**REFLECTIVE JOURNAL #1**

My internship at Port of Virginia this summer which I started on the 8th of May 2023, has been one of the rewarding and motivational experience I have ever had since I became a student at Old Dominion University. I connected very well with my coworkers, my team, and my fellow interns to whom they all supported my growth directly and indirectly as a Security Operation Center (SOC) Analyst at Port of Virginia.

Even though, my first three (3) weeks experience at Port of Virginia was not that easy but a lot of fun, but with the help of my able and awesome coworkers, they supported me in all aspect to be able to fine my grounds at the basis of what I am supposed to be doing. I had all my accounts set up and had my access badge. I also had the chance to tour the whole SOC Department, a tour at the Port itself where all the various operations and activities goes on. I also had the chance to meet with the managing director and his deputy where I was given the official welcome aboard.

The managing director then gave a brief history bout the Port and then went ahead to talk about the mission, the vision, and the way forward of the Port and why the port has partnered with the Old Dominion University school of Cybersecurity to offer their students the opportunity to have a hands- on experience in the form of internship and what the port is expected from us as interns and aspiring cybersecurity professionals. We then discuss about the project that I am supposed to do and present it at the end of my internship.

During the tour, I was very amazed about all the technologies I saw and how those technologies are utilized in combating crimes like Phishing attacks, Ransomware attack just to mention a few. Their forensic lab is amazing even though it still needs more adjustments and face lift. I became so enthused and enthusiastic because I have just begun to lay my firsthand most of the things I have learnt as cybersecurity student abstractly.

Based on what I have learnt so far, I wish to continue to explore and gain more firsthand experiences to be better off my career in cybersecurity and to accomplish the goal of been here as an intern.