Ethan Ward

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EDUCATION

Florida State University | B.S. in Cyber Criminology | Emphasis: Cyber Defense and Network Security

Class of 2024

- Coursework: Computer Security Fundamentals, Cybercrime Detection and Forensics, Criminal Justice System Response to Cybercrime, Network Security, Artificial Intelligence, Data Algorithms and Programming, Computer and Network Systems Administration.
- Member of the Cyber Security Club, Order of Omega Honor Society, Executive Philanthropy Chairman of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, Dance Marathon Delegate.

WORK EXPERIENCE

DigitalEra Group | Security Analyst | Miami, FL | Python, Stellar Cyber, Tenable, Varonis

August 2024- Present

Engaged in proactive threat hunting, security monitoring, and incident response for a dynamic cybersecurity firm.

- Utilize Stellar Cyber SIEM for real-time monitoring and deep analysis of network traffic to detect both traditional and advanced threats, enhancing the organization's ability to respond swiftly and effectively to potential security incidents.
- Manage and optimize FortiGate firewall deployments, including the creation of tailored security policies, VPN
 configuration, and intrusion detection/prevention strategies to strengthen perimeter defenses and enforce security
 compliance.
- Managed firewall policies, VPN configurations, and intrusion prevention systems (IPS) on FortiGate devices to align with security best practices and organizational compliance requirements.
- Improve security operations by developing and implementing automated tools and scripts to streamline incident response procedures, reduce SIEM-generated false positives, and enhance overall threat detection capabilities.

- Managed all aspects of studio technology, including computer systems, networks, and software applications, ensuring reliable performance and security.
- Provided technical support and troubleshooting for hardware and software issues, improving user experience and reducing downtime.

PROJECTS

Advanced Analytics and Security Operations Improvement | FortiSIEM, Python

August 2024

Developed an internal tool to optimize the documentation of security incidents and reduce false positives.

- Configured and optimized FortiGate firewalls to handle SSL traffic inspection, VPN setup, and intrusion prevention, improving network resilience.
- Developed custom security policies and rules tailored to organizational needs, ensuring compliance and robust defense against external and internal threats.

Python-Based AI and Game Theory Projects | Python, AI Algorithms

January 2024

Applied AI and algorithmic techniques to solve complex problems and develop interactive applications.

- Farmer, Wolf, Goat, Cabbage Problem: Developed a Python-based solution using depth-first search, demonstrating strong problem-solving skills and understanding of AI algorithms.
- Two-Player Tile Game Development: Created an interactive game in Python, integrating complex game logic and utilizing Pygame for a seamless user experience.

CERTIFICATION

Certified Associate on Stellar Cyber for SOC Analysts | FCSS - Advanced Analytics 6.7 | FCSS - Network Security Support Engineer 7.4 | FCP - Secure Wireless LAN 7.4 Administrator | FCA - FortiGate 7.4 Operator | FCSS - Security Operations 7.4 Analyst

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python | C++ | Unix/Linux Shell Scripting | Network Security | Threat Analysis | Incident Response | Cyber Forensics | Ethical Hacking | PowerShell | SIEM | FortiGate Firewalls | VPN Configuration | Wireless Security | Wireshark