

Piotr Rice

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SUMMARY

Lead Java full stack engineer with nine years of progressive experience delivering secure, **cloud native financial services** applications. Four years have focused on technical design leadership, architecture reviews, code quality, and production delivery across Java, Spring Boot, GraphQL, REST APIs, AWS, **Aurora PostgreSQL**, Neptune, Gremlin, Amazon MSK, Kafka, and CI/CD. Builds practical service boundaries, API contracts, data models, authentication flows, observability controls, and automated tests that support dependable operations. Partners with engineers and business stakeholders to turn technical constraints into clear delivery decisions, recovery plans, and engineering standards. Hands on work includes OIDC, **OAuth 2.0**, JWTs, scopes, claims, least privilege controls, structured logging, metrics, tracing, alerts, runbooks, and incident readiness. Responsible use of Claude Code and GitHub Copilot supports faster development while preserving human review, security, and accountability.

EXPERIENCE

Lead Full Stack Engineer

May 2022 - Present

Redwood Ledger Technologies

Dallas, TX

Leads cloud native financial services applications and API platforms across architecture, implementation, security, testing, observability, and production operations. Guides design reviews, code reviews, delivery standards, incident response, and cross functional decisions while remaining active in Java and Spring Boot development.

- Led **GraphQL** schema reviews for financial services APIs, improving contract clarity and consumer adoption.
- Built **Spring Boot** services with OAuth 2.0 and JWT flows, strengthening **secure** service communication.
- Modeled Aurora PostgreSQL transactions and migrations, supporting reliable data operations in production.
- Connected **Amazon MSK** events with idempotent consumers, retries, and dead letter handling.
- Established metrics, tracing, alerts, and runbooks, giving teams clearer incident response paths.
- Used **Claude Code** and **GitHub Copilot** for tests and refactoring with human security review.

Senior Java Engineer

August 2019 - April 2022

Prairie Stone Financial Systems

Irving, TX

Delivered high availability transaction and customer data services across Java, Spring Boot, REST, GraphQL, AWS, PostgreSQL, Kafka, testing, and observability. Guided API evolution, production support, architecture decisions, and incident response while building stronger engineering practices across delivery teams.

- Designed **REST APIs** with pagination and backward compatible contracts for customer data services.
- Optimized PostgreSQL indexes and **SQL** queries, improving transaction service reliability during peak demand.
- Implemented Kafka **consumer groups** and **schema evolution**, supporting dependable event delivery across services.
- Added contract and integration tests around GraphQL resolvers, reducing release risk for API changes.
- Created **structured logging** and tracing dashboards, helping responders isolate production faults faster.
- Guided code reviews and architecture discussions, turning recurring defects into shared **engineering standards**.

Java Full Stack Engineer

June 2017 - July 2019

Lone Star Application Works

Richardson, TX

Built full stack services and integrations using Java, Spring Boot, REST APIs, SQL, Git, CI/CD, **unit testing**, **integration testing**, and AWS fundamentals. Took increasing ownership of service design, release quality, troubleshooting, and stakeholder communication across customer focused delivery work.

- Built Spring Boot REST services with SQL persistence, supporting dependable customer workflows.
- Created Git based **CI/CD** pipelines, making releases more repeatable for application teams.
- Added unit and integration tests around **service boundaries**, catching defects before deployment.
- Investigated **AWS** application issues through logs and **metrics**, restoring stable service operation.
- Documented API behavior and recovery procedures, giving support teams clearer production guidance.
- Partnered with developers and stakeholders on design choices, building confidence in release plans.

PROJECTS

GraphQL Federation Modernization 📅 2024

Reworked service composition, resolver behavior, caching, and query optimization for a financial data platform. The effort clarified ownership boundaries and supported safer API evolution.

Event Driven Transaction Processing 📅 2022

Applied Kafka topics, partitions, consumer groups, retries, idempotency, and dead letter queues across transaction workflows. Monitoring and runbooks improved operational response.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Technical Leadership Recognition, Redwood Ledger Technologies, 2025
- Architecture Excellence Award, Prairie Stone Financial Systems, 2021
- Engineering Quality Leadership, Lone Star Application Works, 2019

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science
University of Texas at Dallas GPA: 4.0
Coursework: Data Structures, Database Systems, Software Engineering, Operating Systems

2017
Richardson, TX

CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Certified Developer Associate 📅 2025
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect Associate 📅 2024

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Java Frameworks:** Java, Spring Boot, Spring Security
- **API Development:** GraphQL, REST APIs, OpenAPI
- **AWS Services:** AWS IAM, AWS networking, AWS CloudWatch
- **Database Systems:** Aurora PostgreSQL, SQL, database migrations
- **Graph Databases:** AWS Neptune, Gremlin, graph modeling
- **Event Streaming:** Amazon MSK, Kafka, consumer groups
- **Identity Security:** OIDC, OAuth 2.0, JWTs
- **Testing Methods:** Unit testing, integration testing, contract testing
- **Delivery Tools:** Git, CI/CD, GitHub Actions
- **Observability:** Structured logging, metrics, tracing
- **Messaging Reliability:** Idempotency, retries, dead letter queues
- **Developer Assistance:** Claude Code, GitHub Copilot, documentation

SKILLS

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|---------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| • Java | • AWS | • Amazon MSK | • Automated testing |
| • Spring Boot | • Aurora PostgreSQL | • Kafka | • Observability |
| • GraphQL | • AWS Neptune | • Git | • OAuth 2.0 |
| • REST APIs | • Gremlin | • CI/CD | |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Association for Computing Machinery, Dallas chapter
- Member, Cloud Native Computing Foundation community

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Polish (Proficient)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST