

# Jason Slay

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## Skills / Certifications / Awards

**Languages:** Python, Bash, C/C++, Terraform, YAML

**Clouds:** AWS, GCP, Azure

**Technologies:** Kubernetes, Helm, Docker, Istio, Ansible, FastAPI/Flask, LLMs, Django, Celery

**DB:** PostgreSQL, DynamoDB, MySQL, Redis

**OBS:** Datadog, Bugsnag, Sumo

**OS:** Linux (all flavors), macOS, Windows

**CI/CD:** GitHub Actions, ArgoCD, CircleCI, Jenkins

**Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)** – [Mar 2024](#)

**Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)** – Dec 2017

**Eagle Scout (Boy Scouts of America)** – Oct 2001

## Education

### Texas Tech University (Lubbock, TX)

- M.S. Electrical Engineering (4.0 GPA) – Dec 2008
- B.S. Electrical Engineering (3.75 GPA) – May 2007

### Technical University of Denmark (Kongens Lyngby, DK)

- M.S. Electrical Engineering – Aug 2008

## Relevant Professional Experience

### Upstart (Remote)

Jun 2024 – Present

#### *Sr. Site Reliability Engineer*

- Led initiative to consolidate on-call and incident response tooling.
- Served as the Incident Commander (IC) for many incidents that involved engineers and operational specialists.
- Rebuilt the SRE metrics pipeline to require no user input, leverage tests, and deliver results automatically.
- Weekly presenter of the state of SRE metrics to senior management (Directors, VPs, and SVPs).
- Leveraged IaC to codify as much infrastructure and configuration as possible.
- Served as a technical point of contact for audit, tool procurement, and renewals.
- Designed and built a centralized health dashboard focussed on customer journeys used by all leadership including our CEO.

### Tackle.io (Remote)

Sep 2020 – Oct 2023

#### *Director of CloudOps*

- Built DevOps and SRE organization from the ground up: recruiting, interviewing, hiring, training, and developing engineers

- Enabled development teams to do more with less cognitive load, thanks to the culture of security and best practices through automation
- Shifted from a culture of manual operation to source-controlled IaC
- Brought observability and reliability to many development teams
- Led the team's development of the Internal Development platform, which allowed moving from DevOps-as-a-service to X-as-a-service provided by the DevOps team.
- Launched many new policies that are now part of the audit process

### Postmates (Remote)

Oct 2019 – Jul 2020

#### *Sr. Software Engineer (SRE)*

- Built a GCP PostgreSQL stack with considerations for HA, failover, and continuous replication from RDS until the cutover event
- Implemented GKE K8s / IAM group policy structure for replicating organizational groups from Google into K8s namespaces with appropriate restrictions for production environments
- Member of production on-call rotation for the infrastructure team
- Piloted and standardized incident response and retrospective process
- Infrastructure as code (IaC) for both K8s-associated resources
- Implemented monitoring/alerting for both new and legacy systems

### Kapost (Boulder, CO)

Jun 2017 – Oct 2019

#### *Director of Operations & Security*

- Managed DevOps team that maintained all CI/CD pipelines and operational infrastructure
- Containerized application stack for testing and local development
- Pioneered adoption of Kubernetes as a core technology to achieve availability and portability requirements due to acquisition
- Hardened the entire infrastructure and added security alerting
- Owned and improved information security policies
- Primary SME for all security and privacy questions/concerns
- Created tooling to facilitate auditing and alerting of systems
- Led security & privacy awareness training for over 100 employees

### UtilityAPI (Remote)

Oct 2015 – Jun 2017

#### *Sr. DevOps Engineer*

- Designed and deployed an automated test environment that became heavily utilized for integration tests and pre-production validation
- Brought visibility to our security and reliability to enable measurable improvements to both

- As a full-stack developer, I became proficient in Python and Django while automating all aspects of application and infrastructure maintenance
- Created and maintained a containerized deployment pipeline

## **Other Professional Experience**

### **Time Warner Cable (Broomfield, CO)**

2015

#### *Software Engineer (Dev/Test)*

- Created an automated test suite that significantly reduced MTTD
- Helped triage and fix platform issues during integration activities

### **Raytheon II&S (Aurora, CO)**

2012 – 2015

#### *Sr. Software Test Engineer*

- Authored numerous tests for formal qualification of GPS-OCX
- Automated execution of a test suite previously performed manually

### **Lockheed Martin Aeronautics (Fort Worth, TX)**

2009 – 2012

#### *Sr. Systems Integration & Test Engineer*

- Broad exposure to all systems on the F-35 as a test engineer
- Designed, verified, and operated a world-class demonstration facility