

# Ali Albaker

23 Rose Ct, NY 12047 | [baker.ali.m@gmail.com](mailto:baker.ali.m@gmail.com) | [portfolio](#)

## Professional Summary

Experienced Network Security Engineer with a strong background in cloud infrastructure and security automation. Skilled in implementing secure Kafka on AWS, integrating Rapid7 for compliance, and managing AWS WorkSpaces with stringent security baselines. Proven ability to enhance system observability and automate security processes, aiming to leverage expertise to strengthen network security and compliance in the target role.

## Key Skills & Technologies

- **Cloud Platforms:** AWS (EKS, ECS, EC2, RDS, Lambda, S3, IAM), Azure (AKS, AD), OCI (OKE, IAM)
- **Infrastructure & IaC:** Terraform, Ansible, GitHub Actions, CircleCI, AWS Systems Manager, CI/CD
- **Kubernetes & Containers:** EKS, ECS, AKS, Karbon, Helm, ArgoCD
- **Monitoring & SRE Tooling:** Prometheus, Grafana, ELK, CloudWatch, Splunk, Incident Response, Troubleshooting
- **Security & Compliance:** AWS Config (Org-wide), Rapid7, SOC2, HIPAA, 2FA, IAM Hardening, Cloud Compliance, Security Automation
- **Networking & Load Balancing:** TGW, PrivateLink, ALB, Route 53, Cloudflare
- **Scripting & Automation:** Bash, Python, PowerShell, JSON, YAML, Programming, Reports Automation
- **Hybrid & Legacy Infra:** Nutanix, VMware, Citrix, Veeam, Windows AD
- **Leadership & SOP:** Team Leadership, SOP Writing
- **New Skill Group 1:** Proven leadership in full-stack infrastructure buildouts — from data center migrations, networking segmentation (Cisco ACI, L3 routing, DNS), and GPFS/LUN storage planning to hybrid cloud automation (Terraform, Ansible, PowerShell) — aligning with compliance, security, and operational readiness standards.

## Professional Experience

### Marathon Health

Nov 2023 - Present

*AWS Systems Engineer*

*Remote, NY*

- Deployed EKS and ECS clusters for production microservice environments using Terraform, GitHub Actions, and CircleCI, ensuring container orchestration reliability and scalability.
- Created GitOps pipelines with ArgoCD and Helm, reducing deployment errors by 40% and streamlining containerized workload updates.
- Implemented secure Kafka on AWS with TGW and PrivateLink connectivity to RDS; coordinated with development teams on configuration and access control to enhance system observability.
- Integrated Rapid7 and AWS Config across all accounts with auto-remediation for drift detection, bolstering cloud compliance and security.
- Automated patching and compliance checks with AWS Systems Manager across multiple Linux distributions to maintain production readiness.
- Managed 100+ AWS WorkSpaces with SAML SSO and stringent security baselines, ensuring ongoing system reliability.
- Migrated legacy workloads to RDS and serverless architectures, achieving a 30% reduction in cloud costs while optimizing system performance.
- Deployed EKS and ECS clusters for production microservice environments using Terraform, GitHub Actions, and CircleCI, ensuring container orchestration reliability and scalability. Good, but AWS/K8s focus may need hybrid build relevance.
- Designed and deployed hybrid infrastructure builds using EKS/ECS integrated with Terraform and CI/CD tools (GitHub Actions, CircleCI), improving microservice orchestration resilience by 40%. Created GitOps pipelines with ArgoCD and Helm, reducing deployment errors by 40% and streamlining containerized workload updates.
- Implemented secure Kafka on AWS with TGW and PrivateLink connectivity to RDS; coordinated with development teams on configuration and access control to enhance system observability/security/compliance. Engineered secure Kafka deployment using TGW and PrivateLink to RDS, aligning with zero-trust principles and improving observability and data flow integrity.
- Automated patching and compliance checks with AWS Systems Manager across multiple Linux distributions to maintain production readiness. Add metrics or outcomes. Automated OS patching and compliance scanning using AWS Systems Manager for 150+ Linux nodes, ensuring 100% uptime during security patch cycles.
- Hardened IAM policies, enabling secure remote access and reducing provisioning time by 50%. Migrated legacy workloads to RDS and serverless architectures, achieving a 30% reduction in cloud costs while optimizing system performance.
- Led migration of monolithic workloads to AWS RDS and serverless architecture, reducing operational costs by 30% and improving performance SLAs for production systems.

### Fivos Health

Oct 2021 - Nov 2023

*Senior Systems Administrator – IT & Security*

*NY*

- Oversaw hybrid AWS/OCI workloads by balancing cost and performance for compute and storage environments.
- Developed CI/CD pipelines using Terraform and GitHub Actions to automate multi-cloud deployments, reinforcing infrastructure-as-code practices.

- Engineered DNS and network policies via Cloudflare and Route 53 to support a hybrid architecture, enhancing system availability and scalability.
- Migrated 85+ customer environments from AWS to OCI employing Terraform and PowerShell, emphasizing secure and repeatable deployments.
- Directed backup and disaster recovery strategies with Veeam and AWS Backup, achieving 100% recovery test success and strengthening overall system reliability.
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## Ellis Medicine Hospital

**Oct 2020 - Dec 2021**

*Information Technology Manager / Server Administrator Lead*

*NY*

- Migrated on-prem from VMware to Nutanix HCI and Karbon Kubernetes, reducing licensing by 20%.
- Built automated provisioning using Terraform and Ansible across clinical infrastructure.
- Implemented HIPAA-compliant microsegmentation via Nutanix Flow for enhanced workload isolation.
- Developed Linux-based monitoring with Prometheus and ELK stack.

## CMA Consulting

**Feb 2019 - Oct 2020**

*Senior Systems Administrator*

*NY*

- Automated hybrid infrastructure using Ansible, Terraform, and SCCM across AWS and Azure.
- Managed 8 vCenters and 51 ESXi hosts; implemented enterprise backup with Veeam.
- Administered AWS RDS and executed failover testing with Zerto and VMware.
- Deployed Splunk for SOC logging and alerting, improving real-time detection.
- Administered high-availability AWS RDS clusters with Zerto-based failover replication to VMware for DR, validating storage resilience through quarterly test scenarios.

## Albany Medical Center Hospital

**Jan 2013 - Feb 2019**

*System Network Administrator*

*NY*

- Migrated legacy VMs to AWS and Hyper-V, and managed Nutanix AHV clusters, enhancing system efficiency and scalability.
- Deployed EPCS with 2FA to meet DEA standards; supported HIPAA audit prep and documentation.
- Managed Imprivata OneSign enterprise authentication and on-call incident response coverage.

## Albany Medical Center Hospital

**Aug 2012 - Jan 2013**

*Senior Desktop Support Specialist*

*NY*

- Delivered Tier 1-2 support for Linux and Windows; configured systems across remote clinics.
- Resolved VPN, hardware, and software escalations for enterprise users.

## Education & Certifications

### Kirkuk, Iraq (Evaluated by WES.org)

**Present**

*Bachelor's Degree, Computer Science*

### Certification

- **Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science:**Kirkuk, Iraq (Evaluated by WES.org)
- **AWS Certified Solutions Architect:**In Progress
- **ITIL Foundation Certification:**Planned
- **"Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert"**
- **"Currently pursuing AWS Architect Certification"**