JOHN M. ROMERO

Texas A&M Cybersecurity Center
Texas A&M School of Law
Computer Science and Engineering, Texas A&M University
Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES)

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Executive Summary

Cybersecurity instructor, maker of IoT, techie, software developer, private pilot, U.S. Air Force veteran, and electronic warfare technician. Now serving as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Texas A&M School of Law, teaching Digital Forensics (LAW 623) and integrating cybersecurity with legal applications. Mentor, coach, and facilitator for young adults entering the workforce. Passionate instructor and influencer for positive ethical leadership. My research interests include cybersecurity social engineering, the human element in cybersecurity, smart manufacturing, and industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) hacking.

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas (2023-2024)
➢ *Master of Engineering in Engineering* with a Specialization in **Cybersecurity**, 2024

Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), Atlanta, Georgia (2019-2020)
➢ Classes towards Cybersecurity, Master of Science (Online*)*
➢ Completed courses: Information Security Policies, Introduction to Information Security

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
➢ *Computer Science, Bachelor of Science*, 1996
➢ Minor, Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
➢ Overall GPA 3.11

Blinn College, College Station, Texas
August 1990 - December 1992
➢ Overall GPA 3.8, President's Scholar and Blinn Distinguished Student

Community College of the Air Force, U.S.A.F.
August 1986 – August 1993
➢ U.S. Air Force Active Airman/NCO for 5th Bomb Wing; NCO at Texas Air National Guard for 147th Attack Wing
➢ Worked on credit hours towards an associate degree in Avionic Maintenance

Professional Certifications

➢ **Instructional Design and Evaluation**, 40 hours, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, August 2015
➢ **Digital Forensics Basics**, 7 hours, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, May 2015
➢ **Cyber Incident Analysis and Response**, 10 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, November 2015
➢ **Introduction to Incident Command System ICS-100**, Federal Emergency Management Institute (FEMA), January 2015
➢ **Cyber Law and White-Collar Crime**, 10 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, June 2015
➢ **Cybersecurity Requirements for Defense Contractors**, NIST MEP, August 2020

- ➢ **Information Security for Everyone**, 10.5 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, November 2015
- ➢ **Understanding Targeted Cyber Attacks**, 8 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, August 2019
- ➢ **Cybersecurity Incident Response for IT Personnel**, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, March 2018
- ➢ **Physical and Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure**, 8 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, September 2017
- ➢ **Promoting Community Cybersecurity**, 6 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, October 2016
- ➢ **Essentials of Community Cybersecurity**, 4 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, March 2015
- ➢ **The Emergency Operations Center's Role in Community Cybersecurity**, 12 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, March 2015
- ➢ **Community Cybersecurity Exercise** Planning, 12 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, April 2015
- ➢ **Secure Software**, 5 hours, National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center, June 2015
- ➢ **WebEOC: Operations Technology in Support of Local Jurisdictions**, Texas Division of Emergency Management, 1 hour, August 2020
- ➢ **Disney's Approach to Leadership Excellence**, Disney Institute, February 2015

TEACHER / EDUCATOR EXPERIENCE

(*denotes course curriculum development)

Texas A&M University School of Law   March 2025 – Present
- ◆ LAW 603 – Digital Forensics

Texas A&M University, Department of   August 2023 – December 2024
Multidisciplinary Engineering
- ◆ CYBR 601 – Cybersecurity Foundations *
- ◆ CYBR 201 – Cybersecurity Fundamentals *

Texas A&M University, College of Agriculture   January 2019 – May 2023
& Life Sciences; Department of Entomology
- ◆ FIVS/CYBR 405 – Applied Digital Forensics and Incident Response *
- ◆ FIVS 489 – Applied Digital Forensics and Incident Response *
- ◆ AGLS 125 – Life Science Learning Communications I (Hullabaloo) *

Texas A&M Cybersecurity Center   June 2018 – Present
- ◆ Cyber FUNdamentals Summer Camps for 9th to 12th graders and educators *
- ◆ GenCyber camps: Teaching cybersecurity concepts to K-12 educators and students *
- ◆ Cybersecurity awareness for Automated Warehouse and National Supply Chain Automation *

- ◆ **Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service**   September 2013 – May 2022
- ◆ CYB201 – Cybersecurity for Business Executives *
- ◆ AWR135 – Promoting Community Cybersecurity
- ◆ AWR136 – Essentials of Community Cybersecurity
- ◆ AWR376 – Understanding Targeted Cyber Attacks
- ◆ MGT384 – The EOC's Role in Community Cybersecurity

- MGT385 – Community Cybersecurity Exercise Planning
- MGT452 – Physical and Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure
- PER371 – Cybersecurity Incident Response for IT Personnel *
- Secondary cyber camps: Cyber Camps for 9th - 12th grade; Raspberry Pi, electronics, python, Linux *
- TEEX Essential Leadership Behaviors *

RESEARCH / FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

- NSA GenCyber; Instructor; 2023; High-Performance Research Center (HPRC) of TAMU; Teach secondary students the values of cybersecurity
- Virtual Institutes for Cyber and Electromagnetic Spectrum Research and Employ (VICEROY); Griffiss Institute; Senior Personnel; NCAE-C Southwest Region; Awarded March 2023
- Autonomic Systems for Malware Risk Detection (NSA Research); M2300175 2022 NCAEC; Senior Personnel; 12-Sep-2022 to 12-Sep-2024
- Curriculum Development for the National Center for Supply Chain Automation; Contractor for curriculum development, planning, and implementation for cybersecurity for the Automated Warehouse Textbook; Oakton Community College
- NSA Senior Military College Cyber Institute; Cyber Leadership Development Program (CLDP); Senior Personnel; 2020-2025; Mentored and instructed students for leadership roles
- NSA GenCyber; Co-PI; 2018; Teach K-12 Educators the valued principals of cybersecurity
- CSCoRE; GRTI; Co-PI, facilitator, project manager; 2019; Commissioned Cadets working on and with Drones/UAS
- Air Force Research Labs; CSCoRE; GRTI; Co-PI, facilitator, project manager; 2018; Working with commissioned cadets on projects needed by the U.S. Armed Forces
- DoD P3; Co-PI; 2018-Present; Scholarships for Service for academic students, including some capacity-building projects for labs
- DoD CySP; Co-PI; 2018-Present; Scholarships for Service for academic students, including some capacity-building projects for labs

PUBLICATION LIST

Selected Conference Papers.

> Shannon Roberts, Maryam Zahabi, Lauren McCarthy, Christopher Lanclos, **John Romero**, "Law Enforcement Perspectives on Police Vehicle Cybersecurity". Approved & Waiting Publication at *Human Factors & Ergonomics Society* (*HFES) 67th International Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C., October 23-27, 2023.
> Eman Hammad, **John Romero**, James Nelson, "Towards Goal-Oriented Experiential Learning for Cybersecurity Programs". Accepted at *The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) 2022 Annual Conference*, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 26-29, 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

- January 2023; G3X Germania Insurance Conference; San Antonio, Texas; Title: *Is My Insurance Agency at Risk from Hackers, really?*
- October 2022; Headliner and main speaker; Texas Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (TAMIC) 86th Annual Convention and Seminar, Austin, Texas; Title: *Hacking, Breaches, and Ransomware, Oh My! – What can we do to protect us?; ~ 300 attendees*
- October 2022; Rotary Club of Aggieland, Bryan, Texas; Title: *Hacking, Breaches, and Ransomware, Oh My! – What can we do to protect us?*

- October 2022; Surgical Care Affiliates, LLC. (SCA Health), Online; Title: *The Weakest Link – Social Engineering; ~300 attendees*
- October 2022; First Community Credit Union (FCCU), Houston, Texas; Title: *Top 5 Security Risks – For Small/Medium-sized Business Owners*
- October 2022; First Community Credit Union (FCCU), Houston, Texas; Title: *Hacking, Breaches, and Ransomware, Oh My! – What can we do to protect us? ~100 attendees*
- January 2022; Tejas Collective for the Colorado Co-Op Directors, Denver, Colorado; Title: *Oversite and Duty of Care: Physical and Cybersecurity*
- January 2022; G3X Germania Insurance Conference; San Antonio, Texas; Title: *Cybersecurity for Small Business – Top 5 Current Issues*; ~600 attendees
- October 2021; First Community Credit Union; Title: *The Weakest Link – Social Engineering*
- May 2021; Bryan Research & Engineering; Title: *The Weakest Link – Social Engineering*
- May 2021; Women Republicans; Title: *Mind Control: How Dis(Mis)information Influences our Beliefs*
- February 2021; 2021 Texas Association of Appraisal Districts (TAAD) Conference; Virtual (Covid-19); Title: *Are you ready to get hacked? Cybersecurity: Top 5 Business Issues*
- January 2021; 2021 G3X Germania Insurance Conference; Virtual (Covid19); Title: *Top 5 Cybersecurity Concerns*
- July 2020; 2020 TIVA (Texas Industry Vocational Association) Conference; Virtual (Covid19); Title: *The Weakest Link in Cybersecurity: Breaking Down the Dangers of Social Engineering*
- April 2020; 30th Annual Outlook for Texas Land Markets Conference; San Antonio, Texas; Title: *The Latest Cyber Scams – Avoidance and Remedies (Cancelled due to Covid19)*
- March 2020; 3rd Annual National Symposium for Supply Chain Automation; Atlanta, Georgia; Title: *The Weakest Link in Cybersecurity: Breaking Down the Dangers of Social Engineering*
- February 2020; 2020 Texas Association of Appraisal Districts (TAAD) Conference; Dallas, Texas; Title: *Cybersecurity: Protecting Your Government Data Against Fraud*; ~500 attendees
- January 2020; G3X Germania Insurance Conference; San Antonio, Texas; Title: *Cybersecurity for Small Business*; ~600 attendees
- October 2019; Texas Military Department – Cyberaware19; Camp Mabry, Austin, Texas; Title: *The Weakest Link in Cybersecurity…An Introduction to the Dangers of Social Engineering*; ~100 attendees
- June 2019; 2019 Small Business / Washington County Chamber of Commerce Conference; Brenham, Texas; Title: *Cybersecurity for Small Business (and Manufacturing too!)*; ~100 attendees
- February 2019; 38th Annual Conference on Appraisal District Administration; Austin, Texas; Title: *What Everyone Ought to Know About Small Business's Biggest Cybersecurity Concerns Today*; ~500 attendees
- April 2018; 28th Annual Texas Land Markets Outlook Conference; San Antonio, Texas; Title: *Data Breaches, Hackers, Infiltration – Oh my, I'm Just a Small Business Owner!* ; ~500 attendees
- February 2018; TAGITM Texas Association of Governmental Information Technology Managers; San Antonio, Texas; Title: *The Weakest Link in Cybersecurity; ~50 attendees*
- June 2017; Additive Manufacturing & Advanced Materials Workshop; Houston, Texas; Title: *What Everyone Ought to Know About Manufacturing's Biggest Cybersecurity Concerns Today*; ~100 attendees
- February 2017; Houstex Conference; Houston, Texas; Title: *What Everyone Ought to Know About Manufacturing's Biggest Cybersecurity Concerns Today*; ~300 attendees
- November 2016; Governor's Small Business Forum & Texas Forest Country Economic Summit, Lufkin, Texas; Title: *Don't Go Under! Surviving a Cyber Attack; ~250 attendees*
- August 2016; Government Procurement Conference 2016; Fort Worth, Texas; Title: *Cybersecurity – Vulnerability and Assessment*; ~250 attendees

- July 2016; 3rd Annual Bay Area Emergency Managers Conference (BAEM); San Francisco, California; Title: *Resilience After a Cybersecurity Attack – Implementing a Prudent Cybersecurity Emergency Management Program*; ~300 attendees
- June 2016; Software Developer's Cartel – AdventGX; Bryan, Texas; Title: *The Anatomy of Ransomware – Insider's Look into an Exploit*; ~75 attendees
- June 2016; Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC) 2016 Mid-Year Conference; Plano, Texas; Title: *The Economic Impact of Not Implementing a Prudent Cybersecurity Program*; ~250 attendees

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- August 23, 2021; Interviewed by Brittany Defran, KHRD25, Bryan, Texas; **Texas A&M's Cybersecurity Center offers high school students a unique opportunity** https://www.kxxv.com/brazos/texas-a-ms-cybersecurity-center-offers-high-school-students-a-unique-opportunity
- August 3, 2021; Interviewed by Caitlin Clark, Texas A&M University Division of Marketing & Communications, College Station, Texas; **High School Students Learn Cybersecurity Basics at Texas A&M Camp** https://today.tamu.edu/2021/08/03/high-school-students-learn-cybersecurity-basics-at-texas-am-camp/ https://vimeo.com/582623836
- November 12, 2019; Interviewed by Julia Potts, The Battalion, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas; **A&M student loses thousands of dollars to Social Security scam** http://www.thebatt.com/news/a-m-student-loses-thousands-of-dollars-to-social-security/article_76d0abc4-05c0-11ea-939f-4ff828dc17e3.html
- July 30, 2019; Interviewed by Haley Vyrostek, KBTX; **Local pilot, cybersecurity expert weighs in on national small plane hacking alert** https://www.kbtx.com/content/news/Local-pilot-cybersecurity-expert-weighs-in-on-national-small-plane-hacking-alert-513423261.html
- June 15, 2019; Interviewed by Rebecca Fiedler, The Eagle, Bryan, Texas; **TEEX camp teaches students about programming, tech** https://www.theeagle.com/news/local/teex-camp-teaches-students-about-programming-tech/article_4fd4bc7a-8f20-11e9-a236-67afff58377a.html
- January 16, 2019; Interviewed by Kathleen Witte, KBTX; **Keeping cyber-secure as Aggieland welcomes students back to town** https://www.kbtx.com/content/news/Keeping-cyber-secure-as-Aggieland-welcomes-students-back-to-town-504450951.html
- November 5, 2018; Interviewed by Kenny Wiley, The Eagle, Bryan, Texas; **Honoring Our Veterans: The Romero Family** https://www.theeagle.com/news/local/honoring-our-veterans-the-romero-family/article_400f1fbe-7bc3-5175-a588-ae933a239ebe.html
- August 21, 2018; Interviewed by Kerrie Hall, KAGS, Bryan, Texas; **TEEX technology expert speaks on 3D-printed guns** https://www.kagstv.com/article/news/local/teex-technology-expert-speaks-on-3d-printed-guns/499-586360199
- August 15, 2018; Interviewed by Kerrie Hall, KAGS, Bryan, Texas; **TEEX Cyber Innovation Camp** https://www.kagstv.com/video/news/teex-cyber-innovation-camp/499-8221182
- August 15, 2018; Interviewed by Kerrie Hall, KAGS, Bryan, Texas; **TEEX Cyber Innovation camp provides hands-on stem training** https://www.kagstv.com/article/news/local/teex-cyber-innovation-camp-provides-hands-on-stem-training/499-584421301
- August 2, 2018; Interviewed by Chelsea Katz, The Eagle, Bryan, Texas; **TEEX Cyber Innovation Camp lets students delve into programming** https://www.theeagle.com/news/local/teex-cyber-innovation-camp-lets-students-delve-into-programming/article_f831677e-68dd-562e-b663-75ba54e55a80.html

- June 12, 2018; Interviewed by Noelle Bellows, KBTX, Bryan, Texas; **Blinn College and TEEX help small businesses protect against cyberattacks** https://www.kbtx.com/content/news/Blinn-College-and-TEEX-offer-class-to-help-small-businesses-protect-against-cyberattacks-485237791.html
- June 10, 2018; Interviewed by staff reporter, The Eagle, Bryan, Texas; Blinn, **TEEX offering cybersecurity course on June 22** https://www.theeagle.com/news/local/blinn-teex-offering-cybersecurity-course-on-june/article_568e2c3e-63a5-5198-b523-f6d0df1a802a.html
- June 4, 2018; Interviewed by Whitney Miller, KBTX, Bryan, Texas; **New course aims to protect small business from cyber attack** https://www.kbtx.com/content/news/New-course-aims-to-protect-small-business-from-cyber-attack-484541691.html
- November 25, 2014; Interviewed by David Norris, KBTX, Bryan, Texas; **Hacker Steals Password, Nearly Swipes $20K from College Station Woman** https://www.kbtx.com/home/headlines/Hacker-Steals-Password-Nearly-Swipes-20K-from-College-Station-Woman-283904461.html

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Texas A&M School of Law, Fort Worth, Texas   March 2025 – Present
Adjunct Professor of Law
- Teaching LAW 623 – Digital Forensics with a focus on legal implications, investigative methodologies, and case law considerations. Providing real-world examples of cybersecurity incidents and forensic investigations in legal contexts.

Texas A&M Cybersecurity Center   June 2018 – Present
Program Director, Outreach and Professional Continuing Education
Program Director, Virtual Institutes for Cyber and Electromagnetic Spectrum Research and Employ (V.I.C.E.R.O.Y)
Visiting Lecturer, Department of Multidisciplinary Engineering
Visiting Lecturer, Forensics and Investigative Sciences Program
- Responsible for operations and assisting in proposal preparation, staffing, and budgeting
- Perform outreach/education with cybersecurity presentations, training, and workforce development
- Mentor and coach undergraduate and graduate students to become successful leaders
- Program Director for Virtual Institutes for Cyber and Electromagnetic Spectrum Research and Employ (VICEROY)
- Cybersecurity instructor and curriculum developer
- Promote and manage the Texas Cyber Range (TxCR)
- Curriculum development and instruction for applied academic courses
- Teaching Foundations of Cybersecurity for the MTDE Department
- Teaching Digital Forensics and Incident Response for the FIVS Program
- TAMUS Lead for the following cybersecurity industry certification academies: Red Hat Academy; Cisco Academy; Palo Alto Academy; AWS Academy
- TAMUS Lead for the following cybersecurity industry certification partnerships: CompTIA; EC-Council; ISACA

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)   January 2013 – January 2020
Training Instructor for the National Emergency Response and Recovery Training Center (NERRTC)
- Cybersecurity instructor for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) funded training
- Engaged in outreach for cyber enterprise initiatives by providing leadership, mentorship, and technical expertise

Program Director for the Knowledge Engineering Center (KEC)
◆ Responsible for the direction of the Knowledge Engineering Center, including new product development, marketing, sales, proposal preparation, staffing, and budgeting
◆ Generated $1 million in revenue annually
◆ Managed development team and overall vision of all products and product research development
◆ Assigned to the TEEX Leadership Development team, which establishes and trains agency leaders

NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Embedded Coordinator
◆ Responsible for working with the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC) to help small and medium-sized manufacturers understand Smart Manufacturing
◆ Assisted TMAC in developing a Center of Excellence for Smart Manufacturing
◆ Developed and delivered "Train the Trainer" curriculum for the TMAC COE members

Texas A&M University System (TAMUS)   March 2009 – January 2013
(Enterprise Software Initiatives)
Senior Lead Software Developer
◆ Developed, designed, and deployed enterprise applications for the System (TAMUS Employee Learning Management System (LMS): TrainTraq; Time & Effort; Policy & Regulations)
◆ Managed projects, mentored, and supervised teams as senior lead for junior developers. Used the latest Agile Development methods (Scrum) for task management and deployment schedules
◆ Technology: .net (3.5/4.0); Web Forms; MVC (3.0); SSRS; SSIS; Team Foundation Services (TFS)

Intellamed, Inc., Bryan, Texas   June 2000 – March 2009
(Sterilblue.com; AuctionMart.com, MedRFP.com)
Vice President of Operations
◆ Responsible for all operations, including process management, customer care, strategic planning, and warehouse centers in Bryan, TX, and St. Louis, MO. Managed team to create from scratch call-center calling scripts, operating procedures, and manuals for call center and warehouse management

Director of Software Development
◆ Designed, developed, and deployed e-commerce applications for all Intellamed product lines (Apache HTTP Server, Apache Tomcat, PHP, Microsoft SQL, MySQL, Firebird Database)
◆ Managed, designed, and developed a Clinical Engineering Management portal, Service2, which allowed our hospital equipment service technicians to communicate and manage assets

Viatel, Inc. (Destia Communications/Econophone), Bryan, Texas   November 1998 – June 2000
Application Development Manager
◆ Managed a web team and GUI team; designed and developed several proprietary global customer service applications utilizing 3-tier for more than 300 users spanning over 8 different locations

March 1997 – November 1998

Fields Financial Services, Inc., Bryan, Texas
Senior Object-Oriented/GUI Developer

Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Huntsville, Texas   May 1996 - March 1997
ADP Programmer II

Department of Computer Science / Department of Geology,   June 1995 - May 1996
Texas A&M, College Station, Texas   August 1994 - December 1994
Teaching Assistant/Grader and GIS Technician

MILITARY EXPERIENCE

United States Air Force, Active Duty, Minot Air Force Base, Minot, North Dakota
August 1986 - January 1990 (Job: **Electronic Warfare Technician**)
➢ Promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant (E-6) and supervised technicians in Electronic Warfare Shop
➢ Air Force Achievement Medal and Honorable Discharge
➢ Maintained, modified, and repaired electronic radar jamming systems

Texas Air National Guard, Ellington Field, Houston, Texas
August 1990 - October 1993 (Job: **Disaster Preparedness Instructor/Trainer**)
➢ Instructed and trained base personnel for chemical, biological, and nuclear defense

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

➢ Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) Member, San Francisco, CA
➢ International Professionals Association (IPA), Hilton Head, South Carolina
➢ National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) MEP Network for Cybersecurity
➢ Red Hat Academy (Division of IBM) Advisory Board Member, Raleigh, North Carolina
➢ Women's Society of Cyberjutsu (Associate member), Arlington, Virginia
➢ ISACA, Professional Membership, North Texas Chapter (ISACA NTX)
➢ Brazos Valley Cybersecurity Work Group (BVCWG), Bryan, Texas
➢ Blinn College – Computer Information Technology (CIT) Advisory Committee
➢ College Station Independent School District – Career and Technical Education Committee
➢ Bryan Independent School District – Career and Technical Education Committee
➢ Brazos Valley Project Managers, Bryan, Texas
➢ Software Developers Cartel, Bryan, Texas
➢ Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) LIFETIME member, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
➢ Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), Frederick, Maryland
➢ Scouting BSA, Sam Houston Area Council
➢ Girls Who Code, Regional Facilitator
➢ FIRST LEGO League, Jr. Lead Coach, Mentor
➢ American Legion, Post 159
➢ InfraGard, Houston Chapter
➢ National Cryptologic Museum Foundation, Fort Meade, Maryland (Member)

HONORS / AWARDS

➢ Red Hat (Linux); Division of IBM; Academic Advisory Board | Advisor of the Year: 2022
➢ Texas Military Department (TMD) Certificate of Appreciation: 2019
➢ Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) STAR award: 2017, 2019
➢ Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Excellence in Innovation: 2013
➢ Blinn Distinguished Student & President's Scholar: 1993