Harriet Okonkwo-Salazar

Senior Product Engineer

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SUMMARY

Senior product engineer with 11 years shipping developer-facing infrastructure across billing, auth and observability. Strong track record of reducing oncall load and turning ambiguous product requirements into durable, well-tested systems. Enjoys mentoring, API design and boring, reliable software.

EXPERIENCE

Staff Product Engineer
Northline Studios
February 2023 — Present
Seattle, WA (remote)

- Led the migration of the billing platform from a monolithic Rails service to a modular Cloudflare Workers + D1 architecture, cutting p99 checkout latency from 820ms to 140ms and halving infrastructure spend.
- Designed and shipped the customer-facing metered-usage API (PDF renders, API credits, storage) used by 4,200+ paying teams, with idempotent writes and exactly-once invoice reconciliation.
- Rebuilt the oncall rotation tooling and paging taxonomy, reducing out-of-hours pages by 62% over two quarters without regressing MTTR.
- Mentored four engineers through the senior promotion pipeline; three promoted within 18 months.

Senior Software Engineer — Platform
Cascadia Federal Credit Union
August 2019 — January 2023
Seattle, WA

- Led the re-architecture of the member authentication stack to a zero-trust, device-bound model, reducing account-takeover incidents by 88% year over year.
- Owned the observability platform (metrics, logs, traces) across 140+ services; introduced service-level objectives tooling adopted by every product team.
- Represented engineering on the quarterly compliance review board, partnering with risk and legal on SOX and PCI-DSS controls.

Software Engineer
Pagliacci Software
June 2016 — July 2019
Portland, OR

- Shipped the point-of-sale integration platform used across 280+ retail locations, handling 1.4M transactions per day at peak.
- Built the first generation of the company's public REST API, including rate limiting, key rotation and developer portal documentation.
- Reduced end-to-end test flake from 22% to <1% by rewriting the fixture layer on top of deterministic seed data.

Junior Developer
Elliott Bay Digital
September 2014 — May 2016
Seattle, WA

- Implemented the bookstore's e-commerce storefront and inventory sync against a legacy SOAP warehouse system.

- Co-authored the content-management pipeline that powered the staff-recommendations section on the homepage.

SKILLS

Languages
TypeScript
Go
Python
Rust (working knowledge)
SQL

Platforms
Cloudflare Workers
AWS
PostgreSQL
D1 / SQLite
Redis
Kafka

Practice
API design
Observability
Incident response
Technical writing
Mentorship

EDUCATION

University of Washington *2010 — 2014*
B.S. Computer Science, magna cum laude *Seattle, WA*
Focus on distributed systems and programming languages. Undergraduate research assistant in the PLSE lab.

The Cascadia Institute of Design Leadership *2024 — 2025*
Certificate, Advanced Practice in Systems Design *Seattle, WA*
With distinction.

LANGUAGES

English	*Native*
Spanish	*Professional working*
Igbo	*Conversational*

CERTIFICATIONS

AWS Solutions Architect — Associate
Amazon Web Services · 2022

Certified Kubernetes Administrator
CNCF · 2021

SELECTED PROJECTS

makesPDF *Creator & maintainer*
github.com/makesPDF
Open-source deterministic PDF layout engine and hosted API. 4k+ GitHub stars; used in production by several YC-backed teams.

oncall-tax *Co-author*
github.com/harriet-os/oncall-tax
CLI that quantifies the hidden cost of interruption-driven work across an engineering organisation.