BRENDA PAULA

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SUMMARY

Strategic Security Compliance and IAM Domain Advisor with 7+ years of experience scaling governance frameworks, evaluating technical infrastructure, and driving risk management across premier hedge fund, investment banking, and digital asset environments. Proven track record of leading Second Line of Defense (2LoD) advisory, executing AI-first compliance workflows, and automating identity lifecycles to eliminate operational bottlenecks. Adept at partnering across IAM, Data AI Security, Privacy, and Engineering teams to translate complex regulatory obligations into executive risk narratives and scalable security controls.

EXPERIENCE

Coinbase | *Domain Advisor, Information Security Compliance* *October 2025 – Present*

- Lead 2LoD advisory coverage for the enterprise IAM domain, executing AI-first workflows (leveraging Claude Code) to drive system scoping, policy-to-control mapping, control gap assessments, and quarterly program maturity reviews.
- Evaluate and challenge security postures across internal infrastructure proposals and technical design documents (TDDs), embedding scalable access controls and compliance requirements directly into the engineering lifecycle.
- Slashed the compliance exceptions backlog by ~67% after spearheading a root-cause trend analysis that exposed overly broad control parameters; authored and deployed a new workforce categorization standard alongside recalibrated access policies to eliminate BAU noise and reflect true risk posture.
- Directed a cross-functional governance initiative uniting IAM Governance, Data AI Security, Data Platform, and Privacy teams to remediate critical visibility gaps across PII data access, consolidating fragmented oversight into standardized, auditable workflows.
- Partner with engineering and security leads to intake, triage, and quantify inherent and residual risks, validating mitigation execution and synthesizing complex program risk posture analyses into clear narratives that drive executive decision-making.

Point72 | *Information Security Associate* *March 2022 – September 2025*

- Directed global Identity Governance and Administration (IGA) lifecycle operations, enforcing strict control alignment with NIST, SOC 2, GDPR, and ISO 27001 frameworks in a high-velocity hedge fund environment.
- Drove the firm-wide implementation and integration of Azure Entra ID with One Identity Active Roles, modernizing Active Directory security and tightening privileged access management.
- Engineered Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) models within SailPoint, reducing employee onboarding and offboarding provisioning times by 80% while minimizing entitlement creep.
- Automated certification audit data collection and analysis using AI-assisted tooling, consistently maintaining sub-2-day SLAs across 200+ weekly service tickets.

Jefferies | *Information Security Analyst* *March 2019 – March 2022*

- Administered identity lifecycle governance and access controls across mission-critical financial systems, maintaining strict adherence to institutional IT risk and compliance mandates.
- Designed and deployed automated provisioning workflows as the primary liaison between business stakeholders and development teams, cutting average request turnaround time by 76% (from 2.04 to 0.495 days).
- Managed annual user access certifications and authored comprehensive application runbooks, standardizing provisioning and de-provisioning operations.

SKILLS

Security & Governance: 2LoD Advisory, IT Risk & Compliance, Identity Governance & Administration (IGA), Control Design & Gap Assessments, Inherent/Residual Risk Quantification, Policy Architecture, Audit Readiness (SOX, SOC 2, ISO 27001, NIST, PCI-DSS, GDPR), Archer, Regology

IAM & Infrastructure Domains: Identity and Access Management (IAM), Role-Based Access Control (RBAC), Privileged Access Management (PAM), SailPoint, Okta, Active Directory, Azure Entra ID, One Identity Active Roles, Cloud Controls (AWS), Technical Design Reviews (TDD)

AI, Data & Automation: AI-First Workflow Design, LLM Agents (Claude Code, Codex, in-house tools), AI-Assisted Audit Analysis, Data AI Security & Privacy Governance, PII Access Controls, SQL (Database Querying & Manipulation), Snowflake, Dashboards (Splunk, Microsoft, Google), Process Automation

Strategy & Advisory: Executive Risk Posture Analysis, Cross-Functional Stakeholder Engagement, Program Maturity Scaling, Technical Writing

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University | University Park, PA

B.S. in Science, Biological Sciences and Health Professions