

Colin McAllister

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A people-first cybersecurity leader and problem solver.

Certifications

[SSAP](#), [GDSA](#), [GSTRT](#), [GCIH](#), [GIAC Advisory Board](#), [AWS CCP](#), [GNFA](#)

Education

Master's in Cyber Security @ SANS Technical Institute

2023 - Present

- GPA: 4.0

Bachelor's in Computer Science @ Auburn University

2020 - 2021

- Honors: *Summa Cum Laude*

Bachelor's in Music Education @ University of Nevada Reno

2008 - 2012

- GPA: 3.3

Experience

Arctic Wolf Networks

Team Lead - Security Developer

Mar 2024 - Present, Remote

- Reduced team backlog from over 300 tickets to 0, maintaining fewer than 10 tickets over the previous quarter, empowering the team to work efficiently and focus on high-impact tasks.
- Prioritized team happiness, health, and productivity by fostering a collaborative, supportive environment where each individual's needs are met.
- Spearheaded the development of an automation tool that eliminated repetitive tasks, saving over 2000 hours annually through collaborative stakeholder engagement and precise requirement gathering.

Skills: Leadership

Security Developer

Nov 2022 - Mar 2024, Remote

- Spearheaded the review and refinement of three major rotations by utilizing our internal PostgreSQL reporting service, enhancing team efficiency and demonstrating leadership in process improvement.
- Proficiently debugged Python and YAML codebases using tools in VSCode, identifying and resolving critical bugs. Collaborated cross-functionally to address these issues, ensuring code reliability and system integrity.
- Acted as a key representative for my team during incident investigations, leveraging my comprehensive understanding of our systems and processes to provide crucial insights and solutions.
- Regularly enhanced operational processes by writing automation scripts, contributing to more efficient and streamlined workflows.
- Leveraged my extensive experience and tenure at Arctic Wolf to provide unique context and insights to the team, enabling them to perform their roles more effectively and efficiently.

Skills: Python, Git, AWS, YAML

Business Analyst

Dec 2021 - Nov 2022, Remote

- Worked closely with senior leaders to develop meaningful metrics and then visualize the data using IRS and PostgreSQL.
- Utilized and implemented multiple new tools to automate 25% of Business Analysts recurring tasks.

- Headed the implementation of a new scheduling software solution for over 250 employees using Python to make HTTP calls to their RESTful API.

- Led dozens of meetings, demonstrating strong communication and coordination skills, essential for team alignment and project success.

Skills: Python, Excel, PostgreSQL, Leadership

Team Captain

Jul 2021 - Dec 2021, San Antonio, TX

- Lead a team of six Security Analysts and Engineers, ensuring that they were meeting their goals and had the resources they needed to succeed.

- Provide daily mentorship to team members to ensure the highest level of performance in all required tasks.

- Considered subject matter expert on all daily tasks for Level 1 Engineers.

- Cultivating meaningful relationships with and amongst team members and ensuring their success.

Skills: Leadership, Mentoring, Scheduling

Triage Security Engineer

Dec 2020 - Dec 2021, San Antonio, TX

- Use MITRE ATT&CK framework to investigate and triage incidents within a customer's network.

- Facilitated customer understanding and issue resolution through adept communication via Zendesk, enhancing user experience and satisfaction.

- Developed and implemented macros and dashboards in Zendesk, significantly improving team efficiency and optimizing support workflows.

- Expertly triaged and responded to security alerts in customer environments, ensuring rapid resolution and minimal impact.

- Developed and refined new runbooks for processes and procedures to ensure consistency and transparency among employees at all levels.

Skills: ZenDesk, Network Monitoring, Collaboration, Communication

CarKey

Lead Videographer

Sep 2019 - Dec 2020, Las Vegas, NV

Skills: Leadership, Premiere Pro, Excel, SQL

US Army

Public Affairs Officer

Nov 2015 - Sep 2019, Schofield Barracks, HI

Skills: Leadership, Mentoring

Awards & Recognition

- **Hackathon Winner** | Arctic Wolf Networks (Nov 2023)
- **Triage Security Engineer 1 of the Quarter** | Arctic Wolf Networks (Jul 2021)
- **Commandant's List** | Leadership Academy - US Army (Jan 2015)

Projects

see <https://colinmca.com> for more information **The Daily Decrypt** (Jan 2024 A cybersecurity news podcast that simplifies complex cybersecurity concepts into short, digestible episodes with humor and education, hosted on AWS Lightsail and WordPress).

Guest Lecturer - Paul Sawyer Public Library (Nov 2023 Guest security lecturer and advisor to the technology educator, presenting on topics such as The Dark Web and Artificial Intelligence).

Cloud Resume Challenge (Oct 2023 The first step to becoming a cloud engineer is to build and host your resume in the cloud).

Home Network Security Monitoring Project (Jan 2023 Implemented a comprehensive network monitoring solution in my home using Security Onion).

Discord Alerter for Security Onion (Jan 2023 Interact with Security Onion alerts and cases via Discord)