

Laura Beaufort

Technical Lead

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Washington, DC

Professional Experience

Federal Election Commission (FEC)

Technical Lead, September 2017-present

- Provide expertise across multiple FEC branches on best practices for designing and implementing solution-specific cloud based technologies
- Make recommendations for AWS cloud migration, disaster recovery, and efilng projects
- Lead architecture discussions, code review, and feature prioritization for fec.gov
- Research emerging technologies, mentor developers, and add team documentation for best practices for test-driven development
- Serve as acting Sprint Facilitator to assist product management and junior developers with prioritizing and scheduling work
- Explain technical issues and concepts clearly to both technical and non-technical audiences
- Work to successfully transfer fec.gov's ATO from 18F to the FEC
- Coordinate application security, lead postmortems, and implement critical application performance improvements.
- Improve the cloud-based deploy process using CircleCI, cloud foundry, and cloud.gov
- Use Python, JavaScript, Flask, Django, and Elasticsearch to add features, fix bugs, and increase the stability of fec.gov
- Make security improvements to internal and external open source packages
- Assist UX/design team with producing workflow mockups and conducting user interviews
- Lead the initiative and write code to publish FEC's code to code.gov, participate in multi-agency code.gov working group
- Promote open source software and the FEC's website by participating in the code.gov working group, GSA's government communities of practice for APIs, security, and DevOps, and presenting at conferences

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst, January 2012 - August 2017

- Leveraged technical skills to modernize IT processes and coordinate the implementation of new and existing tools such as ServiceNow correspondence tracking platform
- Served as Acting Assistant Branch Chief, managing team of eight analysts
- Provided outstanding customer service and technical assistance to over 350 assigned committees
- Designed and created instructional YouTube videos and webinars for FECFile users
- Prepared and led branch-wide trainings on legal developments, complex reporting scenarios, and technical tools
- Formally mentored and informally coached employees on professional development, campaign finance review policies and procedures
- Conducted extensive user research for 18F, providing feedback and making recommendations on FEC website redesign and e-filing study

NGP VAN, Inc.

Software Developer and Requirements Analyst, April 2010 - December 2011

- Designed and programmed web-based database software using T-SQL, C# .NET, and Javascript to generate proper calculations and output state and federal campaign finance reports
- Provided technical advice, guidance, and recommendations to management and other technical specialists on critical issues.
- Documented project plans and team processes in Microsoft SharePoint wiki

Senior Technical Support Specialist; Data Services Specialist, May 2007 - April 2010

- Used JavaScript and HTML to create backend edit request form that automatically created a support case in Salesforce
- Coordinated and approved data updates made by staff using T-SQL
- Designed and presented in-person and webinar trainings for candidate committees, PACs, and parties on how to prepare federal and state disclosure reports using NGP
- Trained new staff on FEC disclosure rules, technical support, and customer service
- Coordinated QA testing and triaged critical, time-sensitive software bugs
- Designed and wrote custom SQL reports for targeted fundraising and financial analysis

Teaching, Mentoring, & Volunteering

- Instructor/Mentor, Django Girls, September 2018-Present
- Mentor, The Michael Project, November 2017-Present
- Career coach, University of Delaware Alumni Program, 2018-Present
- Instructor/T.A., Hear Me Code, December 2017- September 2019

Awards & Recognition

- Featured by Slate's *Working* podcast, January 2020
- DCFemTech Award winner, 2019
- Women in Security and Privacy (WISP) DEFCON scholarship, 2019
- FEC quality step increase (QSI) award for outstanding performance, 2018
- FEC informal awards: "Outstanding Team Player," 2017; "Best Team Player," 2015; "Outstanding Customer Service," 2014
- NGP VAN Employee of the Year Award, 2009

Professional Training & Education

- AWS Cloud Architect Ramp-up Guide, January 2020
- AWS Security Workshop, December 2019
- Global AppSec DC, September 2019
- Systems Operations on AWS, May 2019
- Architecting on AWS, October 2018
- JavaScript Development, General Assembly, Fall/Winter 2017 (10-week course)
- University of Delaware, Honors B.A. in Political Science, American History, Computer Science Minor, 2007