

Aaron Snow

10025 Frederick Ave., Kensington, MD 20895

aaronsnow@gmail.com | aaronsnow.net

Work Experience

[Amazon Web Services](#), 2025 – present

Principal Advisor

Advise government leaders worldwide on digital transformation and related issues, including organizational structures, incentives and strategies; building and enabling digital service teams; digital talent and capacity building; intergovernmental collaboration; open source and digital public goods in and for government.

[Georgetown University Beeck Center for Social Impact and Innovation](#), 2021 – present

Faculty Fellow and Interim Executive Director

As Fellow, responsible for designing and launching the Center's [Digital Service Network](#) and for expanding the international reach and impact of its [Intergovernmental Software Collaborative](#). As Interim Executive Director for seven months, led and managed the Center through [securing \\$11 million in new funding](#).

[The Canadian Digital Service, Government of Canada \(CDS\)](#), 2018 – 2021

Chief Executive Officer

- Led the government team mandated to improve how the Government of Canada designs and delivers digital-first services to 37 million Canadians. Set strategy, recruited key contributors, pass-blocked and coached them to success.
- Managed team growth from 35 to 100+ to build platforms, partner solutions, policy innovations, and learning services.
- Secured permanent funding for CDS, doubling from provisional budget of CAD \$13M/year to CAD \$26M/year ongoing.
- Notable products at scale included [COVID Alert](#) and [GC Notify](#). [Full retrospective here](#).

[Voter Protection Partners](#), 2017 – 2018

Co-Founder/CTO.

VPP helped campaigns track, analyze, and respond to voting rights incidents. [Higher Ground Labs second investment cohort](#).

[18F](#) and the [Technology Transformation Service \(TTS\)](#), 2013 – 2017

Deputy Commissioner, TTS

Executive Director, 18F

Deputy Executive Director and Director of Delivery, 18F

- Co-founded and led 18F, the innovative office created to transform the U.S. government's approach to digital services.
- Led growth from 15 to 200+ digital service experts and US \$35M annual revenue, serving 40+ agencies.
- Managed and diversified 18F's service portfolio to include government-wide digital platforms like [login.gov](#), [cloud.gov](#), and the [U.S. Web Design System](#); custom digital solutions for nearly every federal agency; digital acquisition platforms and consulting; training and recruiting services; and the White House's [Presidential Innovation Fellowship](#) program.
- Helped design and launch, and served as the inaugural Deputy Commissioner of, 18F's new parent organization, [TTS](#) (budget US ~\$100M), created in 2016 to permanently institutionalize and build on 18F's success.

[Presidential Innovation Fellow](#), 2013

Appointed to [the program created by President Obama](#) in 2012 to bring select private sector technologists into government to solve hard problems. On the "Innovative Contracting" team, launched tools and explored ways to simplify and open up marketplaces where small tech businesses find and win federal contracting opportunities. Projects included [FBOpen](#), [RFP-EZ v2](#), and the launch of [18F](#).

[Daring Software, Inc.](#), 2011 – 2012

Co-Founder

Daring's flagship product, [Arro](#), was the OKCupid of shopping apps, showing you which product to buy based on your personalized priorities by reading thousands of reviews for you. Arro was "What's Hot" in the App Store, and lauded in [TechCrunch](#), PandoDaily, Money, Salon, ZDNet and others. Our early prototype won a Finalist trophy at Startup Conference 2012. I built our back-end REST API server and the original web client prototypes.

[Birthday in a Box, Inc.](#), 2009 – 2011

Web Development Manager

Coder and supervisor of the programming team responsible for (then) top-1000 e-commerce site [birthdayinabox.com](#) and its back-end systems for warehouse inventory/fulfillment, product management, marketing and customer service. Managed contractor and agency relationships. Owned rapid release cycle. Significantly improved site performance. Architected evolution from legacy ASP codebase to maintainable, performance-optimized markup. Implemented multivariate testing.

[Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP](#), 2005 – 2009

Associate Attorney

Litigated matters in consumer protection, intellectual property, and general commercial disputes. Contributed pro bono (volunteer) time to Native American property and voting rights matters.

U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, 2004 – 2005

Judicial Law Clerk

Researched, drafted and edited judicial opinions for the Honorable Deborah K. Chasanow.

[Microsoft](#), 1995 – 1998

Program Manager

Management of design and delivery of various components of [Microsoft Exchange Server](#) versions 4.0a, 5.0, 5.5, and 2000. Project management, product conceptualization, iterative functional spec writing, feature design and prioritization, prototyping, release management, public presentations.

Education

[Columbia Law School](#), 2001 – 2004

J.D. 2004. Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar (all years). [Columbia Law Review](#) Technology Editor. [American Constitution Society](#) chapter President. [Center for Public Interest Law](#)'s Lance Liebman "Nice Guys/Gals Don't Necessarily Finish Last" Award.

[Harvard University](#), 1989 – 1993

A.B. 1993 in Computer Science. *Cum laude general studies*. Dean's List all semesters. Teaching Fellow in Computer Science. [Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel](#) Associate Chair. [Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations](#) at-large student rep.

Recognition

"[World's 20 Most Influential People in Digital Government](#)" 2019 (Apolitical.co)

"[World's 100 Most Influential People in Digital Government](#)" 2018 (Apolitical.co)

"[Washington's 100 Top Tech Leaders](#)" 2015 (Washingtonian Magazine)

Administrator's Award 2015 (U.S. General Services Administration)

Boards

[DIGIT](#) Governance Council (advisory), 2025-present

[Foundation for Public Code North America](#), Board of Directors, 2023-present

[FWD50](#), Advisory Board, 2021-present

[gov.uk](#), Advisory Board, 2021-2022

[OpenGov Foundation](#), Board of Directors, 2017-2020

Publications and interviews (selected)

For the Georgetown University Beeck Center:

- Beeck Center: [Unemployment Insurance IT Modernization Grant Projects: Phase 1 Summary Report](#), July 2024
- Globe and Mail: [AG to report Monday on how cost of ArriveCan grew from \\$80K to more than \\$54M](#), February 2024
- aaronsnow.net: [Agile as a Hedge Against Big IT Project Failure?](#), February 2024
- Ottawa Citizen: [Snow: What Canada can learn from Ukraine about digital services](#), September 2023
- The Hill: [So Many Broken Systems, But This One Has a Fix](#), July 2022
- aaronsnow.net: [Why COVID Exposure Notification Apps Didn't Meet Expectations](#), June 2022
- Beeck Center: [Sharing Federal Digital Services with the Other Levels of Government](#), June 2022

For the Canadian Digital Service:

- aaronsnow.net: [The Canadian Digital Service, Chapter 1](#), October 2021 (four year retrospective)
- Toronto Star: [Feds test new e-notification service to save cash, time](#), November 2019
- Hill Times: [Canadian Digital Services challenged to digitize government by 2025](#), August 2019
- Politico: [U.S. expats bring digital dexterity to Canada](#), October 2018
- Tech Vibes: [Canada's First Minister of Digital Government is on a Mission](#), September 2018

For the U.S. Government's Technology Transformation Service, 18F, and the Presidential Innovation Fellowship:

- NextGov: [18F Co-Founder on Why Tech Transcends Party Politics](#), November 2016
- 18F: [Leadership and innovation at California's Child Welfare Services](#), November 2016
- FedScoop: [Aaron Snow sees bright future for evolving 18F](#), October 2016
- FedScoop: [18F celebrates explosive two years, sets sights on expansion](#), March 2016
- Diginomica (UK): [18F's Aaron Snow says priority is change management, not digital](#), February 2016
- American Prospect: [Pushing Civic Tech Beyond Its Comfort Zone](#), October 2015
- Fast Company: [Inside Obama's Stealth Startup](#), June 2015
- FedScoop: [18F looks back on first birthday](#), March 2015
- Huffington Post: [Uncle Sam Wants Coders To Leave Silicon Valley For D.C.](#), June 2014
- Washington Post: [Meet 18F, the GSA's bid to change federal IT](#), April 2014
- API Evangelist: [18F Shows What Is Possible In Government With FBOpen API](#), April 2014
- NextGov: [Second Round of Solicitations Added to Simplified Federal Contracting Site](#), Sept 2013

Public appearances (selected)

- Podcast, [How the failure of Healthcare.gov kickstarted US government transformation](#), Government Transformed, July 2024 ([Apple](#), [Spotify](#))
- Panel Host, [Introduction to Digital Public Infrastructure](#), GovernmentDX, April 2024
- Podcast, [Open Source Government](#), Let's Think Digital, March 2024
- Panel Host, [Open Source Government Services: The Promises and the Realities](#), FWD50, November 2023
- Podcast, GX Podcast: Aaron Snow on Public Policy & Digital Service Engagement, February 2023 ([Apple](#), [Spotify](#))
- Fireside Chat, [Bridging Digital Service Gaps](#), World Government Summit, February 2023
- Panel Host, [G2G: Governments Sharing Digital Services](#), FWD50, November 2022
- Speaker, [FWD50 2019](#), November 2019; [FWD50 2018](#), November 2018
- Panelist, [True North 2019](#), June 2019
- Track Keynote, [Code for America Summit](#), May 2019
- Parliamentary Testimony, Government of Canada, Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy, and Ethics, [on privacy, security, and transparency in digital services](#), February 2019
- Podcast, [Civic Tech Chat: A chat with the Canadian Digital Service CEO Aaron Snow](#), Sept 2018
- Keynote, [UK Government Digital Services Sprint 16](#), February 2016
- Testimony, [California Little Hoover Commission](#), January 2016
- Speaker, [FedTalks 2016](#), October 2016; [FedTalks 2015](#), October 2015