

NATHAN ACKS

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CYBERSECURITY RED TEAM

Security Solutions | Organizational Leadership | Service Excellence

Master's educated IT business professional with extensive experience providing the leadership and support needed to drive key organizational cybersecurity-related goals and objectives achievement. Able to analyze complex business environments, developing and implementing cybersecurity solutions designed to protect the company's hardware, software, and networks from threats and minimize risk. Proven strength building and maintaining long-term, professional relationships with strategic business partners and cybersecurity stakeholders based on the effectiveness of the solutions and support provided. Recognized for the ability to deliver impactful results while leading in fast-paced, dynamic technical business environments.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Vulnerability Assessments
- Risk Analysis & Management
- Strategy & Execution
- Investigations & Research
- Information Security Management
- IT Security Programs
- Security Audits
- Technical Documentation
- Stakeholder Communication
- Technical Project Management
- Strategic Business Partnerships
- Vendor Relationships

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

Penetration Testing: Burp Suite, Kali Linux, Metasploit, Python, Raspberry Pi
Cybersecurity: Incident Response, PCI DSS, Security Policy
IT Operations: Bash, Cloud Computing, Computer Networking, Database Administration, Database Design, Documentation, Google Cloud Platform, Google Workspace, Linux System Administration, MySQL, Office 365 Administration, PL/SQL, SQL, Technical Support, Web Servers, Windows Server, Zoom

CERTIFICATIONS

CompTIA Security+ (in progress) (2022)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE PUBLIC INTEREST NETWORK, Denver, CO

2009 – Present

Director of IT (2016 – Present)

- Founded and oversee the organization's IT & Security team, crafting organization-wide security policies in collaboration with the Legal team and the President's Office.
- Write and maintain IT and security-related documentation and trainings.
- Hold bottom-line responsibility for the roll-out, maintenance, security, and support of IT systems used by all staff, including email, user authentication, document management, and custom internal applications.
- Serve as the technical point-of-contact for IT-related PCI DSS issues, investigate and remediate potential IT security incidents, and maintain IT and security-related documentation and trainings.
- Notable achievements while in the position have included:
 - Developed and implemented a security tier system for offices and staff to rationalize existing IT and physical security policies.
 - Created an internal system for the provisioning and management of the full lifecycle for accounts in services managed by the IT & Security team.
 - Oversaw the successful migration from a legacy vendor email system to Google Workspace, and from a legacy LDAP system to Okta.
 - Managed the successful roll-out of two-factor authentication to the staff, the transition to Microsoft 365, and the migration of multiple office-based phone systems nationwide.
 - Upgraded and managed office networks nationwide.

Manager of Online Outreach Technology (2009 – 2016)

- Served as the key point on data analysis, database development, and IT vendor management for the organization's digital organizing program.
- Evaluated and developed new organizing tools and reports for the Digital team and created a customer Perl script to generate constituent mass-mailings.
- Managed multiple Ubuntu, CentOS, and Arch Linux servers running mission-critical applications, including LDAP/GOSA, MySQL, NFS, Git, Postfix, Apache, CiviCRM, WebGUI, and Tenable Security Center.
- Responsible for contractor and vendor relations for all Digital team technology, as well as associated budgets.
- Wrote/curated a large library of custom SQL and PL/SQL scripts for reporting and data import, export, and clean-up.
- Provided wide-ranging support in the development of content and outreach strategies as part of a rapid response organizing team.
- Managed the social media presence for the Recruitment team and served as the technical point-of-contact for PCI DSS and computer security issues.
- Provided general technical support for the Denver office's staff and maintained the office's network.
- Notable achievements while in the position have included:
 - Oversaw the successful migrations of an in-house constituent relationship management (CRM) and action system to Convio, followed next to Salsa and MySQL.
 - Led a successful project that integrated vendor CRM databases with a separate system hosted by ROI Solutions.

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT: Chaperon — U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, Apartment Manager — Equity, LLP, Retail Manager/Floor Manager/Book Seller — Tattered Cover Book Store.

EDUCATION

Master's of Science, Applied Mathematics — University of Colorado, Denver, CO

Bachelor's of Science, Theoretical Physics — University of Colorado, Denver, CO

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Yakshaver — Yak Collective (2020 – Present)
Contributing Writer — Worldchanging (2006 – 2008)