DAKOTA SKY MASON

Cybersecurity Professional

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github.com/Buggyboi139 | huggingface.co/ByteOtter | U.S. Navy veteran | Former Navy Secret clearance

SUMMARY

CompTIA Security+ and A+ certified security professional with two CVEs from authorized vulnerability research, federal service as a VA Senior Police Officer (GS-0083-07), and eight years in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserve. Brings hands-on experience in access control, vulnerability assessment, investigations, and safeguarding PII and PHI, plus clear written reporting for technical and non-technical readers. Completed all requirements for a B.S. in Cybersecurity Technology; conferral December 30, 2026.

SKILLS

Security: Vulnerability scanning (Nessus, Greenbone, Nmap); web application testing (Burp Suite); broken access control and IDOR testing; risk assessment; access control and identity verification; PII and PHI safeguarding; incident documentation

Systems and networking: Linux (Red Hat administration coursework); Windows; TCP/IP; switching, routing, and wireless fundamentals; Git; Python scripting; hardware and software troubleshooting

EXPERIENCE

Independent Security Researcher / Full-Time Student June 2024 – Present
Self-employed, Des Moines, IA

- Identified two broken-access-control (IDOR) vulnerabilities assigned CVEs through authorized testing on Bugcrowd; documented reproduction steps clearly enough for the vendors to fix them.
- Led design and testing of Burp Cockpit, a Burp Suite extension that adds AI analysis to web security testing.
- Build and troubleshoot Linux systems in a home lab, including running and evaluating local AI models.

Senior Police Officer, GS-0083-07 September 2022 – June 2024
Department of Veterans Affairs, Des Moines, IA

- Enforced access controls and identity verification at a VA medical center; safeguarded PII and PHI under federal privacy requirements.
- Led investigations from complaint review through interviews and evidence handling, including matters involving government laptops and more than $50,000 in government property.

Physical Security and Intelligence Specialist, MA2 December 2019 – April 2021
U.S. Navy, Isa Air Base, Bahrain

- Conducted vulnerability assessments, security audits, and risk analysis for installation assets valued at more than $6 billion; briefed senior leadership on corrective priorities.
- Coordinated security infrastructure projects from planning through completion. Received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Patrol Supervisor and Master-at-Arms, MA3 August 2018 – October 2019
U.S. Navy, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti

- Supervised personnel in patrol and access-control operations at a forward-deployed joint installation. Received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

B.S., Cybersecurity Technology – University of Maryland Global Campus | Conferral December 30, 2026

Certifications: CompTIA Security+ (April 2025) | CompTIA A+ (April 2025)