



# Nicolas Watkins

## Cover Letter

### Contact

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Hiring Team  
Northstar Federal Cloud Services  
Reston, VA  
Remote

Dear Hiring Team at Northstar Federal Cloud Services,

I am excited to apply for the Cloud Engineer position at Northstar Federal Cloud Services. My background includes 10 years of hands-on **AWS** experience building secure, highly available infrastructure for federal and regulated environments. I hold an **active Minimum Background Investigation (MBI)**, am a **U.S. citizen**, and bring the cloud and operations experience needed for mission-critical platforms.

My strongest fit is in AWS infrastructure, **Terraform** automation, and DevSecOps delivery. I have built tenant onboarding workflows with Terraform, Databricks Asset Bundles, and **GitHub Actions**, using automated testing, **policy-as-code**, approval gates, dependency scanning, and full audit trails. I have worked across EKS, Lambda, S3, IAM, and VPC networking, with controlled promotion through dev, test, and production.

I bring a steady approach to platform operations and service reliability. My experience includes **blue/green** and **canary** releases, 24x7 monitoring, pipeline failure remediation, on-call support, and maintenance of Platform Operations Runbooks and IaC Baselines. I have helped keep provisioning workflows within a **10-business-day SLA** and have used CloudWatch, Prometheus, and Grafana to track service health and capacity.

This opportunity interests me because Northstar Federal Cloud Services supports mission-critical federal platforms, where secure automation and reliable delivery have a direct effect on government teams and their customers. I would welcome the chance to contribute my AWS DevOps Engineer Professional certification and practical cloud engineering experience to your team.

Thank you for your consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how I can support Northstar Federal Cloud Services.

Sincerely,

*Nicolas Watkins*

**Nicolas Watkins**