Joseph Buckler Walton, Ph.D., MPA, CISSP
Public Speaking Biography

Joe has been a leader in technology and business administration for over twenty years serving in both entrepreneurial and large enterprise roles. His technology experience began with telecom carrier installation and grew into consulting and information security leadership roles. He holds a CISSP among other industry certifications in technology and information security disciplines.

He has been active in public policy & non-profit service in central Virginia for many years and in various capacities including as a former Chair of the County of Powhatan Board of Supervisors and third-place finisher in the 2018 Mid-term election for U.S. House from the 7th District in Virginia.

As a distributed computing fanatic (distributed.net & SETI) and Bitcoin & Monero miner, all-around cryptocurrency HODLer and Information Security professional, Joe's first public policy theories on cryptocurrency and blockchain were developed in the fall of 2014. Since then, he has written, presented, and spoken extensively on cryptocurrency, blockchain, socio-economic value, and the social life of money. His goal is to establish frameworks to better understand these new technologies amid the chaos of their disruptive introduction.

His dissertation title is: *Why We Use a New Currency: The Role of Trust and Control in Explaining the Perception and Usage of Bitcoin* with the results of that and other research pending for publishing in book and journal form. His interests focus on policy implications for use cases of cryptocurrencies and blockchains to further digital identity, security, privacy, and decentralized governance to further liberal democratic principles. He has developed theories and explorative narratives that focus on policy and sociologic treatments of currency and blockchain systems based on his original matrix of trust and control defining socio-economic value and exchange (currency systems).

He believes U.S. legislators, regulators, and NGO/private agents should exhort the safe and effective interaction with blockchain and cryptocurrency by the general public. They should also surveil and collaborate internationally on worldwide usage of blockchain and cryptocurrencies in public and private sector domains as a net positive good for society.

Public and private-sector levels and layers of governance increasingly need cost-effective and secure technologies to meet their administrative and process needs. Typically, this results in mergers and consolidation of control and administration into ever-larger bureaucracies and monopolies because of economies and efficiencies of scale rhetoric. However, with distributed ledger systems that transcend proprietary brands and are neither siloed at any given layer of governance nor hedged by trust boundaries, these needs can be met while supporting decentralized governance.

Public/neutral-party blockchains and cryptocurrencies, where individuals or groups trust and control selective access to their own data and value exchange, can resist corporate and public sector tendencies and trends to monopolize or nationalize bureaucracies – or malicious agents' attempts to compromise those systems.

He earned his B.S. in Science, with a minor in Physics, and Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in Richmond, Virginia. He earned his Ph.D. of public policy at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government & Public Affairs at VCU. His doctoral research focused

on the semiotics of money, cryptocurrency, blockchain, socio-economic value, behavioral economics, social & technical change, and public policy.

Prior speaking engagements:
2017 – AMCIS – Boston (Info. Sys.), Completed Research Paper Accepted & Presented: *Understanding Digital Crime, Trust, and Control in Blockchain Technologies*
2018 – Richmond Chapter AITP Panelist on blockchain and cryptocurrency in the public sector
2018 – Blockchain 9 Conference Panelist on blockchain and cryptocurrency in the public sector
2019 – The Future of Money, Governance & the Law Speaker and panelist on blockchain, crypto and crime and law enforcement
2019 – ISC(2) Richmond Chapter RVAbc Conference Speaker and panelist on blockchain and healthcare
2020 - HIPAA Privacy and Security CPE Seminar for Tidewater Health Information Management Association
2021 – Virtual What Just Happened: Bitcoin – VCU Alumni Relations Series on Current Events Panelist – YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJAsbZNKxAY

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