

## **Rich Washburn – Technology Leader & Innovation Strategist**

Ft. Lauderdale, FL • [richwashburn.com](http://richwashburn.com) • LinkedIn Profile

### **Professional Summary**

Multidisciplinary technologist with 30+ years of hands-on leadership in AI systems, infrastructure strategy, cybersecurity, and digital forensics. Currently serving as CIO and Chief AI Strategist at Eliakim Capital, I help lead a stealth consortium building full-stack solutions for hyperscalers, defense contractors, and frontier tech innovators. My work spans from deploying recursive AI systems and HPC clusters to guiding IPO-bound startups and advising on digital infrastructure strategy. Whether in a boardroom, datacenter, or live simulation with Navy brass, I turn complexity into clarity and ideas into action.

Open to roles in innovation consulting, fractional CTO support, technical strategy, and systems design—especially where future-forward thinking meets real-world pressure.

### **Core Competencies**

- AI & Automation – GPT-based platforms, recursive workflows, prompt engineering
- Infrastructure & HPC – Digital strategy, hybrid cloud, NVIDIA H100/B200 integration
- Cybersecurity & Forensics – Risk mitigation, compliance, digital investigations
- Innovation & Product Dev – MVPs, patentable solutions, edge-native prototypes
- Technical Strategy – Bridging capital, compliance, and code across industries

### **Professional Experience**

#### **CIO & Chief AI Strategist**

*Eliakim Capital* | Jan 2023 – Present

- Lead full-stack AI and infrastructure strategies for enterprise clients, hyperscalers, and defense-aligned projects
- Architected recursive AI systems and HPC environments for scalable innovation
- Provided technical guidance for IPO readiness, private placement strategies, and cybersecurity compliance
- Integrated AI-driven, patent-pending platforms into Eliakim's investment roadmap

#### **AI Consultant & Systems Architect**

*Independent* | 2021 – Present

- Built “digital staff” using AI to automate operations and client engagement for SMBs
- Designed Navy League simulation on nuclear-powered autonomous datacenters, catalyzing internal Navy War College dialogues
- Delivered AI literacy workshops for creatives and C-suite teams
- Consulted on automation and digital strategy across tech, healthcare, and finance

## Senior Systems Engineer

*The Legacy Companies* | 2019 – 2021

- Led multi-site DR architecture with Zerto and VeloCloud
- Orchestrated legacy-to-cloud telecom migrations and secured collaboration tools
- Championed internal adoption of cloud-based platforms and compliance protocols

## Project Manager (Contract)

*Compute LLC* | 2019

- Deployed DR facility leveraging NetApp and Barracuda
- Authored continuity and security playbooks for enterprise infrastructure

## Digital Forensics Specialist

*Marcum LLP* | 2007 – 2019

- Conducted investigations into IP theft and internal breaches
- Designed HIPAA-compliant systems and IR strategies for large-scale healthcare clients

## Innovation & Prototypes

- **A.R.I.A.** – AI assistant platform for business automation
- **Tap2Space** (*Patent Pending*) – NFC-driven digital identity and networking
- **FireFly** (*Patent Pending*) – Wearable UV disinfection and lighting device
- **Micro Wearable Server** – Portable, low-power web stack for rapid deployment

## Public Speaking & Thought Leadership

- “*AI, Autonomy & the Future Fleet*” – Navy League simulation briefing
- *Navy War College Recognition* – Simulation insights adopted into defense R&D discourse
- “*AI Meets Art*” – Weston Art Guild session on creativity and generative AI
- *Panelist* – IoT & Infrastructure: The Next Frontier (SFTA)
- *Workshop Leader* – AI for Non-Technical Teams
- *Author* – Writes regularly at richwashburn.com on AI, strategy, and digital transformation

## Certifications

- EnCase Certified Examiner (EnCE)
- Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)
- In progress: Advanced AI Ethics & Governance Certification

## Creative & Community Involvement

- Member, South Florida Technology Alliance
- Speaker and advocate for accessible, human-centered AI
- Creative technologist in photography, digital storytelling, and videography

## **What Clients Say**

“Rich’s expertise transformed our skepticism into confidence... we’re more competitive than ever.”

— Kevin Kilpatrick, VP of Manufacturing, Strike Photonics

“He sees how tech transforms industries. Every conversation feels like witnessing magic.”

— Justin, BarrelSage.com

“His uncanny ability to simplify the complex and deliver practical solutions sets him apart.”

— Todd Colpron, General Partner, FFC Private Wealth