

Christopher Whitaker serves as a Digital Service Expert for the Defense Digital Service specializing in bureaucracy hacking and cybersecurity. Previously, Whitaker served as the Code for America Brigade program manager administering a national network of over 85 civic technology volunteer groups. Whitaker also ran the civic tech consulting firm CivicWhitaker, Inc with clients like the Smart Chicago Collaborative and US Ignite. Whitaker authored 'The Civic Whitaker Anthology' depicting three years of organizing the civic tech movement in Chicago. Whitaker also served as the co-host for Chi Hack Night where he taught a weekly Civic Hacking 101 class. Christopher's career in public service began as a front line worker at the Illinois Department of Employment Security during the Great Recession. He holds a Masters of Public Administration from DePaul University and a Bachelors of Arts in political science from Sam Houston State University. Previously, Whitaker served with the U.S. Army in Iraq as a mechanized infantry.