Jim O'Brien

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Career Profile

An entrepreneur and former government contractor, with over ten years' experience at large businesses (Northrop Grumman) and small businesses (digital marketing agencies) in multiple industry verticals. A multi-disciplinary professional DevOps leader, Full-Stack Developer, and all-around software and tech guru. I'm an impact player always looking to improve processes and drive performance enhancements to help organizations achieve their software goals via continuous improvement.

Career Highlights

- A key player of the multi-organizational team created to fast-track the development and deployment of the Vaccines.gov website. I worked directly with team members at Boston Children's Hospital and White House staff, on the primary information source for the public, related to COVID-19 with over a million users per day, referenced by the President in 2021.
- As the DevOps team lead, I developed and deployed custom PowerShell scripts to automate security scanning in Fortify and WebInspect, eliminating manual tasks and saving over $25,000 a month in labor.
- Optimized the local development environment setup process, reducing build times from 2 minutes to under 30 seconds, resulting in daily time savings of over an hour per developer. This enhancement significantly improved development efficiency and saving 40 hours a week in idle time across the team.

Skill Sets

DevOps: Vagrant, Virtual Machines / Virtualization, continuous integration (CI/CD), Jenkins, WHM/cPanel, Git, GitHub, GitHub actions, GitLab, GitLab CI/CD, Bitbucket, Kubernetes, Ansible, AWS (EC2, S3, Route 53, RDS, Cloudflare), Chef, Puppet, Docker, Travis CI, Azure, Google Cloud Platform

Languages: HTML, CSS, PHP, JavaScript, TypeScript, SQL, Bash, PowerShell, Python, Java, C++, C#

Tools & Frameworks: Vanilla JavaScript, AJAX, JSON, fetch, Node.JS, npm, build tools [Grunt, Gulp, Webpack, Parcel], content management systems (CMS) [WordPress], E-commerce [WooCommerce, Magento, Stripe], Bootstrap, SASS/SCSS, Responsive Web Design, PHPStorm, VSCode, React, NEXTJS, ExpressJS, GraphQL, REST APIs,

Databases: MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, MariaDB, Firebase, Pusher, SQL scripting, ERD diagramming, PDO PHP, phpMyAdmin, SQL Server

Security: Fortify, WebInspect, NTLM/NLA, SSL/TLS, oAuth, Cross Site Scripting (XSS) vulnerability prevention, SSO, OAuth2, IdP (SAML, Google Workspace, OKTA)

Testing/QA: Troubleshooting/Debugging (xdebug, phpcs, phpcbf), Software Testing (PHPUnit, WPMock, Selenium, Mocha, Jest, Cypress, JUnit, Puppeteer, PhantomJS, Backstop), 508 Compliance, Regression testing

Linux Admin: SSH, Linux CLI, Bash scripting, Web Server stack (LAMP/LEMP), Nginx, Apache, Ubuntu, CentOS

Windows Admin: Windows Server 2008/2012 R2/2016, PowerShell scripting, Active Directory Services, Virtual Directories, file replication, IIS

Other: JIRA, MS Teams, Slack, Confluence, Adobe Launch/Adobe Metrics/Omniture, Adobe Experience Cloud, Google Analytics, GoogleDAP, CSAT surveys (Foresee/Verint), Onetrust

Professional Experience

Peraton/Northrop Grumman, Atlanta - Web Developer and DevOps **DEC 2016 – Present**

- Part of the WCMS team, that helped create 18 custom visual composer modules for the page builder interface in a highly customized version of WordPress, allowing the employees at the CDC to create any kind of web content available on the web and never leave the interface.
- Performed code reviews for 6 years and production deployments for over 4 years, improved CI/CD pipelines reducing code deployment time by 50%, converted the entire site from SVGs to webfont icons removing 700+ lines of page weight and reducing page load time.

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- Part of the TemplatePackage team responsible for producing all the front-end assets for the CDC.gov agency. Produced 200K+ pages for TemplatePackage version 4, and refactored the project's build tool to cut down on development environment build time by 75%.
- Practiced Agile, SCRUM, and Kanban processes, including JIRA ticket triage, resource allocation, and standups. Also trained and onboarded employees after interviewing them with Project Managers.
- Implemented ESLlint and Stylelint coding standards and an ExpressJS development server with browser-sync for faster development environment.
- Experienced with high availability apps, Git version control & management, release cycles, deployment management, road-mapping, and troubleshooting complicated technical problems and business decisions.
- Using JENKINS builds, implemented custom PowerShell scripts to run scanning software, formal change management, and distributed production releases to multiple environments.
- Leader for code reviews including the following: code linting and code style configuration, Git workflow management, pre and post commit hooks, and Pull Request reviews.

Sideways8, Marietta – Web Developer **MAY 2016 – DEC 2016**

- Git experience with a full team of devs, JavaScript and PHP development, WordPress best practices, WordPress custom plugins, and themes.
- Learned how Git version control works on a team, how to use the Foundation library in themes, how to use Sideway8s' custom configuration for the WordPress customizer, custom theme framework, and custom vagrant environment. I also enhanced my jQuery and JavaScript skills.
- Helped work on a non-profit organization called 48in48 where 48 websites are created in 48 hours for charities.

Octane Marketing Solutions, Marietta - Development Director **SEP 2014 – MAR 2016**

- Lead Web Developer for a small marketing and web development business.
- Customer support and web development using cPanel/WHM servers with 63+ WordPress instances.
- Moved entire hosting service from one provider to another (HostMonster to LiquidWeb) including client email systems, DNS entries and nameserver changes, WordPress client sites, and SSL certificates.
- PHP development, HTML templates, CSS media queries, database admin, and email configuration. Custom Page Templates, Custom Post Types, and Custom Fields in WordPress and plugin and theme development as well.
- Experience in process workflows, and client onboarding.

Visionquest Development, Atlanta - Freelance Developer **2013 - Present**

- Sole Proprietor for Visionquest Development LLC doing web development and systems admin.
- Managed 25+ client sites on both cPanel/WHM and AWS platforms.
- System administration, domain management, DNS configuration, jQuery, JavaScript, and JavaScript libraries.
- Wrote learning modules on how to include libraries and frameworks into projects, and how to write PHP forms from scratch, etc.

Education

Auburn University - Bachelor of Science - Computer Science - (Not Complete)
Transferred to Auburn and began Computer Science degree – left to undertake a full-time development position. Worked at the Auburn Cyber Research Center under Professor Hamilton in the Information Assurance Lab.

Southern Union State Community College, Opelika - Associate of Science – 2012
Moved to Alabama and worked for a full year to gain residency. Achieved 69 hrs to transfer to Auburn Univ.