

RYAN MENDENHALL

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Website: www.ascendant.design • **Portfolio:** www.ascendant.design/home

IT CYBERSECURITY ANALYST PROFILE

Certified and tech-savvy professional with diverse experience in supporting security operations, threat detection, vulnerability management, compliance, and IT infrastructure protection. Capable of monitoring security events, investigating anomalies, identifying vulnerabilities, strengthening system configurations, and applying security controls. Strong foundation in CompTIA and Google cybersecurity frameworks. Equipped with analytical, detail-oriented approach to identifying emerging threats, improving security posture, and supporting resilient IT environments.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Security Information & Event Management | • Governance, Risk & Compliance | • Cloud Security |
| • Security Auditing & Documentation | • Authentication & Authorization | • Data Protection |
| • Security Operations Optimization | • Security Policy Development | • Asset Management |
| • Risk Assessment & Mitigation | • Cybersecurity Frameworks | • Security Awareness |
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LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

CompTIA CySA+ CE Certification

CompTIA Security+ CE Certification

CompTIA Network+ CE Certification

CompTIA A+ CE Certification

CompTIA CIOS Stackable Certification

CompTIA Secure Infrastructure Specialist (CSIS) Stackable Certification

Google Cybersecurity Specialization

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Support Specialist / Global Systems Administrator | AGORA DATA | Arlington, TX

2024 – Present

Advance into Global Systems Administrator responsibilities supporting both Agora Data and sister company Centerstreet Finance, while assuming expanded Cybersecurity and Information Security ownership. Administer and secure enterprise IT environments across Microsoft 365, Intune, CrowdStrike, Microsoft Purview, and Microsoft Defender. Lead proactive and reactive security response, while serving as first responder for external cyberattacks, malicious activity, security anomalies, and endpoint threats. Steer compliance scanning and configuration assessments against established security baselines. Manage network security perimeters and monitor endpoint activity via FortiGate firewalls, CrowdStrike, MS Defender, and SIEM capabilities.

Key Accomplishments:

- Improved company-wide systems and defensive controls across enterprise devices by architecting and executing phased endpoint security deployments.
- Drove enterprise adoption and readiness for year-end compliance objectives by implementing organizational security standards and NIST-aligned compliance frameworks.
- Detected, investigated, and responded to emerging security threats by maintaining vigilant monitoring of CrowdStrike, Microsoft Purview, and Microsoft Defender SIEM environments.

Graphic Designer | CATALYST HEALTH GROUP | Frisco, TX

2023

Prototyped responsive website concepts and user experiences in Figma, while translating design requirements into intuitive digital interfaces. Designed executive-level presentations and visual materials to support leadership communications, meetings, and strategic initiatives. Developed cohesive visual content aligned with organizational branding and communication objectives.

Key Accomplishment:

- Enhanced brand visibility/audience engagement by producing video, multimedia, and presentation assets for conventions.

Directed high-level graphic design initiatives across Latin America, South America, and Europe, while ensuring culturally relevant and globally aligned brand experiences. Generated flagship product website from concept through execution by creating engaging digital experience aligned with new brand standards. Delivered scalable visual solutions supporting global brand growth and product initiatives in collaboration with cross-functional teams and international stakeholders.

Key Accomplishments:

- Redesigned 70+ websites by establishing and implementing cohesive brand style guide.
- Revamped 60,000-file digital asset repository, while improving visual consistency, organization, usability, and accessibility across enterprise creative resources.

Graphic Design Specialist II | GM FINANCIAL | Dallas, TX**2016 – 2021**

Contributed to high-performing creative team recognized for design excellence by engaging with experienced peers and mentors. Developed compelling visual assets, presentations, digital graphics, and branded materials aligned with GM Financials' visual identity. Partnered with cross-functional teams to translate business objectives into audience-focused creative solutions.

Key Accomplishments:

- Provided graphic design solutions across corporate communications, marketing initiatives, and enterprise-level projects.
- Spearheaded multiple concurrent design projects from concept through final delivery, while maintaining brand consistency, creative standards, and deadlines.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Designer | ASCENDANT DESIGN | Carrollton, TX**Partner/Designer | SLATE SHIRTS | Dallas, TX****Graphic Designer | UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS | Dallas, TX****Freelance Designer | FREELANCE ARTIST & GRAPHIC DESIGNER | Dallas, TX****Design & Tech Wizard | RAZE MEDIA | Dallas, TX****Graphic Designer | UTD SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT | Dallas, TX****IT Lab Technician | UTD – ATEC Building | Dallas, TX/Richardson, TX****Student Worker | UTD STUDENT UNION | Richardson, TX****Graphic Design Artist | DEFENDING BIG D | Richardson, TX****Intern | SPECIAL PRODUCTS & MANUFACTURING, INC. | Rockwall, TX**

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Arts & Technology | The University of Texas, Dallas, TX (2012)

HONORS & AWARDS

GDUSA Inhouse Design Platinum Award (2018)

GDUSA Inhouse Design 3x Gold Award (2018 – 2020)

GDUSA Inhouse Design Silver Award (2019)

Inhouse Design Award: Cystic Fibrosis Community Investment Design (2018)

March of Dimes 5x Community Investment Award (2017 – 2020)

CASE Gold Award for Illustration (2016)

CASE Silver Award for Magazine Design (2016)

LANGUAGES

English (Native/Bilingual) | French (Basic)