

Leo Edwards

Senior Security Operations Engineer

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📍 Portland, OR 97205

STRENGTHS

- 🎯 **Incident command**
Directed a high severity case from triage through closure, keeping technical, legal, HR, and executive groups aligned.
- 🔍 **Forensic judgment**
Preserved endpoint evidence across three operating systems; careful collection became a trusted foundation for sensitive reviews.
- 🔧 **Python automation**
Replaced repetitive collection checks with practical scripts, giving investigators cleaner artifacts and more consistent case packages.
- 🗣️ **Stakeholder communication**
Translated complex findings into clear updates for engineers, executives, legal partners, and employee relations teams.
- 👥 **Engineer mentorship**
Used case reviews and tabletop exercises to build stronger investigative habits, with peers returning for practical guidance.

SKILLS

Incident response

Incident command

Digital forensics Insider threat

Employee investigations SIEM

Python Cloud security

Evidence collection Log analysis

Runbook development

Security monitoring Incident triage

Forensic analysis

Stakeholder communication

SUMMARY

Senior security operations engineer with 9 years across **incident response**, **digital forensics**, **cloud security**, detection engineering, and **employee investigations**. Leads high severity incidents as Incident Commander, coordinating engineering, legal, HR, compliance, and executive stakeholders through containment, recovery, and closure. Uses SIEM investigation, Python automation, endpoint analysis, evidence collection, and cloud telemetry across macOS, Windows, Linux, AWS, and GCP. Builds practical runbooks, investigative workflows, evidence packages, and repeatable reporting processes that support defensible decisions. Mentors security engineers through case reviews, collection exercises, tabletop sessions, and reporting feedback. GCIH certified with a computer science background and working knowledge of NIST Cybersecurity Framework, ISO 27001, and FedRAMP. Brings calm judgment, clear communication, and useful technical guidance to sensitive investigations.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Security Operations Engineer

Cascade Cloud Systems 📅 March 2023 - Present 📍 Portland, OR

Leads global security operations across incident response, digital forensics, cloud investigations, **insider threat** matters, and stakeholder communications. Guides engineers through sensitive cases while improving investigative workflows, reporting quality, and response consistency.

- Led high severity incidents through containment and recovery, coordinating engineering, **legal**, HR, and executive stakeholders.
- Preserved endpoint evidence across macOS, Windows, and Linux for **employee relations** and security investigations.
- Built **Python** utilities for artifact normalization, indicator enrichment, and repeatable evidence package assembly.
- Developed SIEM workflows across AWS and GCP logs, identity events, endpoint telemetry, and application activity.
- Mentored security engineers through case reviews, collection exercises, reporting feedback, and incident simulations.
- Maintained incident **runbooks** and stakeholder templates aligned with **NIST Cybersecurity Framework** practices.

Security Incident Response Engineer

Summit Commerce Technologies 📅 June 2020 - February 2023 📍 Denver, CO

Served as technical lead for account compromise, malware, data access, policy violation, and insider threat cases. Connected **SIEM** analysis, cloud evidence, Python tooling, documented collection, and legal coordination across investigations.

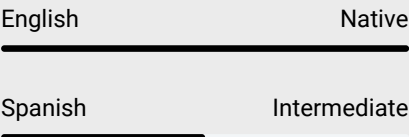
- Triageed identity, endpoint, network, and cloud alerts, separating benign activity from incidents requiring investigation.
- Led account compromise investigations through closure, correlating AWS, GCP, **Windows**, **Linux**, and SaaS evidence.
- Created Python scripts for log parsing, indicator enrichment, and repetitive collection checks.
- Supported **insider threat** cases with documented collection procedures, evidence handling, factual reporting, and legal coordination.
- Refined incident playbooks after investigations and tabletop exercises, adding escalation criteria and communications checkpoints.
- Presented investigation findings and response options to technical teams, legal partners, and business stakeholders.

Security Operations Analyst

Blue Mesa Financial 📅 July 2017 - May 2020 📍 Phoenix, AZ

Monitored security telemetry and supported forensic investigations across authentication, phishing, malware, and anomalous access cases. Built reusable searches and collection utilities that improved evidence consistency, reporting, and **compliance** coordination.

LANGUAGES



MY CAREER



- Senior Security Operations Engineer at Cascade Cloud Systems (3.5 Years)
- Security Incident Response Engineer at Summit Commerce Technologies (2.7 Years)
- Security Operations Analyst at Blue Mesa Financial (2.8 Years)

- Monitored SIEM alerts and endpoint events, escalating credible threats with concise evidence and recommended actions.
- Investigated suspicious authentication, phishing, malware, and anomalous access using host, identity, email, and network records.
- Built reusable searches and **Python** utilities that improved evidence consistency across recurring investigations.
- Supported Windows and Linux forensic collection with documented sources, timestamps, and senior investigator guidance.
- Contributed to incident reports and post incident reviews for security and compliance stakeholders.
- Mapped security controls against **NIST Cybersecurity Framework** and **ISO 27001** concepts during review cycles.

PROJECTS

- Forensic Evidence Workflow** 📅 2024
Built a repeatable investigation workflow that organized endpoint artifacts, indicator enrichment, evidence review, and concise reporting for sensitive cases.
- Cloud Incident Investigation Lab** 📅 2023
Created a practical lab spanning AWS and GCP telemetry, SIEM queries, identity events, and response decisions for cloud incidents.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Security Incident Tabletop Facilitator, led recurring response simulations and practical discussions from 2024 to Present.
- Security Operations Mentorship Program, Senior Mentor, coached engineers through case reviews and investigative methods from 2023 to Present.
- GIAC Certified Incident Handler recipient, recognized for incident response knowledge and applied investigation practice in 2024.

EDUCATION

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science**
Arizona State University 🎓 GPA: 3.7 📅 2017 📍 Tempe, AZ
***Coursework:** Computer Networks, Operating Systems, Computer Security, Programming Languages*

CERTIFICATIONS

- GIAC Certified Incident Handler 📅 2024
- AWS Certified Security Specialty 📅 2025

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming and Scripting:** Python, PowerShell, Bash
- **SIEM Platforms:** SIEM queries, log review, event correlation
- **Endpoint Forensics:** macOS, Windows, Linux
- **Cloud Platforms:** AWS, GCP, cloud based services
- **Incident Response:** Incident command, triage, containment
- **Investigation Methods:** Evidence collection, artifact analysis, forensic reporting
- **Security Frameworks:** NIST Cybersecurity Framework, ISO 27001, FedRAMP
- **Automation and Workflows:** Python utilities, runbooks, workflow automation
- **Security Telemetry:** Identity events, endpoint telemetry, application activity
- **Response Communications:** Executive updates, legal reporting, stakeholder briefings

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Security Incident Tabletop Facilitator, 2024 to Present.
- Security Operations Mentorship Program, Senior Mentor, 2023 to Present.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST