

## Letter of Motivation

Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency of the DNS (SSR2) Review Team

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DNS is a pillar of my three professional interests: cybersecurity, cyber threat intelligence, and startup companies. Having experience both developing and hacking Web applications and services, investigating incidents and malware behaviors, and deriving novel sources of threat intelligence, it is remarkable how infrequently I see DNS included as part of the conversation. Unfortunately, I believe this is because the full potential of DNS is not well understood, and by extension it is not fully utilized. It has proven its vital importance in scaling the Web and will continue with the adoption of the larger addresses of IPv6. DNS is overlooked as a vulnerable network component, as well as a possible defensive measure from which valuable pre-attack, intent-level threat intelligence can be gathered.

In my master's degree specializing in Intelligence Technologies, my bachelor's in Information Security, and a few of my industry certifications the Internet was a primary focus. I have worked in environments as fast as startups, as small as a sole proprietorship, as large as a Fortune Global 500, and as challenging as DARPA. The Internet has repeatedly played a large part in each role I have held. My current role is to assure the security posture of the network-based security products our company produces to protect customers ranging from small businesses to governments, so the security of all parts of the networked ecosystem are relevant to me.

In 2010 I had the transformative experience of meeting Vint Cerf for the first time when he spoke at an event hosted by my university. That event motivated me into various roles with the Internet Society (ISOC) as a speaker, leader, and member. In 2012 I was invited to speak in Geneva, Switzerland at the Internet Society Global INET 20th Anniversary event on Social Media Impact as a panelist alongside Tarek Kamel. After that, there was no turning back and I have continued to speak at security conferences and as a guest lecturer for a Cyber Statecraft graduate-level course.

For a number of years I served in a leadership role on the council of the Greater Washington DC Chapter of the Internet Society, affording me the opportunity to meet additional influential figures such as Veni Markovski and attend events such as the INET Philadelphia and North America Chapter workshop. Most importantly, this leadership role and my ISOC experiences gave me exposure to a true multistakeholder community model of participation and governance—one I had not seen elsewhere.

I am interested in building upon these experiences by joining the Review Team as the next step in my global participation. I believe that I can be an asset to this Review Team as an Independent Expert because the focus is a perfect intersection of DNS with the opportunities therein, and the security aspect of the technology. DNS should be a true contributor to hardening security on the Internet through technical innovation and increasing adoption of its full potential, and I want to help make that happen.

Thank you for your consideration,

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