SECURING THE FOUNDATIONS OF AI –
ENSURING DATA CENTER SECURITY

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David Aaron

David Aaron is a Senior Counsel at Perkins Coie, where his practice focuses on cybersecurity, critical infrastructure security, incident preparedness and response, internal investigations, and national security. David is also a Visiting Professor at Wesleyan University. David formerly served as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan and as a prosecutor and intelligence attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice National Security Division.

John Bekisz

John Bekisz is Vice President of the Data Center & Critical Infrastructure Practice at Guidepost Solutions. He brings extensive experience in security consulting, risk management, design, and engineering, practicing a holistic approach to security management that integrates physical, electronic, and operational security. John has led major public infrastructure and critical facility projects, including the Long Island Railroad's integration into Grand Central Station known as East Side Access. His working portfolio includes an extensive list of high-visibility, high-risk clients including the Empire State Building, World Trade Center, Grand Central Station, Rockefeller Center, Hudson Yards, sports stadiums, numerous airports, power and utility, commercial real estate, corrections, and data centers. A certified Physical Security Professional and licensed Professional Engineer, he serves as a member of the Board of Directors for ASIS International North American Board, spearheads the NY FBI Infragard Electronic Security Systems Working Group, and serves as a mentor across security & engineering disciplines.

Tatyana Bolton

Tatyana Bolton is a Principal at Monument Advocacy where she leads the firm's cybersecurity practice, bringing extensive experience from both the private and public sectors.

She was previously a Senior Security Policy Manager at Google's Security Center of Excellence in Washington, DC. Before joining Google, Tatyana directed the Cybersecurity & Emerging Threats program at the R Street Institute and served with the Cyberspace Solarium Commission. Her public service also includes a role as the Cyber Policy Lead in the Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

Vivek Chilukuri

Vivek Chilukuri is the senior fellow and program director of the Technology and National Security Program at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS). His areas of focus include accelerating U.S. leadership in AI, quantum, and biotechnology, the U.S.-China technology competition in key emerging markets, securing critical digital infrastructure, and the U.S. Congress and technology policy.

Before joining CNAS, Chilukuri served as a senior staff member for Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO), a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Chilukuri served as Bennet's senior policy advisor for technology, deputy chief of staff, legislative director, and chief speechwriter. During his tenure on Capitol Hill, Chilukuri worked on legislation to strengthen America's technology competitiveness, promote responsible governance for digital platforms and emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, and expand access to high-speed broadband through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Previously, Chilukuri served at the Department of State as a policy advisor to the undersecretary for civilian security, democracy, and human rights, and as a program officer on the Middle East and North Africa team at the National Democratic Institute. Chilukuri has published articles in Foreign Policy, TIME, Lawfare, and Nikkei Asia, and his analysis and commentary have been featured in The New York Times, Politico, CNN International, NPR, BBC News, Wired, CBC News, and Business Insider.

Chilukuri received an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School and a BA in international studies from UNC-Chapel Hill, where he graduated as a Robertson Scholar.

Carrie Cordero

Carrie Cordero is Robert M. Gates senior fellow and general counsel at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS). She has been a CNN legal and national security analyst since 2017. She is a member of the board of advisors of the Tech, Law & Security Program at American University's Washington College of Law and the Advisory Committee of the ABA's Standing Committee on Law and National Security. From March 2022–January 20, 2025, Cordero was a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council. Cordero was previously counsel to the assistant attorney general for national security; senior associate general counsel at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence; attorney advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice, and director of national security studies at Georgetown Law. Cordero earned her JD, cum laude, from Washington College of Law, American University, and her BA, magna cum laude, from Barnard College, Columbia University.

Gary Corn

Professor Gary Corn is the director of the Technology, Law & Security Program and an adjunct professor of cyber and national security law and the law of armed conflict. A recognized expert on the intersection of cyber and national security law and policy, Professor Corn joined TLS after serving twenty-six years on active duty in the U.S. Army as a military attorney practicing national security law at the highest levels within the Department of Defense. His final five years he served as the Staff Judge Advocate (General Counsel) to U.S. Cyber Command. Professor Corn is a frequent, and highly-sought out speaker at international and national conferences and has published numerous articles, book chapters, and blog posts, including in the American Journal of International Law, The Temple International and Comparative Law Journal, the Texas International Law Journal, the Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law, on Lawfare, Just Security, and the Lieber Institute's Articles of War. He has contributed chapters to several Oxford University Press books and is a co-author of National Security Law and the Constitution (Wolters Kluwer)(2020).

During his military career, Professor Corn served in various positions at the brigade, division, and corps level, including multiple times as a military prosecutor, civil litigator, and operational law attorney. His assignments include serving as a Deputy Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Operational Law Branch Chief in the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Army, the Staff Judge Advocate to U.S. Army South, a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia, and on deployment as the Chief of International Law for Combined Forces Command in Afghanistan. Professor Corn received a JD from the George Washington University, a BA in International Relations from Bucknell University, an LLM from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School, and an MA in National Security Studies from the United States Army War College. He is also a graduate of the Escola de Comando e Estado Maior do Exército do Brasil (Command and General Staff College of the Brazilian Army).

Professor Corn is a member of the ABA Standing Committee on Law & National Security; a member of the editorial board of the Georgetown Journal of National Security Law and Policy; an Adjunct Senior Fellow with the Center for a New American Security's Technology and National Security Program; an Advisory Board Director for the Cyber Security Forum Initiative; a Senior Fellow at the Lieber Institute for Law & Land Warfare; an advisor to the International Code of Conduct Association; an advisor to Intelligence for Good; an advisor to the Texas Tech School of Law's Center for Military Law & Policy; a Senior Advisor to Steptoe, LLP's National Security and Global Risk Management Team; and the Founder and Principal of Jus Novus Consulting, LLC. Professor Corn also served previously as a Senior Fellow with the Army Cyber Institute, and with the Cybersecurity and Emerging Threats program at the R Street Institute.

Kevin Friker

Kevin Friker leads the Corporate Security program at Equinix, a global leader in colocation data center and internet connection services with over 250 data centers in 30 countries on five continents. At Equinix, Kevin leads a team of professionals geographically positioned throughout the world who provide security guidance and immediate response to adverse events impacting global business operations.

Prior to joining Equinix, Kevin was the Global Security Director for Mars, Inc., one of the world's largest fast-moving-consumer-goods companies in the confectionary and pet care industries. Additionally, with nearly 30 years of diverse corporate security experience and a Certified Protection Professional (CPP), Kevin previously held senior security positions at Hyatt Hotels, Kroll, AT&T and Monsanto.

Kevin holds a BA degree from Michigan State University with a double-major in Humanities and Criminal Justice and holds a MA degree in Corporate & Crisis Communications from DePaul University in Chicago.

Matt Hayden

Matt Hayden serves as GDIT's vice president of cyber and emerging threats. As a senior cyber executive within GDIT's Intelligence and Homeland Security division, he is responsible for fostering trusted relationships with industry partners and key cyber executive government leadership, delivering cyber growth strategies, and advancing the company's cyber thought leadership.

Hayden has more than 25 years of experience in emerging technology and cyber policy. Previously, Hayden served as the Assistant Secretary for Cyber, Infrastructure, Risk and Resilience Policy at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He led the policy development for department-wide efforts to reduce national risks with a focus on artificial intelligence, critical infrastructure cybersecurity, federal network security and cyber-crime. Hayden's efforts played a critical role in improving the security and strength of the global cyber ecosystem. Additionally, he served as an expert advisor on cyber, infrastructure, risk and resilience issues to the undersecretary, secretary, and other high-level officials.

Hayden previously served as Senior Advisor to the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Private Sector within the Office of Partnership and Engagement at the DHS. In these roles, Hayden served as a senior leader of the department and as a voice for industry within government, advising on the impact of the policies, regulations, and processes on private sector companies. He also enhanced partnerships and strategic communications to help the public and private sectors jointly meet their shared responsibilities for protecting and strengthening the nation's critical infrastructure cyber threats.

Jane Horvath

Jane Horvath is a partner at Gibson Dunn in Washington, D.C. where she co-leads the firm's Tech and Innovation Industry Group and its Privacy, Cybersecurity, and Data Innovation Practice. A trailblazer in privacy law, Jane brings a rare blend of public and private leadership having served in high-profile positions as Chief Privacy Officer at Apple, Global Privacy Counsel at Google, and the first-ever Chief Privacy Counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice. Global companies turn to her as they grapple with the creation of today's fast-evolving technology and the complex regulatory, data governance, and policy issues they bring.

Cynthia Kaiser

"Cynthia Kaiser is a senior cyber and national security executive with over two decades of experience defending the nation against complex and evolving threats. She previously served as a Deputy Assistant Director with FBI Cyber, as a member of the Cyber Safety Review Board, and as a daily intelligence briefer to senior White House officials.

Now leading the Halcyon Ransomware Research Center, Cynthia drives threat research and collaboration to detect, disrupt, and defeat ransomware. She is a trusted voice in cybersecurity, serving on advisory boards and frequently contributing to media discussions on cyber threats and resilience. Recognized as a top cyber executive by The Cyber Guild, FedScoop, CyberScoop, WashingtonExec, and GovCIO, Cynthia is most proud of the teams she has built and the critical systems and communities their work protects."

Sam Kaplan

Sam Kaplan is a seasoned policy, legal, and national security professional with over 18 years of experience across the public and private sectors.

Currently, Sam serves as Senior Director and Assistant General Counsel for Public Policy & Government Affairs at Palo Alto Networks. In this role, he offers legal guidance on domestic and international legislative, regulatory, and policy matters, specializing in cybersecurity law, artificial intelligence regulation and governance, privacy and data security, international data flows, and public-private capacity building.

Before joining Palo Alto Networks, Sam was at Meta Platforms, where he led the team responsible for global product policy for Facebook's News Feed and News Tab. His work there encompassed a broad range of legal and policy issues, including AI/ML fairness, algorithmic transparency, platform integrity, election security, misinformation, and harmful content.

Sam spent over thirteen years in the Federal Government prior to his private sector tenure. He held several senior leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, including Assistant Secretary for Cyber, Infrastructure, Risk and Resilience Policy and the Department's Chief Privacy Officer. Earlier in his government career, Sam worked at the U.S. Department of Justice in various law enforcement and national security capacities within the Office of Legal Policy, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Major Crimes and Narcotics Division at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. Additionally, he served as Counselor to a member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, overseeing privacy and civil liberties issues within the U.S. Intelligence Community.

Sam holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Denver, Strum College of Law, and a Masters Degree in International Studies and Homeland Security from the Korbel School of International Studies.

Joshua Larocca

Joshua J. Larocca leads teams of digital forensic examiners, data scientists, forensic accountants, and analysts in conducting a wide variety of complex financial crime, incident response, and corporate misconduct investigations on behalf of corporations, law firms, and financial institutions. Mr. Larocca's diverse practice includes advisory work on various stages of the CFIUS process, including serving as a Third Party Monitor; consulting on money laundering and sanctions matters pursuant to compliance monitorships; and leading incident response teams investigating ransomware and other data breach matters.

Brian Levine

Brian has spent over 20 years focused on the intersection of law, public policy, and technology. He has served as a Managing Director at EY, where he lead a team of 50 cybersecurity, data privacy, and AI consultants, assessing and improving the security of over 500 organizations, including many data centers. Brian has also served a DOJ cybercrime prosecutor, National Coordinator for 300 cybercrime prosecutors around the country, an Assistant Attorney General in the Internet & Technology Bureau of the NY Attorney General's Office, a civil litigator, and federal law clerk. Today, Brian serves as a cybersecurity consultant and the Executive Director of Former Gov, the first directory of government and military professionals.

Christopher Porter

Christopher Porter is the Head of International Security Cooperation at Google Cloud, where he leads a variety of programs to exchange intelligence with public sector partners worldwide and facilitate substantive discussions between Google's security leaders and top outside experts.

From 2019 to June 2022 he was the National Intelligence Officer for Cyber, leading the US Intelligence Community's analysis of foreign cyber threats and threats to US elections. As a member of the National Intelligence Council, Christopher oversaw production of National Intelligence Estimates, was the primary cyber intelligence advisor to the Director of National Intelligence, was President Trump's briefer for cyber threats and election threats, developed the analytic portion of the Unified Intelligence Strategy, and lead the IC Cyber Analysis Leadership Council made up of the other cyber leaders of CIA, FBI, NSA, DOD, and other agencies.

Serving under both President Trump and President Biden, he frequently briefed and wrote for the President of the United States, senior Cabinet officials, the Gang of Eight and other legislative leaders in the US House of Representatives and Senate, and civilian and military cyber leaders throughout the executive branch.

From 2016 to 2019, Christopher was the Chief Technology Officer for Global Cybersecurity Policy and the Chief Intelligence Strategist at cybersecurity company FireEye.

Christopher has testified before the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament. He has offered commentary on cybersecurity and threat intelligence in the New York Times, USA Today, NBC News, the Council on Foreign Relations, BBC, Lawfare, Foreign Policy, Defense One, Christian Science Monitor, Bloomberg News, Cipher Brief, War on the Rocks, Politico, Axios, Cyberscoop, Dark Reading, Roll Call and many other TV, radio, and print outlets worldwide.

Lala Qadir

Lala Qadir is the Senior Director of Technology Security and AI Policy at Microsoft where she oversees US government engagement on quantum, technology security, and AI. She most recently served as the Principal Assistant Director and Chief of Staff of the National Security Division at the White House Office of Science and Technology where she led a portfolio covering artificial intelligence, data security, biosecurity, and investment security. She also represented OSTP on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) at the Assistant Secretary level.

Prio to the White House, Lala was in private practice at Covington & Burling LLP where she focused on white collar defense, internal investigations, and cross-functional compliance programs. While at Covington, she was a member of the firm's Artificial Intelligence Initiative and maintained an active pro bono practice, focused on veterans, voting rights, and criminal justice matters. Prior to joining the firm, Lala clerked for Chief Judge James E. Baker of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

She also brings six years of leadership and management experience in strategic planning, performance management, and change management. Before law school, Lala led federal and international government clients in aligning strategy and driving accountability as a strategic management consultant with Booz Allen in the areas of national security, homeland defense, and judicial reform. She also served as Director of Strategy and Performance for the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and was a Harvard University Center for Public Leadership Fellow with the F.W. de Klerk Foundation in Cape Town, South Africa.

Lala also served as a Professorial Lecturer at law at George Washington Law School, teaching a course on Artificial Intelligence: Law and Policy and is currently a Distinguished Fellow with the Institute for Security Policy and Law at Syracuse University. She holds dual degrees in Chemistry and Public Policy Studies from Duke University and a Master in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School. She graduated cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center where she served as Editor-in-Chief of The Georgetown Law Journal. Lala has also published scientific articles in the areas of military energetics and nanotechnology.

Matthew Rogers

Matthew Rogers, PhD, is the Operational Technology (OT) lead in CISA's Office of the Technical Director, and lead for Secure by Design for OT. Prior to coming to CISA, Matthew developed products to detect and prevent attacks on planes, trains, and tanks.

Daniel Sutherland

Daniel W. Sutherland is a Senior Advisor to The Chertoff Group. Mr. Sutherland helped launch CISA, the Cybersecurity and Information Security Agency, in 2018 and served as the agency's first Chief Counsel. His office negotiated complex technology agreements; provided daily operational support to the agency's experts in threat hunting, vulnerability management, and incident responders; advocated the agency's positions in litigation; drafted and negotiated legislation; and, responded to audits and investigations. More recently, Mr. Sutherland led the cybersecurity legal team at Meta. Mr. Sutherland supported Guy Rosen, Meta's CISO, by translating the company's global cybersecurity requirements into specific tools, practices, and policies that security engineering and product management teams then put into place. He also helped develop a mature governance, risk and compliance program; ensured company leadership and the Board of Directors were adequately advised on cybersecurity risk management; led and facilitated tabletop exercises; and, conducted internal investigations that helped set the direction for Meta's security missions. When the Department of Homeland Security was founded, Mr. Sutherland was appointed by President Bush to serve as the first Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, where he advised Secretaries Ridge and Chertoff on a wide range of security issues.

Holden Triplett

Holden Triplett is a Co-Founder of Trenchcoat Advisors, the preeminent human-driven risk advisory firm. He has extensive international and domestic experience in national security and intelligence matters, especially with respect to their impact on businesses and private enterprises. In addition to his work at Trenchcoat, Holden is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service, where he teaches a course on Chinese Intelligence, Security and Influence, and at Texas A&M University's Bush School of Government & Public Service, teaching a course on Private Sector Intelligence and Insider Risk. Holden left the FBI in mid-2020, after almost 15 years of service. During his FBI career, Holden held a number of key positions. He was Deputy Head of the FBI office in Moscow for two years, and he later led the FBI's office in Beijing for three years. Upon his return to the United States, Holden was designated the Director for Counterintelligence of the National Security Council at the White House, where he led the development of counterintelligence policy for the United States. He also coordinated intelligence community efforts to combat new and emerging technology threats. In his last position in the government, Holden was the FBI Faculty Chair at the National Intelligence University, where he taught courses in Counterintelligence, National Security Law and Intelligence, and Chinese Intelligence and Information Warfare. Before joining the FBI, Holden worked as a project finance and renewable energy attorney at private law firms in California. He has a J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley where he was a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellow. His B.A. is in Philosophy and Russian Literature from the University of Texas, Austin where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He has training and experience working in Chinese, Russian, and Japanese.