

1 **Cybersecurity: Professionalism & Ethics**

2 **Welcome!**

- We are glad to have you here!
- This workshop will be interactive, so be ready to talk, discuss, and work together!
- This workshop covers Professionalism & Ethics in the Cybersecurity Field as well as ways you may be able to apply it
- Our Agenda

3 **Defining Professionalism**

- We have to define professionalism before understanding it
 - What is it?
- Merriam-Webster defines it as “the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person”
- Oxford Languages defines it as “the competence or skill expected of a professional”
- Our understanding can be highly technical or not
 - Neither is wrong
- However, it is on us to communicate professionalism in an easy to understand manner
 - The sooner the better

4 **Professionalism: What You Do**

- For our workshop, professionalism is what we’ve previously defined as well as: “What you do”
- A Few examples of this would be:
 - Codes of Conduct
 - Ethical Behavior
 - Commitment to the profession
 - Commitment to doing right by others
 - Our interactions
 - How so?
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5 **Building Professionalism**

- 7 Skills (starting out)
 - Curiosity
 - Critical Thinking
 - Collaboration
 - Discipline
 - Humility
 - Grit
 - Agency Under Duress
- Additionally
 - Diligence
 - Integrity
 - Stewardship
 - Trustworthiness



6 **Your Public Appearance Follows You**

- Social Media
 - Yes, your social media
 - Is not “yours”
 - Is a way for employers and others to get to know/see you
- Your public appearance may proceed you
 - Remember to think before posting
 - Think before sharing
 - Think long-term
- Outside your online presence, your physical presence matters as well
 - Be confident & comfortable in your appearance!
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7 **Activity: Professionalism In Action**

- Divide into groups of [HOWEVER FOR THE SCENARIOS]
- You each will be given a scenario
 - Take 5-7 minutes to decide how to act out the scene
 - Scenes should be 5-10 minutes each [INSTRUCTOR DECISION]
- After acting out the scenario, lead the group in discussing how to proceed professionally given the situation
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8 **Welcome Back!**

- We are excited to have you back!
- Professionalism is important, but so are ethics!
- You’ve heard of “work ethic”
 - But what if I told you all ethics are connected?
- Let’s see how and why that matters!

9 **Ethics? What are they?**

- Ethics, at it’s core, are how we identify and define what is right and wrong (or good and bad)
- These differ from Norms & Morals
 - Norms = standards of appropriate behavior
 - Morals = value judgments & principles about right and wrong in behavior
 - Ethics = rules (determined by us, society, etc.) on what is morally good or bad behavior
- Ethics are not something this is a given, we aren’t necessarily born with them.
- We decide, determine, build, maintain our ethics

10 **Does Ethics Have A Look?**

- Yes, YOU!
- More broadly, look around, is there anyone who you look up to?
 - What do they display that causes you to look up to them?
 - What skills have you developed because of them?
- Ethics includes:
 - Honesty
 - Integrity



- Fairness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Confidentiality
- Stewardship

11 Differing Ethics

- Most fields have some overarching ethical standard:
 - Medical Ethics vs. Legal Ethics vs. Research Ethics
- The catch us, all ethical standards point back to individual ethics
- Individual ethics may differ
 - This can be a source of conflict
- Remember ethics are developed through life experiences as well as societal rules
- Differing ethics does not automatically mean conflict, as long as both parties can discuss (similar to your exercise)
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12 Conflict (Prevention) & Resolution

- Conflict can arise from differing ethics
- Prevention of conflict depends on how we interact with each other and the workplace culture
Workplace Culture = The Workplace Environment (people, places, & job duties)
- One who is actively participating in the workplace, will have an understanding of those around them and the best way to communicate to minimize conflict
- Prevention depends on the relationship
- Resolution depends on the willingness to communicate and agree
- Golden Rule: "Are you fine with the decision impacting others, if it impacts you the same way?"

13 Ethics & Professionalism

- Ethics + Professionalism = Shining You
 - For Conflict
 - For Skill Development
 - For Careers
- Especially in Cybersecurity
- The field requires the utmost trust
 - Why? Think about your data and the people behind it
- Frameworks (NIST, ISO, CISA, etc.) are built around ethics
- Jobs require professionalism

14 Professionalism & Ethics

- In the industry, your employer will have time to train you on tools
 - New software
 - Policies & Procedures
- Professionalism & Ethics
 - Is something you MUST develop on your own
 - START NOW
 - Is what will land you where you want to go (they're looking for it)
 - Is what helps develop you skills



- Ethics are displayed in your professionalism
 - Prior to getting the job
 - After getting the job

15 **Activity: Ethics in the Workplace**

- Given everything we have discussed and gone over
- Here is our final Activity
- Write (type) your response to the ethical dilemmas as a Service Provider

16 **Conclusion**

- Thank you for attending this workshop!
- We hope that it was fun & engaging!
- Maybe even got you thinking about these two topics differently
 - If so, awesome!
- Take what you learned and apply it! You'll be surprised how it impacts/helps in the long run!

