Nick Kirk

Staff DevOps Engineer · AWS Cloud Architecture

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Staff DevOps engineer and AWS architect with 14 years in enterprise infrastructure, including AWS Professional Services. Designs secure, multi-account AWS platforms (private edge ingress, WAF, Terraform and CDK, GitHub Actions) that other teams adopt as standards. Consistent record of zero-downtime cutovers across multi-account migrations in regulated financial services.

EXPERIENCE

OneMain Financial · Wilmington, DE — Jun 2023 – Present

Staff Engineer, DevOps — Dec 2024 – Present

- Own infrastructure and CI/CD for a 40+ engineer loan originations platform, sustaining a two-week release cadence with no significant infrastructure outages
- Core engineer on moving the primary customer site (10+ domains) from Imperva to AWS WAF and CloudFront, saving **$500K+/year**; designed the URL rewrites and header passthrough
- Architected and cut over a legacy business process orchestration platform onto shared infrastructure across 8 environments, retiring 3 AWS accounts and **saving ~$20K/month** with zero downtime
- Rebuilt a fraud claims application on shared infrastructure (networking, WAF, CloudFront, Lambda, GitHub Actions), retiring 3 legacy AWS accounts with no production defects
- Designed a private CloudFront VPC Origins ingress pattern that replaces public load balancers and cross-account paths; approved as an organization-wide architecture standard
- Delivered infrastructure and pipelines for the platform's first production release (business process orchestration platform, GraphQL subgraphs, 7+ environments) **1 month early**
- Consolidated the income verification service into a shared-services AWS account, retiring 3 accounts and sharply reducing PII sprawl
- Retired every Jenkins pipeline ahead of schedule for reusable GitHub Actions; made CDK pipelines with ephemeral environments the standard for GraphQL subgraphs
- Maintain production Amazon EKS clusters with rolling node-replacement upgrades and Cluster Autoscaler; set the maintenance procedures other teams follow across 100+ clusters
- Authored 15+ and maintain **40+ shared Terraform modules** with sensible defaults, so development teams provision infrastructure safely themselves

Lead DevOps Engineer — Jun 2023 – Dec 2024

- Took over DevOps for a troubled, high-visibility income verification launch, rebuilt trust with the project team, and shipped on schedule, reaching 100% of production volume in a month
- Tested pre-release builds with the business process orchestration platform vendor across multiple iterations, finding bugs that unblocked launch and avoided self-hosting a database
- Led the enterprise GitHub Copilot pilot to ~120 developers through AI governance review; later automated licensing through ServiceNow
- Partnered with the platform team on compute savings plans, growing coverage from 60% to 80% as workloads expanded; now **saving ~$20K/month**
- Rolled out code scanning across all repositories and pipelines; deployed operational dashboards for the workflow platform and income verification service

Recognition: 8 peer-nominated OneMain leadership awards (2024–2026)

Amazon Web Services · Arlington, VA 2022 – 2023

Cloud Infrastructure Architect, Professional Services

- Designed and delivered production and proof-of-concept AWS solutions for federal customers, including GovCloud, Control Tower, and hybrid connectivity
- Led architecture reviews and trade-off discussions with customer stakeholders on cost, security, and risk; supported pre-sales technical Q&A
- Built reusable templates, technical artifacts, and documentation used across later customer engagements

W. L. Gore & Associates · Elkton, MD 2012 – 2022

Cloud Systems Engineer 2020 – 2022

- Primary cloud architect on a global team, delivering multi-region AWS solutions with infrastructure as code (CloudFormation, Terraform), CI/CD, and Python/Lambda automation
- Partnered with application teams to ship production services meeting security, compliance, and enterprise architecture requirements; ran recurring cloud spend reviews

Data Center Systems Engineer 2016 – 2020

- Designed a global Windows Server patching solution with a 93% first-attempt success rate across hundreds of virtual servers

Client Computing Engineer 2015 – 2016

- Led migration to a new configuration management system supporting 12,000+ endpoints globally

IT Service Desk Analyst 2012 – 2015

SKILLS

Cloud & Edge	AWS multi-account (Organizations, Control Tower), VPC, Transit Gateway, CloudFront, VPC Origins, WAF, Lambda, EKS, RDS, DynamoDB, IAM, GovCloud
IaC & CI/CD	Terraform, AWS CDK, CloudFormation, GitHub Actions (reusable workflows), ephemeral environments, Jenkins migration, code scanning
Platforms & Tooling	Kubernetes, Docker, business process orchestration, GraphQL, Python, Bash, Ansible

CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Professional (earned 2022)
- AWS Certified Security – Specialty (earned 2023)
- HashiCorp Certified Terraform Associate (earned 2023)