



Melissa Itrace, ISRM, IA, CNMT

Managing Director of Professional Consulting Services & Research

In 2016, Melissa first became affiliated with CBA as project manager for her CAPSTONE project through University of Washington, working on a tool for long-string authentication with a team from CBA. The product of the project was a presentation and a White Paper submitted to DHS. After this time, Melissa was brought on with CBA as a consultant for research and analysis. She has conducted research on multiple enterprises, their subsidiaries, and their products to determine where vulnerabilities are, and to determine what critical assets need protection. She has analyzed and given guidance on multiple areas of cybersecurity, to include security program guidelines, and risk mitigation techniques. Melissa was soon promoted to Manager of Research and Analysis within a few months' time. She took on the task of restructuring Global Business Resources (GBR) website, the non-profit side of CBA, for educating the local public and military personnel on cybersecurity. Melissa also manages CBAThink!, a think tank with our senior advisors, by conducting meetings and overseeing the development of White Papers, and other documentation. She manages CBA and GBR's social media sites, as well as CBA's blog posts and weekly news blasts, as well as prepares industry specific white papers and one-page papers that directly correlate with the CBA strategy. Recently Melissa was promoted to Managing Director of Professional Consulting Services and Research. She is responsible for tracking all consulting projects, maintaining positive relationships with clients, and facilitates/ensures communications within the team. Melissa is also a part of a team of SME's who are providing services on risk management for Boeing.

Melissa graduated University of Washington with a Master's in Cybersecurity and Leadership, and her undergraduate degree is in Nuclear Medicine from Ferris State University. Melissa has had experience in Information Assurance with a focus on Critical Infrastructure and Cyber-crime. She has created policies, developed incident response plans, conducted tabletop exercises, and provided overall risk assessments for small and medium-sized businesses while attending the University of Washington.

Melissa practiced Nuclear Medicine for multiple years in both hospitals and private practice. She has performed procedures ranging from nuclear stress tests, cancer imaging and treatment, and life-threatening illnesses to include brain death, lung

scans, and internal bleeding studies. During this time, Melissa also conducted research on isotopes and pharmaceuticals, and their impact on patient outcomes.

Melissa has many years of military experience in both the Air Force and Army. She currently was selected for a position as a Cyber Operations Officer with the 262nd Network Warfare Squadron at JBLM. She has served as a Special Forces Civil Affairs officer with responsibilities including being the liaison between the Army and civilian residents and authorities outside the U.S, facilitating relationships to help restore local government or offer assistance to the local populace, and gathering intelligence on the area and personnel in order to advise Commanders on possible threats. Melissa also served as a RECON Platoon Leader, and stand-in Commander as a Chemical officer. She was responsible for over 100 soldiers and their readiness for an active ongoing mission with a 92 hour response time for any CBRNE event in the U.S. She successfully planned the first joint-forces operation between 12 different government and civilian agencies as the RECON representative for the state, the purpose was to develop not only the tactics to maintain security, but also to expand community relationships. As an enlisted soldier in the Air Force, Melissa was a flight medic based out of Kadena, AB, Japan. She deployed to Ramstein AB, Germany and was in charge of a small team that conducted over 40 medical missions.

Current Affiliations

AGORA

ISSA

Cloud Security Alliance

ISACA

Society of Nuclear Medicine