

DERRICK BRYANT

Staff Engineer · AI Platform & Developer Enablement

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SUMMARY

Staff-level engineer with **18 years** building the platforms, CI/CD pipelines, and cross-team practices that let engineering organizations ship faster and more safely. I come into an org, set the architecture for new applications, and **bring agentic development practices into engineering teams** — standing up the tooling, guardrails, and evaluation practices that let whole teams build reliably with AI agents. At CareJourney I took deployments from monthly, high-risk events to **multiple routine deploys per day** and shipped **AI-powered internal tools on Amazon Bedrock** in a HIPAA-compliant environment. As a private pilot, I bring an aviation standard to software: design for failure, reduce cognitive load, and build systems people actually trust.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Agentic AI & LLMs: Agentic dev workflows (Claude Code, Cursor), LLM integration, Amazon Bedrock, evaluations/evals, prompt & context engineering, multi-agent orchestration

Platform & DevEx: Internal developer platforms, developer enablement, paved-path tooling, CI/CD (GitHub Actions, CircleCI, TeamCity), GitOps, Continuous Delivery

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS (EKS, Lambda, CDK, API Gateway, CloudFront), Azure, GCP, Terraform, AWS CDK, Serverless Framework, Docker, Kubernetes

Practices: Software architecture, shift-left security & testing, observability, cost optimization, HIPAA compliance, cross-team technical leadership

Languages: Python, Bash, Node.js, React, Git

EXPERIENCE

Senior Staff Engineer — AI Platform & Developer Enablement

Mar 2023 – Sep 2025

CareJourney by Arcadia

Washington, DC

- **Drove early agentic AI adoption** across engineering — hands-on with **Cursor (2024) and ChatGPT** ahead of mainstream uptake — identifying high-value workflows and bringing AI-assisted development into everyday engineering practice.
- **Built an AI classifier that triaged failures proactively** — categorizing each error, routing it to the right engineer, and including AI-suggested next steps in the Slack alert to orient them. Often surfaced and resolved issues before users were affected; roadmapped to auto-generate fixes and update code for new dependency versions.
- **Led a cross-team POC using GPT-3.5 to generate SQL from natural language**, giving non-engineers self-service access to the data they needed without waiting on engineering.
- **Led modernization of cloud delivery**, taking deployments from monthly, high-risk releases to **multiple routine deploys per day** — building the pipelines, observability, and guardrails that made high-frequency releases safe.
- **Architected and shipped AI-powered internal developer tools on Amazon Bedrock**, automating monitoring, compliance, and engineering workflows to speed incident response and reduce manual review.
- **Drove a company-wide shift-left initiative**, embedding security, compliance, and testing earlier in the lifecycle to cut late-stage surprises and rollbacks.
- **Set architecture for new applications** and served as cross-team technical lead — the go-to for the hardest architecture and reliability problems, in a HIPAA-compliant environment.
- **Stack:** AWS (EKS, Lambda, CDK, API Gateway, CloudFront), Amazon Bedrock, Kubernetes, Terraform, Serverless Framework, CircleCI, Python, Node.js, React.

Senior Cloud & DevOps Engineer

Sep 2021 – Feb 2023

CareJourney by Arcadia

Washington, DC

- **Built the CI/CD and IaC foundation** (Terraform, CDK, AWS) that later enabled multiple-deploys-per-day, standardizing how teams shipped to production.
- **Partnered across engineering and security** to make compliance automatic rather than a release-time bottleneck.

Cloud & DevOps Engineering Leader

Jan 2016 – Jun 2021

Datometry

Washington, DC (Remote)

- **Worked across engineering, product, and customer teams** to design and implement cloud engineering efforts across AWS, Azure, and GCP for multiple enterprise-grade SaaS products — educating, negotiating, and prioritizing to get changes adopted.
- **Architected cloud infrastructure** for enterprise products with unique requirements; drove cloud-cost management that produced significant, sustained savings.
- **Optimized testing frameworks and product observability**, measurably improving developer productivity and cutting customer-issue troubleshooting time.

DevOps Team Lead

Oct 2013 – Sep 2015

Millennial Media

Washington, DC

- **Led the DevOps team**, coordinating efforts and negotiating requirements with the Director and cross-functional scrum teams.
- **Directed automation tooling** for testing and deployment of a highly available digital ad service, improving release speed and feature completion through efficient CI/CD practices.
- **Delivered self-service tools** that enhanced visibility and empowered development teams.

DevOps Engineer

May 2012 – Oct 2013

Library of Congress

Washington, DC

- Managed the development environment behind software for the Library's massive digital collection; automated Linux infrastructure (Ubuntu/Red Hat) with Chef, releasing custom cookbooks as open source.
- Built custom Python/Django tools to streamline developer workflows and established team policies for government compliance.

Earlier: Systems Administrator, Driven Inc. (2011–2012) · Systems Engineer, Cooper Notification (2009–2011) · Systems Administrator, Symplicity Corp. (2008–2009). Deep infrastructure foundation — virtualization, storage, monitoring, and high-availability systems.

PROJECTS

Mealr — Agentic AI recipe platform

github.com/dbryant4/mealr-case-study

Personal project · Sole architect & builder

- **Conversational RAG over personal data** — Amazon Bedrock Converse + Knowledge Base (Claude Sonnet 4.6), retrieval scoped per user, with grounded, validated citations (no hallucinated sources).
- **Vector search & document-AI pipeline** — Amazon S3 Vectors knowledge base; an event-driven Step Functions + EventBridge pipeline turns scanned recipe PDFs into structured JSON.
- **Full serverless platform** — eight independently deployed services with Cognito OIDC/MFA, AWS CDK (IaC), OpenAPI, pytest, and a React/TypeScript SPA. Designed and built end to end.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

B.S., Computer Science — University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2007

Certifications: AWS Solutions Architect – Associate · Private Pilot Certificate