DAVID JOHNSTON

PENETRATION TESTER INTERN

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Hiring Team
Cascade Secure Systems
Bellevue, WA
98004

Dear Hiring Team at Cascade Secure Systems,

I am applying for the Penetration Tester Intern position at Cascade Secure Systems. I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity at the University of Washington Tacoma, and I am interested in work that combines ethical hacking with clear communication and careful testing practices.

In the University Cybersecurity Lab, I conduct **authorized penetration tests** and **vulnerability assessments** across Linux and Windows lab networks. I use Nmap, Wireshark, Burp Suite, and Metasploit for reconnaissance, enumeration, **controlled exploitation**, and evidence collection. These exercises have taught me to stay within defined scope and to record test steps clearly.

My academic projects have focused on **web application security** and reliable findings. In a black-box assessment of an inventory application, I tested authentication, session management, input validation, and access control. I compared scan output with manual checks, separated reproducible weaknesses from false positives, and wrote reports with risk context, reproduction steps, and **remediation recommendations**.

I have retested patched systems and updated tracking records to show whether fixes addressed the original condition. I have presented findings to faculty reviewers and student technical teams, which has helped me explain technical risks in a direct and useful way. Cascade Secure Systems would give me a strong setting to keep building these skills through practical security assessment work.

Thank you for reviewing my application. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my lab experience can support your security team.

Sincerely,

David Johnston