

LOWELL KITCHEN

Lead Software Engineer specializing in payments & political organizing

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Rockport, MA

SUMMARY

Seasoned software engineer with over two decades of experience in scalable software engineering and product development. I've spent the past 15+ years designing and developing political organizing and payment platforms that has powered the digital operations of major political campaigns and progressive causes globally. Proven track record in leading product engineering teams that deliver high impact results.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



Lead Software Engineer, Payments

2023 - 2025

Bonterra

Remote

- Led a product engineering team focused on payment processing & fundraising features for EveryAction & NGP VAN.
- Optimized Stripe Connect integrations (using Stripe Radar) to reduce payments fraud and 'false positive' fraud blocking, saving Bonterra clients millions of dollars.
- Led the technical design and development for new wallet-based payment methods (Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal, & Venmo) that helped raise millions of dollars for EveryAction & NGP VAN clients in 2024.
- Improved Stripe Connect new account setup process that led to a over 400% increase in new setups on the EveryAction & NGP VAN platform



Software Team Lead, Political Organizing & Fundraising

2022 - 2023

Bonterra

Remote

- Led an engineering team developing political organizing and fundraising features for the EveryAction & NGP VAN platform.
- Led a year-long project to redesign core functionality of the NGP VAN CRM platform.
- Designed and implemented an integration between NGP VAN and the Facebook Ad platform to help facilitate online advertising for our clients.



Software Team Lead, Political Organizing & Fundraising

2019 - 2022

EveryAction

Remote

- Led an engineering team developing the EveryAction and NGP VAN platform API.
- Led the design and development of bulk import and export APIs to support a two-way data sync between EveryAction and Salesforce.
- Made significant performance and testability improvements to the EveryAction mobile messaging (SMS) platform.



Senior Software Engineer

2019 - 2019

EveryAction

Hybrid

- Contributed to the design and development of political organizing and fundraising software for the BSD Tools (acquired by EveryAction in 2019), EveryAction & NGP VAN platforms.



Senior Software Engineer

2015 - 2019

Blue State Digital

Boston, MA

- Full stack application design and development of political organizing and fundraising software.
- Led the technical design and implementation of payment fraud detection capabilities using MaxMind and Stripe Radar.



Lead Software Engineer

2015 - 2023

Game Show Network (GSN Games)

Waltham, MA

- Led a web engineering team for the online gaming platforms WorldWinner & GSN Games.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Led technical design & implementation of new wallet-based payment methods

Including Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal, & Venmo for the EveryAction & NGP VAN platform. New payment methods raised approx. \$2MM in 2024

Improved payments fraud detection

by optimizing our Stripe Connect integrations (using Stripe Radar) to reduce payments fraud and 'false positive' fraud blocking, saving our clients millions of dollars and improving the integrity of our payments platform

Increased new Stripe Connect account setups by over 400%

by leveraging Stripe's embedded React components to make significant usability improvements to the account setup process

Major contributions to the BSD Tools payments platform

that helped raise billions of dollars for major political campaigns and led to the acquisition of the BSD Tools in 2019

TOP SKILLS

Team Leadership · Software Design ·
Software Development ·
API Development · Distributed Systems ·
SaaS Platforms · Payment Platforms ·
Stripe · Stripe Connect · Stripe Radar ·
PayPal · C# · .NET · SQL Server · PHP ·
MySQL · JavaScript · TypeScript

VOLUNTEERING

Lighthouse Keeper

Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Association

2023 - Present

I dedicate one week each summer to volunteering as a part-time lighthouse keeper for the Thacher & Straitsmouth Islands Association.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



Software Engineer

2006 - 2013

Blue State Digital

Boston, MA

- Contributed to the design and development of the pioneering political organizing and fundraising platform known as the BSD Tools.
- Made significant contributions to the BSD Tools payment processing capabilities, which raised billions of dollars for major political campaigns and nonprofits between 2006 and 2019.



Web Application Developer

2004 - 2006

Blue Fox

Shelburne Falls, MA

- Led the development of websites and web applications for small businesses and higher educational institutes.
- Performed basic web server administration tasks including configuring Apache and MySQL.



Web Manager

2003 - 2004

JC Danczak

Westfield, MA

- Managed all aspects of the company's online presence.
- Designed and implemented e-commerce website and online marketing strategy.
- Tripled yearly sales revenue in less than one year.



Technology Instructor

1999 - 2004

Hampshire Educational Collaborative

Northampton, MA

- Developed course curriculum and taught adult basic education computer literacy courses.



Adjunct Technology Instructor

2003 - 2004

Holyoke Community College

Holyoke, MA

- Developed course curriculum and taught classes in web development using Macromedia Dreamweaver.



Web Developer

2000 - 2003

Gravity Switch

Northampton, MA

- Contributed to the design and development of custom web applications for small-medium sized businesses and higher educational institutes.

EDUCATION

Computer Science

1997 - 1999

The University of Georgia

- Completed 2 years of introductory computer science courses