

# BEN TOMHAVE, MS, CISSP

Herndon, VA • tomhave@secureconsulting.net • +1 703-282-8600 • linkedin.com/in/btomhave

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## SUMMARY

### CYBER/INFORMATION SECURITY ARCHITECT AND LEADER

I am a pragmatic, SME-level security architect, with over 20 years of IT and information security industry experience. I hold a MS in Engineering Management from George Washington University, a BA in Computer Science from Luther College, a CISSP (#46697), and am a graduate of the BJ Fogg Behavior Design Boot Camp, which gives me a unique perspective on information security practices and challenges.

Specific recent experience includes managing a team of security architects and engineers; security architecture for identity and access management (IAM) and multi-factor authentication (MFA) projects, cloud (AWS) and container security, data security, and bi-modal enterprise security; research, publication and advisory services on topics including risk assessment and management, application security and DevSecOps, security strategy, and DLP; and, product and application security, including application security testing strategy, developer outreach and education on secure coding, and advising product teams on security practices and requirements.

In addition to work experience, I have also contributed back to society and industry as former co-chair of the American Bar Association Information Security Committee, a senior member of ISSA, former board member for the Society of Information Risk Analysts, and former board member for OWASP NoVA.

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

I have worked for a wide range of organizations, from small to large, serving in almost every information security role. My experience includes

- Sr. Technical Security Engineer @ AOL
- Firewall Lab Analyst @ ICSA Labs
- Public speaking @ dozens of events, including RSA, MISTI, ISSA, RMISC, RVASec, and Gartner events
- InfoSec Analyst (Firewalls) @ Wells Fargo
- InfoSec Auditor @ E&Y
- Contributing author to two ABA books, plus multiple papers and reports, including a master's thesis
- Research Director @ Gartner
- BJ Fogg Behavior Design Boot Camp (2017)
- Tripwire 2011 "Top 25 Influencers in Security"

### CORE COMPETENCIES

Security management, strategy, and architecture design and assessment (legacy and cloud); application security program management and securing DevOps (DevSecOps); identity and access management (IAM) strategy and architecture; governance, risk management, and compliance (GRC); security education, training, and awareness program development, management, and delivery, including a focus on behavioral information security; security product strategy and market analysis; analyst relations management.

*Keywords:* AWS, cloud, container, DevOps/DevSecOps, application security, secure coding, IAM, GRC, behavioral infosec, architecture, strategy, program management, product security, program assessment and efficacy, enterprise security architecture, digital transformation, agile, waterfall, SDLC, CIS benchmarks, FAIR, risk management, pragmatic, functional

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## RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE

Falcon's View Consulting, LLC

June 2015 to present

### Principal

As a solo consulting practice, providing cybersecurity professional services to multiple industries. Project work includes content development, security architecture, security product strategy and development, high-level security assessment and advisory services, specialized security training, and DevOps/DevSecOps architecture. Engagements include technical security ghost writing, program assessment based on NIST CSF, security advisory services on topics including risk management and container security, and general enterprise security architecture.

#### *Project highlights:*

- Security assessment and architecture for an e-commerce platform software development firm.
- Security architecture services for a major entertainment company.
- Development and delivery of DevOps and DevSecOps courses.
- Technical editing for a pentesting firm.
- Technical project management for a major financial services company.
- Custom content development for security vendors.

Pearson, Centennial, CO (remote)

September 2017 to April 2018

### Manager, Security Engineering and Architecture

Provided front-line management of a team of security engineers and architects responsible for identity and access management (IAM), multi-factor authentication (MFA), cloud security, container security, and data security (including encryption and certificate management). Provided technical leadership for the IAM and MFA initiative, including support for solution design and program communications.

New Context, San Francisco, CA (remote)

June 2016 to July 2017

### Principal Security Scientist

Served in a variable role performing research, product management of in-house development projects, and conducting business development. Efforts included creation of materials around the "Lean Security" methodology, development of presentations for conferences, and writing copy for sales collateral, blog posts, and byline articles. New Context has a focus on secure DevOps services and product development.

Ellucian, Fairfax, VA

October 2015 to June 2016

### Manager, Information Security Architecture

Evaluated current security processes, tools, and practices as a member of the information security team reporting directly to the CISO. Charged with evaluating the effectiveness of current solutions and identifying gaps in security protection. Developed a comprehensive security architecture framework to evaluate and manage security architecture strategy for both traditional on-premises and cloud environments. Worked with vendors and cross-organizationally to identify, evaluate, and test (pilot) solutions. Technologies evaluated included data loss prevention (DLP), endpoint detection and response (EDR), traditional endpoint security, email security solutions (on-premises and Office 365), enterprise mobility management (EMM), network security tools and capabilities, identity and access management tools and capabilities, application security practices, cloud security tools (such as for AWS) and container (Docker) security tools.

K12, Inc., Herndon, VA

March 2015 to October 2015

### Security Architect

As a member of the enterprise architecture team, charged with broad responsibilities to inject security practices into the overall application stack. Reviewed overall environment and developed an incremental roadmap for addressing critical gaps and charting a progressive course to more effective enterprise security over time.

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Gartner, Inc., Arlington, VA (remote)

June 2013 to March 2015

## Research Director

As a member of the Security & Risk Management Strategies team within Gartner for Technical Professionals, I conducted research into topics including risk management, security programs, security planning and management, application security, DLP, and SharePoint security. Additionally, I contributed content as a speaker at several Gartner and non-Gartner events and webinars, as well as delivering advisory services to clients and providing direct support to the sales team, both virtually and in-person, in multiple regions.

LockPath, Inc., Overland Park, KS (remote)

August 2011 to May 2013

## Principal Consultant

Hired to perform numerous duties as directed, including:

- **Professional Services:** Delivered consulting services supporting customer implementations of the Keylight platform and suite of applications.
- **Customer Training:** Developed and delivered comprehensive customer training across all LockPath products. Curriculum was tailored to multiple learner styles, including use of visual, auditory, and tactile techniques.
- **Writing:** Produced multiple written pieces, including byline articles and white papers, ranging in length from a few hundred to a couple thousand words.
- **Public Speaking:** Delivered presentations at several security-related conferences, including the RSA USA Conference, Secure360, the Rocky Mountain Information Security Conference (RMISC), the ISC<sup>2</sup> Security Congress, and the ISSA International Conference.
- **Partner Enablement:** Worked with partners to ensure that they were well supported and able to fulfill their mission requirements as pertained to delivering services related to LockPath products.
- **Other Duties as Assigned:** Completed other activities as assigned, including performing market analysis, providing input on product design discussions, and assisting with security policy development.

Gemini Security Solutions, Chantilly, VA

May 2010 to August 2011

## Sr. Security Analyst, Business Development Management

Experienced consultant hired to develop business relationships and grow client-base. Contributed to billable projects, development of proposals and statements of work, and promotion of the company. Increased company profile through writing and speaking engagements. Provided subject matter expertise in core competencies for use on client projects, internal consulting, and contributing to industry groups and initiatives.

Independent - Various, Fairfax, VA

December 2009 to May 2010

## Consultant / Author / Speaker

Worked through a variety of sources to provide security professional services to clients. Engagements included security and risk assessment, policy development, security program development and management, encryption key management, and secure application development. Client organizations ranged in size from small to large.

Foreground Security, Fairfax, VA

October 2009 to December 2009

## Senior Security Engineer

Implementation and project management of a complete security infrastructure upgrade for a large civilian government agency. Helped manage deployment of SIEM, NIDS, HIDS, FISMA tool, and network monitoring tool.

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Highwinds, Phoenix, AZ

January – September 2009

## **Technical Director of Information Security & Compliance**

Recruited to serve as the first full-time security resource for the organization. Objectives included shepherding Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) compliance efforts. Activities included addressing policy development, data cleanup, vuln scan and remediation, incident response management, network security, logging and monitoring, identity and access management, and application security.

BT Professional Services, Reston, Virginia

September 2007 – January 2009

## **Senior Security Consultant**

Led and participated in information security consulting engagements covering the full spectrum of information security, information security management, and information risk management. Developed and delivered training programs that enhanced internal capabilities to support and promote the security portfolio. Provided pre-sales support for security-related opportunities.

AOL, LLC, Dulles, Virginia

December 2003 – September 2007

## **Senior Technical Security Engineer**

Initially, individual contributor for incident response management and security assurance team. Then, team lead for information security management, security assurance/architecture, and security ET&A. The success of the program resulted in a measurable decrease in security incidents and an overall improvement in risk resiliency.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Master of Science, Engineering Management** (*Concentration: Information Security Management*)

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY – Washington, District of Columbia

### **Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science**

LUTHER COLLEGE – Decorah, Iowa

## **Professional Certifications**

CISSP – Certified Information Systems Security Professional #46697

DevOps Institute DevOps Foundation

DevOps Institute DevSecOps Engineering

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CONFERENCES**

### **Recently Completed Training**

DevOps Institute DevOps Foundation

Splunk Fundamentals 1

AWS: Cloud Practitioner Essentials, Security Fundamentals Online, Well-Architected Training

BJ Fogg Behavior Design Boot Camp

### **Speaking Experience**

RSA USA; Rocky Mountain InfoSec Conference (RMISC); ISSA International; MISTI InfoSec World Cloud Security World, and Cybersecurity World; Secure 360; ISC<sup>2</sup> Security Congress; SIRAcon, OWASP AppSec USA, AppSec DC, and Summit; Security B-Sides Austin and Ottawa, EnergySec Summit, NESCO Town Hall

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Senior Member – Information Systems Security Association (ISSA)