

James Bernardi

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Portfolio: <https://jamesbernardi.com> | **GitHub:** <https://github.com/jamesbernardi>

Charleston, WV 25306

Cloud & Systems Engineer with 15+ years of experience in AWS infrastructure, DevOps, SRE, and IT leadership. Proven success in architecting scalable cloud platforms, automating CI/CD pipelines, and improving system reliability across enterprise and government projects. Adept at aligning technical solutions with business goals, leading cross-functional teams, and simplifying complex ideas for stakeholders. Looking to relocate to a larger city in Spring 2026.

Professional Certifications

- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate (Validation # VNJ9FJVBYFB1Q0KV)

Technical Skills

Cloud Platforms

- Amazon Web Services (AWS): EC2, S3, ECS, EKS, Fargate, CloudFront, CloudWatch, Route 53, RDS, IAM, VPC, Inspector, Cost Explorer, CloudTrail
- Google Cloud Platform (GCP): GKE, Compute Engine, Cloud Storage, Cloud SQL
- Cloudflare: CDN, DNS, SSL, Caching, Workers, Security, WAF

Identity & Access Management

- Okta: SSO, Application Security, Permissions Management

Infrastructure as Code

- Terraform: Modules, Infrastructure Automation, Terraform Cloud

Configuration Management

- Ansible, SaltStack, Puppet, Helm

Languages & Scripting

- BASH, Python, YAML, JSON

Containerization

- Kubernetes, Docker, Colima

CI/CD Tools

- BuildKite, Jenkins, Harness.io, GitHub Actions, GitLab, Travis CI, Circle CI, Argo CD

Database Management

- MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, SQLite

Web Hosting & Application Servers

- Apache, Nginx, Node.js, PHP, Ruby, traefik
- 3rd party vendors: Pantheon, Vercel, WPEngine, Platform.sh

Monitoring & Incident Management

- NewRelic, DataDog, Splunk, ELK, Dynatrace, Grafana, Prometheus, PagerDuty, XMatters

Infrastructure & Networks

- Linux (RedHat, CentOS, Debian, Ubuntu), VMWare, Network Security, Firewalls, SAN, NAS

Professional Experience

Experis — Milwaukee, WI

Contract Site Reliability Engineer with The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (Remote)

December 2024 – Present

- Required Tier 3 Background Check and Security Clearance completed December 2024
- Collaborating with development teams to modernize banking applications within AWS Cloud infrastructure.
- Designing and enhancing application monitoring and alerting systems to support operational excellence.
- Operating under strict security and non-disclosure regulations; project-specific details are confidential.

Forum One Communications — Arlington, VA

Principal Site Reliability Engineer (Remote)

December 2018 – May 2024

- Managed client web hosting operations across over 50 AWS accounts, ensuring availability, optimized performance, and enhanced cost efficiency.
- Transitioned from CloudFormation to Terraform, streamlining infrastructure as code (IaC) management and increasing deployment speeds.
- Refined SaltStack configurations, reducing deployment errors and increasing system performance and scalability.
- Established daily stand-ups and collaborative working sessions, increasing team productivity and knowledge sharing.
- Reduced deployment times through optimized CI/CD workflows with BuildKite and Terraform.
- Led containerization initiatives with Kubernetes and ECS, enhancing reliability, scalability, and efficiency of application migrations.
- Strengthened on-call policies and incident response protocols, leading to a 57% reduction in service outages.
- Implemented government-compliant infrastructure hardening to meet NIST security standards.
- Optimized AWS costs by leveraging third-party tools for reserved instance purchasing and service optimization.
- Managed high-profile client websites (e.g., peacecorps.gov, case.org, piie.com, and 30+ sites for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), driving improved performance, uptime, and client satisfaction.

Beachbody — Santa Monica, CA

Senior Systems Engineer, Linux (On Site)

December 2015 – July 2018

- Deployed and maintained a fleet of 1000+ Linux servers in a hybrid VMWare and AWS environment.
- Automated server provisioning and configuration management with Puppet and Ansible,

- decreasing manual intervention and improving deployment automation.
- Architected secure CI/CD pipelines, collaborating with Development teams to integrate GitHub, Jenkins and Harness.io for cloud application deployments.
- Led AWS migration projects to containers using AWS ECS and Fargate.
- Mentored junior engineers, enhancing team skill sets and increasing technical capacity.
- Managed over 30 AWS Accounts and attached services: Okta, Cloudhealth, etc.
- Collaborated with Oracle development teams to support Oracle Database and Identity Management (IDM) solutions.
- Oversaw mission-critical infrastructure for high-traffic fitness platforms, including beachbody.com, beachbodyondemand.com, and mychallengetracker.com.

MCD Partners — New York City, NY

Information Technology Manager (On Site)

August 2007 – July 2015

- Established CI/CD pipelines for efficient deployments through automation with custom scripts and Git.
- Migrated key services to cloud platforms, increasing service availability and improving operational scalability.
- Supervised IT support teams, fostering collaboration and a solution-oriented work culture to improve response times and customer satisfaction.
- Negotiated vendor contracts, securing cost savings and alignment with business objectives.
- Designed and implemented network infrastructure improvements, enhancing security posture and facilitating cross-country collaboration.
- Directed multi-office project management, maintaining consistent communication and meeting project deadlines.
- Led cloud and SaaS migrations, moving critical business applications from on-premises to cloud solutions (e.g., Exchange → Gmail, Bugzilla → JIRA Cloud, MediaWiki → Confluence), significantly improving uptime, availability and features.
- Improved developer workflows by standardizing servers and services. Providing a git workflow with GitLab.
- Standardized Workstation configurations with approved software lists and disk images to streamline deploying new workstations.
- Connected remote offices with VPN tunnels and synced services to provide seamless integration for workstations enhancing collaboration for all teams
- Created an Onsite “Usability Lab” for website testing in both New York and Chicago offices. Allowing Designers and Developers to test websites onsite with real users. This provided a live stream for remote clients to watch and recordings for later review. This was a 3 panel screen streaming the Device, user reactions and user interaction.
- Delivered on key client projects (e.g., studentloan.com, dhlblog.discover.com, SXSW event pages), reinforcing strong project management and client relationship skills.
- Collaborated on high-profile client projects, including Discover Financial Services, Samsung, AT&T, E-Trade, and TIAA.
- Migrated from an unmanaged haphazard small office IT dept to a modern robust IT team with solid solutions and reliable technology.

Education

Bachelor of Arts in American History - The Ohio State University

