TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CORPUS CHRISTI | COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Corpus Christi, Texas, September 6, 2023.

Dear Student Conferenceship Award Committee,

I take immense pleasure in writing this letter of recommendation for Mr. Efrén López Morales to support his application for a Student Conferenceship Award to attend the Annual Computer Security Applications Conference (ACSAC). I have served as Efrén's advisor for the last four years, first as an MS Student at Arizona State University (ASU), and currently as a PhD Student at Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC), where he was awarded the prestigious Scholar Achievement in Graduate Education (SAGE) Scholarship to fund his doctoral studies.

During this time, I witnessed how Efrén developed a series of skills that make him an excellent candidate for your grant, as he has addressed pressing research topics in the field of Cybersecurity for the Power Grid and the Gas and Oil industries. As a result of his hard work, not only he completed an excellent MS thesis, but he also authored a paper accepted at the ACM Computer and Communications Security (CCS' 20) Conference and was also awarded the First Place at the Graduate Poster Student Competition in the 2021 GMiS Conference. Also, during the Spring 2023 semester, Efrén was appointed to a highly competitive internship position semester at the German CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security, one of the top research centers in Cybersecurity worldwide. Overall, I believe that attending the many interesting presentations at ACSAC 2023 will be indeed beneficial for his current and future research work. In addition, being a graduate student, his assistance can be beneficial to other participants of the conference as well, as he may be able to reflect on the perspectives of junior researchers in academia.

Currently, Efrén does not have any other travel support to attend the conference, so I am convinced he is an excellent candidate for receiving your award. Any consideration given to his application will be appreciated. Please feel free to contact me in case any questions arise.

Sincerely,

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