MICHAEL A. HANEY, PhD

Principal & Founder, Sawtooth Digital Forensics

ICS/OT Security · Digital Forensics · Incident Response · Secure & Trustworthy AI · Critical Infrastructure

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Cybersecurity practitioner and researcher with 30 years across Fortune 500 consulting, national-laboratory research, and academic program leadership. Deep operational expertise in industrial control systems (ICS/SCADA) and critical-infrastructure security, digital forensics, and incident response, combined with applied expertise in the secure and trustworthy deployment of AI systems. Builds and leads programs, teams, and client engagements from the ground up, and translates complex security problems into practical guidance for executives, engineers, and government stakeholders.

CORE COMPETENCIES

ICS/SCADA & OT Security · Critical Infrastructure Protection · **Digital Forensics** & Malware Analysis · Incident Response · Expert Witness / Technical Review · **Secure AI Implementation** (NIST AI RMF, governance, risk) · Risk Management & Compliance (NIST CSF, SP 800-82, PCI DSS) · Security Architecture & Network Monitoring · Penetration Testing · Threat Intelligence & Deception · Security Training & Workshop Delivery

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal & Founder — Sawtooth Digital Forensics, Idaho Falls, ID *July 2026 – present*

- Founded an East Idaho digital forensics and security practice with three service lines: **data recovery** (no data, no fee); **court-ready forensics and expert-witness work** for attorneys and investigators; and **advisory services**, including vCISO strategic guidance, IT/OT and water-systems security, AI risk and integration, custom training, and grant readiness for municipalities, utilities, nonprofits, and small businesses.
- Designed and delivered a 20-hour networking and network-security course for a municipal fiber-optic utility (August 2026).

Clinical Professor — Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, Idaho State University *Aug 2025 – May 2026*

- Developed and delivered applied AI-security curriculum (Fundamentals of Applied and Industrial AI; Secure and Trustworthy AI Systems) covering AI risk management, governance, and secure deployment; supported ISU's Specialized Technical Certificate in Applied AI Systems.
- Co-led a University AI Task Force working group on responsible AI integration policy, risk, and governance.

Associate Professor of Research — School of Cyber Studies, University of Tulsa *Aug 2024 – May 2025*

- Advised Cyber Fellows PhD students in critical-infrastructure security; supported DOE (CESAR) and U.S. Secret Service NCFI research; served on the AI Minor committee and AI Impact Task Force.

Associate Professor, Computer Science; Director, Idaho Cyber Range — University of Idaho, Idaho Falls *Aug 2015 – May 2024*

- Helped establish the **BS (2020), MS (2021), and PhD (2025) in Cybersecurity** from inception, and the Graduate Certificate in Critical Infrastructure Resilience (2017). Promoted to Associate Professor in 2021.
- Founded and directed the **Idaho Cyber Range** (2021–2024): a statewide, reconfigurable environment for hands-on ICS/OT offense-and-defense exercises across eight institutions. Program Manager, Idaho Cybersecurity Education Initiative (2020–2021).
- Held a multi-year joint appointment with **Idaho National Laboratory's** Cybercore Integration Center, conducting applied research on control-system security for energy-sector and national-security stakeholders.
- Led and co-led **$16M+** in externally funded security programs (NSF, DOE, NIST, NSA, INL, Idaho SBOE). Advised 28 graduate students to completion (4 PhD, 24 MS).

Senior Security Consultant — True Digital Security, Tulsa, OK *2011 – 2013*

- Designed and managed an advanced network security monitoring platform for managed-security clients; advised regional energy-sector companies and state agencies.

Senior Security Consultant — FishNet Security *2008 – 2011*

- Delivered risk management and regulatory-compliance guidance to SMB, enterprise, and federal clients: assessments, remediation roadmaps, and security-program design.

Manager (Consultant) — Ernst & Young LLP *2002 – 2008*

- Managed security engagement teams for Fortune 500 financial-services clients; delivered enterprise assessments, controls design, and compliance programs.

Practitioner instruction and earlier roles: UK Royal Military Police (2015); U.S. Secret Service National Computer Forensics Institute (2014); USN SPAWAR (2013); ConocoPhillips (2013); SANS Mentor (2010–2011); Senior Security Analyst, WilTel/Level 3 (2000–2002); Security Administrator, FCI (1999–2000); Network Technician, EarthLink/MindSpring (1998–1999).

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Patent:** U.S. Patent No. 10,326,803 B1 (2019), privacy-preserving network security monitoring.
- **Recognition:** Best Paper, ACM Cyber & Information Security Research Conference (2014), SCADA honeynet framework; Best Paper, American Nuclear Society (2019), nuclear plant cybersecurity vulnerability assessment.
- **National service:** Assistant Secretary, Board of Directors, Colloquium for Information Systems Security Education (CISSE); sponsorship and programming co-chair for its 30th-anniversary Colloquium (October 2027).
- **Scholarship:** 63+ publications and an edited Springer volume on ICS security and resiliency.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Computer Science — University of Tulsa *2015*
M.S., Computer Science — University of Tulsa *2013*
B.S., Mathematics — University of Kentucky *1998*

CERTIFICATIONS

CFR-310 Cyber First Responder (CertNexus), current. **CISSP** (ISC2, first certified 2002): renewal in progress. **GIAC** GCIA, GSEC, GCIH, GCFA (earned 2005–2012): renewal in progress. Prior: PCI Qualified Security Assessor (2009–2014); CNSS 4011, 4012, 4014A, 4016A.