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-  **Address**  
Cleveland, OH 44109
-  **Phone**  
(216) 555-0184
-  **Email**  
eli.castillo.resume@example.com
-  **LinkedIn**  
<https://linkedin.com/example/eli-castillo>
-  **Website**  
elicastillo.com

SEPTEMBER 09, 2026

Hiring Team  
Northstar Cyber Defense Group  
Cleveland, OH  
44114

Dear Hiring Team at Northstar Cyber Defense Group,

I am applying for the Junior Penetration Tester position at Northstar Cyber Defense Group. As a 2026 graduate of Cleveland State University with a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity, I am excited to begin my career on a team that supports cyber risk analysis, technical assessments, and customer needs.

My academic research assistantship and supervised practicum gave me direct experience with **penetration testing**, vulnerability reviews, and technical reporting. I assessed isolated **Windows and Linux** hosts with Nmap and Nessus, collected clear evidence, and wrote reports with scope, severity, affected assets, and practical remediation steps.

I have worked with **TCP/IP, DNS, and firewalls** through packet analysis in Wireshark and controlled network reviews. I tested access-control scenarios with Burp Suite, researched emerging threats, and escalated risks that needed senior review. These tasks taught me to work within approved rules, protect sensitive test data, and keep accurate records.

I would bring clear communication, careful analysis, and a strong desire to learn from Northstar Cyber Defense Group's senior cyber advisors, analysts, and engineers. I am ready to support assessments, documentation, briefings, and customer requests as I continue building practical security skills.

Thank you for considering my application. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my training and lab experience can support your cybersecurity missions.

Sincerely,

*Eli Castillo*

**Eli Castillo**