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Jesus “Laz” Montano

CISO | Board Advisor | Mentor

ABOUT

A three-time CISO, Jesus “Laz” Montano has the distinction of having worked as an Information Security Executive at five FORTUNE® 500 Financial Services firms - Citigroup, Travelers, MetLife, Voya Financial (formerly ING) and MassMutual. He has led diverse international teams of hundreds of security professionals across 35 countries through technology transformation, mergers and acquisitions, and increasing threat landscapes for over 20 years.

In addition, to several board memberships, Laz is a Board Advisor to Cyberstarts, a VC backed investment fund, that invests in early stage cyber security companies. He is also a member of the National Technology Security Council who advocate for CISOs regarding public and private sector policies that improve national cybersecurity standards and awareness.

He has also presented at numerous information security and other forums about topics ranging from cyber security threats, cyber regulatory and legislative matters and how to embrace diversity to address the critical cyber talent pool. He was nominated as an “Information Security Executive of the year” by The Executive Network in 2009 and 2011. Most recently, he was recognized as one of the 100 Top Influential Hispanic Leaders for 2019 by the Hispanic IT Executive Council.

As a highly regarded Information Security practitioner, Mr. Montano now heads up his own cyber security consulting practice (Montano-LLC) to help organizations evolve and transform their information security programs to meet the ever-changing cyber security threats globally. He assists clients with managing operational cyber security risks, evaluating how to most effectively deploy necessary cyber controls to secure today's complex business environments and providing support, coaching and mentorship to CISOs with their organizational development needs.

Laz brings pragmatic approach, direct style and a direct fresh perspective to the business of information security. His career and life experiences have taught him that you cannot control everything life may throw at you, but you can always control how you respond.