Mark LaCore

Security Engineer

San Jose, CA | 408-674-8588 | mark@nerdymark.com
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/marklacore | GitHub: github.com/nerdymark | Web: nerdymark.com

Note: For security reasons I do not answer calls from unknown numbers. Please leave a detailed voicemail and I will return your call.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Security Engineer with 25+ years of experience in enterprise IT, cloud security, and security automation. CISSP certified. At Apple, I build the security tooling, PKI-backed code-signing services (Authenticode, HSM), and automation that keep internal Windows platforms locked down and self-running. Offensive cloud security practitioner: completed all 12 challenges of the Wiz Cloud Security Championship, covering container escapes, Kubernetes privilege escalation, AWS exploitation, supply-chain attacks, reverse engineering, and applied cryptography. Fluent in AI-assisted development (Claude Code, Roo Code, Playwright MCP) and used to shipping complete systems solo. Open to hybrid roles based in San Francisco, provided corporate housing or a generous stipend is part of the package. Not interested in fully remote or contract work.

SKILLS

- **Security:** CISSP; offensive security and red teaming; cloud security (AWS, Azure, Kubernetes); penetration testing (Metasploit, Nmap, Wireshark, Burp Suite); code signing, PKI, HSM, Authenticode
- **Cloud and Infrastructure:** AWS (DynamoDB, EC2, S3, Elastic Beanstalk), Azure, GCP, Docker, Kubernetes, VMware, Hyper-V, KVM, SCCM
- **Programming and Automation:** Python (Flask, OpenCV, hardware control), PowerShell, JavaScript (ES6), C++, MicroPython, CircuitPython, ServiceNow
- **AI-Assisted Development:** Claude Code, Roo Code, Playwright MCP, LLM integration, computer vision (OpenCV)
- **Hardware and Systems:** End-to-end robotics, LED-matrix and embedded systems, 3D design and printing, FPV drones

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer | Apple

Cupertino, CA | 2017 - Present

- Build and operate security automation - tooling, microservices, Active Directory, and SCCM environments - handling onboarding and lifecycle management for managed and general-population Windows fleets, replacing manual provisioning with self-service pipelines.
- Operate a PKI-backed code-signing service for PE binaries and MSI files (Authenticode, HSM-backed keys).
- Enforce minimum security baselines fleet-wide with PowerShell telemetry.
- Automate ticket and work-order handling with Python and ServiceNow integrations, removing manual queue work from the team.
- Apply red-team methodology to find and close vulnerabilities before release; use AI-assisted development to accelerate security audits and harden legacy code.

Senior Systems Administrator | Theranos

Palo Alto, CA | 2012 - 2016

- Managed Configuration Manager (SCCM) for patch management and compliance enforcement org-wide.
- Built zero-touch provisioning task sequences.
- Automated onboarding and termination workflows with System Center Orchestrator.

Systems Engineer | ZAG Technical Services

San Jose, CA | 2007 - 2012

- Supported Windows client/server environments - SCCM, Exchange, Linux, Active Directory, Citrix - for managed-services clients.
- Built and maintained custom internal tooling.

Senior Systems Administrator | Edge Group

Las Vegas, NV | 2005 - 2007

- Designed the entire network infrastructure (Active Directory, Exchange, BlackBerry) and provided comprehensive IT support for all users.

Windows and Helpdesk Administrator | Brocade Communications Systems

San Jose, CA | 2002 - 2005

- Provided IT support across the organization and administered McAfee ePolicy Orchestrator for endpoint security management.
- Performed server rack-and-stack for IT infrastructure and user systems.

Desktop Support Technician | Yahoo!

Sunnyvale, CA | 2000 - 2001

- Provided second-tier desktop support to local users and assisted in the org-wide deployment of Windows 2000.

PROJECTS

- Wiz Cloud Security Championship - completed all 12 challenges (offensive cloud security: cross-account S3 exploitation, SSRF and pre-signed-URL abuse, container escapes, Kubernetes privilege escalation via CVE-2020-8562, Terraform state-file poisoning, supply-chain attacks, malware reverse engineering, CBC bit-flipping, AES-GCM nonce reuse, ret2win). Full writeups: nerdymark.com/category/ctf
- nerdymark.com - personal site and blog: Python/Flask on AWS Elastic Beanstalk with DynamoDB, CloudFront, Route 53; features include AI chat integrations, web push notifications, and public APIs.
- Nerdbot - personal AI robot: Python, Flask, OpenCV computer vision, and hardware control on a 6-wheeled mecanum platform (private repository, access on request).

CERTIFICATIONS

- CISSP - ISC2 Certified Information Systems Security Professional (verify: credly.com/badges/aa00726c-50da-4394-ac06-2c622861024c)
- CC - ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity
- MCSE - Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer
- MCSA - Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate
- MCITP - Microsoft Certified IT Professional
- RHCSA - RedHat Certified Systems Administrator
- RHCT - RedHat Certified Systems Technician