BRETT YATES

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Principal/Staff/Founding Engineer • Full-Stack & Mobile • Regulated Health & Payments • AI in Production

Hands-on engineer with 15+ years as the person who designs and builds the system, from first commit to production. Most recently founding engineer through CTO of a HIPAA-regulated health platform: I wrote the first versions of the patient and provider apps, the practice portal, and the AWS infrastructure, then set the technical direction and the code review and deployment standards as the platform scaled to 70,000+ patients. Earlier, cofounder and CTO of a Techstars-backed payments platform that reached $2.5M+ in monthly volume. Now taking AI-native products from concept to live on iOS and Google Play. I lead through architecture, code, and code review, and I'm strongest on hard, end-to-end problems: mobile and web clients, serverless back ends, payments, PHI security, and AI features with human-review guardrails.

EXPERIENCE

One4Yes 2026 – Present

Founder / Fractional CTO *San Diego, CA*

Technology studio building AI-native products and advising early-stage teams on architecture through deployment.

- Took three AI-native apps from concept to live on iOS and Google Play (33,000+ combined downloads): voice-enabled retrieval-augmented search, computer vision valuation, and procedurally generated puzzles with an AI artwork pipeline (100,000+ games played).
- Own each product end to end: mobile clients, back-end services, subscription billing across in-app and web purchases (RevenueCat, Stripe), and app-store releases.
- Run an agentic engineering practice across concurrent codebases with explicit guardrails: an automated verification pass after every agent change, and a reviewer agent that checks each diff against its implementation plan.

myHealthTrack 2020 – 2026

Chief Technology Officer *San Diego, CA (Remote)*

Orthopedic recovery platform built with surgeons as an alternative to in-person physical therapy, regulated as Software as a Medical Device. Joined as VP Engineering and sole engineer, promoted to CTO in 2021.

- Built the first versions of the full product suite: React Native patient and provider apps, provider portal, web application, internal CMS, and CI/CD pipeline. The platform grew from zero to 70,000+ patients.
- Architected and operated the entire AWS environment: serverless infrastructure serving 1M+ API requests a month at 99.9% uptime. Cut infrastructure costs 40% through a Lambda migration and database optimization.
- Designed a custom encrypted PHI/PII data vault covering the full patient base, led the platform through a full HIPAA compliance audit, and completed a SOC 2 readiness assessment.
- Shipped AI-assisted triage that assessed patient-reported severity so urgent cases reached a clinician faster; anything uncertain defaulted to human review. Scoped functionality, including the triage boundaries, to stay within FDA enforcement discretion (confirmed via 513(g) request).
- Built the per-practice portal surgeons used to monitor patients and bill for remote monitoring, with eligibility and reimbursement rules shaping the product and data design.
- Hired and led a small, fully remote engineering team: set the architecture, code review standards, deployment practices, and agentic development workflows they worked under.

CharityWatch 2014 – 2021

Fractional CTO *Chicago, IL (Remote)*

- Sole technology lead for a national charity watchdog across a seven-year engagement, held concurrently with the roles below. Modernized legacy infrastructure and put automated deployment and monitoring in place where there had been none.
- Built the secure online donation payment system, then hardened it against sustained real-world attack attempts to keep donor payment data protected.

Red Foundry 2018 – 2020
Senior Technical Consultant *Chicago, IL (Remote)*

- Architected ecommerce platforms for manufacturing and travel clients processing $5M+ in annual transactions, and led the assessment and refactoring of legacy mobile apps.

Vail Systems 2017
Senior Product Manager *Chicago, IL*

- Took a new API product from concept to market in five months with a cross-functional team of 8, and built its back-end management interface.

Babylon Technology Services 2012 – 2017
Senior Software Engineer *Chicago, IL*

- Led development of the ticketing platform for the PGA Tour's BMW Championship: $10M+ in sales, 40,000+ orders, 500,000+ scanned tickets. Built a real-time inventory system handling 50,000+ concurrent users at peak.
- Built platforms across financial services, including PCI-compliant payment processing and Evolution Collect, a debt-collections platform. Led the migration from monolith to microservices.

RentMonitor 2010 – 2016
Cofounder & Chief Technology Officer *Boulder, CO*

- Built the full product (tenant portal, landlord dashboard, and PCI-DSS compliant payments infrastructure) for a SaaS rental-payments platform that scaled to $2.5M+ in monthly ACH and card volume across 5,000+ properties. Techstars Boulder graduate.

SKILLS

Languages & frameworks: TypeScript/JavaScript, React, React Native, PHP/Laravel, PHPUnit, Pest, SQL (PostgreSQL, MySQL), Redis, REST APIs, Python (working knowledge)

Architecture: serverless architecture, monolith-to-microservices migration, real-time inventory at high concurrency, multi-sided platforms (patient, provider, and practice apps), privacy-first data design

Cloud & delivery: AWS (Lambda, API Gateway, RDS, S3), Docker, CI/CD pipelines built from scratch, GitHub, Cloudflare, app-store release management

Payments & billing: ACH and card processing (PCI-compliant), subscription billing (Stripe, RevenueCat), ecommerce, collections

AI: classification with human review, retrieval-augmented generation (RAG), computer vision, generative content pipelines, agentic development with verification and review guardrails (Claude Code, Codex, OpenClaw)

Security & compliance: HIPAA (full audit), encrypted PHI/PII handling, SOC 2 readiness, PCI-compliant payments, Software as a Medical Device (FDA enforcement discretion)

Technical leadership: architecture direction, code review standards, mentoring, hiring, remote team collaboration

EDUCATION

Texas Christian University — B.A., Management Information Systems

Techstars Boulder — Startup accelerator (RentMonitor)