

MICHAEL OWENS

Chicago, IL · mowens9653@gmail.com · (630) 561-7723 · linkedin.com/in/michael-owens53

Thesis, projects, and hardware: michaelpowens.com

Operator who turns ambiguous, unowned problems into working functions – standing up the process, the workforce, the tooling, and the metrics from scratch. Commanded 40 Army recruiters to a 90% productivity gain and ran portfolio execution at J.P. Morgan across 120 companies. Left in spring 2026 to build what physical AI needs most – real-world data collection – standing up a trades-data operation and a live software product, solo.

FOUNDER · INDEPENDENT VENTURES

March 2026 – Present · Chicago, IL

Fluxor | real-world data collection for robot learning

- Stood up the entire collection operation from scratch – the same shape of work as running a distributed data-collection workforce: recruiting and onboarding contractors, bilingual homeowner consent, kit logistics and scheduling, footage QC, and payouts.
- Architected the time-synchronized multi-sensor pipeline behind it and set the quality bar that decides what ships: fusion, automated scoring, task segmentation, and contact labeling, exported in the formats robot-learning teams train on (LeRobot, RLDS).
- Proved it end to end on a live session of my own: 24,657 processed samples at a 91.7 quality score with 227 candidate contact events, packaged and buyer-ready.
- Built for the end-game, not the transaction – a contact taxonomy and the data layer for skilled trades.

WarrantyBrain | Shopify warranty claims and operations app, live on the Shopify App Store

- Ran the whole company loop 0-to-1, solo – product, pricing and billing, six support and logistics integrations, and paid acquisition – a live operations product on the Shopify App Store.
- Hunted friction and shipped the fix: traced a leaking install funnel (696 landing views, zero installs) to a mobile login wall and closed it; the same instinct runs through the whole product.
- Solved the hard part: safe money automation – refunds, replacements, and returns run idempotent and concurrency-safe across workers, behind approval gates and a reversible audit trail.

BarbellAI | sensor hardware and data systems for strength training

- Took two strength sensors from concept through manufacturing, and ran their validation like a lab: pass/fail metrics defined before each capture, failures logged as verdicts, evidence pooled across sessions – 0-to-1 in a domain I'd never built in.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

J.P. Morgan Chase | Life Sciences Banking Associate

January 2025 – April 2026 · Chicago, IL

- Ran portfolio execution for three senior bankers across 120 life-sciences companies and \$100M+ in assets under management; coordinated bankers, product, credit, and clients to cut turnaround on 100+ banking products.
- Selected as 1 of 10 veterans nationwide for the SkillBridge Fellowship; top 10% in J.P. Morgan's credit-analysis training program.

U.S. Army | Recruiting Company Commander (Territory Manager)

July 2023 – November 2024 · Chicago, IL

- Ran a 40-recruiter operation across the Chicago market: rebuilt the weekly measurement, accountability, and training system from scratch, and used territory data to target the gaps. Productivity rose 90% from January to March 2024; top 5% of junior officers.

U.S. Army | Field Artillery Officer, 82nd Airborne Division

May 2021 – July 2023 · Fort Bragg, NC / Rzeszów, Poland

- Built a task-management system to intake, route, and track hundreds of parallel requirements from brigade headquarters; the battalion reached 100% Immediate Response Force certification.
- Deployed to Poland during the Ukraine crisis, coordinating U.S., Allied, and Polish forces for readiness and security operations.
- Integrated artillery, air, and naval fires for an 80-soldier cavalry troop; directed 50+ live missions with zero safety incidents; Distinguished Honor Graduate (#1 of 32) at the Joint Fires Observer Course.

EDUCATION & SKILLS

United States Military Academy, West Point: B.S., Business Management (Finance), 2020 · Division I football.

Skills: Standing up operations from scratch (SOPs, tooling, metrics) · cross-functional coordination and leadership · pulling and analyzing operational data · turning ambiguous problems into working functions · AI-leveraged execution.

FINRA licenses: Series 79 (Investment Banking), Series 66, SIE.