

Danielle Okafor-Whitman

Principal Solutions Architect | Lead Solutions Architect | Senior Systems Architect

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Principal solutions architect with 15 years designing and delivering enterprise platforms in insurance, logistics and banking. Leads architecture for multi-year cloud migrations, chairs design review boards and coaches architects across delivery teams.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal Solutions Architect

Apr 2020 — Present

Lakefront Mutual Insurance Group · Chicago, IL

- Own the target architecture for moving 140 policy, claims and billing applications to AWS, sequencing waves by dependency and risk with program leadership.
- Chair a weekly design review board that approves new solutions against published standards, using architecture decision records so reasoning survives team changes.
- Designed a multi-region claims platform with defined recovery targets, then ran failover tests that regulators and the audit committee accepted as evidence.

Lead Solutions Architect

Jan 2015 — Mar 2020

Prairie Freight Technologies · Milwaukee, WI

- Led architecture for replacing a mainframe dispatch system with containerized services and an event backbone, delivered in phases with no lost shipments at cutover.
- Ran vendor evaluations for telematics and routing platforms, scoring options on integration effort, lock-in and five-year cost before contract negotiation.
- Defined API standards and an integration gateway that let carriers and shippers connect without custom builds, cutting partner onboarding from months to weeks.

Senior Systems Architect

Aug 2010 — Dec 2014

Heartland Community Bancorp · Des Moines, IA

- Designed the online banking integration layer between core banking, card processing and fraud screening, documenting failure modes for operations.
- Produced build-versus-buy analyses for loan origination and document imaging that guided capital planning for two budget cycles.

EDUCATION

MS, Information Systems — Great Lakes Polytechnic University

2010

BS, Computer Science — Mississippi Valley College

2008

SKILLS

Technical: Enterprise solution architecture, AWS and Azure, Application modernization, Data platform design, Security and zero trust, Resilience and DR (RTO/RPO), Architecture governance, TOGAF, Vendor evaluation, Executive communication, Architect mentoring

Certifications: AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Professional · Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert · TOGAF Enterprise Architecture Practitioner