

Joel Cedras

joel@joelcedras.dev | (062) 288-9720 | Cape Town | <https://joelcedras.dev>

WORK EXPERIENCE

GroundUp News NPC

Aug. 2024 – Present

Cybersecurity & IT Consultant / Developer

Remote

- Identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities and improvements on all systems and presented it to the client with resolutions.
- Developed and tested numerous features on their news platform, as well as two special, custom coded news feature pieces.
 - **Stack:** JavaScript (Django); Python (Django); Linux (Ubuntu); Nginx; HTML/CSS
- Conducted and managed the upgrading process of all Linux systems, and migrations to Cloudflare.
- Migrated the organization to Google Workspace, and set up permissions and accounts tailored to user needs.
- Detected and mitigated a denial-of-service (DoS) attack by securing and patching affected servers and implementing measures to prevent recurrence
 - Investigated the incident, identified the attacker, and produced a technical report outlining findings and remediation steps

Capitec Bank

Dec. 2025 – Jan. 2026

Intern: Fraud Prevention and Detection

Stellenbosch

- Investigated and analysed potentially fraudulent activity within the bank's financial systems and transaction environments
- Utilised SQL queries, Power BI, and data analysis techniques to identify anomalous account behaviour, suspicious transaction patterns, and high-risk entities
- Conducted trend analysis and behavioural profiling to detect emerging fraud patterns and support proactive risk mitigation
- Compiled detailed investigative reports containing client information, transactional evidence, and fraud indicators for internal stakeholders
- Assisted in uncovering large-scale fraudulent activity through data correlation, anomaly detection, and account linkage analysis

Capitec Bank

June 2025 – July 2025

Intern: Cyber Security Analyst

Stellenbosch

- Worked across red team, blue team, and purple team functions to simulate, detect, and respond to cyber threats
- Conducted internal penetration testing, attempting to break out of endpoint environments and laterally move across the network
- Used tools such as Postman and Burp Suite to test APIs and identify vulnerabilities
- Discovered and reported a critical internal security vulnerability
- Analysed blue team alerts and logs to investigate potential threats and improve detection capabilities
- Identified a security flaw allowing unauthorized downloading of email attachments to personal devices
- Collaborated across teams to strengthen overall security posture and response strategies

Capitec Bank

Dec. 2024 – Jan. 2025

Intern: Forensics Monitoring and Operations

Stellenbosch

- Identified and analysed financial fraud, and presented ways to combat it.
- Identified and monitored patterns in fraud, and conducted extensive intelligence using social media, and graph databases (**GraphQL**; **Memgraph**).
- Employed cybersecurity techniques to automate fraud detection and produced information to aid in taking down fraudulent sites.
- Automated tedious tasks to speed up mass identification of fraudulent activity and falsified information.

Digifend (Pty) Ltd. (digifend.com)**Jul. 2023 – Present***Self Employed**Cape Town*

- Developed and designed websites for small businesses, nonprofit organizations, and sole proprietorships.
 - Hosting of sites; setting up of domains and DNS; managing of servers; setting up email servers
- Configured and deployed physical computers and workstations for clients, tailoring hardware, software, and system settings to meet their specific needs
- Designed graphics for businesses and nonprofit organizations.
 - Posters, PowerPoints, Billboards, Social Media Posts, Hero Images.

DR Sports & Development NPC**Jun. 2023 – Jan. 2026***Head of Information Technology**Cape Town*

- Responsible for implementing and managing all aspects of IT – website, hosting, Azure, Microsoft 365, internal software.
 - **Microsoft 365:** Setup the organization's emails, storage, permissions, and security settings, and helped users migrate.
 - **Microsoft Azure:** Setup various virtual private servers for hosting purposes, and managed DNS records.
 - **Website:** Designed and developed the organization's website – included meetings with stakeholders, refinements, and continuous maintenance.
 - **Internal Software:** Developed HR software and deployed internally; setup and deployed various third-party software solutions as well, including DocuSeal, Canva for Nonprofits, Salesforce, SendGrid, and more.
- Regular maintenance of various aspects of IT; meetings with stakeholders and team for constant improvement.

EDUCATION**Stellenbosch University****Feb. 2024 – Dec. 2026***BSc Computer Science, majoring in Computer Science and minor in Economics**Stellenbosch*

- **1st year Cum Laude**

Protea Heights Academy**Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2023***National Senior Certificate, 88% average – 6 distinctions**Cape Town*

- **Honours:** Academics, Economics
- **South African Reserve Bank MPC Schools Challenge:** Team Governor & Finalist
- **Academic Awards:** Information Technology – 3x; Economics – 2x; Special Merit – 2x.
- **Placements:** Top 5 overall; 1st – Information Technology; 1st - Economics

CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS & INTERESTS

- **Certifications:** Digital Body Language; Using Basic Formulas and Functions in Microsoft Excel; Build a free website with WordPress
- **Technologies:** Microsoft Office Suite; Microsoft Azure; Google Workspace; Delphi (Pascal); Java; Python; HTML/CSS; JavaScript; WordPress; Linux; BurpSuite; WireShark
- **Skills:** Software Development; Website Development; Linux Server Administration; Microsoft Azure / 365 Administration; Cybersecurity; Microsoft Office Proficient; English & Afrikaans speaking
- **Interests:** Online gaming; Camping; Hiking; Programming; Podcasts

MEDIA / NEWS ARTICLES

- [“The huge security flaw exposed in South Africa’s financial systems”](#), MyBroadband
- [“Meet Joel and Veer – duo behind the SASSA fraud exposure”](#), Stellenbosch University
- [“We discovered massive fraud in SASSA’s grant system”](#), GroundUp News
- [“New bank takes swift action after GroundUp alerts it to data breach”](#), GroundUp News
- [“Exposing a syndicate – by getting scammed”](#), GroundUp News
- [“The state says its computer systems are secure. We looked. They’re not”](#), GroundUp News