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Re: Email for July 10th, 2023

To: "Division, Criminal (CRM)" <Criminal.Division@usdoj.gov>, civil.feedback@usdoj.gov

"I'd say I'd be worth about \$20 an hour to a company."

-this is according to the requirements of jobs that are posted online. I'd qualify as a "junior php developer", with what I could put on paper. This is actually kind of stupid, and the corporate working world seems to be stupid in general in this same sense.

I am a badass software developer. I'm in the top 20% easily. Probably better than that. There is a lot that I don't know, in terms of frameworks and things like this, but those can be taught. Creativity for the most part cannot be taught. Nor can schooling inculcate an intense mind like that I have.

I started my web development business in January 2017, doing it part time. By mid to late 2018, I was teaching and solving problems for people who have been to college for this and who have been developing software for 10, 20, and probably 30+ years. This was why I was still wet behind the ears, as a software developer.

After finishing my first client's site, I got more clients and I solved problems that other developers had told my clients were impossible to solve. I did this first for a woman named Belinda, who had been talking to a development firm that was going to get her fined about \$1 million with their fix. She needed the hash validation on her payment form backend fixed. They told her that it was impossible, and said that what they could do is have all of her payment processing forwarded to *their* website. I can't remember all the details, but the whole thing was batshit insane and a PCI fine waiting to happen.

All these developers had to do was find the code that did the hash validation for her site, and then copy and paste some code that I had posted on the authorize dot net forum for free into that script. After that, you make a few tweaks and you're done.

Following her, I had some people that found me on the authorize dot net forum and hired me to fix a rental reservations web application. They had a website where people could rent houses in a place called Walla Walla or something like that. They needed their payment form upgraded. They first wanted me to help the guy that was working on it, *who was the developer of the plug-in software that they were upgrading.*

They then hired me to do the job, without telling him. It was brutal figuring out the backend. I had never worked on this particular CMS type before. But I worked on it for 7 days, while he was also working on it. On day 7, he sent them a message on Skype informing them that authorize dot nets new payment form had broken the software, and that this wasn't fixable. He advised him to get his other plug-in for another payment form.

I told them that 1) this other payment form is a SAQ-D scope integration, that will cost them a fortune to keep in compliance, and 2) to ignore him when he says that the thing was broken. I had already figured out, days earlier, how to fix it. I was busy writing a set of brutal scripts from scratch. One day later, on day 8, I had it working. This was one day after the developer of the software himself said it was broken and impossible to fix.

When I say brutal, what I mean is that I had to code everything from scratch, without using any of the rental application's preexisting classes. The guy that built the rental application had designed it to be compatible with any number of payment processors, and he had one class that would have saved me 80% of the code that I had to write, if I could figure out how to load the session file into that class. To this day I am not sure if it was even possible. It seemed to pull the data from the session itself and to then create a session file.

But the point is that I was wet behind the ears and I was kicking ass everywhere I went, left and right. In terms of raw talent, I am probably in the top 1% or better of software developers. Might be in the top .1% or better.

Warmest Regards,

Clint Williams

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