



Christopher George Ipsen
Assistant Vice President - IT & Chief Information Officer
Desert Research Institute, Division of Administration

Education and Relevant Training

B.A., Political Science, University of Nevada, Reno, NV, 1995

Certifications:

- ISC 2 Information System Security Architect Professional (ISSAP)
- ISC 2 Certified Information Security Professional (CISSP)
- ISACA Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)
- Cisco Certified Academy Instructor
- Security Clearance Level – Secret

Research and Professional Experience

2015 - Present Assistant Vice President, Information Technology & Chief Information Officer for the NSHE, Desert Research Institute, Reno, NV.

- Honored multiple times with industry awards including SC Magazine’s “CSO of the Year” (2015), Information Security Magazine’s “Security 7 Award” as the top Information Security Professional-Government Sector (2012), Government InfoSec.com – “Top Ten Most Influential Government Cyber Security Professionals” (2013); Vanguard Security Presidents Award – Professional of the Year (2012).

2008 - 2015 Chief Information Security Officer, Chief IT Manager, State of Nevada, Carson City, NV.

- Provide direction and leadership to a team of 12 full-time IT Managers and IT Professionals, and 20 indirect Information Security officers; set statewide IT policy; design, implement, and maintain enterprise IT systems.
- Served on several high-profile state and national committees (listed on page 2) including head of Office of Information Security; respected as a subject-matter expert to determine statewide strategy for resolving IT and cyber security issues.
- Demonstrated deep collaboration with state agencies and engage business leaders to identify issues, approach problems from a business centric perspective, and develop secure solutions that meet user needs.
- Effectively manage a \$2.2 million annual budget; achieved total documented savings of \$2.5 million over 4 years for the State of Nevada.
- Worked with U.S. Sen. Reid, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and NIST setting national cyber standards, conducted a meeting at the White House Situation Room for National Security Staff and presented a briefing at CIA HQ in Langley, VA.
- Served an integral role in introducing 4 pieces of legislation within the State of Nevada including creation of a cyber center, data encryption, and empowering the state to resolve cyber threats with sub categories of testing and monitoring.

2006 - 2008 Chief Enterprise Architect, Master IT Professional 2, State of Nevada, Carson City, NV.

- Led a range of key initiatives including development of statewide policy around virtualization, Services Oriented Architectures (SOA), storage area network, disaster recovery, and system

Integration strategies.

- Developed statewide standards on virtualization and high availability solutions, and drove standards based design.
- Invited to speak at National Association of State CIOs (NASCIO) 2006 and 2007 annual conferences on IT strategies for managing identities securely and system architecture in enterprise, and 2006 and 2007 Oracle OpenWorld .
- Developed customer satisfaction methodologies and engaged user groups to evaluate effectiveness of applications and key enterprise systems.

2001 – 2006 Senior Network Engineer, Computer Network Specialist III, State of Nevada, Carson City, NV

- Built a fully redundant, high-availability virtual storage area network to support applications within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) which included a statewide electronic disease surveillance system, public health information network, birth registry, and death registry.
- Performed multiple information technology and security initiatives, including global firewall, router, and switch design.
- Pioneered development and implementation of Nevada’s virtualized Electronic Disease Surveillance System, becoming the first state to be certified for such by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- Awarded Best of the Web Award, Center for Digital Government, *Virtualized Storage Area Network Design*, 2006.

2001 – 2004 Instructor, Cisco Network Academy, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno, NV

- Instructed 10 credits per semester, assisted students in building labs and understanding communications protocols; awarded TMCC “Instructor-of-the-Year” in 2003.

Appointments and Memberships

- Nevada State Commission on Homeland Security (Governor Sandoval Chair)
- Nevada Public Safety Communications Steering Committee
- Nevada Technological Crime Advisory Board (Attorney General Cortez Masto Chair)
- Nevada Cyber Security Committee (Chair)
- RSA Conference Committee

Relevant Publications

1. Capitals in the Clouds: The Case for Cloud Computing in State Government, Part 2 NASCIO (April 2011)
2. Data Governance – Managing Information As An Enterprise Asset: Part 1 – An Introduction NASCIO (April 2008)
3. Transforming Government Through Change Management: The Role of the State CIO – NASCIO (April 2007)
4. Security, Training, and Education – IEEE Security and Privacy Journal (Mar/April 2012)
5. Brookings Institute Report on Economic Development of Nevada (2012)

Synergistic Activities

2015	SC Magazine Chief Security Officer of the Year
2012	Gov Info Sec “Top 10 Most Influential in Cyber Security”
2010	IS Magazine Security 7 Award (Government)
2007 – Present	Commissioner - Nevada State Homeland Security Commission
2008 – Present	RSA Security Conference Selection Committee Member