

# LAWRENCE PLANTE

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## SUMMARY

Technical product manager and founder with 5 years taking Web3 and AI products from concept to production. Specified a 100+ endpoint API platform feature by feature, owned QA and release readiness, and directed a senior distributed engineering team across two Ripple Foundation grants (\$250K combined). Ran full-cycle technical hiring and ~\$500K in lifetime capital; pairs product judgment with hands-on engineering (React, Node.js, Python, AI/LLM).

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Founder & Product Lead · Dark Oak Studios

Aug 2021 – Present

*Remote*

- Owned product design for every feature of Nexus, a 100+ endpoint API platform: authored visual and technical specs, ran all QA and bug triage, and directed a four-person senior engineering team through delivery.
- When the funder switched payments mid-program to pay-after-milestone, re-sequenced delivery, fronted contractor payroll from reserves, and renegotiated milestone scope; both grants delivered in full.
- Ran full-cycle technical hiring: screened 300+ applicants, interviewed ~60 with multi-round coding challenges, negotiated rates and contracts; replaced an underperforming lead developer with a four-person senior team.
- Managed a distributed team of 7 (15 contractors over five years) across US, European, and Asian time zones with daily standups; moved workflow from ClickUp to a custom internal PM tool.
- Won two consecutive Ripple Foundation grants (\$100K, then \$150K) through in-person pitching at Consensus and XRPL Apex; milestone reviews drew consistent praise and internal demo requests.

### Bartender / Acting Lead · Level 8 Rooftop Bar (Hotel Duval, Marriott)

Aug 2022 – May 2026

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## PROJECTS

- StaxBacktester (2026): options-signal analytics and backtesting platform. FastAPI/SQLAlchemy API, React + Vite + Tailwind UI; milestone/drawdown analytics and a configurable exit-strategy backtester.
- FridgeStock: self-hosted pantry PWA, TypeScript monorepo (Fastify, Drizzle ORM, React/Vite); barcode scanning, cron digests, Claude API meal suggestions; Vitest tests.

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## SKILLS

**Product & Delivery:** feature specification, QA & release readiness, roadmap planning, milestone negotiation, funder & stakeholder reporting

**Team & Hiring:** full-cycle technical hiring, distributed team management, contractor negotiation, async and cross-time-zone coordination

**Tools:** ClickUp, Monday.com, Jira (working knowledge), Excel (advanced), Git & GitHub; custom workflows adapted from Agile principles

**Technical:** JavaScript/TypeScript, Python, PHP, React, Node.js, FastAPI, Laravel, Unity (C#), AWS, Docker, OpenAI & Anthropic APIs

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## EDUCATION

### B.S., Business Management · Florida State University

Aug 2018 – May 2022

*Minor in Computer Science (50 credit hours of CS coursework) | Tallahassee, FL*