Colin McAllister

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A people-first cybersecurity leader and problem solver.

Certifications

- [**SSAP**](#) | Aug 2024, -[**GDSA**](#) | Jul 2024, -[**GSTRT**](#) | Dec 2023, -[**GCIH**](#) | Dec 2023, , -[**AWS CCP**](#) | Nov 2023, -[**GNFA**](#) | Mar 2022,

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 Sawyier 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*