

Reflection 3

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Within my next 50 hours of my internship I was fortunate enough to be apart of my first pentest team here at CISA. Within my team Penetration Testing Capabilities(PTC), we do Risk and Vulnerability Assessments(RVA) for customers who request services. The process is two weeks long featuring an external week and internal week. I am currently on my internal week shadowing the operators and seeing how they currently work. The pentesters here are complete wizards! It has been amazing to be able to pick their brains and see how they developed as pentesters and within the federal government. Being an SFS student it has been good to see more of the federal side and how processes work over here as well. There are many tools and operations that I am not familiar with but I am very fortunate to get to see them and learn them now. I have been writing down plenty of Github repositories of different tools that have been used so that I could then use them later on within my own servers. I have also learned to continue to develop my home lab and use it to get a deeper understanding of the tools that are being used here. The branch chief also sat in on the assessment and that was a great opportunity to know more about his career and what he's done since coming to CISA. Overall I am very happy with the work I am doing here and the RVA that I am apart of and I hope I get to be apart of more as the weeks progress. Attached is a picture of us at lunch during the first day of the RVA.

