DevOps & Agile Transformation

End Client

A Civilian Federal Agency

The Challenge

The program had struggled with delivering application functionality into production with releases being few and far between. The team had embarked upon a massive re-architecture effort almost three (3) years ago and had slipped multiple times (with a delay of over one year). Since this [failed] effort had absorbed most of the resources for years, the program had accumulated a huge backlog of critical security and functional enhancements.

Our Services

- ✓ Strategy and IT Enablement → IT Program and Project Management
- ✓ IT Advisory Services → IT Modernization Strategy, Planning, and Support
- ✓ Solution Architecture → Application Architecture & Development

Our Approach and the Results Achieved

TekNirvana helped establish a regular cadence of releases into production through significant achievements in leading the organization in its transition from "doing agile" to "being agile" and embarking on a DevOps transformation journey.

TekNirvana led a multi-week agile maturity assessment and provided crucial leadership and coaching to the entire organization on the proper use of agile techniques. We helped/led the organization transition into "being agile" to fully adopt the agile mindset and break down the organizational (Dev, Test, Design, Analyst, etc.) silos through Cross Functional Teams (CFT). TekNirvana also envisioned and spearheaded a DevOps journey to streamline, automate, and optimize these processes and proposed a seven (7) milestone roadmap. Within a very short time (and ahead of schedule), we reduced the human intensive 4-5 day process to a matter of hours. We documented the success of this effort with a comprehensive 13-page white paper/case study on the implementation, outcomes, and lessons learned from the implementation of the first four (4) milestones focusing on automating the build and deployment process.

As a direct result of our work above, we helped the agency consistently release code into PROD in less than 45 business days (contract requirement). Within a span of seven (7) months, we had seven (7) on-time and within budget all of which contained numerous critical security and functional enhancements necessary to maintain operational status of the program. Additionally, the agency has seen many benefits with better planning, meeting commitments, and reduced defects such as zero (0) Test/UAT defects at the time of deployment (DRR) and a significant reduction in post-deployment and production support related defects (work orders). We also led a "tiger team" to implement data scrambling to remove the use of PII data from non-production environments (DEV, Test, and UAT) with a goal of ultimately allowing the program to move these "on premise" environments to the Cloud.