Clinton (CJ) Steiner

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Professional Experience

Apple — *Software Engineer – Marcom Engineering, DevOps/SRE & Back End* Austin, TX May 2026 – Present

- SRE and back-end engineering for Apple Marketing Communications, owning reliability, scalability, and deployment of services supporting apple.com and Apple's global marketing web properties.
- Built CloudEvents-based integrations for cloud event workflows across marketing systems, improving traceability and reliability for asynchronous event processing.
- Developed Go services and Kubernetes deployment automation for production releases, enabling repeatable rollouts and low-risk operations at scale.
- Shipped AI-assisted release review and PR-review automation: event-driven workflows ran specialized skills on pull requests, while an on-call bot triaged issues and improved response times.

Cboe Global Markets — *Senior Software Engineer – Build & Release Management* Lenexa, KS April 2022 – May 2026

- Owned end-to-end CI/CD pipeline architecture delivering 300+ software artifacts per week across production and certification environments to 31 global exchanges – ensuring weekly releases to mission-critical financial systems with zero customer impact and full SOX audit compliance.
- Led AI adoption across the DevOps lifecycle: deployed intelligent automation for build orchestration, release workflows, and status reporting; recognized with Cboe AI Olympics Silver Medal (54 competing entries) for AI-driven tooling embedded in production pipelines.
- Replaced Artifactory ($400k/year, 4 Mbps throughput) with custom Python/S3 artifact service – reduced cost to $12k/year, increased delivery speed to 380 Mbps (95× improvement), and cut pipeline execution time by 40%, with no disruption to existing consumers.
- Lead engineer for a 30–200 node Jenkins cluster running hundreds of jobs per day; maintained high availability by root-causing and resolving infrastructure failures (firewall rules, permissions, package upgrades, shared object changes) within SLA across Linux environments.
- Developed Python utilities, testing tools, and observability dashboards giving engineers real-time visibility into build, test, and release status – enabling rapid recovery and confident high-frequency delivery across a globally distributed exchange platform.
- Drove major platform upgrades with zero customer impact: Red Hat Linux 7→9, PostgreSQL 9→17, Java 11→21, Python 3.8→3.13, HashiCorp Vault rollout, and Database-to-Kafka streaming migration – coordinating across engineering teams and non-stakeholder groups to maintain uptime throughout.
- *Awards:* AI Olympics Silver Medal (54 entries), 2024 Ethics & Compliance Award.

Spark Change LLC — *Software Engineer* Kansas City, MO Nov. 2020 – April 2022

- Lead engineer for 2 of 8 clients, directly interfacing with customers to design custom workflows reducing manual touches for billing and medical staff. Provided live scripting during on-site go-lives, working with CFOs and billing staff to release only claims with verified logic – impacting millions of dollars in revenue.
- Sole engineer for custom Cerner claim-rollup logic; built semi-automated testing, CI, and client review processes to protect a system where errors could halt claim generation and delay cashflow for weeks.
- Automated insurance vendor API integrations and Soarian workflows via SQL and Python, saving clients 600 hours/year of manual processing ($600k annually). Built and delivered daily revenue cycle reports via crontab/Python to all hospital billing staff.
- Saved 250 hours/hospital per year by automating provider credential validation with automated flagging and resolution of discrepancies.

Intrust Bank — *Database Administrator* Wichita, KS June 2020 – Nov. 2020

- Administered 80 MSSQL servers performing upgrades, backups, index tuning, and security group design.

Burns & McDonnell — *Engineering Intern* Kansas City, MO Summers 2018, 2019

- Created utility incorporating department staffing and historical project data to auto-generate project bids. Utility still in use today.
- Automated manual database export and equipment completeness reporting, replacing Excel-based counting and identifying schedule-risk equipment. Saved $3.2k in engineering hours per project.

Education

Kansas State University — *Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering* Manhattan, KS 2016 – 2020

Projects

Open Source | *Python, Docker, Bash* May 2018 – Present

- Maintainer: jenkinsapi (Python); contributor to various open source projects
- CPython contributor: gh-142889 – Improve layout of dictionary keys (memory layout optimization for `_dictkeysobject`, +167/-80 across 11 files, under review by core developers)

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, Go, SQL, Groovy, Java, Bash, XSLT, Lua, AHK, VBA
CI/CD & Build Tools: Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Maven, CMake, Incredibuild, Pantsbuild, UV, npm, Docker, Podman, Kubernetes, Git
Infrastructure & Data: PostgreSQL, Snowflake, Kafka, Kudu, NiFi, AWS S3, HashiCorp Vault, Prometheus, Grafana, SQL Server, Active Directory, Entra ID, Red Hat Linux
AI & Automation: Claude Code, LLM-integrated pipeline tooling, agentic workflow automation
Leadership/Volunteering: *Volunteer* – Habitat for Humanity, *Lector* – Our Lady of Lourdes, *President* – Engineering Ambassadors, *Technology Director* – Student Governing Association, *President* – Mech. Engg. Student Advisory Council
Certifications: Securities Industry Essentials, Fundamentals of Engineering, ENV SP