

Mannie A. Romero



Executive Director, Office of the CISO

Mannie Romero brings more than 20 years of technical and information security leadership experience to his current role. As Executive Director in the Office of the CISO at Optiv, Mannie provides C-suite advisory services to global clients to define their cyber strategy, implementation and operation solutions.

Mannie's background spans multiple disciplines including incident response, offensive security, crisis management, forensics, vulnerability management, application security, network security, governance, risk and compliance. Mannie has been fortunate to apply his experience in various business verticals including defense, education, space, telecommunications, financial services and the semiconductor sector.

Prior to his role at Optiv, Mannie was the Global Head of incident response and risk assessment for Marsh and McLennan Companies, a \$13 billion global services and insurance company, which operates in more than 140 countries. In this position, Mannie was responsible for penetration testing, incident response, forensics, investigations, vulnerability management, application security, merger and acquisition risk assessment, and third-party risk assessment. Before joining Marsh and McLennan, Mannie also held several positions at Apollo Group including Director of Security Operations (DSO) as well as Director of Threat Intelligence and Investigation. While at Apollo Group he built the enterprises first red team, forensics, investigation, and threat intelligence teams. He was also responsible for application security, infrastructure security and the 24x7 security operations center (SOC).

Mannie holds several security certifications including the Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP), Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Information Systems Security Engineering Professional (ISSEP), GIAC-Penetration Tester (GPEN), Metasploit Framework Expert (SMFE), and GIAC-Certified Forensic Examiner (GCFE). He also earned a degree in electrical engineering from New Mexico State University and a master of business administration (MBA) from the University of Phoenix.

Mannie is also an active participant in the information security community. He has presented and spoken on panels at such events as Interface, USC Cybersecurity Summit, ISSA, Arizona Technology Summit, and ISACA.