

ROBERT GRANT CLIFTON

IT GOVERNANCE, RISK & COMPLIANCE | CYBERSECURITY | FEDRAMP

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

IT Governance, Risk, and Compliance professional with 10+ years of cybersecurity, audit, and technology operations experience. Deep expertise in FedRAMP High, NIST SP 800-53, FISMA, RMF/ATO, ISO 27001, SOX, PCI DSS, and DISA STIG environments. Experienced in cloud compliance for AWS and Azure SaaS platforms, control assessment and evidence management, 3PAO coordination, continuous monitoring, vulnerability remediation, incident response, disaster recovery, and business continuity. Combines strong regulatory knowledge with practical technical operations experience and clear cross-functional communication.

CORE EXPERTISE

FedRAMP High & IL4 | NIST SP 800-53 | FISMA | Risk Management Framework (RMF) | ATO Packages | ISO 27001 | SOX | PCI DSS | DISA STIGs

Control Assessments | Audit Readiness | 3PAO Coordination | Continuous Monitoring | Vulnerability Remediation | IR / DR / BCP | Policy & Procedure Development

AWS | Azure | ServiceNow | SailPoint Identity Security | LogRhythm | StealthAUDIT | Active Directory | TestComplete | SQL | Informatica

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

VASION | Remote (St. George, UT)

11/2023 - 09/2025

IT Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC) Specialist

- Contributed to achieving and maintaining a FedRAMP High Authorization to Operate (ATO) with IL4 compliance for a cloud SaaS environment spanning AWS and Azure.
- Tracked and managed vulnerability remediation against 30-, 60-, and 180-day timelines, maintaining visibility into risk status and compliance obligations.
- Monitored and reported internal and external threats and vulnerabilities to support timely risk-based decision-making.
- Partnered with a Third-Party Assessment Organization (3PAO) to coordinate assessment activities and sustain continuous compliance.
- Planned and conducted incident response, disaster recovery, and business continuity exercises.
- Developed AI-enabled compliance automation workflows using agents, large language models, and prompt engineering.

DIGITALDESIGN.AI | Remote

03/2022 - 10/2023

Owner & Creator

- Built and operated an educational platform that simplified Stable Diffusion tools and workflows for nontechnical users.
- Contributed to the AI Horde, a crowdsourced distributed cluster and open API connecting generative AI clients with volunteer compute workers.
- Applied large language models and emerging AI technologies to improve digital design education, workflows, and user support.

LEXISNEXIS REED TECH | Horsham, PA / USPTO Contract

01/2017 - 01/2022

IT Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC) Specialist / Government GRC & Audit Contractor

- Delivered IT GRC and audit support for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office contract across NIST SP 800-53, FISMA, FedRAMP, ISO 27001, SOX, and DISA STIG requirements.
- Performed internal control assessments and audits, validated security evidence, and verified compliance of IT and information security vulnerability remediation.
- Managed the internal ISO 27001 audit program and coordinated with independent auditors to demonstrate ongoing compliance.
- Monitored and reported internal and external threats and vulnerabilities, helping stakeholders prioritize remediation and risk response.
- Coordinated annual disaster recovery and business continuity exercises and validated compliance for network upgrade implementations.
- Used StealthAUDIT, SailPoint Identity Security, LogRhythm, and ServiceNow to support identity, logging, audit, and workflow activities.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

TS TECH ENTERPRISES, INC. | Wyomissing, PA

09/2015 - 10/2016

Tier II Technician

- Provided remote and onsite support for servers, firewalls, endpoints, and business applications across small and mid-sized organizations.
- Monitored threats and vulnerabilities, including scheduling and reviewing vulnerability scans.
- Verified successful daily encrypted cloud backups for client servers, workstations, and laptops.
- Maintained and updated client configurations for network equipment and devices.
- Coordinated with implementation teams to install and validate security updates.
- Participated in a rotating after-hours on-call support schedule.

LAYER 8 SECURITY | Exton, PA

04/2014 - 05/2015

Cybersecurity Analyst

- Led team-based identification of security vulnerabilities, development of mitigations, and analysis of cost-risk tradeoffs for SMB through enterprise clients.
- Performed infrastructure and information security business analysis for clients ranging from small businesses to large enterprises.
- Recommended acquisition, technical, and procedural changes to strengthen balanced, risk-based security programs.
- Led development of security standards, policies, and procedures.
- Performed NIST SP 800-53, PCI DSS, ISO 27001, and SOX assessments and independent audits.
- Collaborated with clients to translate security and business requirements into practical technical solutions.
- Configured and validated security systems and physical controls designed to detect and report vulnerabilities.

SEI | Oaks, PA

2007 - 2014

Progressive Technology, Business Analysis & Operations Roles

Business Analyst & Test Champion (2014) | Technical Operations Administrator (2013-2014) | Middle Office Regional Consultant (2011-2013) | Quality Control Analyst (2009-2011) | Securities Trade Processing Analyst (2007-2009)

- Supported the availability, stability, and security of the SEI Wealth Platform across Linux, Solaris, and Windows production environments.
- Provided primary production infrastructure support and worked with Wintel, ETL, SQL, and Informatica technologies.
- Supported and maintained Active Directory for enterprise clients and SEI employees.
- Developed automated functional and multi-browser compatibility testing using TestComplete within an Agile development model.
- Supported registered investment advisers, banks, and money managers in operational roles serving high-net-worth clients.
- Performed quality control, trade processing, and reconciliation activities; identified errors, trends, root causes, and process improvements.

CERTIFICATIONS & CLEARANCE

CompTIA Security+ | CompTIA A+ | BSI ISO 27001:2013 Internal Quality Systems Auditor - Information Security Systems (IS) and Management Systems Auditing (AU) | U.S. Government Public Trust Clearance

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Business Management, 2007 | East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania