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Reflection Paper 2 for USCG ALC Intern

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Old Dominion University

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CYSE 368

Internship Reflection Paper (Second 50 Hours)

Having the opportunity to complete another set of 50 working hours as a cybersecurity intern at the Aviation Logistics Center, United States Coast Guard has allowed me the opportunity to experience more than I ever thought I would have as an intern. I have learned several things during this set of 50 hours such as the differences between information classifications, such as secret, top secret, and classified and how they pertain to information systems. I have also participated in the configuration of STIGs, performing Nessus and SCAP scans, and even having the opportunity to perform my own physical security assessment for a top-secret room within the facility.

Within the first couple weeks of this second set of 50 hours, I focused on mainly preparing for the physical security assessment of the top-secret space. I spent a significant amount of time reviewing manuals, checklists, and even taking a couple pre-walkthroughs of the area before I did my initial checklist revision. This opportunity has allowed me to learn more about the elements of physical security in cybersecurity and the physical and compliant standards that go along with it.

When it came to the actual day where I was able to perform my first assessment, I conducted a walkthrough of the space which I observed characteristics such as security of the doors, windows, false ceilings, vents, and ensuring the Intrusion Detection Systems are properly installed and rated to compliance. While I am conducting this session, I will be going through a checklist where I would mark the sections that are compliant or non-compliance with the matter. In the coming weeks I will be using this checklist and my results to build an official report based on my findings for the company.

Alongside this very large project that I have been conducting over the past few weeks, I was also allowed some more time in the lab as well. I was able to perform STIG configurations

on the lab computers where I would make sure that the vulnerabilities went from a low/high risk to not a finding. I also explored the Nessus tools and even observed some SCAP scans as well being performed in the lab. Apart from this, I also did a significant amount of research on the differences between the classification of material, such as secret and top secret and how it measures out certain information within this facility. Due to the fact that I do not have a clearance, performing some tasks pertaining to these projects has been a small struggle but nonetheless I have made a huge contribution to completing my projects for this section of 50 hours.