JULIAN MERCER

GRC ANALYST

San Francisco, CA | (415) 555-0148 | julian.mercer@email.com | linkedin.com/in/julianmercer

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

GRC Analyst with 6+ years running risk assessments, control testing, and audit readiness for SaaS and financial services teams. Turns frameworks like SOC 2 and ISO 27001 into practical controls that owners understand and maintain.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior GRC Analyst Jan 2025 - Present
Workday, Pleasanton, CA

- Coordinated SOC 2 and ISO 27001 evidence collection across 12 control owners, finishing audits with zero major findings.
- Ran annual risk assessments for 35 vendors using tiered questionnaires, flagging seven high-risk suppliers for remediation plans.
- Maintained the risk register with quarterly leadership reviews, closing 64% of open risk items on agreed dates.
- Mapped 140 controls across SOC 2, ISO 27001, and NIST 800-53, removing duplicate evidence requests during audits.

GRC Analyst Jan 2023 - Dec 2024

- Wrote concise control narratives and owner guides that cut evidence-request follow-ups by roughly one third.
- Tracked remediation of 45 audit findings in the GRC platform, reaching 90% closure by the agreed due dates.
- Updated six security policies and a control standard with legal and engineering input, retiring several expired exceptions.
- Trained 30 control owners on evidence expectations, reducing rejected evidence submissions during the next audit window.
- Assessed 20 new SaaS vendors against the security questionnaire before purchase, recommending conditions for four of them.

Risk and Compliance Analyst Jul 2020 - Dec 2022
Deloitte, Chicago, IL

- Tested IT general controls for six financial-services clients, documenting exceptions and agreeing remediation timelines.
- Supported NIST CSF gap assessments, producing prioritized roadmaps that clients used to plan security budgets.
- Built an issue-tracking workbook that gave audit committees one view of finding status and aging.
- Facilitated tabletop exercises with business and IT leaders, capturing 18 improvement actions for incident response plans.
- Built a vendor risk questionnaire workflow for 60 third parties, shortening average due-diligence turnaround from 21 to 12 days.

CORE SKILLS

Risk assessment | Security controls | SOC 2 | ISO 27001 | NIST CSF | Vendor risk management | Control testing | Audit coordination | Policy writing | Risk registers | ServiceNow GRC | Vanta | Evidence management | Stakeholder communication

EDUCATION

B.B.A. in Management Information Systems, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) | ISO 27001 Lead Implementer