

ROCKY GRAY

Software Engineering Leader

 Washington D.C Metro Area

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 www.rockygray.com

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EXPERIENCE

Engineering Manager

Reddit

 Dec 2024 — Oct 2025

 Remote — San Francisco, CA

- Led the **Ads API Platform** and **Business Engineering** teams, driving partner integrations, platform reliability, and cross-functional delivery to unlock new revenue opportunities.
- **Rate Limit Redesign**: Coordinated Reddit's first private beta launch for a platform project by aligning with external partners and 20+ internal teams to define and implement upstream system policies.
- **MCP Server Implementation**: Guided the team that built the first MCP server in the Ads organization, which earned top recognition at Reddit's company-wide hackathon. Established myself as a subject matter expert (SME) in MCP design and implementation.

Leadership

API Platform

Data Engineering

Go

Python

OpenAPI

Engineering Manager

Cash App

 Feb 2023 — Aug 2024

 Remote — San Francisco, CA

- Accountable for the **real-time distributed ledger** that tracks all financial transactions within the Cash App ecosystem.
- Directed teams across **core infrastructure for money movement**, balancing reliability with innovation.
- Mentored engineers and established strong **system design practices**, helping scale the platform for growth and resilience.

Leadership

API Platform

Data Engineering

Java

Engineering Manager

Twitter

 Nov 2020 — Nov 2022

 Remote — San Francisco, CA

- Scaled **global Ads API Data Service** teams from 5 to 15 engineers, creating two specialized groups.
- Promoted multiple engineers (ICs to Staff and one to EM), demonstrating strong people development and leadership.
- Defined a **multi-year roadmap** to improve API development velocity and cross-functional delivery.
- Drove adoption of an **architectural pattern** enabling parallel product experimentation, accelerating both ads and API innovation.

Leadership

API Platform

Data Engineering

Scala

Java

GraphQL

OpenAPI

Senior Software Engineering Manager

Capital One

 Apr 2018 — October 2020

 McLean, VA

- Tech lead and people leader for the Focus platform, enabling secure, scalable document storage and third-party integrations.
- Delivered **dual-region architecture, asynchronous virus scanning, and object-level encryption** to strengthen resiliency.
- Won a **Technical Excellence Award** for innovation, reliability, and platform growth.
- Co-inventor on multiple patents derived from platform designs.

NodeJS

Go

Java

Kubernetes

Aurora MySQL

Cassandra

Terraform

CloudFormation

Ansible

AWS

API Platform

OpenAPI

Data Engineering

Leadership

Lead Software Engineer

Storyblocks

 Dec 2014 — Mar 2018

 Arlington, VA

- Tech lead of Strategic Technologies team, providing **platforms, cloud infrastructure, data pipelines, and enterprise APIs**.
- Led AWS migration, event-driven KPI pipeline, and established enterprise APIs that generated \$1M+ new revenue.
- Advocated for engineers, provided mentorship, and supported organizational growth.

PHP

NodeJS

Scala

React

Angular

Python

Ruby

Docker

MySQL

Postgres

MongoDB

CloudFormation

Ansible

Data Engineering

API Platform

OpenAPI

AWS

Leadership

Software Engineer

Capital One

 Jul 2012 — Dec 2014

 Vienna, VA

- Built first **REST APIs for credit card resources** and co-developed the **API Developer Portal**—banking's first public APIs.

API

Java





OpenAPI

Data Engineering

LIFE PHILOSOPHY

“Never give up.”



STRENGHTS

- **System Design & Architecture**
Large-scale distributed systems, platform design
- **Leadership**
Building, mentoring, and scaling high-performing teams
- **Platforms & APIs**
Ads APIs, ledgers, financial systems, enterprise integrations
- **Execution**
Driving corss-functional alignment, delivering impact





EDUCATION

B.E. in Computer Engineering
Vanderbilt University

CERTIFICATIONS

- **Solutions Architect Associate**
Jan 2019: EET55E012B1QQC5L
- **Certified Secure Software Engineer Associate**
March 2020

PATENTS

- **US Patent US10474506B1**
“Finite state machine driven workflows,” Nov. 12 2019
- **US Patent US10997611B2**
“Distribution of media with tracking and analysis of media usage for royalty, loyalty and collection of metadata,” May. 4 2021
- **US Patent US11171945B2**
“Time-based token trust depreciation,” Nov. 9 2021
- **US Patent US11113678B2**
“Systems configured to manage user-related external party-activity software objects by using machine-readable indicia and methods of use thereof,” Sept. 7 2021