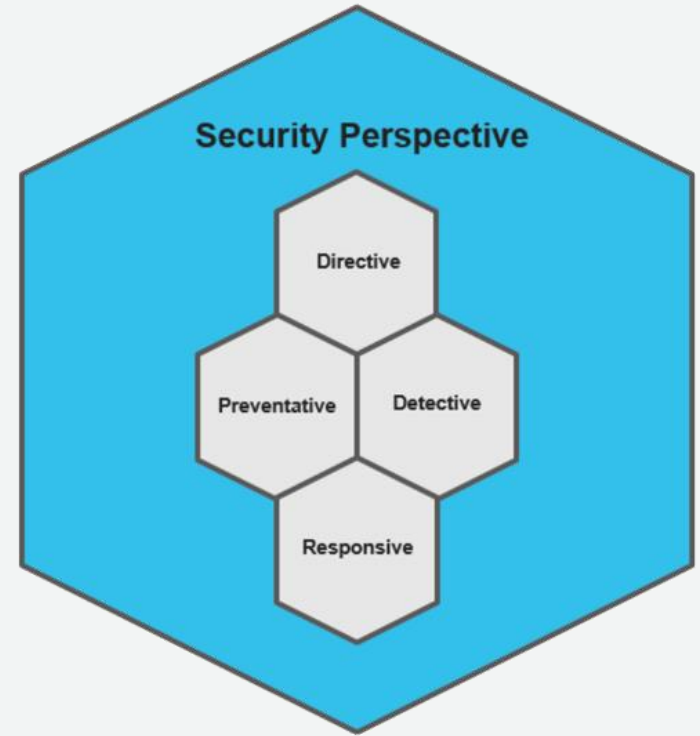
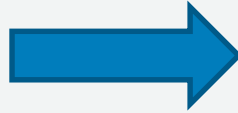
# Incident Response – Understanding Normal



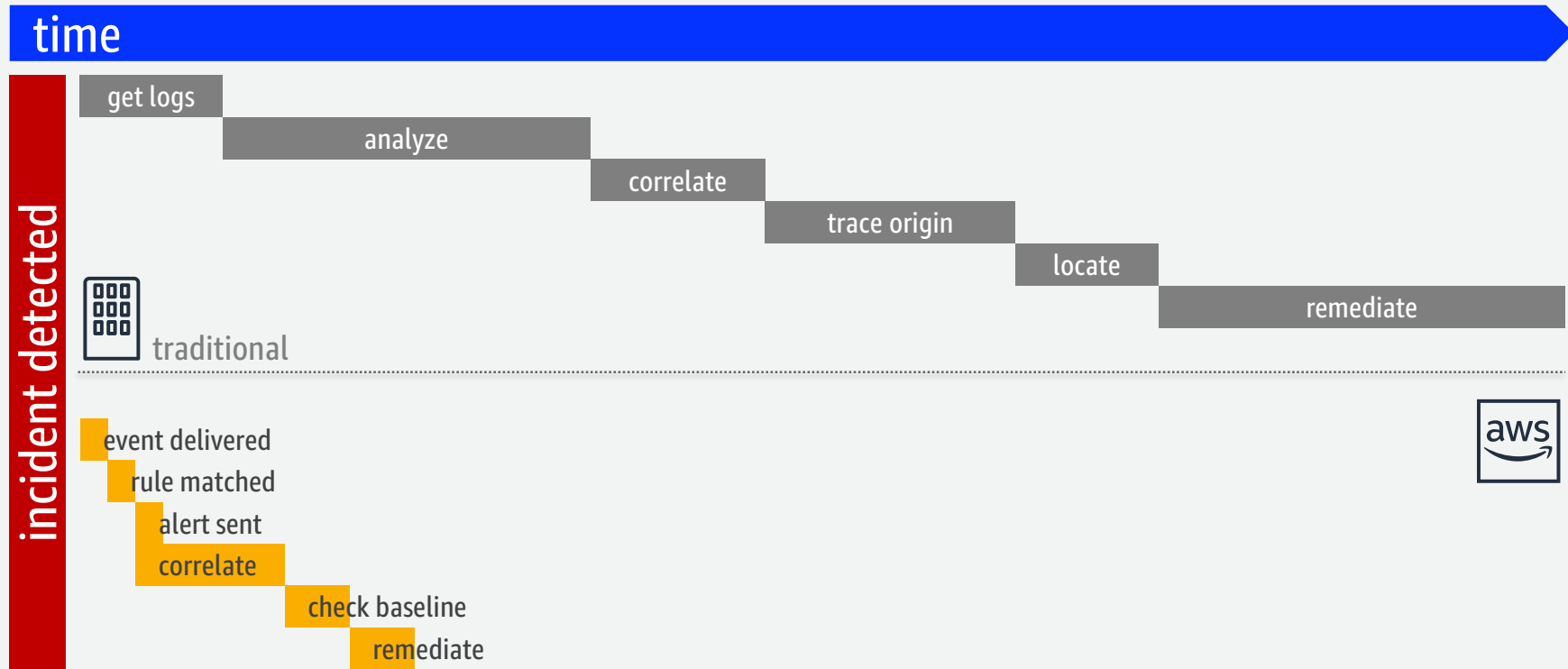
# Incident Response – Indicators



# Incident Response – Cloud Adoption Framework



# Incident Response – Time Comparison (example)





# Incident Response - Domains

## Infrastructure

VPC Resources

Connectivity

On-instance

...

## Service

IAM

S3 buckets

Billing

...

# Incident Response – Incident Types

**Compliance  
variance**

**Service  
disruption**

**Unauthorized  
resources**

**Unauthorized  
access**

**Privilege  
escalation**

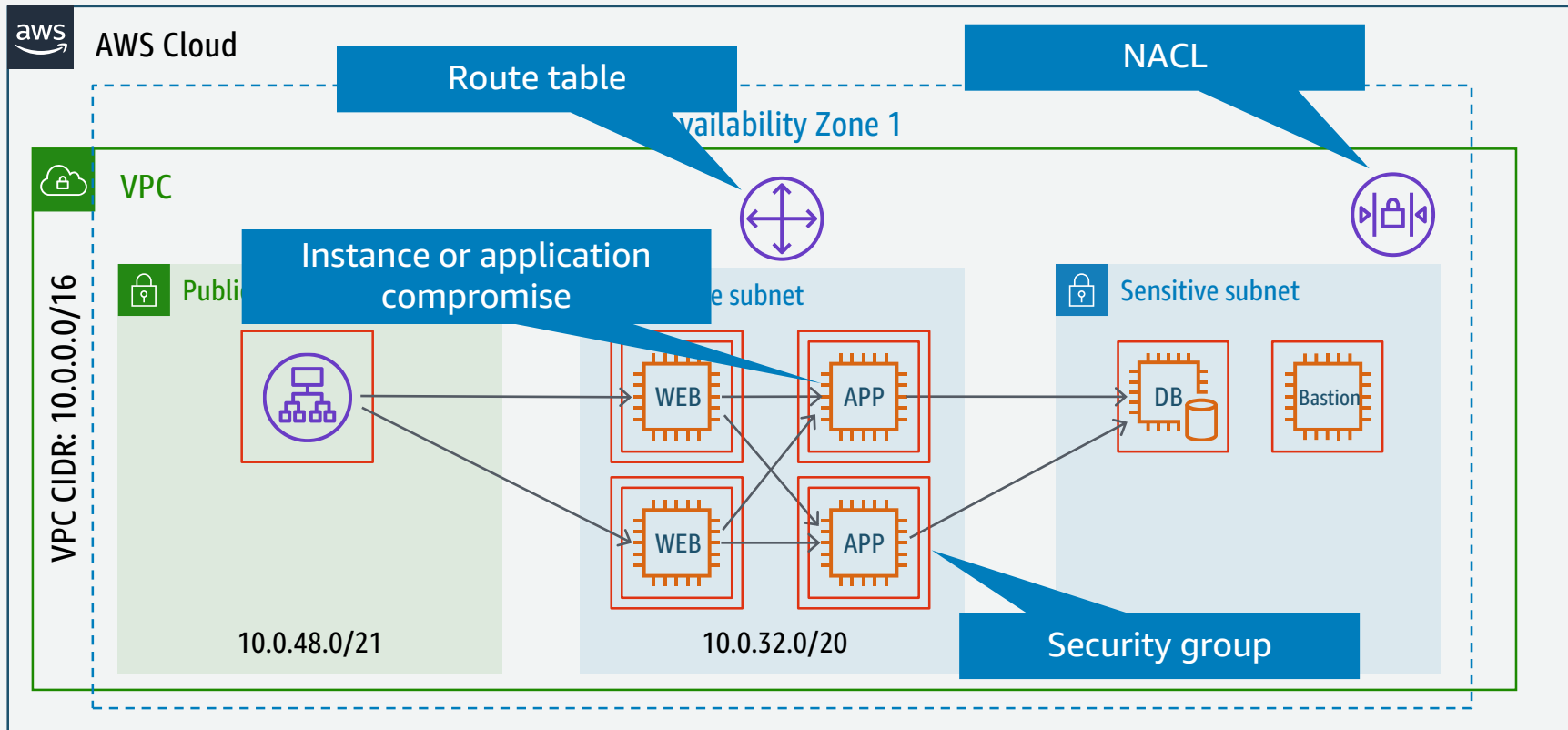
**Persistence**

**Excessive  
permissions**

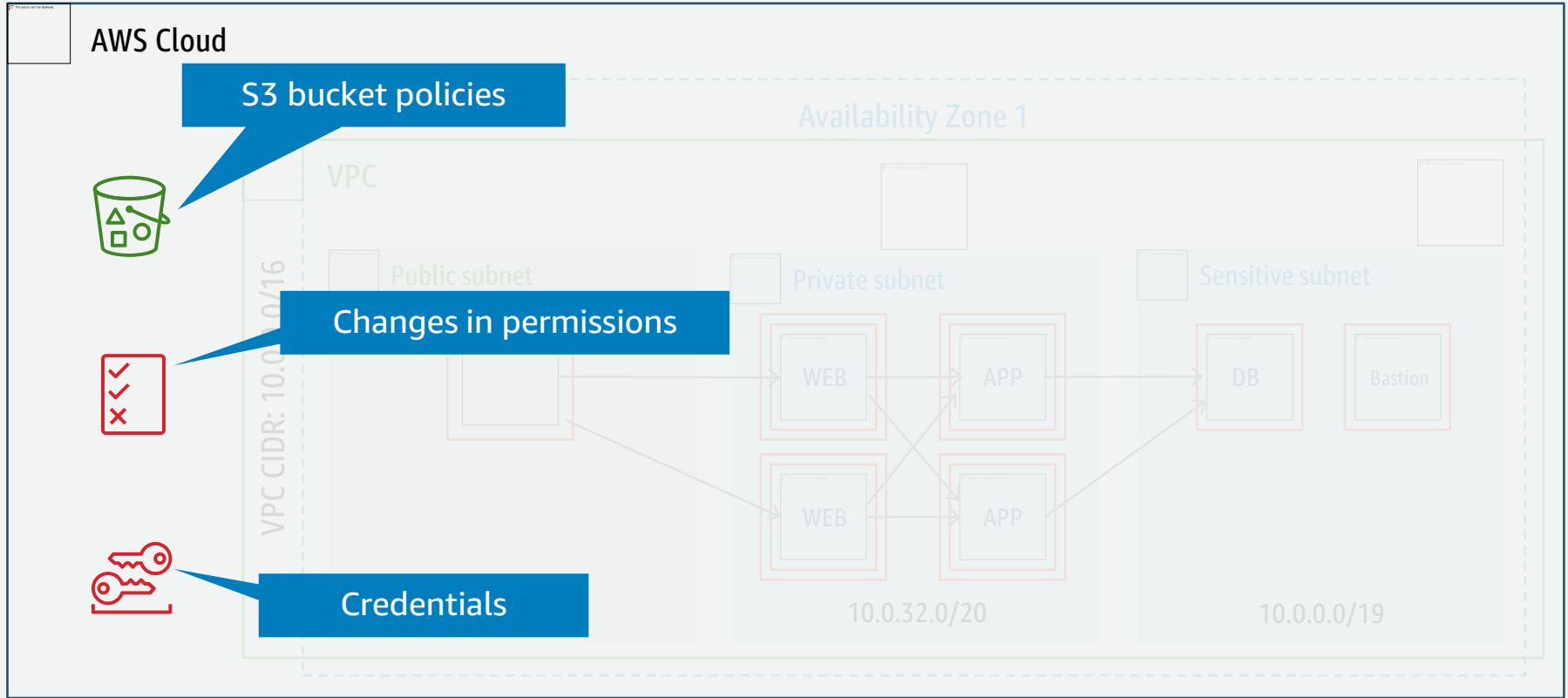
**Information  
exposure**

**Credentials  
exposure**

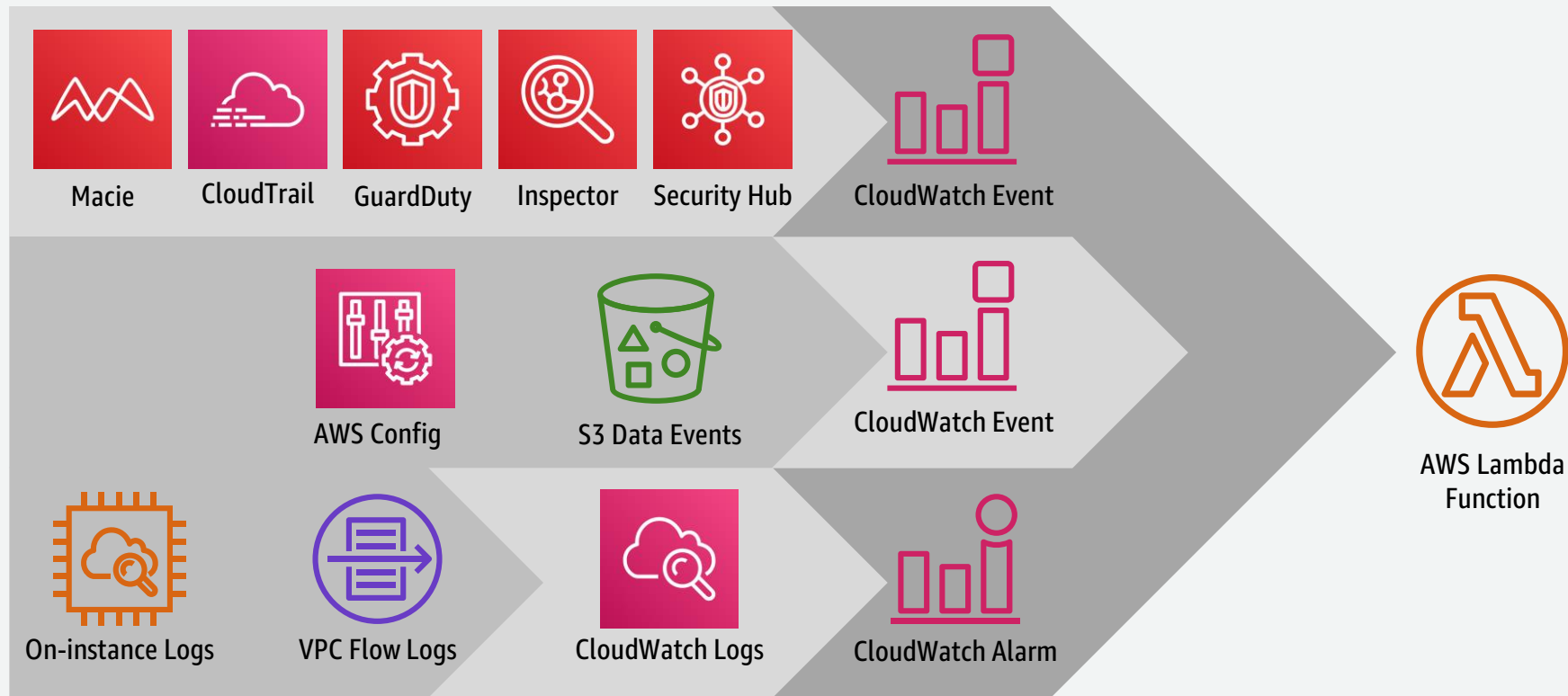
# Incident Response – Infrastructure Domain



# Incident Response – Service Domain



# Incident Response - Wrangling Information Sources



# Infrastructure Domain



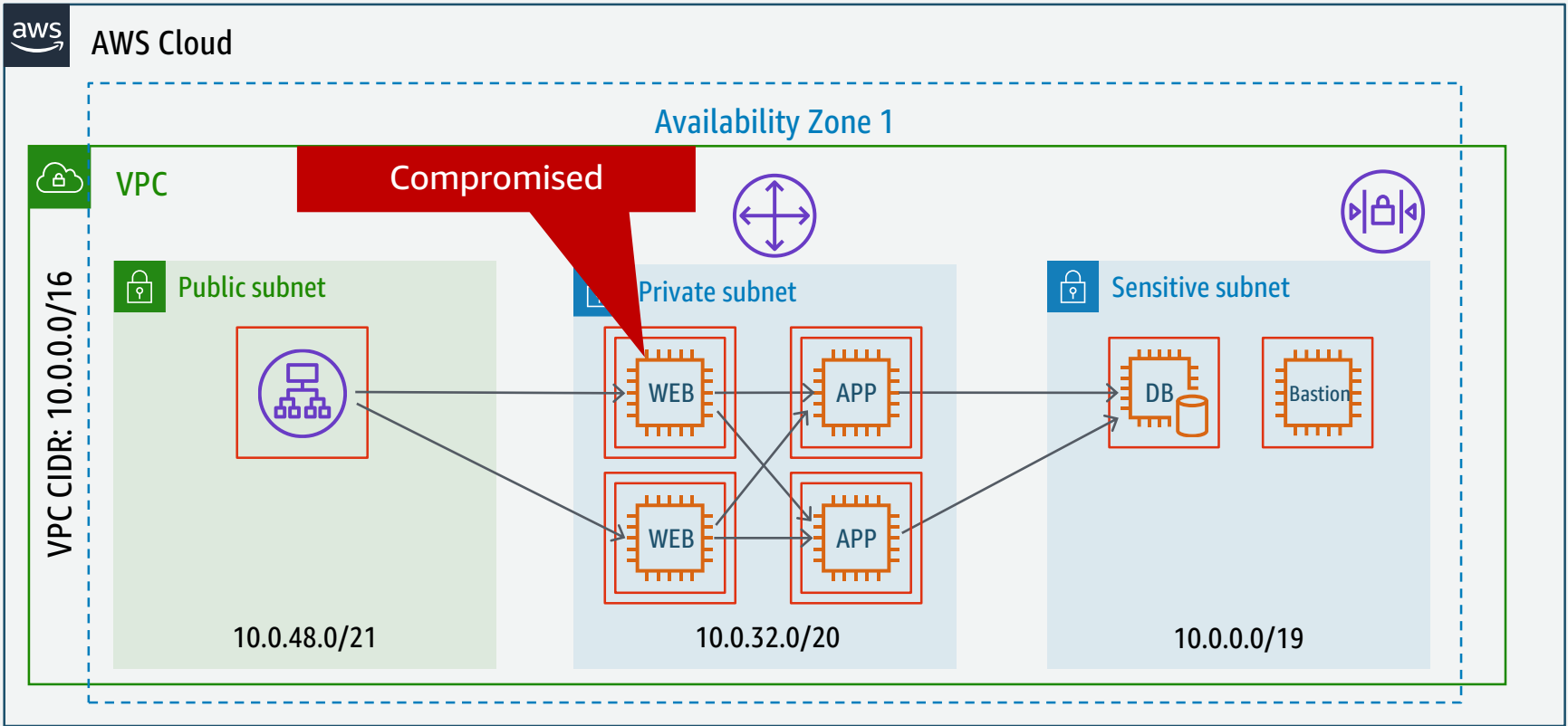
# Incident Response – Infrastructure Domain

Two options for forensic analysis in the infrastructure domain:

- Online analysis
- Offline analysis

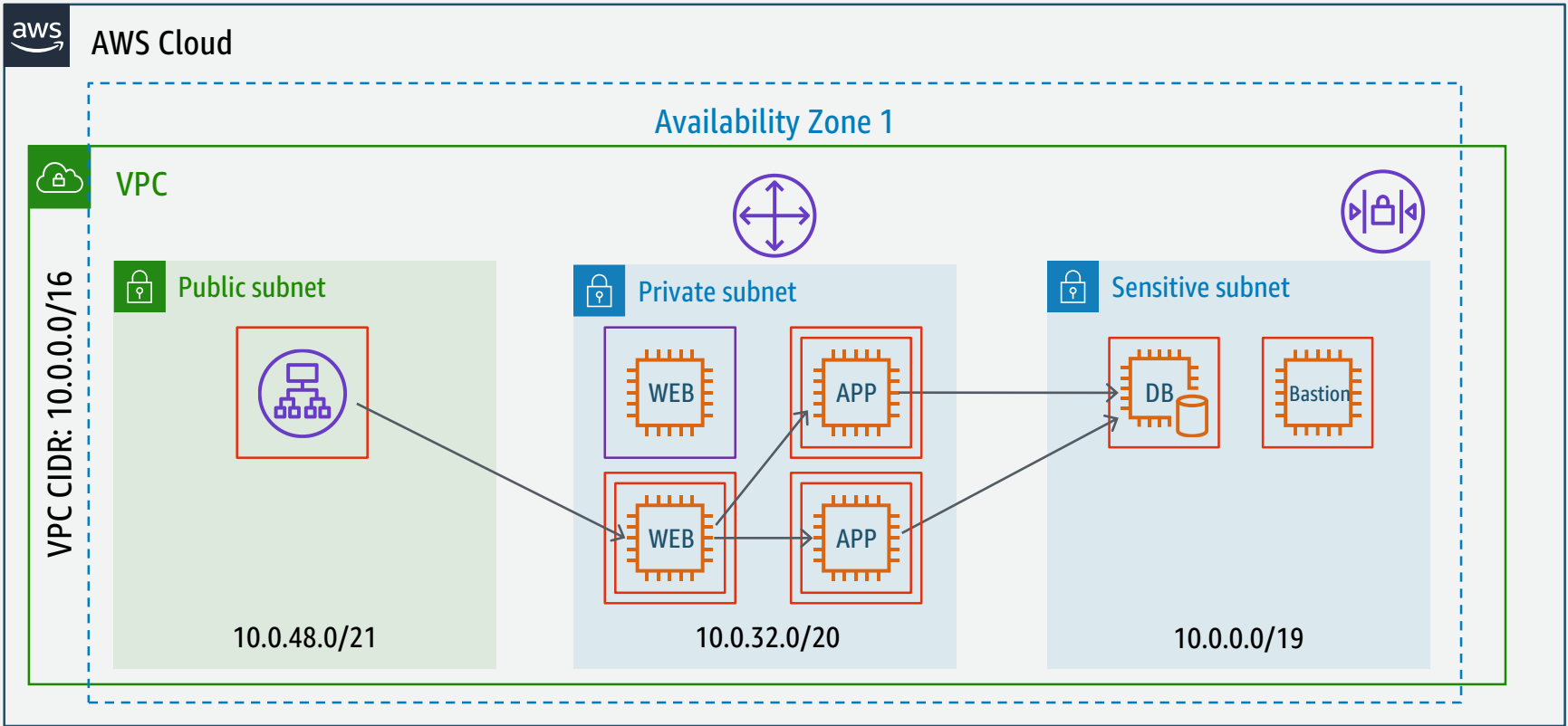
You can do either or both

# Incident Response – Offline Analysis EC2

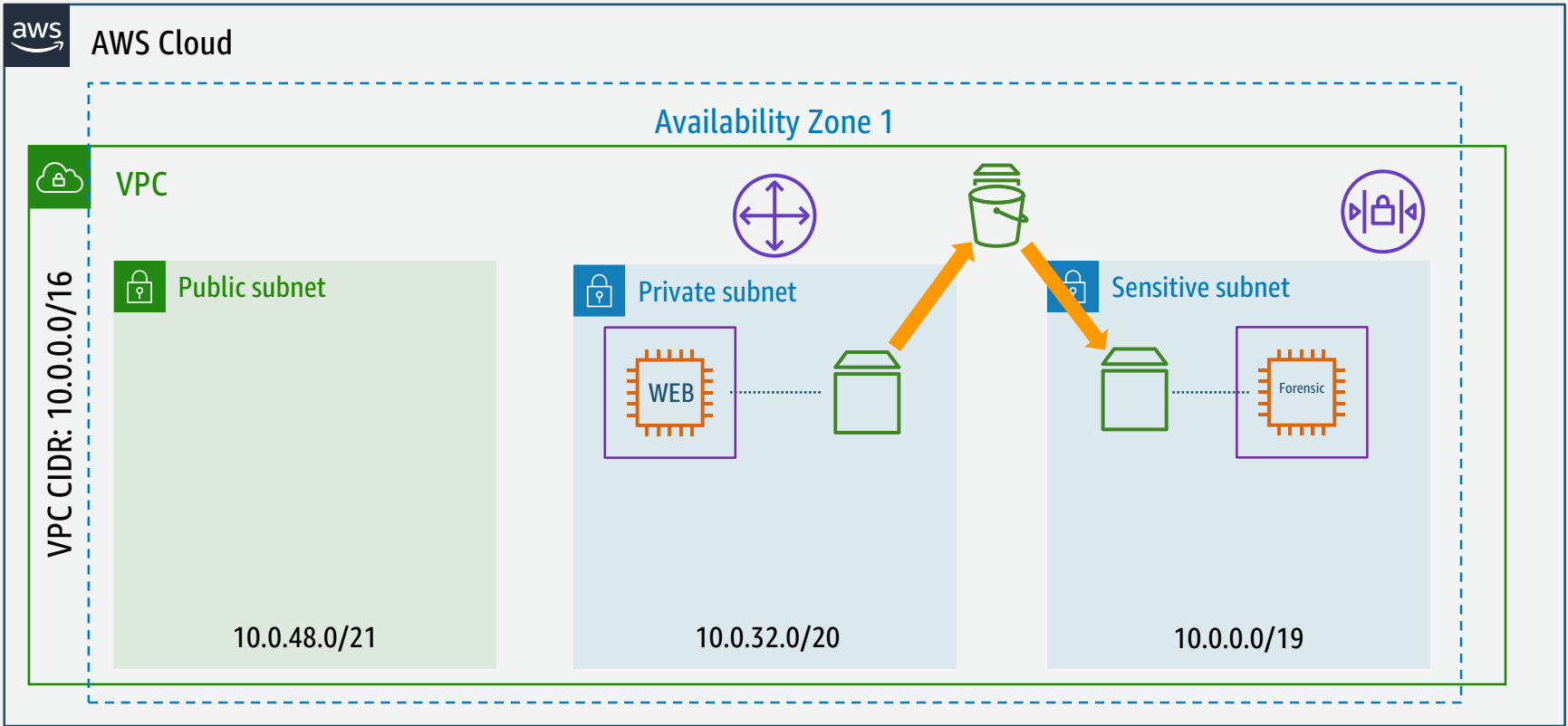




# Incident Response – Offline Analysis EC2



# Incident Response – Offline Analysis EC2

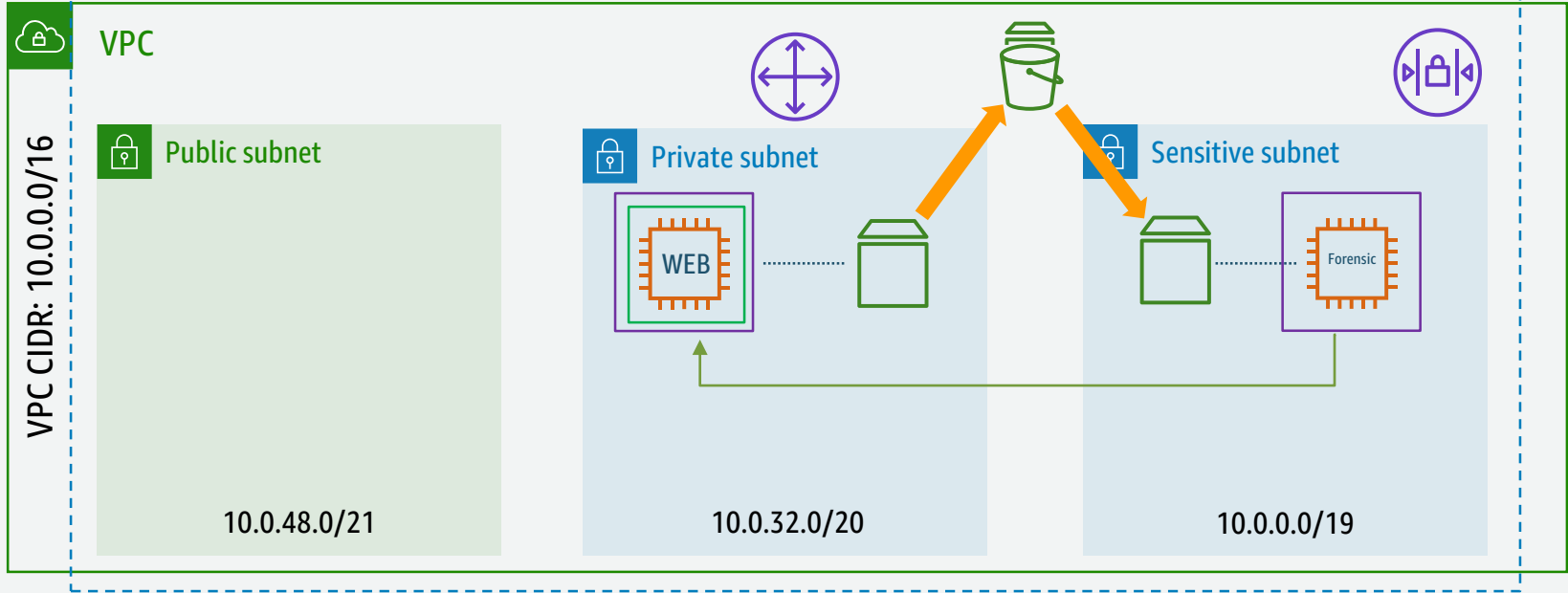


# Incident Response – Offline Analysis EC2

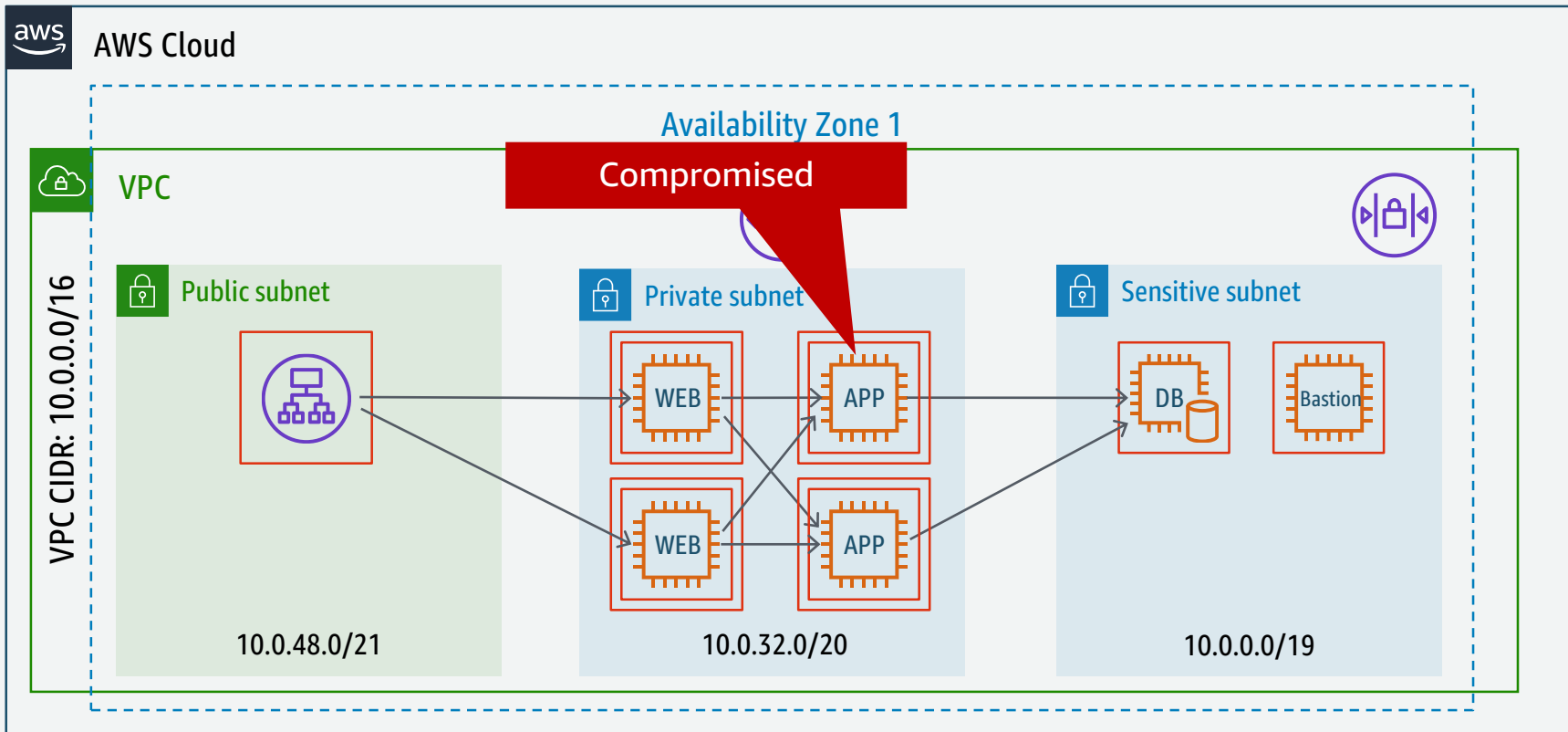


AWS Cloud

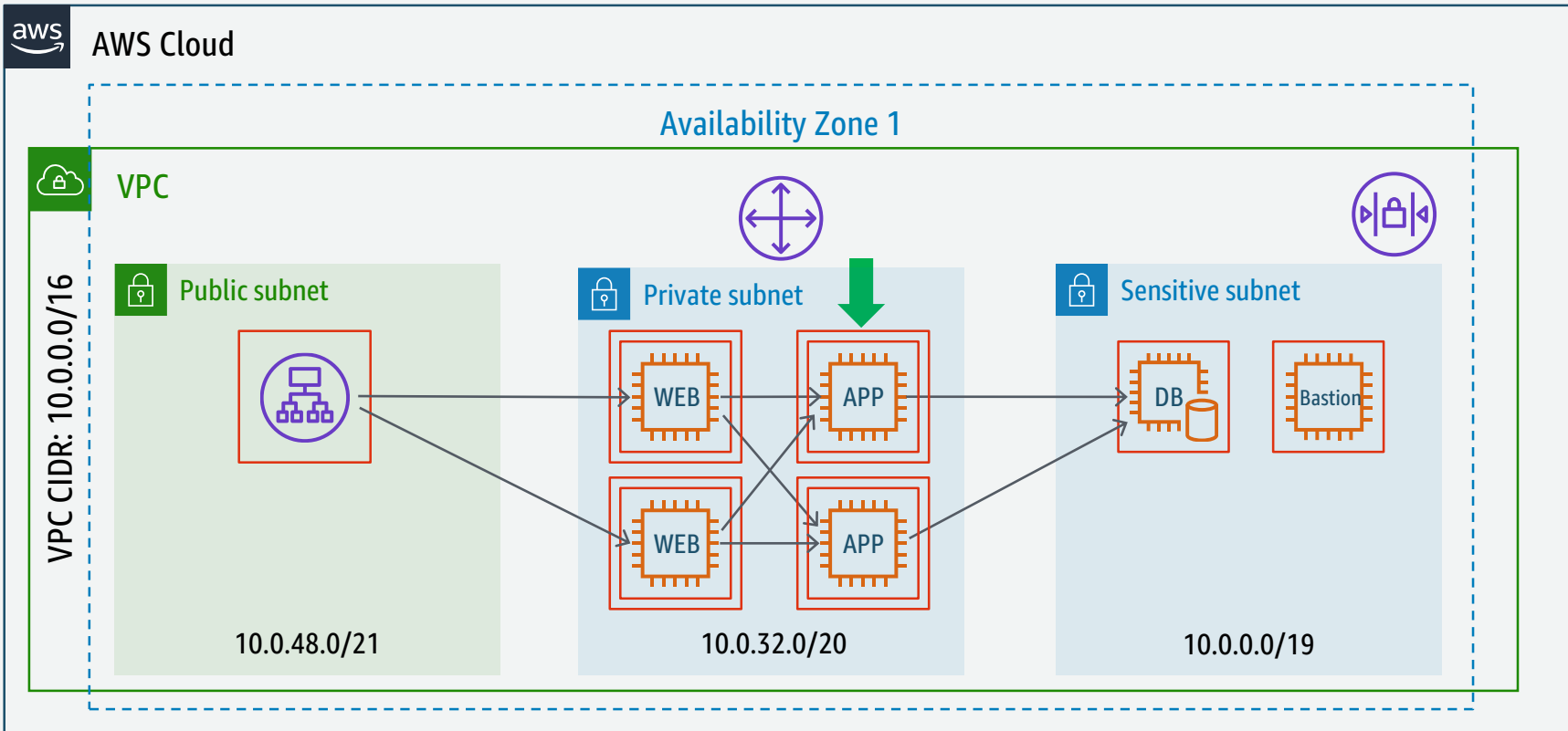
Availability Zone 1



# Incident Response – Online Analysis EC2



# Incident Response – Online Analysis EC2



# Incident Response – Preparation

- Keep a pre-configured forensics AMI on hand
- Decide on the forensic procedure
- Create IAM role for incident responders and for the forensic workstation

# Incident Response – Third Party Tools

## Response

- AWS IR (ThreatResponse)

## Case Management

- Incident Pony (ThreatResponse)

## Networking

- Moloch
- Wireshark

## Enterprise

- Mandiant
- EnCase
- Forensic Tool Kit
- Google Rapid Response

## Memory Capture

- Fastdump
- FTK Imager
- LiME
- Margarita Shotgun (ThreatResponse)

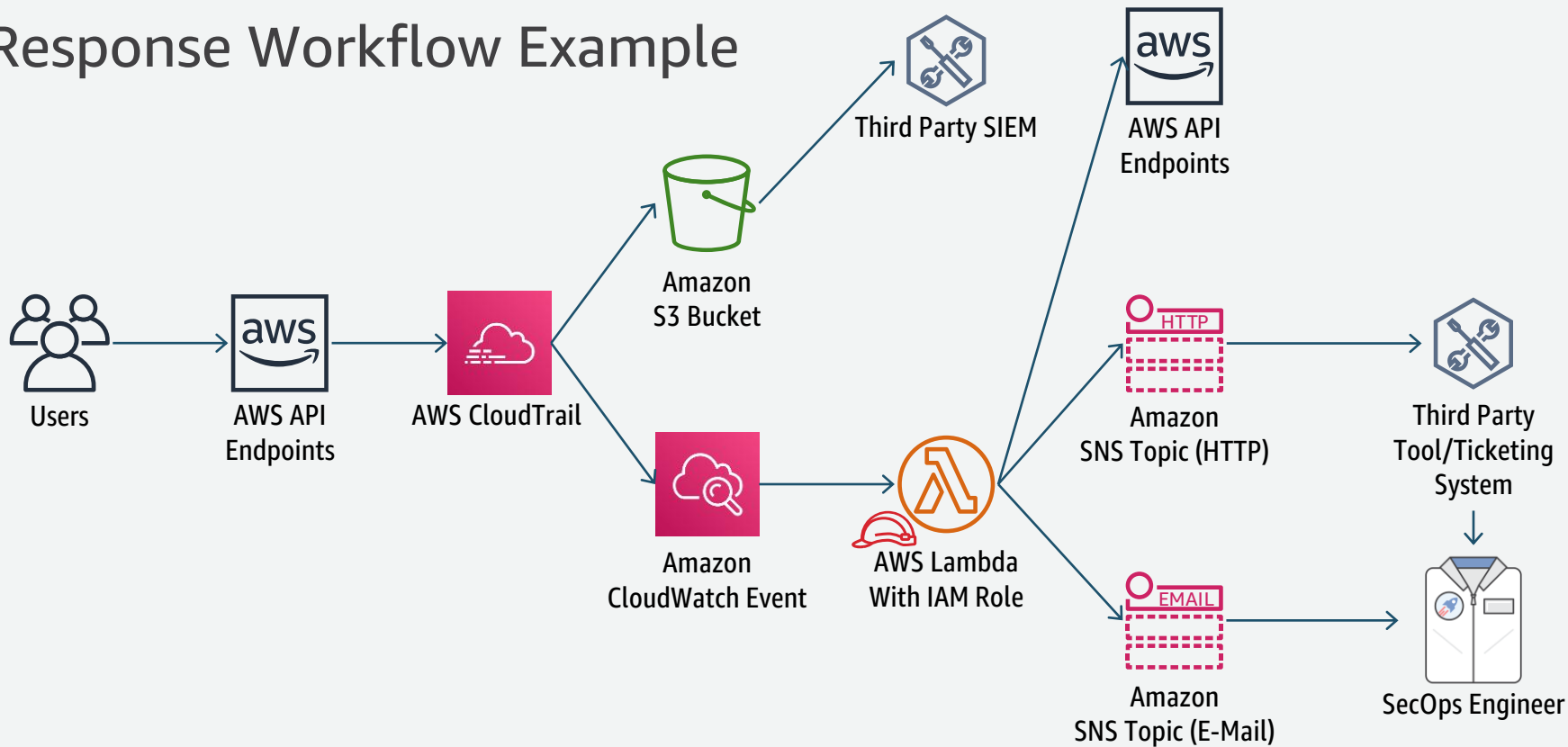
# Service Domain





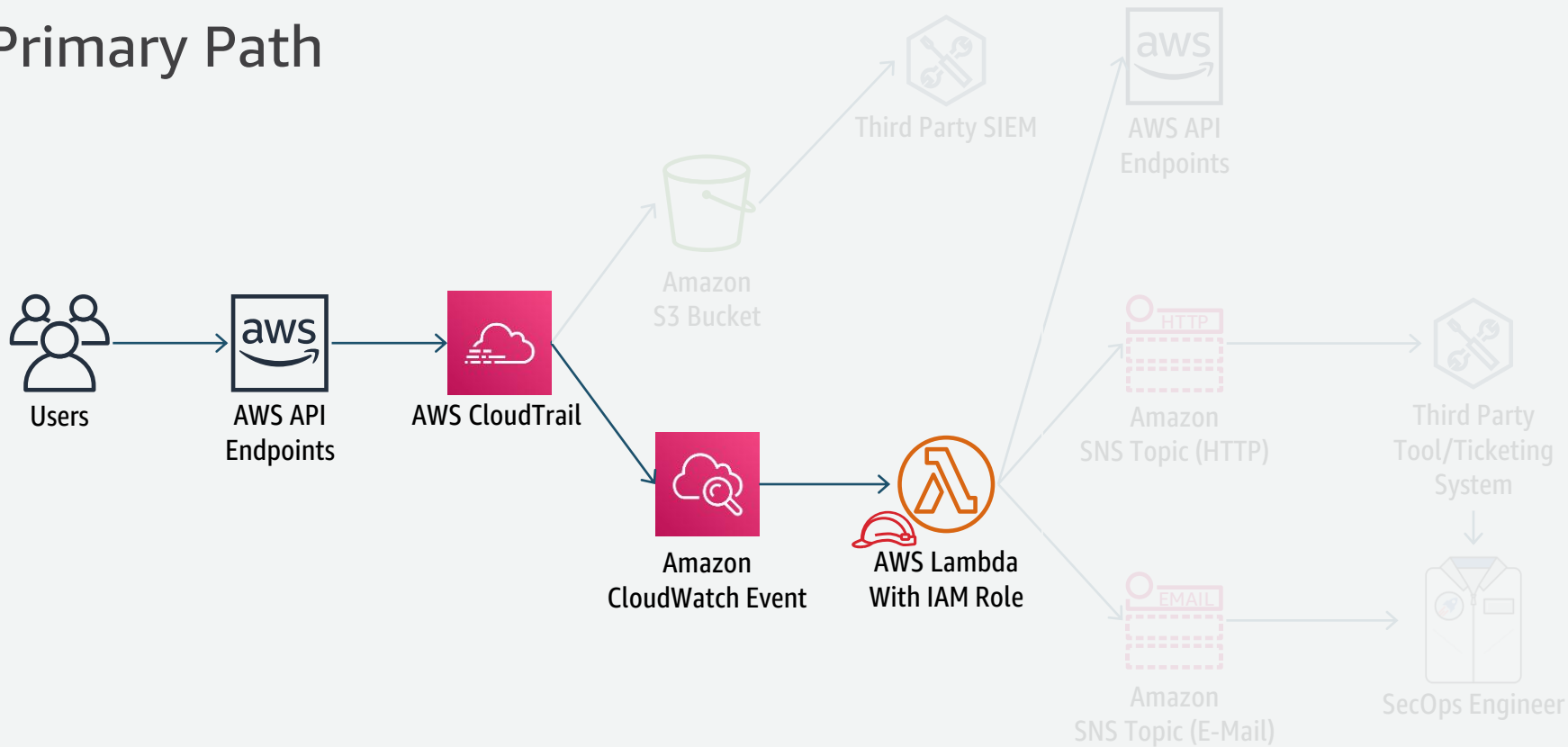
# Incident Response – Service Domain

## Response Workflow Example



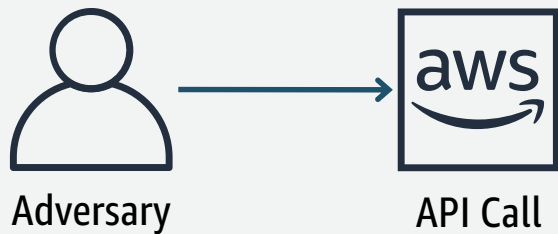
# Incident Response – Service Domain

## Primary Path



# Incident Response – Service Domain

Example: CloudTrail gets turned off



```
$ aws cloudtrail stop-logging --name Trail1
```

# Incident Response – Service Domain

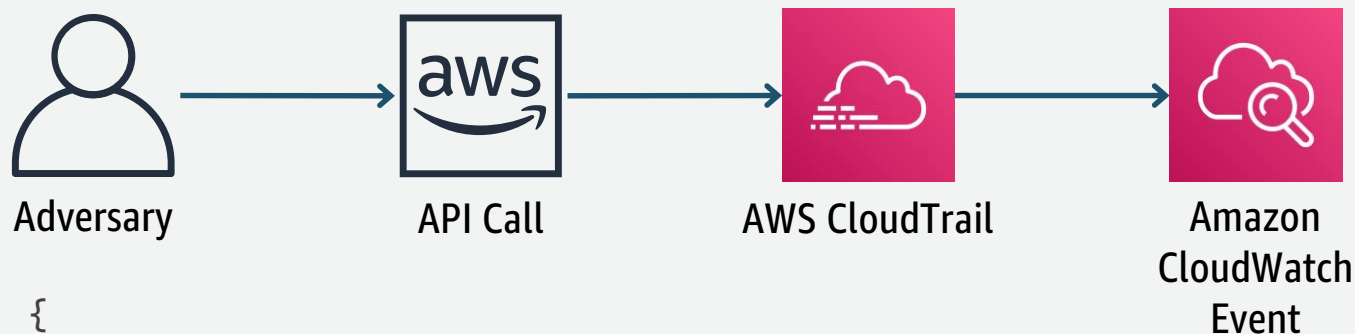
Example: CloudTrail gets turned off



`cloudtrail:StopLogging`

# Incident Response – Service Domain

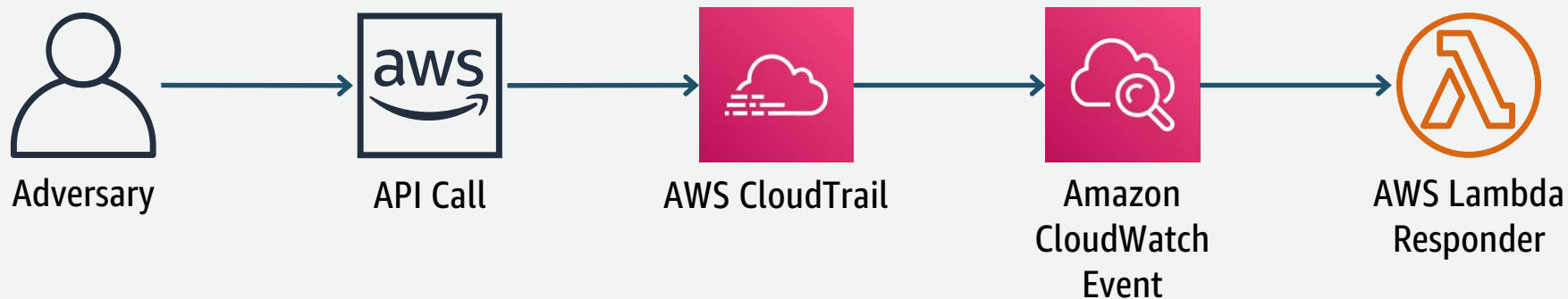
Example: CloudTrail gets turned off



```
{
  "detail-type": [ "AWS API Call via CloudTrail" ],
  "detail": {
    "eventSource": [ "cloudtrail.amazonaws.com" ],
    "eventName": [ "StopLogging" ]
  }
}
```

# Incident Response – Service Domain

Example: CloudTrail gets turned off



```
... ..
if "StopLogging" in event["detail"]["eventName"]:
    ct_response = cloudtrail.start_logging(
        Name = trail_arn,
    )
... ..
```

# Incident Response – AWS Security Partner Solutions



# Incident Management





# Incident Management - Lifecycle



# Incident Management - AWS Support Escalation Path

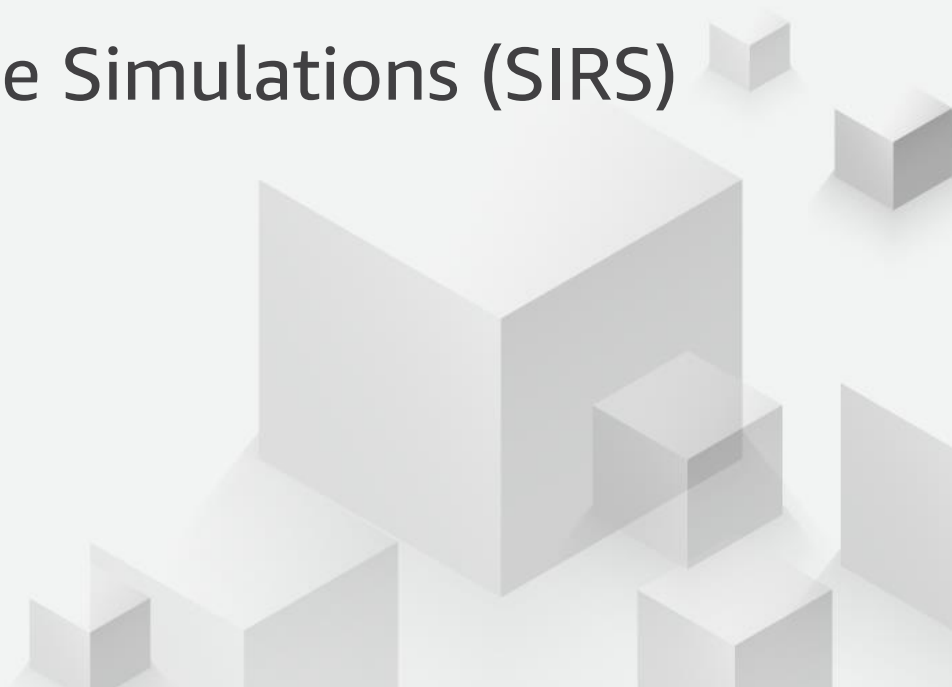
In situations where an escalation is required, customers can follow a pre-defined escalation path:

- Submit a Support Case
- Technical Account Manager
- On-call Operation Manager
- Global Enterprise Support Manager
- Director of Support Engineering
- VP of AWS Support

# Incident Management – IR Principles

- Establish Goals
- Respond using the cloud
- Know what you have and what you need
- Do things that scale
- Use redeployment mechanisms
- Iteratively automate the mundane
- Learn and improve your process

# Security Incident Response Simulations (SIRS)



# What is a SIRS?

- Security Incident Response Simulations (SIRS) are internal events that provide a structured opportunity to practice your incident response plan during a realistic scenario.
- SIRS events are fundamentally about being prepared and iteratively improving your response capabilities.

# Working back from customers

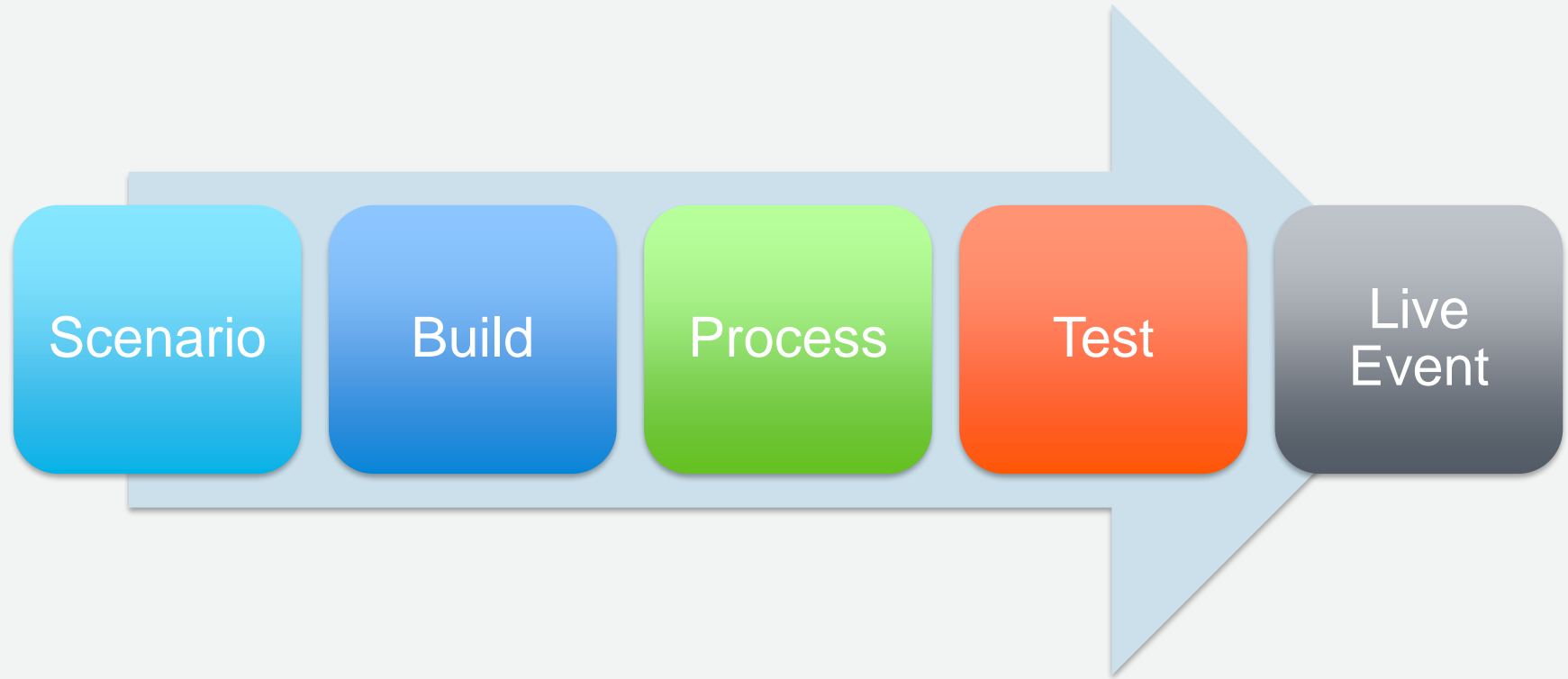
Customers voice the following reasons why they want to perform SIRS:

- **Validate readiness**
- **Develop confidence – Learn from and train staff**
- **Generate artifacts for accreditation**
- **Be agile – Incremental improvement with laser focus**
- **Become faster and improve tools**
- **Refine escalation and communication**
- **Develop comfort with the rare and the creative**

# Preparing for a simulation

1. Find an issue of importance.
2. Find skilled security geeks.
3. Build a realistic model system.
4. Build and test the scenario elements.
5. Invite other security geeks and real people.
6. Run the simulation live.
7. Get better and repeat.

# Key Simulation Elements





# When should I contact AWS?

If you are planning SIRS:

- Obtain permission to perform penetration testing/scanning. The following services do not need prior approval:
  - Amazon EC2 instances, NAT Gateways, and Elastic Load Balancers
  - Amazon RDS
  - Amazon CloudFront
  - Amazon Aurora
  - Amazon API Gateways
  - AWS Lambda and Lambda Edge functions
  - Amazon Lightsail resources
  - Amazon Elastic Beanstalk environments
- Confirm the SIRS does not violate the AWS Acceptable Use Policy.

<https://aws.amazon.com/security/penetration-testing/>

**Questions?**

# Appendix A - Incident Response Whitepaper

[https://d1.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/aws\\_security\\_incident\\_response.pdf](https://d1.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/aws_security_incident_response.pdf)