



# Enhancing Microsoft 365 Security for McFarland & Associates, Inc.

McFarland was facing security risks due to gaps in their Microsoft 365 security posture. Indicating vulnerabilities in email security, unauthorized access risks, and compliance gaps. The client required an in-depth security analysis, optimization of their Microsoft 365 tenant, and implementation of governance policies aligned with Microsoft best practices.

Clarion IT Team followed Microsoft's Office 365 Standard security checklist and Industry best practices to analyse and enhance the client's security structure. Team implemented key security policies tailored to their needs, ensuring robust protection against cyber threats. Which significantly increased the Security level and reliability of customer's environment.

## At a glance



**Customer:** McFarland & Associates, Inc.

**Website:** <https://www.mcfarlandassociate.com>

**Customer size:** Small (1 - 49 employees)

**Country:** United States of America

**Industry:** Health Provider

**Products and services:** Public health expertise in health information technology, remote patient monitoring, maternal and infant health, mental health, substance abuse, diabetes, heart health, cancer, plant-based nutrition, sexual health, HIV/AIDS.

# Clarion, McFarland and Microsoft Enhanced Cybersecurity Posture and Governance framework

McFarland was facing security risks due to gaps in their Microsoft 365 security posture. Their initial Microsoft Security Score was 42 out of 100, indicating vulnerabilities in email security, unauthorized access risks, and compliance gaps. The client required an in-depth security analysis, optimization of their Microsoft 365 tenant, & implementation of governance policies aligned with Microsoft best practices.

Clarion IT Team followed Microsoft's Office 365 Standard security checklist and Industry best practices to analyse and enhance the client's security settings. Team implemented key security policies tailored to their needs, ensuring robust protection against cyber threats. Which significantly increased the security level and reliability of customer's environment.

- ✔ **Microsoft Security Score Improvement:** Increased from 42 to 79 out of 100 after implementing security policies.
- ✔ **Enhanced Cybersecurity Posture:** Stronger defences against phishing, unauthorized access, and data leaks.
- ✔ **Regulatory Compliance:** Improved alignment with GDPR, HIPAA, and Industry security standards.

**Mail Forwarding Block:** Prevented automatic email forwarding to external domains, reducing the risk of data exfiltration.

**Phishing Email Threshold:** Strengthened phishing detection mechanisms to mitigate the risk of credential theft.

**SharePoint Idle Session Sign-Out:** Enforced automatic sign-out for inactive users to prevent unauthorized access.

**Message Limit Control:** Implemented outbound email limitations to reduce the risk of compromised accounts being used for spam.

**Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA):** Mandated MFA for all users, especially administrators, to enhance account security.

