

Title: Michael Stanton USAF Cyber Scholarship



Jacorious (Jay) Smith:

Originally from Raleigh, NC, Jay joined the Air Force straight out of high school. Jay spent six years in the Air Force

Jay loves the outdoors and engaging in activities like snowboarding, whitewater rafting, fishing, hiking, and more and is currently pursuing his BS in Cyber Operations and Resilience at Boise State University.

As an individual who served in the Air Force as a Bioenvironmental Engineering Technician, Jay developed a deep appreciation for the importance of safeguarding the well-being of our military personnel and the general population. Through his experiences in hazardous environments and overseas deployment, he witnessed the evolving nature of threats faced by our country. Now, he seeks to combine his existing expertise with a transition into the field of cybersecurity to address the emerging cyber threats that pose significant risks to our nation and its people, seeking to both serve our country and contribute to the protection of its citizens in this rapidly evolving digital age.

Jay's core competencies include Threat Detection & Response, Incident Investigation and Cybersecurity compliance. He has become proficient in Python and JavaScript, and obtained his Network+, Security+ and Stellar Cyber for SCO Analysts certifications.

Jay strives to become an asset in detecting, preventing, and mitigating cyber threats. He is passionate about staying ahead of the ever-changing tactics of adversaries, developing robust defense mechanisms, and implementing proactive strategies to ensure the resilience of our digital ecosystem. With a strong background in risk management and an unwavering commitment to service, coupled with a diverse skillset acquired during his six years in the Air Force, he has a strong sense of responsibility and attention to detail, as the consequences of oversight could jeopardize the lives of both military personnel and civilians. Jay honed his abilities to collaborate effectively with multiple agencies, ensuring the safety of individuals working in dangerous environments. This has also allowed him to witness the critical role that technology plays in protecting lives, prompting me to explore the intersection of cyber and bioenvironmental engineering leveraging his unique experience.