Managing Your Security Awareness Career

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Where to begin...

When I was a child I thought I would be...

A Writer

A Concert Pianist

Instead, I became...

A Security Awareness Professional!
Where to begin...

And so...

the ADVENTURE begins.
Navigating Manager changes…

"Yes, so if you could just go ahead and make sure you do that, it would be great.

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Reactive

Proactive

HELLO
I AM...
PASSIVE
AGGRESSIVE!

Together
WE
Achieve
More
Ask yourself “What do I want? What’s important to me?”...
Deciding when to make a change...
Learnings along the way...

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. Dear Past, thank you for all the lessons.
Dear Future, I am ready.
Surviving your bosses - building a career

Remember that bosses come and go – especially in cyber security
Focus on the building blocks available for your career – work around difficult managers

• Don’t chicken out when you have a chance to shine, present or get in front of a senior leader
Surviving your bosses - building a career

• Your career is all about you, but don’t come across to key people in your potential network as “It’s all about me”
• Focus on the positive. Don’t let the negative overwhelm you.

Build a big network of people who will have your back
Action Items for you

• Add personal development to your plate
• List 3-5 items that will add value to your program – present these as a WIIFM for your manager, then state what you need to make it happen
Action Items for you

• Make strong alliances with people outside your manager who can both help you navigate if the boss is bad and help you move in a different direction if needed.
• If there are no escalators open for you anymore and the boss is Bad Boss #3 – The Sequel to the Sequel, then get a good recruiter.
Education that’s made all the difference…

Top 5 Educational items that changed my Security Awareness world…

1. SANS Boot Camp Essentials
2. SANS Mgmt 433 – Building a Security Awareness Program
3. Leading Change by John Kotter
4. Pursuing non-security related creative outlets
5. Learning from and benchmarking with my peers
Education that’s made all the difference…

Top 2 items on my “Wish List”…

1. Workshops on human psychology and behavior training
2. Training around OSINT and Security Awareness
Questions?