

Karl Solomon

San Jose, CA

USA

📱 +1 (408) 623 7341

✉️ ksolomon@utexas.edu

Ericka Callahan and Etched Recruitment Team

Etched, Inc.

Sunnyvale, CA

December 9, 2024

Firmware Engineer

Hello,

I hope this finds you well. Thank you for considering me for the Firmware Engineer role on your team. I wanted to quickly thank Ericka for her persistence in reaching out to me. Etched seems like an amazing place to work with a very interesting project. I value when my work makes meaningful contribution to society and I do not find it a stretch to say that Etched's Sohu will achieve exactly that. ASICs are inevitable in order to achieve the next boom in inference. I would love to help this effort to bring Sohu and any future ASICs in the pipeline to market. Additionally, as an avid Linux user I love Etched's commitment to open-source.

As you'll notice upon reviewing my résumé, I have a work gap over the past $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. This was due to a sudden onset of OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder). After some time at Nvidia, OCD inhibited my work there and eventually led to my termination. At the time I did not know what the issue was. After bouncing around to different mental health professionals with limited progress I was diagnosed with OCD in February 2024. I have been receiving treatment multiple times per week in Phoenix, AZ since the diagnosis. I have come to understand that OCD is hereditary and was triggered by starting a new fully-remote job during the pandemic. Since February my treatment has shown significant improvement on my ability to work and live in accordance with my values in spite of having OCD. I am now confident that I can, once again, resume working to the best of my ability. As a result, I am moving back to the Bay Area in Jan 2025, quite eager to contribute.

How has this experience impacted me as an employee? I have become far more self-aware and mindful; I believe this to be a major benefit. I have also become more aware of company cultures which work for me and those which do not. I excel when I get to collaborate closely with others, when I am not fully remote, and when my manager and coworkers have the bandwidth and company's support to make time to hear me out should I have questions or concerns. In this type of environment I am highly motivated and confident in my ability to perform well.

Should you have any questions about this or anything else I am happy to discuss them at any time. With all that being said, I appreciate your consideration for this role and look forward to your reply.

Best Regards,



Karl Solomon