

# Gerardo Valderrama

ISO 27001 Lead Auditor · ISO 42001 Provisional Auditor · AI Governance

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Panama City, Panama (open to remote)

## Summary

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GRC auditor with two years of remote ISO/IEC 27001, 27701, and 42001 audit experience for clients across Australia, France, Germany, Norway, and the United States. Among the early cohort of professionals dual-credentialed for ISO 27001 and ISO 42001 by PECB, with active focus on AI governance and AI risk management. Comfortable across the full audit lifecycle (readiness, Stage 1, Stage 2, surveillance) and across the engineering side of security (vulnerability management, endpoint, database firewalls) — which keeps audit recommendations grounded in operational reality. Recognized as **Auditor of the Year (2025)** by the Insight Assurance ISO Audit Team and promoted twice in 14 months. Currently completing an MBA at ADEN International Business School.

## Selected Experience

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**ISO Staff Auditor III** — Insight Assurance · Remote (Panama) *April 2024 – Present*  
*Staff (2024) → Staff II (Jun 2025) → Staff III (Dec 2025)*

- 50+ remote audits against ISO/IEC 27001, 27701, and 42001 for clients in Australia, France, Germany, Norway, and the United States.
- ISO 42001 audit work from the early period of the standard's commercial adoption, including AIMS scope definition, control sampling, and reporting.
- Drafted full audit reports — scope, sampling rationale, evidence, findings, recommendations.
- Co-presented the public webinar “SOC 2 vs. ISO 27001: Uncovering Efficiencies and Shared Benefits” (March 2025) with Cognisys (North America GRC Lead) and Vanta (GRC Solutions).
- Recognitions from the firm's ISO Audit Team: **Auditor of the Year** (Dec 2025), Rising Star (Aug 2024).

**Co-Founder, Head of Cybersecurity & Operations** — Iniciativa Grow · Panama *July 2023 – Present*

- Co-founder of a Panama-focused GRC and AI governance implementation practice.
- Technical lead on ISO 27001 readiness, ISO 42001 readiness, and lightweight cybersecurity foundation projects for small and mid-sized clients.
- Side activity, Panama market only — no overlap with current employer's client base.

**Cybersecurity Engineer** — SISAP · Panama *December 2022 – April 2024*

- Delivered and operated security solutions for clients across Central America and the Caribbean: Ivanti EPM, Tenable.io, Qualys VMDR, GFI LanGuard, Imperva DBF.
- Contributed to the closure of 30,000+ vulnerabilities on Windows and Linux fleets within a six-month window.
- Maintained sub-1-hour average response on client support requests.

**Backend Developer** — Fundación Ayudinga! · Panama *April 2019 – Present (intermittent / pro-bono since 2021)*

- Python development on the foundation's open learning platform; baseline security configuration and patching for the deployed environment.

## Certifications

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- ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Auditor — PECB · 2024
- ISO/IEC 42001 Provisional Auditor — PECB · 2024
- ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Lead Implementer — GRC Lab · 2026
- Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge v5 (CCSK) — CSA · 2025

- AI Security & Governance — Securiti AI · 2024
- Drata Auditor Certification · 2024
- CVSS v4.0 — FIRST · 2023
- Sophos Central Protection · Ivanti EPM Administrator · Qualys VMDR · Tenable Vulnerability Management · Fortinet FCA — 2022–2024

## Recognitions

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- **Auditor of the Year**, Insight Assurance ISO Audit Team — December 2025.
- **Rising Star**, Insight Assurance ISO Audit Team — August 2024.
- **Sigma Lambda Honor Chapter**, Faculty of Computer Systems Engineering, UTP — 2021, 2022, 2023.

## Education

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**Master in Business Administration** — ADEN International Business School, Panama 2024 – 2026 (*in progress*)

**Bachelor of Information Systems Engineering** — Technological University of Panama 2019 – 2023  
GPA: 2.95/3.00 (Panama 3.0 scale; ≈3.93/4.00 US equivalent).

## Languages

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- **Spanish** — Native.
- **English** — C2 (EF SET 92/100, 2022; Listening 95, Reading 88).

## Selected Skills

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- **Audit standards:** ISO/IEC 27001:2022, ISO/IEC 27701, ISO/IEC 42001:2023; familiarity with SOC 2 and NIST CSF mappings.
- **AI governance:** ISO 42001 AIMS scoping, AI risk identification, control mapping.
- **GRC platforms:** Vanta, Drata, Secureframe, ZenGRC, Scrut.
- **Vulnerability & endpoint:** Ivanti EPM, Tenable.io, Qualys VMDR, GFI LanGuard, Imperva DBF.
- **Operating systems:** Linux administration (RHEL, CentOS, Ubuntu, Oracle Linux).
- **Development:** Python, PostgreSQL, Git, Flask.

## Selected Writing

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- *AI Governance in Latin America* — [blog.gerardovalderrama.com](https://blog.gerardovalderrama.com), Feb 2026.
- *The Technical GRC Professional* — [blog.gerardovalderrama.com](https://blog.gerardovalderrama.com), Feb 2026.
- *Electronic Health Records and Panama Law 81* — [blog.gerardovalderrama.com](https://blog.gerardovalderrama.com), Feb 2026.
- *Convenience over Security* — [blog.gerardovalderrama.com](https://blog.gerardovalderrama.com), Feb 2026.

*References available on request.*