Nathan Santiago

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Information Security & Compliance Architect

Governance, Risk & Compliance ♦ Audit Readiness ♦ Security Awareness ♦ Incident Response

Security and compliance professional at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry, carrying the responsibilities of an Information Security Officer. Specializes in governance, risk, and compliance across ISO/IEC 27001, SOC 2, NIST CSF, NIST SP 800-171/CMMC, and HIPAA, backed by technology risk consulting at Ernst & Young and hands-on security operations and incident response. Turns control requirements into clear, risk-ranked priorities for leadership.

Core Competencies

Governance & Compliance: ISO/IEC 27001, SOC 2, NIST CSF 2.0, NIST SP 800-171 / CMMC, HIPAA Security Rule, GDPR, CIS Controls, Risk Assessment, Policy Development, Vendor Risk, Control Testing, Audit Readiness

Security & Technical: Security Awareness & Phishing Simulation, Incident Response, Security Operations, Vulnerability Management, Penetration Testing, IAM, AWS, Azure, Windows/AD, Linux, PowerShell, Python, SQL, Nessus, Burp Suite, Wireshark

Experience

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry | Richmond, VA **February 2025 – Present**
Information Security & Compliance Architect

- Serve as the organization's primary security lead, covering the duties of an Information Security Officer across governance, security operations, and incident response in a HIPAA-regulated clinical and academic environment.
- Lead HIPAA Security Rule risk analysis, security policies and procedures, and control mapping across NIST CSF and ISO/IEC 27001; review vendor security and Business Associate Agreements and maintain audit-ready evidence.
- Run the user awareness and training program, including an enterprise-grade phishing simulation platform built from an open-source project.
- Work as SOC analyst and engineer, triaging alerts, investigating events, and tuning detections to surface real threats.
- Serve as Incident Response Commander, leading containment, recovery, and communication with leadership.

Ernst & Young LLP | Richmond, VA **July 2023 – August 2024**
Technology Risk Consultant

- Performed IT risk assessments and control testing for clients across industries against regulatory and industry frameworks, including GDPR.
- Partnered with external audit teams and regulators to deliver successful audits.
- Redesigned the GPS sector's audit evidence documentation process, increasing efficiency by 28% within three months.
- Improved separation of duties and least privilege for a government client ahead of audit.

International Flavors & Fragrances | Uniontown, NJ **June 2022 – August 2022**
Information Security Consultant

- Implemented a group policy that reduced privileged accounts by 61%, strengthening Active Directory security.
- Researched major cyber incidents and presented threat intelligence and cost-based security recommendations to senior executives.
- Cataloged AWS access keys to remove unnecessary access and enforce permission policies.

Fusion Technology LLC | Bridgeport, WV **May 2022 – April 2023**
Software Development Intern

- Built a web front end for a Java and MySQL application, integrating Google's API for credential management.
- Hardened a Linux server to CIS benchmarks and automated the hardening process.

Publications

Passos L, Santiago N. Wireless Cloud-Based Intraoral Scanners in Dental Education: Security, Interoperability, and Pedagogical Implications. *Journal of Dental Education*. 2026;90(10):1653–1657.

Education & Certifications

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration **| West Virginia University | Morgantown, WV**
Major: Management Information Systems, Minors: Data Analytics & Cybersecurity, GPA in Major: 3.5
ISC2 Associate (passed CISSP exam, June 2024) | **Lean Six Sigma White Belt**