



Case Study

# DSM Enhances IT Infrastructure of Law Firm Hill & Ponton

# Introduction

Before Hill & Ponton came to DSM, they were at a crossroads: either pay to upgrade their end-of-life equipment or embrace the cloud. As a law firm located in Orlando, Florida, they needed high availability and stability to safeguard sensitive data from malicious attackers, as well as provide protection from natural elements like [hurricanes](#). They wanted additional layers of security and a recovery strategy to safeguard their business, and they knew that crafting an effective security management program with [disaster recovery](#) would be essential for future success.

Luckily, the timing was right for a [cloud migration](#) due to Hill & Ponton's desire to stay current with their technology; but they knew for a project like this, they wanted to utilize a partner they could trust. That's when Hill & Ponton turned to DSM's experts to develop a cloud migration strategy that would yield high availability to their central Florida locations and satellite offices.

At the start of the project in November 2019, Hill & Ponton had [two physical office locations in Florida and nineteen satellite offices](#) located all over the country, from California to New York. By moving all of these offices to the cloud in advance of the [COVID-19 pandemic](#), Hill & Ponton made it possible for all sites to easily transition to working from home. A secure cloud migration enabled a smooth transition to a [remote workforce](#) without the worry about IT infrastructure security and availability.

Now, the small IT team at Hill & Ponton has an enterprise-class cloud solution to include management tools well beyond a small IT shop. Their cloud security was enhanced by adding Managed Threat Protection that included services like MFA, vulnerability scanning, intrusion detection, and both SIEM and [AI-based](#) malware protection. By trusting DSM with their cloud migration, Hill & Ponton now has a highly available and secure cloud with data offsite to offset the threat of malicious attacks that come their way.





## About Hill & Ponton

Established in 1986 in Orlando, Florida, the Hill & Ponton law firm specializes in veterans' disability claims. While its home base remains in Orlando, Hill & Ponton has since expanded to service clients throughout the United States, with offices in Orlando and Deland, as well as nineteen satellite locations throughout the country. In the past thirty years, Hill & Ponton has handled over 30,000 Social Security disability and veterans claims, recovering over \$300,000,000 for its clients.

## Challenges the Client Faced

The Hill & Ponton team was well-aware of the challenges they were facing. While their IT equipment was capable of operating day to day, they wanted to move forward with hardware and software updates as their business continued to expand. They had end-of-life servers and software. With all of the new and ever-changing threats, Hill&Ponton knew that they wanted and needed a specialized partner to deal with an increasingly disruptive IT landscape as law firms need stability and protection for such sensitive client information.

Hill & Ponton relied on physical infrastructure with limited disaster recovery capabilities in the event of a crisis. Limited power resilience capabilities could spell disaster for the law firm, which must safeguard critical documentation. Since Hill & Ponton's main office is located in Orlando, one of the most prominent cities in a state all too familiar with destructive [hurricane seasons](#), stability was a must. Cloud migration brought together the high availability, security, and stability Hill & Ponton wanted.