Rebecca Hight

CYSE 368, Cybersecurity Internship

Reflection Paper 3

November 24, 2024

During the past 50 hours of my internship with COVA CCI cybersecurity clinic, my team and I prepared to present our findings of the risk assessment we conducted in Tenable.io of the City of Suffolk's SQL server, with the oversight from the City of Suffolk IT department, mainly Joshua Cox, Suffolk's Senior Cybersecurity Administrator. As we prepared to present our findings, we focused on creating an executive view PowerPoint presentation that showcased the top three critical vulnerabilities, the top three high vulnerabilities, and the bottom three high vulnerabilities identified during our scans. We also explained the compliance audit scan results. To complement the PowerPoint, and also to suffice the requirement of this class in writing a detailed report, our team drafted and finalized a report that included our findings of the risk assessment, an analysis of how we addressed Greg Tomchick's Top 10 Digital Security Checklist, a SWOT analysis, and recommendations for patching and upgrading legacy systems over time to mitigate the vulnerabilities found throughout the risk assessment.

Additionally, we delivered two Excel documents to the City of Suffolk IT Department who have ongoing efforts in place to strengthen its cybersecurity posture. The first document detailed the compliance audit scan findings from Tenable.io, providing failed checks, solutions, and references to ensure industry compliance. The second document was designed as a resource for Joshua Cox. It is a comprehensive spreadsheet detailing all 208 vulnerabilities found on the SQL server. This "bread and butter" document will be a critical tool for prioritizing and addressing vulnerabilities systematically that he can use as a reference in securing the SQL database.

On November 19th, we presented our findings to the City of Suffolk's IT department alongside Team A, who conducted a risk assessment of the Public Server for the Parks and Recreation Department. This presentation was an opportunity to demonstrate our practical understanding of cybersecurity and showcase our collaboration as a team.

Now that the cybersecurity clinic has concluded and we've handed off our deliverables to the City of Suffolk IT department as CaaS interns, the responsibility for implementing our recommendations and addressing vulnerabilities is now in their hands. This internship has had nothing less than a great impact on our academic journey. It has given us hands-on technical skills, insights into cybersecurity consulting, and the opportunity to make an impact within the community of Hampton Roads!