

March 18, 2026

Dear friends,

Ten years ago today I founded [Taproot Security](#). It was the day after St. Patrick's Day so maybe I wasn't thinking clearly, but it turned into a wonderful ride.

My vision was a cybersecurity firm specializing in clients who do good in the world - humanitarian groups, nonprofits, and "B" corps who often can't afford cyber protection despite facing threats from ransomware, denial of service, etc.

Taproot was fortunate early on to get a lucrative contract with a Fortune 50 company. With that revenue in hand, I could offer affordable rates to a variety of small but inspirational organizations, including an organic farming co-op, a pet poison hotline operator, a religious order, a sustainability consulting firm, and a sustainable food laboratory. I also worked *pro bono* on industry and government standards, and wrote a regular cybersecurity column in *ISSA Journal*.

In May 2024 I [announced my retirement](#). A week later Laura & I traveled to Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. My first vacation without a work laptop or pager! Retirement has allowed me to focus on other things, most notably my [writing career](#). My debut novel *Gods of Central Park* is due out later this year.

I continue dabbling in cybersecurity as Member Emeritus of an ANSI standards committee. I still [blog](#) occasionally about cyber issues and answer people's cybersecurity questions on [Quora](#).

Today I look back fondly on a rewarding chapter in my life, and thank each of you who helped make it possible.

Fondly, Mike

