



# Brian Shimkus

## Lead Front-End Developer

**Location:** Chicago, IL

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## Experience

### **TerraFort** (*Freelance*): Lead Front-End Developer / AUG 2025 - DEC 2025

- Led the front-end design and development of the web and mobile platform
- Integrated **AI** solutions to streamline tasks and improve development productivity
- Executed product initiatives from concept to delivery in a fast-paced startup environment
- Led strategic collaboration across UX, product, and backend teams
- Oversaw team's quality of code through performing code reviews
- Met with third party vendors to integrate tools and services into our workflow

### **OCC** (*Contract*): Senior Front-End Developer / JUL 2024 - JUN 2025

- Met with stakeholders weekly to establish goals and address questions
- Used **Figma** every week to collaborate with team members on potential design solutions
- Independently developed solutions featuring **React**, **Typescript**, **SCSS**, and **Tailwind**
- Wrote unit tests for new components using **Jest**
- Used **BrowserStack** for automated mobile testing
- Participated in **code reviews**, proactively identifying and mitigating potential issues and defects
- Helped implement **Mock Service Worker** to be able to source data without a backend
- Provided **SDLC support** to software in test, QA, and production environments
- Helped identify and fix **bugs** across all solutions

### **Marex**: Lead Front-End Developer / OCT 2020 - JAN 2024

- Led a team of five in building front-end solutions for stakeholders in an agile environment
- Completely revamped the front-end ecosystem to use **React** and digitalized all manual processes, including the onboarding process for brokers and traders
- Implemented the **DocuSign API** to digitalize handling signatures across documents
- Used **Figma** to wireframe a consistent UI/UX experience across all of our products
- Implemented **design tokens**, creating seamless communication between designers and engineers
- Built a starter template in **React** to be utilized by all team members for rapid prototyping
- Used **Kendo** as the UI library and **Tailwind** for custom styling
- Implemented **TypeScript** for defining types and **Redux** for global state management
- Set up automated **E2E testing** using **Playwright** across all applications
- Used **BrowserStack** for automated mobile testing
- Worked in two week sprints where goals for each sprint were clearly defined and communicated
- Developed an internship program where I mentored and established a clear roadmap for each intern

## Experience Continued

**Walker & Dunlop** (*Contract*): *Senior Front-End Developer* / MAR 2020 - OCT 2020

- Building of platform components in **VueJS** using **Storybook**
- Connecting of front-end components to the **API**
- Creation of wireframes and designs to improve platform UX
- Work in fast-paced environment utilizing two week sprints

**ICF**: *Senior Front-End Developer* / JAN 2019 - MAR 2020

- Led the front-end development lifecycle
- Mentorship of team members on technical design approaches
- Led the standardization of **web accessibility** across projects
- Managed staging and production environment

**TransUnion**: *Front-End Developer* / JAN 2018 - JAN 2019

- Build websites, landing pages, and featured components in a fast-paced environment
- Work with **Contentful's API** to build a **CMS** for our project owners and team to manage content
- Build prototypes with **Angular 6**
- Use of **Webpack** to bundle and compile assets
- Deployment of projects to **AWS**
- Build animations with **JavaScript** to be used on landing pages, infographics, and features
- Daily communication with stakeholders in establishing deadlines, expectations, and progress

**R1 RCM**: *UX Architect/Front-End Developer* / APR 2016 - JAN 2018

- Provided leadership in the design and development of user experience deliverables
- Worked with directors and stakeholders in identifying weaknesses within the application
- Created wireframes to explore ideas with business stakeholders using InDesign and **Balsamiq**
- Built working prototypes on the Front-End to demonstrate new concepts and features using **AngularJS**

## Featured Skills

*AI / Design Systems / React / State Management / Testing / TypeScript / UI/UX*

## Education

Art Institute - Chicago: *BFA Graphic Design 2013 / 3.9 GPA Dean's List*

Western Illinois University: *Bachelors, Instructional Design & Technology / 2008 - 2010*

## Hobbies

Guitar playing and songwriting / Blue belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu / Reef aquariums