

# Justin Tahara

☎ 310-384-2847 ✉ [justintahara@gmail.com](mailto:justintahara@gmail.com) 🔗 [linkedin.com/justintahara](https://www.linkedin.com/company/justintahara) 📄 [github.com/justin-tahara](https://github.com/justin-tahara)

## Experience

### Onyx AI

Jul 2025 – Present

#### Founding Infrastructure Engineer

San Francisco, CA

- Terraformed the existing AI infrastructure and codified changes to automate routinely performed upgrades for all customer environments reducing deployment complexities to **1 click**.
- Reduced the overall cost spend across Infrastructure, Tooling, Tokens by **80%** due to insufficient legacy code and refactoring existing code to be more more efficient and performant.
- Handled all customer support including demos, deployments, debugging, office hours, on-call acting as the **Forward Deploy Engineer** for the company.

### Applied Intuition

May 2022 – Jun 2025

#### Tech Lead - Cloud Infrastructure

Mountain View, CA

- Founded the **Security and Authentication** team to address real-world customer security requirements, leading the design and implementation of foundational security features for enterprise clients.
- Engineered solutions to reduce customer cloud costs by an average of **50%** a month, saving over **\$10 million** annually through infrastructure and application code optimization.
- Integrated technologies such as **Aurora DB**, **Intelligent Tiering**, and **Spot instances** using **Terraform**, enhancing cloud resource utilization.
- Built a **Golang-based** cloud service from scratch to track cost metrics for our customers **Kubernetes** clusters enabling precise cost-per-simulation-minute analysis and cost anomaly alerting through **Prometheus**.
- Designed and implemented **GDPR-compliant** infrastructure for the Global Accounts Service using **Route 53** and Terraform, managing the Elastic Beanstalk environments in multiple regions.
- Initiated **JIT Provisioning** for **SAML** and **OIDC** integrations, enhancing customer onboarding security and efficiency and added **SCIM** compatible features for our customers using SSO Providers.
- Standardized file access clients and functions across **AWS**, **GCP** and **Azure**, and introduced **K6** integration tests to preempt future regressions.
- Provided on-site cloud and on-prem infrastructure support to over 7 global B2B customers including GM, Scania, and VW group in Germany and Sweden, ensuring timely and effective assistance over a 2 month rotation.

### Amazon

Jun 2021 – Sep 2021

#### Software Development Engineer Intern - Alexa

Seattle, WA

- Leveraged an internal tool to mock third-party API calls for Alexa Integration Tests, reducing test runtime by **90%** and eliminating dependencies that hindered efficiency.
- Created a **Java** utility class with a user guide to reduce the onboarding time of the mocking tool from 2 weeks to 1 day.
- Translated and developed new skills for Japanese users and tested functionality using an **Utterance Profiler**.

### Western Digital

Jun 2020 – Jun 2021

#### Data Analyst - Wafer Fabrication

Fremont, CA

- Collaborated with the Heads Integration team to develop and maintain dashboards for tracking wafer metrics at US facilities.
- Performed data analysis using **Spotfire** to deliver actionable metrics for the R&D Data Engineering team.
- Utilized **IronPython** scripts to enhance Spotfire functionality, consolidating wafer information into a single location and improving user experience.

## Education

### University of California San Diego

Dec 2021

Master of Science in Computer Science with Depth in Artificial Intelligence

La Jolla, CA

### University of California San Diego

Dec 2020

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

La Jolla, CA

## Technical Skills

**Languages:** Python, Golang, Java, C++, SQL, Javascript, Bash

**Technologies:** Kubernetes (K8S), AWS, GCP, Azure, Docker, Terraform, PostgreSQL, Aurora, cAdvisor, Druid, Grafana, Prometheus, Loki, Git, Elastic Beanstalk, S3, RDS, EC2, VPC, Route 53, Buildkite, Superset, SAML, OIDC, SCIM