

# Ali Myers

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## SUMMARY

Senior penetration tester with eight years assessing external web applications, REST APIs, and production-like public-sector systems through authenticated and unauthenticated **black-box testing**. Defines scope, traces network traffic, validates exploitability, and converts technical findings into risk-ranked reports with reproducible evidence, **criticality levels**, **corrective actions**, and **acceptance criteria**. Delivered engagements across transportation, licensing, benefits, and citizen-service platforms while maintaining U.S.-based testing and data-residency controls. Uses Burp Suite, Nmap, Metasploit, OWASP ZAP, Postman, Python, Wireshark, tcpdump, Microsoft Office, Adobe PDF, and OWASP testing practices. Applies PMBOK-aligned planning across schedules, work breakdown structures, Gantt charts, quantified deliverables, and remediation retesting. Ready to support secure state services through disciplined testing, clear reporting, and dependable stakeholder collaboration.

## EXPERIENCE

### Senior Penetration Tester

May 2024 - Present

CivicShield Assessment Group

*Burlington, VT*

Leads external black-box assessments for state licensing and transportation platforms, directing scope, testing, reporting, remediation validation, and secure evidence handling.

- Led external black-box assessments across **authenticated** workflows and REST APIs in **production-like environments**.
- Built PMBOK-aligned schedules, work breakdown structures, Gantt charts, milestones, and **acceptance criteria**.
- Validated authorization flaws, injection paths, session weaknesses, exposed services, and API abuse with **Burp Suite**.
- Produced risk-ranked reports with exploit narratives, **screenshots**, **reproduction steps**, criticality, and corrective actions.
- Captured packet traffic with Wireshark and tcpdump, supplying logs as controlled report addenda.
- Directed remediation retests and completed destruction attestations for collected engagement information.

### Penetration Tester

January 2022 - April 2024

HarborPoint Cyber Advisory

*Portland, ME*

Executed public-sector web application and REST endpoint assessments, translating evidence into client-ready reports while coordinating remediation validation and secure records management.

- Executed **authenticated** and **unauthenticated** assessments across benefits, permitting, and motor-vehicle service portals.
- Scoped workflows, role boundaries, API parameters, file handling, error responses, and session controls.
- Combined Burp Suite, **OWASP ZAP**, Nmap, Nikto, **Postman**, and Python utilities for exploit validation.
- Converted technical evidence into Word and **Adobe PDF** reports with prioritized corrective guidance.
- Coordinated remediation validation with developers and infrastructure contacts, separating open and closed findings.
- Maintained scope approvals, packet logs, evidence records, and destruction certification for audit review.

### Security Consultant

June 2020 - December 2021

Redwood State Security Services

*Albany, NY*

Planned and delivered penetration tests for state and municipal applications, supporting project schedules, labor estimates, stakeholder briefings, and measurable closure criteria.

- Conducted penetration tests for externally accessible applications and REST services supporting citizen transactions.
- Mapped attack surfaces with **Nmap**, **Burp Suite**, OWASP ZAP, and Postman before manual validation.
- Prepared findings linking weaknesses with operational consequences, affected endpoints, and practical corrective methods.
- Performed follow-up testing after patches, preserving before-and-after evidence for application owners.
- Supported **Microsoft Project** and Excel schedules, labor estimates, milestones, and concurrent engagement tracking.
- Presented **reproduction steps** to security, development, vendor, and project management teams.

### Cybersecurity Analyst

July 2018 - May 2020

Blue Ridge Information Assurance

*Richmond, VA*

Supported controlled web application and API assessments, organizing evidence, test accounts, packet captures, reports, and remediation retesting under senior review.

- Supported web application and API assessments under documented rules of engagement and testing windows.
- Enumerated public-facing assets with Nmap and validated suspected weaknesses through **Burp Suite**.
- Documented affected URLs, request evidence, response evidence, severity context, and mitigation language.
- Monitored packet captures and application logs during controlled production-like test activities.
- Assisted **authenticated** account setup, **unauthenticated** workflow coverage, evidence organization, and remediation retesting.
- Maintained assessment records in Word, Excel, and **Adobe PDF** for senior reviewers.

PROJECTS

State Transportation API Assessment 📅 2025

Assessed authenticated and unauthenticated REST workflows across transportation services, producing risk-ranked findings, exploit evidence, corrective actions, and retest criteria.

Public Benefits Web Security Review 📅 2023

Mapped external attack surfaces for benefits portals, validated access-control and session findings, and delivered client-ready reports with reproducible evidence.

Municipal Citizen Services Test 📅 2021

Tested public-facing citizen transaction services, coordinated patch validation, and preserved before-and-after evidence for project stakeholders.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Client Excellence Recognition for Public-Sector Security Reporting, CivicShield Assessment Group, 2025.
- Outstanding Cybersecurity Capstone Award, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2018.
- Dean's List, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2017.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Cybersecurity

2018

Virginia Commonwealth University GPA: 3.7

Richmond, VA

*Coursework: Penetration testing, network security, ethical hacking, digital forensics*

CERTIFICATIONS

- Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP) 📅 2021
- Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) 📅 2020
- CompTIA Security+ 📅 2018
- PMI Project Management Basics Certificate 📅 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Penetration Testing:** Black-box testing, authenticated testing, unauthenticated testing
- **Web Application Testing:** External web applications, OWASP testing, browser testing
- **API Testing:** REST endpoints, Postman, API abuse testing
- **Security Tools:** Burp Suite, OWASP ZAP, Metasploit
- **Network Discovery:** Nmap, Nikto, exposed-service analysis
- **Scripting:** Python, custom scripts, automation utilities
- **Packet Analysis:** Wireshark, tcpdump, packet logging
- **Vulnerability Reporting:** Risk ranking, exploit documentation, criticality levels
- **Remediation Validation:** Retesting, before-and-after evidence, closure criteria
- **Project Management:** PMBOK, Microsoft Project, Gantt charts
- **Office Deliverables:** Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Visio
- **Document Formats:** Adobe PDF, screenshots, report addenda
- **Planning Artifacts:** Work breakdown structures, schedules, labor estimates
- **Data Governance:** U.S. data residency, secure destruction, destruction attestation
- **Engagement Controls:** Rules of engagement, testing windows, scope approvals

SKILLS

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|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Penetration Testing | • OWASP Testing | • Metasploit            | • Packet Logging      |
| • Black-Box Testing   | • Burp Suite    | • Vulnerability Ranking | • Technical Reporting |
| • REST APIs           | • OWASP ZAP     | • Exploit Validation    | • PMBOK               |
| • Web Applications    | • Nmap          | • Remediation Retesting |                       |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Volunteer Mentor, Vermont Cybersecurity Workforce Program, September 2024 - Present.
- Workshop Facilitator, Mid-Atlantic OWASP Community, January 2022 - Present.

- Student Security Lab Coordinator, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2017 - 2018.

**LANGUAGES**

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- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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

**REFERENCES**

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AVAILABLE ON REQUEST