How to
Configure
MS SQL Audit Event Log

V021

2025/08/26

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Contents

Preface

This document describes how N-Reporter users can configure MS SQL event logging using the open-source tool NXLog.

NXLog converts MS SQL event logs into syslog format and forwards them to N-Reporter for normalization, auditing, and analysis.

This document applies to Windows Server 2008, 2012, 2016, 2019, and 2022.

References

sqlcmd Utility:

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/tools/sqlcmd-utility?view=sql-server-ver15

Common Criteria Compliance (replaces C2 Audit Mode):

https://learn.microsoft.com/sql/database-engine/configure-windows/c2-audit-mode-server-configuration-option?view=sql-server-ver15

sys.dm_exec_sessions (Dynamic Management View):

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/relational-databases/system-dynamic-management-views/sys-dm-exec-sessions-transact-sql?view=sql-server-ver15

sys.traces (System Catalog View):

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/relational-databases/system-catalog-views/sys-traces-transact-sql?view=sql-server-ver15

Enable Common Criteria Compliance Server Configuration Option:

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/database-engine/configure-windows/common-criteria-compliance-enabled-server-configuration-option?view=sql-server-ver15

Configure Login Auditing:

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/ssms/configure-login-auditing-sql-server-management-studio?view=sql-server-ver15#SSMSProcedure

Server Audit and Server Audit Specification:

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/relational-databases/security/auditing/create-a-server-audit-and-server-audit-specification?view=sql-server-ver15

Database Audit Specification:

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/relational-databases/security/auditing/create-a-server-audit-and-database-audit-specification?view=sql-server-ver15

SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions:

https://docs.microsoft.com/sql/relational-databases/security/auditing/sql-server-audit-action-groups-and-actions?view=sql-server-ver15

Supported MS SQL Server Versions for Audit Logging

SQLServer/Version	Enterprise Edition	Developer Edition	Standard Edition	Web Edition	Express Edition
SQL Server **2008**	Server- and database-level audit	Server- and database-level audit	**Not supported**	**Not supported**	**Not supported**
SQL Server **2012 / 2014**	Server- and database-level audit	Server- and database-level audit	Server-level audit only	Server-level audit only	Server-level audit only
SQL Server **2016 / 2019 /2022**	Server- and database-level audit	Server- and database-level audit	Server- and database-level audit	Server- and database-level audit	Server- and database-level audit

Note: This document is provided solely as a reference for configuring log output. It is recommended that you contact the device or software vendor for assistance with the appropriate log export methods.

1. NXLog

1.1 NXLog Installation

(1) Download NXLog CE (Community Edition)

Please go to: https://nxlog.co/products/nxlog-community-edition/download

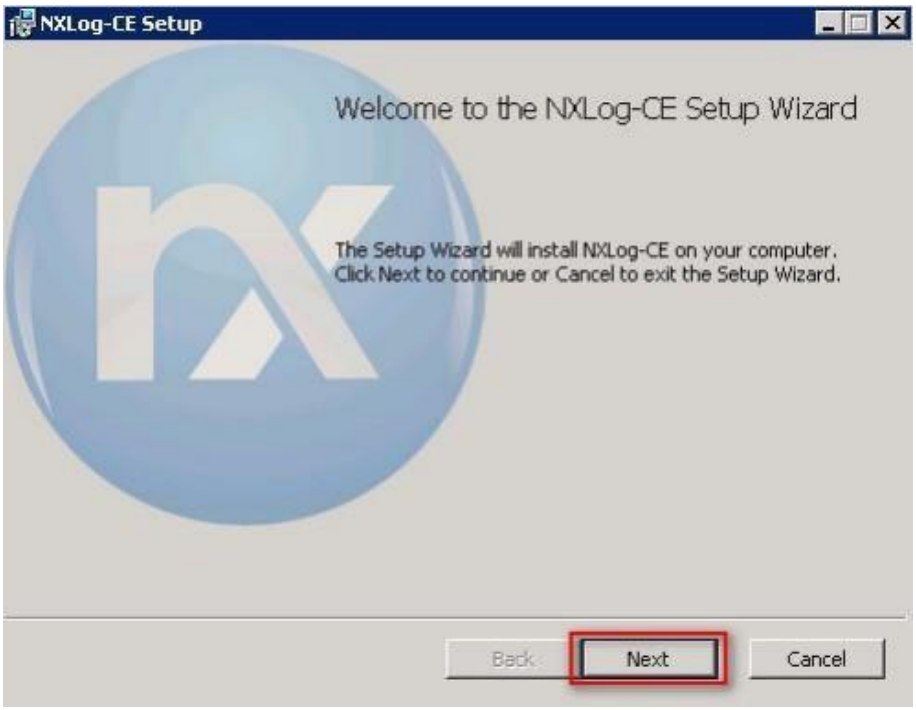
Download the latest version of nxlog-ce-x.x.xxxx.msi.

Example Here: **nxlog-ce-3.2.2329.msi**

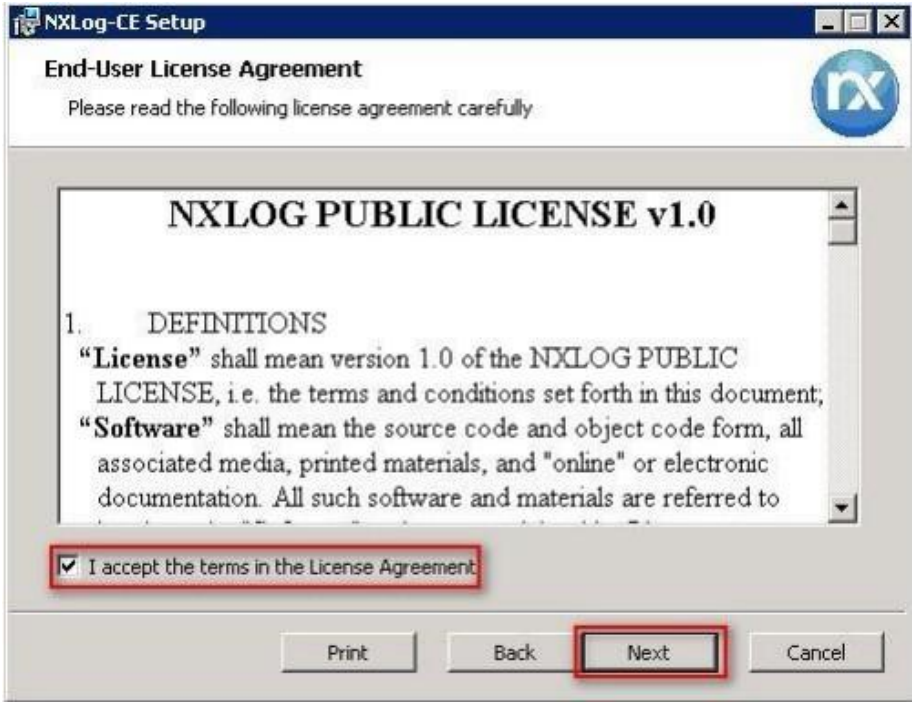
(2) Install NXLog

<2.1> For Windows Server **2008** or later:

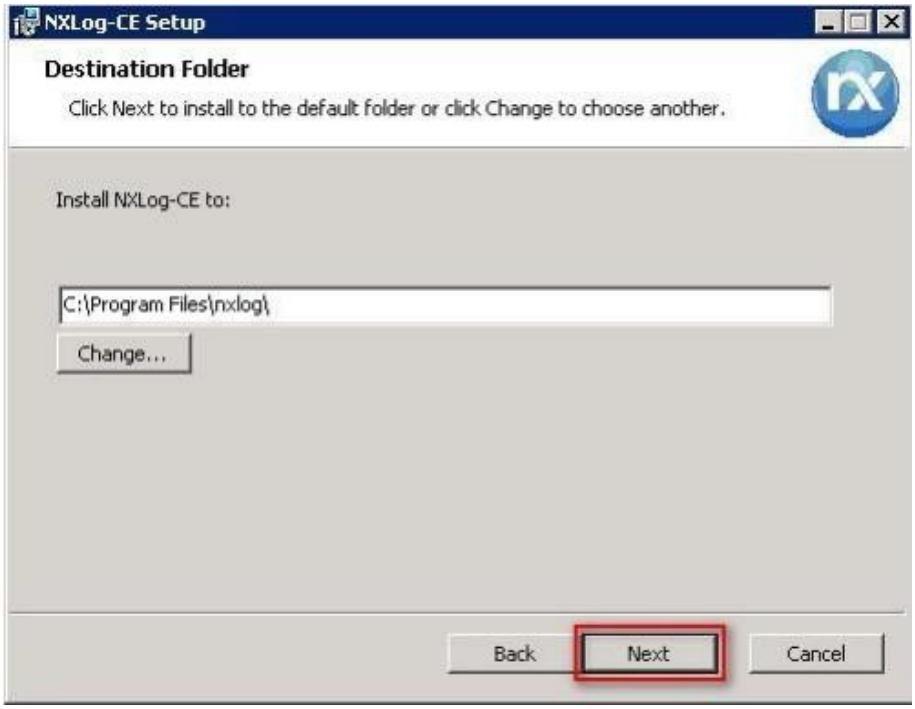
Double-click "**nxlog-ce-3.2.2329.msi.**"



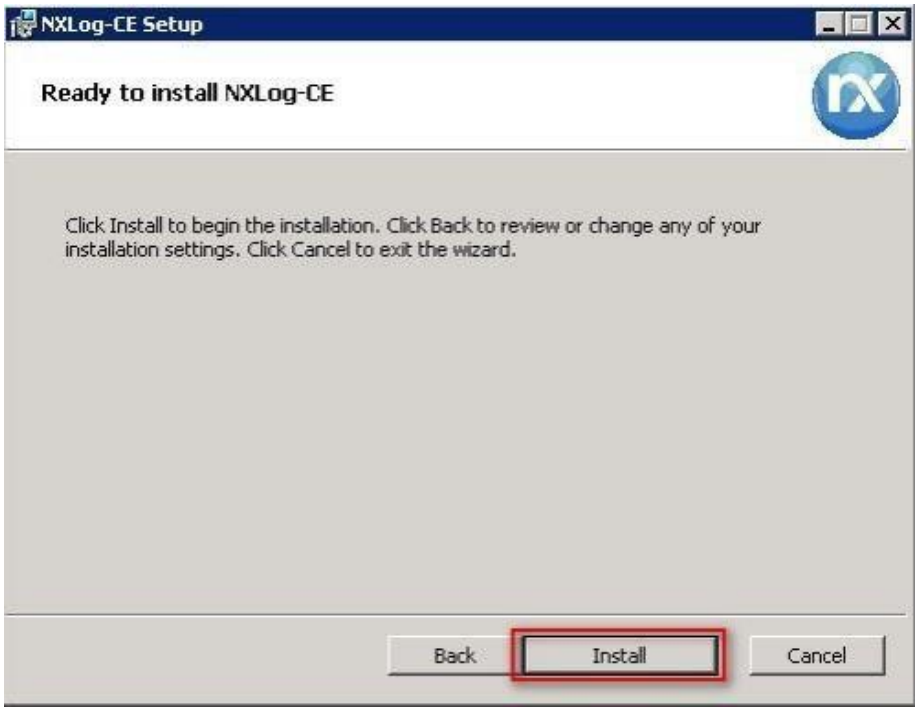
(3) Select “I accept the terms in the License Agreement,” then click “Next.”



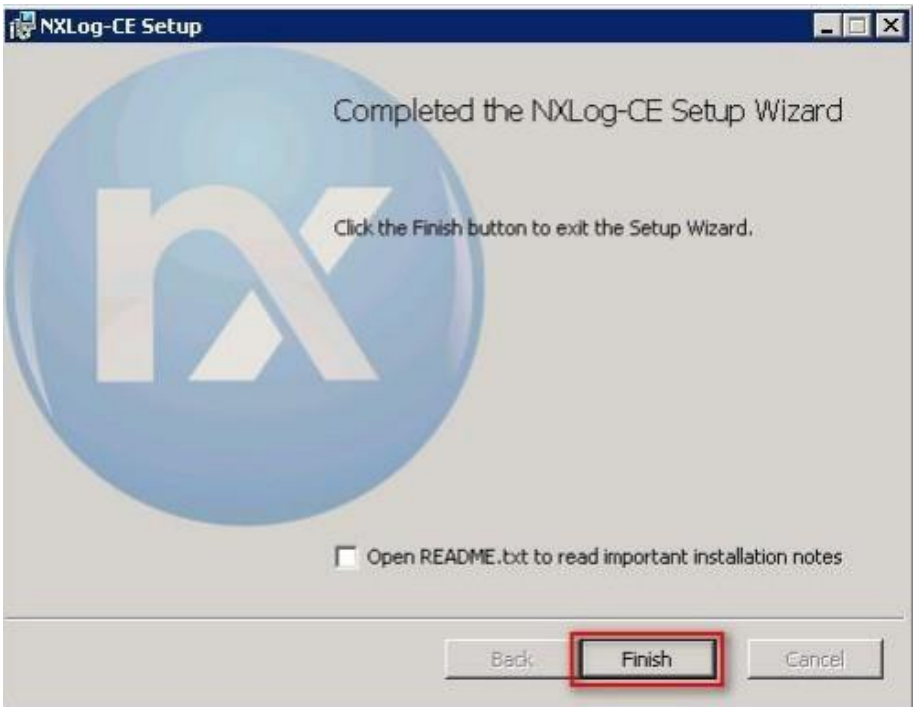
(4) Click “Next.” (The default installation path is (C:\Program Files\nxlog\).



(5) Click “Install.”



(6) Click “Finish.”



1.2 Download NXLog Configuration File

1.2.1 MS SQL Standalone (Non-Clustered) Configuration File

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Download the “NXLog MS SQL standalone template configuration file” and overwrite the existing NXLog configuration file in the Windows system.

Download link: http://www.npartner.com/download/tech/nxlog_MSSQL.conf

```
PS C:\> Invoke-WebRequest -Uri`http://www.npartner.com/download/tech/nxlog_MSSQL.conf' -OutFile 'C:\ Program Files\nxlog\conf\nxlog.conf'
```

Note: This example is for a 64-bit operating system. For a 32-bit system, replace the highlighted text with: 'C:\ **Program Files(x86)**\nxlog\conf\nxlog.conf'

1.2.2 MS SQL Cluster Configuration File

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Download the “NXLog MS SQL cluster configuration file” and overwrite the existing NXLog configuration file in the Windows system.

Download link: http://www.npartner.com/download/tech/nxlog_MSSQLcluster.conf

```
PS C:\> Invoke-WebRequest -Uri`http://www.npartner.com/download/tech/nxlog_MSSQLcluster.conf' -OutFile 'C:\ Program Files\nxlog\conf\nxlog.conf'
```

Note: This example is for a 64-bit operating system. For a 32-bit system, replace the highlighted text with: 'C:\ **Program Files(x86)**\nxlog\conf\nxlog.conf'

1.3 NXLog Configuration

1.3.1 MS SQL Standalone (Non-Clustered) Configuration File

```
## Please set the ROOT to the folder your nxlog was installed into, otherwise it will not start.
define NCloud  192.168.8.4
define ROOT    C:\Program Files\nxlog
define CERTDIR %ROOT%\cert
define CONFDIR %ROOT%\conf
define LOGDIR  %ROOT%\data
define LOGFILE %LOGDIR%\nxlog.log
LogFile %LOGFILE%

Moduledir %ROOT%\modules
CacheDir  %ROOT%\data
Pidfile   %ROOT%\data\nxlog.pid
SpoolDir  %ROOT%\data

## Load the modules needed by the outputs
<Extension syslog>
  Module  xm_syslog
</Extension>

## For MS SQL instance Event Log use the following:
<Input in_sqllog>
  Module       im_msvistalog
  ReadFromLast TRUE
  SavePos      TRUE
  Query        <QueryList> \
    <Query Id="0"> \
      <Select Path="Application">*[System[Provider[@Name='MSSQLSERVER']]]</Select> \
    </Query> \
  </QueryList>
</Input>

<Output out_sqllog>
  Module om_udp
  Host   %NCloud%
  Port   514
  Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 18;
  Exec $Message = "MSSQLSERVER" + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
  Exec if ($EventType == 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') { $SyslogSeverityValue = 3; } \
       else if ($EventType == 'WARNING')  { $SyslogSeverityValue = 4; } \
       else if ($EventType == 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS')  { $SyslogSeverityValue = 5; }
  Exec to_syslog_bsd();
</Output>

<Route sqllog>
  Path   in_sqllog => out_sqllog
</Route>
```

```
## For Windows Event log use the following:
<Input in_eventlog>
  Module       im_msvistalog
  ReadFromLast TRUE
  SavePos      TRUE
  Query        <QueryList> \
    <Query Id="0"> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4624 or EventID=4625 or EventID=4626 or EventID=4627 or EventID=4634 or EventID=4646 or
      EventID=4647 or EventID=4648 or EventID=4649 or EventID=4672 or EventID=4675)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4778 or EventID=4779 or EventID=4800 or EventID=4801 or EventID=4802 or EventID=4803 or
      EventID=4964 or EventID=4976 or EventID=5058 or EventID=5059 or EventID=5061)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=5378 or EventID=5379 or EventID=5632 or EventID=5633 or EventID=4768 or EventID=4769 or
      EventID=4770 or EventID=4771 or EventID=4772 or EventID=4773 or EventID=4774)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4775 or EventID=4776 or EventID=4777 or EventID=4820 or EventID=4720 or EventID=4722 or
      EventID=4723 or EventID=4724 or EventID=4725 or EventID=4726 or EventID=4727)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4731 or EventID=4732 or EventID=4733 or EventID=4734 or EventID=4735 or EventID=4738 or
      EventID=4739 or EventID=4740 or EventID=4749 or EventID=4750 or EventID=4751)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4752 or EventID=4753 or EventID=4764 or EventID=4765 or EventID=4766 or EventID=4767 or
      EventID=4780 or EventID=4781 or EventID=4782 or EventID=4793 or EventID=4794)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4797 or EventID=4798 or EventID=4799 or EventID=5376 or EventID=5377)]]</Select> \
    </Query> \
  </QueryList>
</Input>

<Output out_eventlog>
  Module om_udp
  Host   %NCloud%
  Port   514
  Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 17;
  Exec $Message = string($SourceName) + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
  Exec if ($EventType == 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') { $SyslogSeverityValue = 3; } \
       else if ($EventType == 'WARNING')  { $SyslogSeverityValue = 4; } \
       else if ($EventType == 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS')  { $SyslogSeverityValue = 5; }
  Exec  to_syslog_bsd();
</Output>

<Route eventlog>
  Path  in_eventlog => out_eventlog
</Route>
```

Please set the ROOT to the folder your nxlog was installed into, otherwise it will not start.

```
define NCloud 192.168.8.4
define ROOT C:\Program Files\nxlog
define CERTDIR %ROOT%\cert
define CONFDIR %ROOT%\conf
define LOGDIR %ROOT%\data
define LOGFILE %LOGDIR%\nxlog.log
LogFile %LOGFILE%

Moduledir %ROOT%\modules
CacheDir %ROOT%\data
Pidfile %ROOT%\data\nxlog.pid
SpoolDir %ROOT%\data

## Load the modules needed by the outputs
<Extension syslog>
Module xm_syslog
</Extension>
## For MS SQL instance Event Log use the following:
<Input im_sqllog>
Module im_msvistalog
ReadFromLast TRUE
SavePos TRUE
Query <QueryList> \
<Query Id="0"> \
<Select Path="Application">*[System[(Provider[@Name='MSSQLSERVER']]]</Select> \
</Query> \
</QueryList>
</Input>

<Output out_sqllog>
Module om_udp
Host %NCloud%
Port 514
Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 18;
Exec $Message = "MSSQLSERVER" + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
Exec if ($EventType == 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 3;}\
```

```
else if ($EventType == 'WARNING') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 4;}\
else if ($EventType == 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 5;}
Exec to_syslog_bsd();
</Output>

<Route sqllog>
Path in_sqllog => out_sqllog
</Route>

## For Windows Event log use the following:
<Input in_eventlog>
Module im_msvistalog
ReadFromLast TRUE
SavePos TRUE
Query <QueryList> \
<Query Id="0"> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4624 or EventID=4625 or EventID=4626
or EventID=4627 or EventID=4634 or EventID=4646 or EventID=4647 or EventID=4648 or EventID=4649 or
EventID=4672 or EventID=4675)]]</Select> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4778 or EventID=4779 or EventID=4800
or EventID=4801 or EventID=4802 or EventID=4803 or EventID=4964 or EventID=4976 or EventID=5058 or
EventID=5059 or EventID=4061)]]</Select> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=5378 or EventID=5379 or EventID=5632
or EventID=5633 or EventID=4768 or EventID=4769 or EventID=4770 or EventID=4771 or EventID=4772 or
EventID=4773 or EventID=4774)]]</Select> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4775 or EventID=4776 or EventID=4777
or EventID=4820 or EventID=4720 or EventID=4722 or EventID=4723 or EventID=4724 or EventID=4725 or
EventID=4726 or EventID=4727)]]</Select> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4731 or EventID=4732 or EventID=4733
or EventID=4734 or EventID=4735 or EventID=4738 or EventID=4739 or EventID=4740 or EventID=4749 or
EventID=4750 or EventID=4751)]]</Select> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4752 or EventID=4753 or EventID=4764
or EventID=4765 or EventID=4766 or EventID=4767 or EventID=4780 or EventID=4781 or EventID=4782 or
EventID=4793 or EventID=4794)]]</Select> \
<Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4797 or EventID=4798 or EventID=4799 or
EventID=5376 or EventID=5377)]]</Select> \
```

```
    </Query> \
    </QueryList>
    </Input>

    <Output out_eventlog>
    Module om_udp
    Host %NCloud%
    Port 514
    Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 17;
    Exec $Message = string($SourceName) + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
    Exec if ($EventType == 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 3;}\
    else if ($EventType == 'WARNING') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 4;}\
    else if ($EventType == 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 5;}
    Exec to_syslog_bsd();
    </Output>

    <Route eventlog>
    Path in_eventlog => out_eventlog
    </Route>
```

Enter the N-Reporter system IP address in the blue text section.

```
define NCloud 192.168.8.4
```

This example is based on a 64-bit operating system.

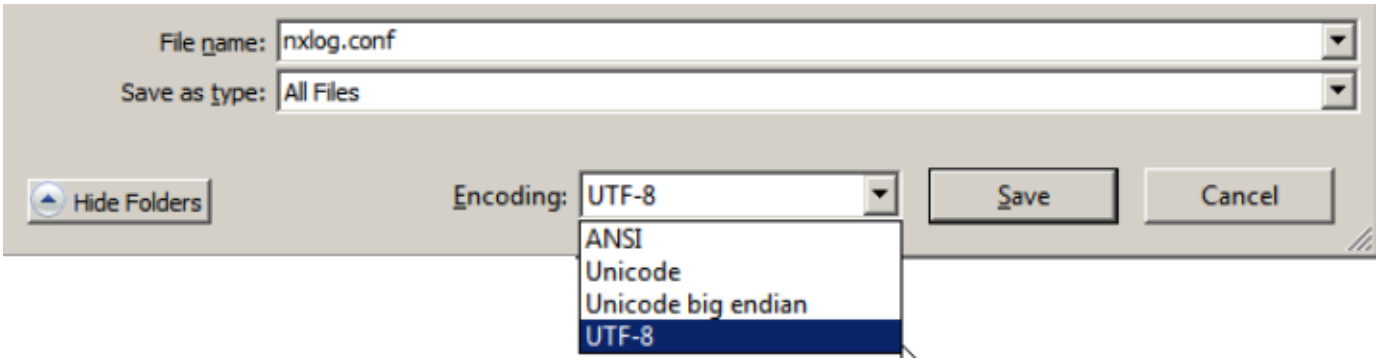
For a 32-bit operating system, use the following setting instead:

```
define ROOT C:\Program Files (x86)\nxlog
```

Replace the text shown in blue with the MS SQL instance name.

```
<Select Path=”Application”>*[System[(Provider[@Name='MSSQLSERVER']]] \
```

Note: After modifying the configuration file, save it as a new file to overwrite the original. For Save as type, select “All Files (*.*)”. For Encoding, select UTF-8 to avoid encoding errors that could prevent the service from starting.



1.3.2 MS SQL Cluster Configuration File

```
## Please set the ROOT to the folder your nxlog was installed into, otherwise it will not start.
define NCloud  192.168.8.4
define ROOT    C:\Program Files\nxlog
define CERTDIR %ROOT%\cert
define CONFDIR %ROOT%\conf
define LOGDIR  %ROOT%\data
define LOGFILE %LOGDIR%\nxlog.log
LogFile %LOGFILE%

Moduledir %ROOT%\modules
CacheDir  %ROOT%\data
Pidfile   %ROOT%\data\nxlog.pid
SpoolDir  %ROOT%\data

## Load the modules needed by the outputs
<Extension syslog>
  Module  xm_syslog
</Extension>

## For MS SQL instance Event Log use the following:
<Input in_sqllog>
  Module       im_msvistalog
  ReadFromLast TRUE
  SavePos      TRUE
  Query        <QueryList> \
    <Query Id="0"> \
      <Select Path="Application">*[System[Provider[@Name='MSSQLSERVER']]]</Select> \
    </Query> \
  </QueryList>
</Input>

<Output out_sqllog>
  Module om_udp
  Host   %NCloud%
  Port   514
  Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 18;
  Exec $Message = "MSSQLSERVER" + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
  Exec if ($EventType =~ 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') { $SyslogSeverityValue = 3; } \
       else if ($EventType =~ 'WARNING')  { $SyslogSeverityValue = 4; } \
       else if ($EventType =~ 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS')  { $SyslogSeverityValue = 5; }
  Exec to_syslog_bsd();
</Output>

<Route sqllog>
  Path   in_sqllog => out_sqllog
</Route>
```

```
## For Windows Event log use the following:
<Input in_eventlog>
  Module       im_msvistalog
  ReadFromLast TRUE
  SavePos      TRUE
  Query        <QueryList> \
    <Query Id="0"> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4624 or EventID=4625 or EventID=4626 or EventID=4627 or EventID=4634 or EventID=4646 or
      EventID=4647 or EventID=4648 or EventID=4649 or EventID=4672 or EventID=4675)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4778 or EventID=4779 or EventID=4800 or EventID=4801 or EventID=4802 or EventID=4803 or
      EventID=4964 or EventID=4976 or EventID=5058 or EventID=5059 or EventID=5061)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=5378 or EventID=5379 or EventID=5632 or EventID=5633 or EventID=4768 or EventID=4769 or
      EventID=4770 or EventID=4771 or EventID=4772 or EventID=4773 or EventID=4774)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4775 or EventID=4776 or EventID=4777 or EventID=4820 or EventID=4720 or EventID=4722 or
      EventID=4723 or EventID=4724 or EventID=4725 or EventID=4726 or EventID=4727)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4731 or EventID=4732 or EventID=4733 or EventID=4734 or EventID=4735 or EventID=4738 or
      EventID=4739 or EventID=4740 or EventID=4749 or EventID=4750 or EventID=4751)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4752 or EventID=4753 or EventID=4764 or EventID=4765 or EventID=4766 or EventID=4767 or
      EventID=4780 or EventID=4781 or EventID=4782 or EventID=4793 or EventID=4794)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4797 or EventID=4798 or EventID=4799 or EventID=5376 or EventID=5377)]]</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/ClusterSetDiagnostic">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/Diagnostic">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/DiagnosticVerbose">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/Operational">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-CsvFs/Operational">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Manager/Admin">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Manager/Diagnostic">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Manager/Tracing">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-NetFt/Operational">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Clusport/Operational">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-ClusBflt/Management">*</Select> \
      <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-ClusBflt/Operational">*</Select> \
    </Query> \
  </QueryList>
</Input>
```

```
## Please set the ROOT to the folder your nxlog was installed into, otherwise it will not start.
define NCloud 192.168.8.4
define ROOT C:\Program Files\nxlog
define CERTDIR %ROOT%\cert
define CONFDIR %ROOT%\conf
define LOGDIR %ROOT%\data
define LOGFILE %LOGDIR%\nxlog.log
LogFile %LOGFILE%

Moduledir %ROOT%\modules
CacheDir %ROOT%\data
Pidfile %ROOT%\data\nxlog.pid
SpoolDir %ROOT%\data

## Load the modules needed by the outputs
<Extension syslog>
Module xm_syslog
</Extension>

## For MS SQL instance Event Log use the following:
<Input im_sqllog>
Module im_msvistalog
ReadFromLast TRUE
SavePos TRUE
Query <QueryList> \
<Query Id="0"> \
<Select Path="Application">*[System[(Provider[@Name='MSSQLSERVER']]]</Select> \
</Query> \
</QueryList>
</Input>

<Output out_sqllog>
Module om_udp
Host %NCloud%
Port 514
Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 18;
```

```
    Exec $Message = "MSSQLSERVER" + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
    Exec if ($EventType == 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 3;}\
    else if ($EventType == 'WARNING') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 4;}\
    else if ($EventType == 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 5;}
    Exec to_syslog_bsd();
    </Output>

    <Route sqllog>
    Path in_sqllog => out_sqllog
    </Route>
    ## For Windows Event log use the following:
    <Input in_eventlog>
    Module im_msvistalog
    ReadFromLast TRUE
    SavePos TRUE
    Query <QueryList> \
    <Query Id="0"> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4624 or EventID=4625 or EventID=4626
    or EventID=4627 or EventID=4634 or EventID=4646 or EventID=4647 or EventID=4648 or
EventID=4649 or
    EventID=4672 or EventID=4675)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4778 or EventID=4779 or EventID=4800
    or EventID=4801 or EventID=4802 or EventID=4803 or EventID=4964 or EventID=4976 or
EventID=5058 or
    EventID=5059 or EventID=4061)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=5378 or EventID=5379 or EventID=5632
    or EventID=5633 or EventID=4768 or EventID=4769 or EventID=4770 or EventID=4771 or
EventID=4772 or
    EventID=4773 or EventID=4774)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4775 or EventID=4776 or EventID=4777
    or EventID=4820 or EventID=4720 or EventID=4722 or EventID=4723 or EventID=4724 or
EventID=4725 or
    EventID=4726 or EventID=4727)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4731 or EventID=4732 or EventID=4733
    or EventID=4734 or EventID=4735 or EventID=4738 or EventID=4739 or EventID=4740 or
EventID=4749 or
```

```
    EventID=4750 or EventID=4751)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4752 or EventID=4753 or EventID=4764
    or EventID=4765 or EventID=4766 or EventID=4767 or EventID=4780 or EventID=4781 or
EventID=4782 or
    EventID=4793 or EventID=4794)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Security">*[System[(EventID=4797 or EventID=4798 or EventID=4799 or
    EventID=5376 or EventID=5377)]]</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/ClusterSetDiagnostic">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/Diagnostic">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/DiagnosticVerbose">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering/Operational">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-CsvFs/Operational">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Manager/Admin">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Manager/Diagnostic">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Manager/Tracing">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-NetFt/Operational">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-Clusport/Operational">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-ClusBflt/Management">*</Select> \
    <Select Path="Microsoft-Windows-FailoverClustering-ClusBflt/Operational">*</Select> \
    </Query> \
    </QueryList>
    </Input>

    <Output out_eventlog>
    Module om_udp
    Host %NCloud%
    Port 514
    Exec $SyslogFacilityValue = 17;
    Exec $Message = string($SourceName) + ": " + string($EventID) + ": " + $Message;
    Exec if ($EventType == 'ERROR' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_FAILURE') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 3;}\
    else if ($EventType == 'WARNING') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 4;}\
    else if ($EventType == 'INFO' or $EventType == 'AUDIT_SUCCESS') {$SyslogSeverityValue = 5;}
    Exec to_syslog_bsd();
    </Output>

    <Route eventlog>
```

```
    Path in_eventlog => out_eventlog
    </Route>
```

Enter the N-Reporter system IP address in the blue text section.

```
define NCloud 192.168.8.4
```

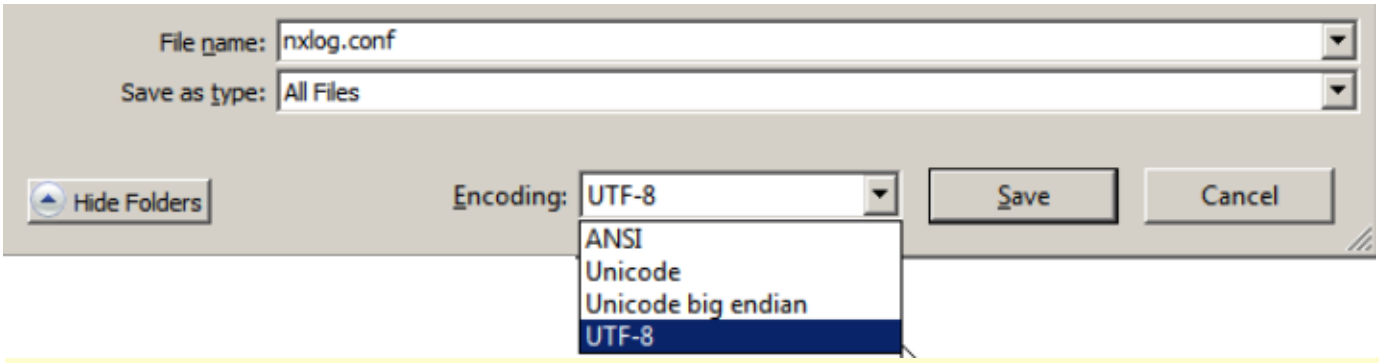
This example is based on a 64-bit operating system.

For a 32-bit operating system, use the following setting instead:

```
define ROOT C:\Program Files (x86)\nxlog
```

Replace the text shown in blue with the MS SQL instance name.

```
<Select Path=”Application”>*[System[(Provider[@Name='MSSQLSERVER']]] \
```



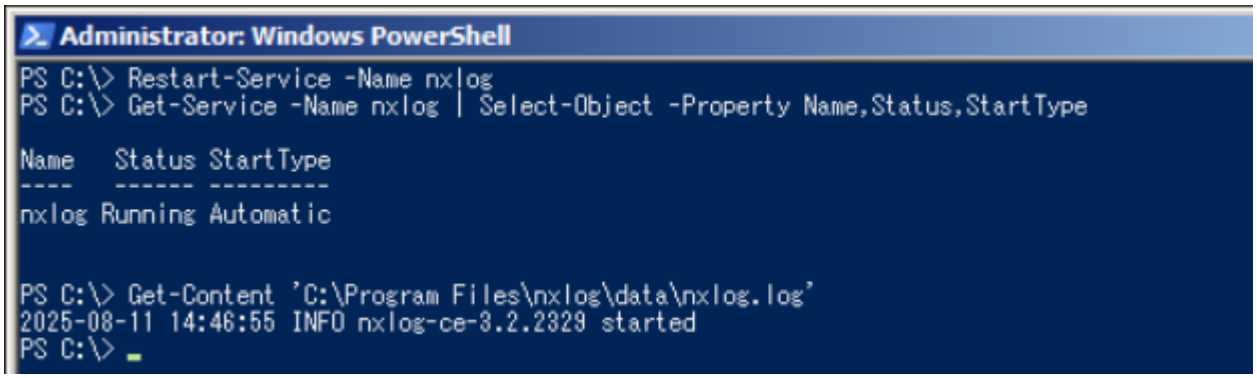
Note: After modifying the configuration file, save it as a new file to overwrite the original. For Save as type, select “All Files (*.*)”. For Encoding, select UTF-8 to avoid encoding errors that could prevent the service from starting.

1.4 Starting the NXLog Service

(1) Open “Windows Powershell.”

(2) Restart the NXLog service, verify that it is running, and ensure there are no error messages:

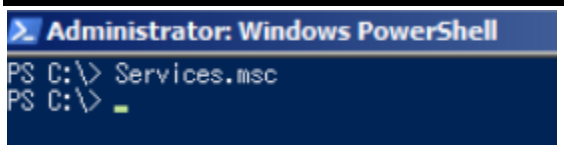
```
PS C:\> Restart-Service -Name nxlog
PS C:\> Get-Service -Name nxlog | Select-Object -Property Name,Status,StartType
PS C:\> Get-Content 'C:\ Program Files\ nxlog\data\nxlog.log'
```



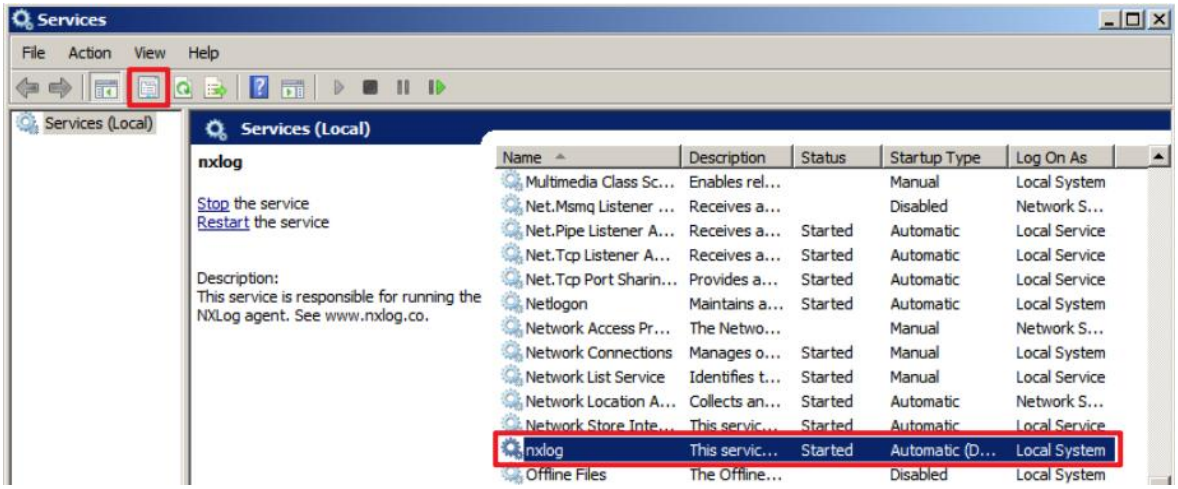
Note: This example is for a 64-bit operating system. For a 32-bit system, replace the highlighted text with: 'C:**\Program Files(x86)**\nxlog\conf\nxlog.conf'

(3) Enter the command below to open the **Services** console:

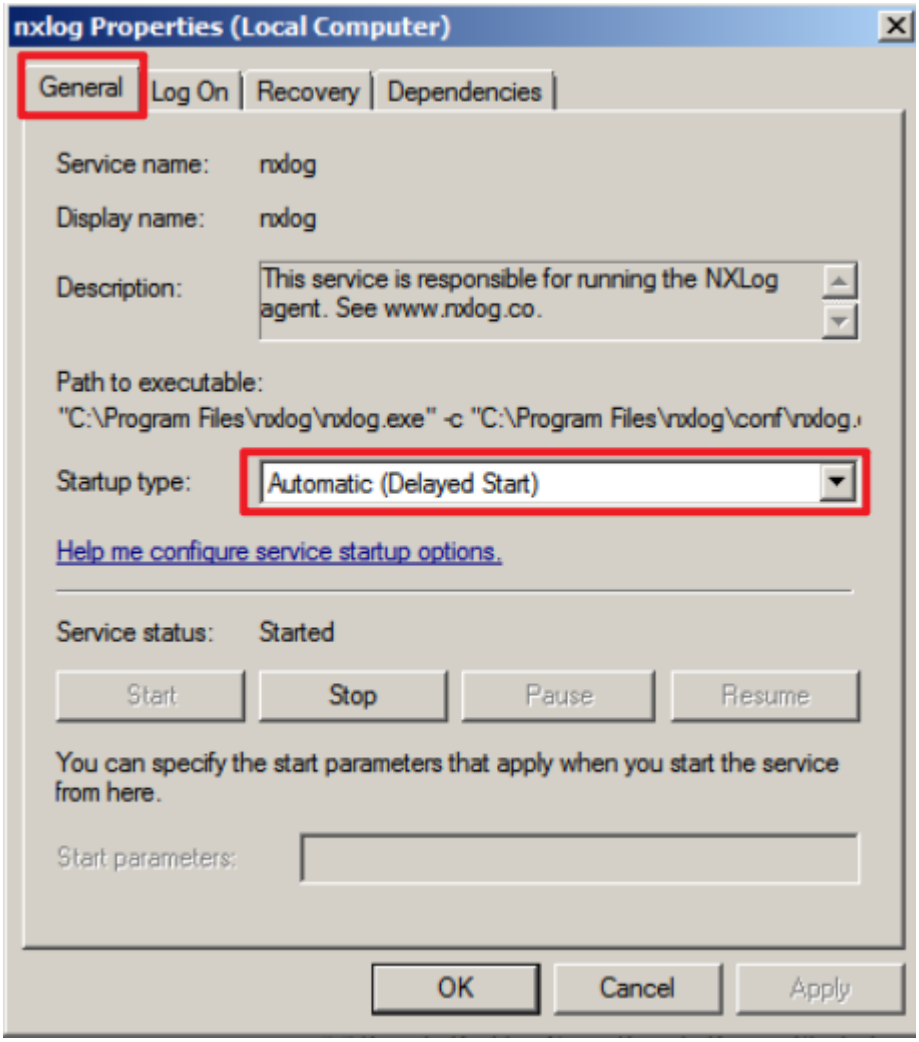
```
PS C:\> Services.msc
```



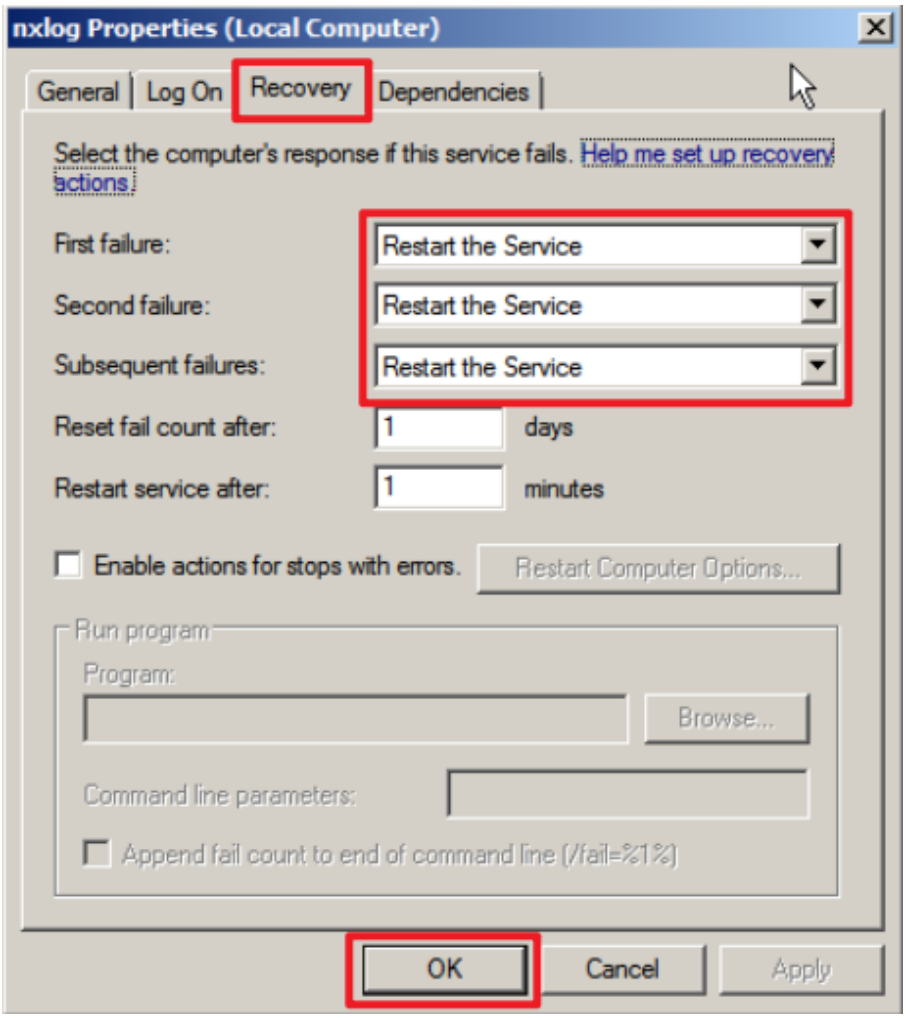
(4) Open the NXLog service properties: select “NXLog” → Click “Properties.”



(5) On the General tab, verify that Startup type is set to Automatic (Delayed Start).



(6) On the Recovery tab, verify that First failure, Second failure, and Subsequent failures are all set to "Restart the Service", then click "OK."



2. SQL Server 2008

2.1 Login Auditing

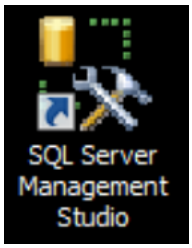
Enable login auditing to monitor SQL Server Database Engine login activities.

After configuration, the MS SQL Server service must be **restarted**.

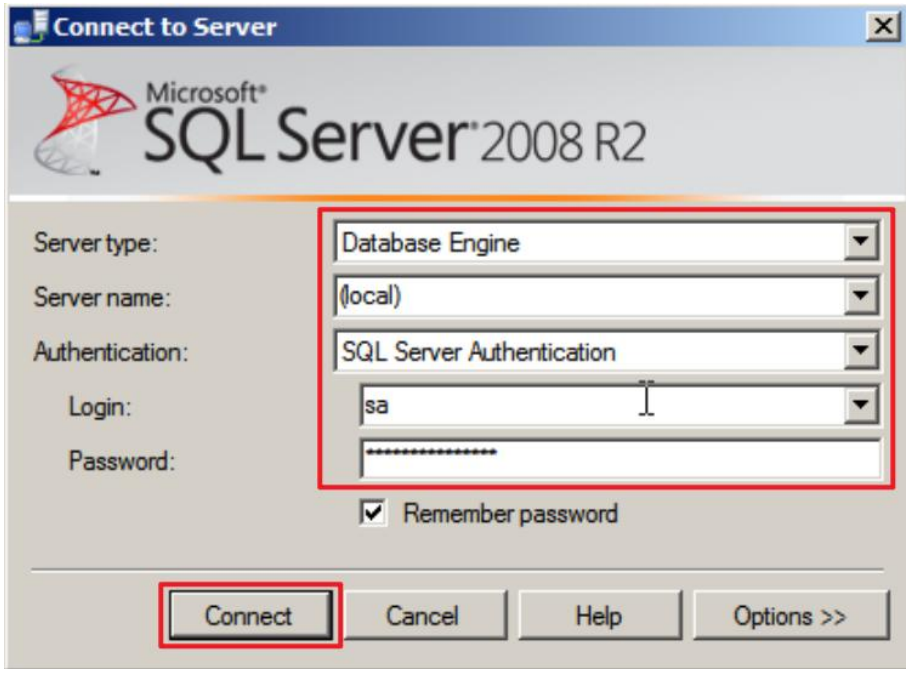
The following sections describe how to configure login auditing using both the graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI).

2.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

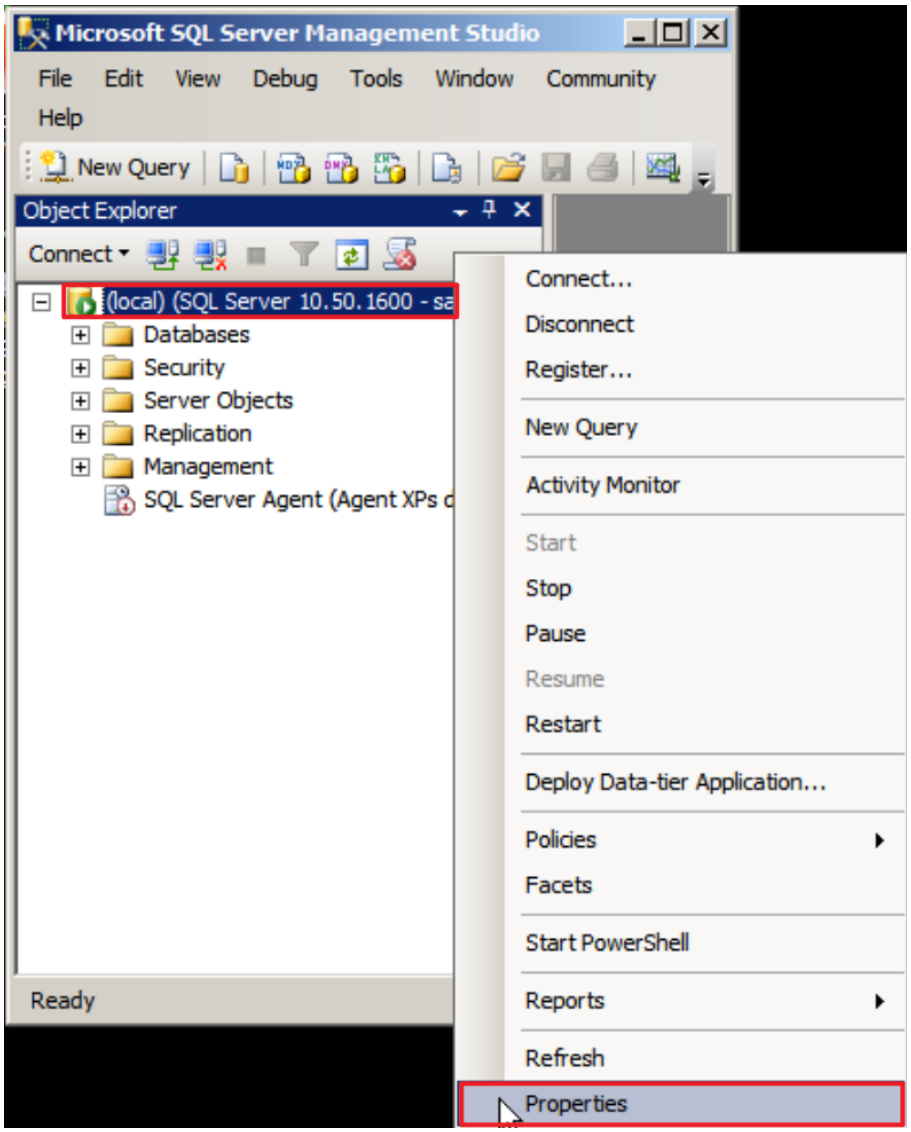
(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”



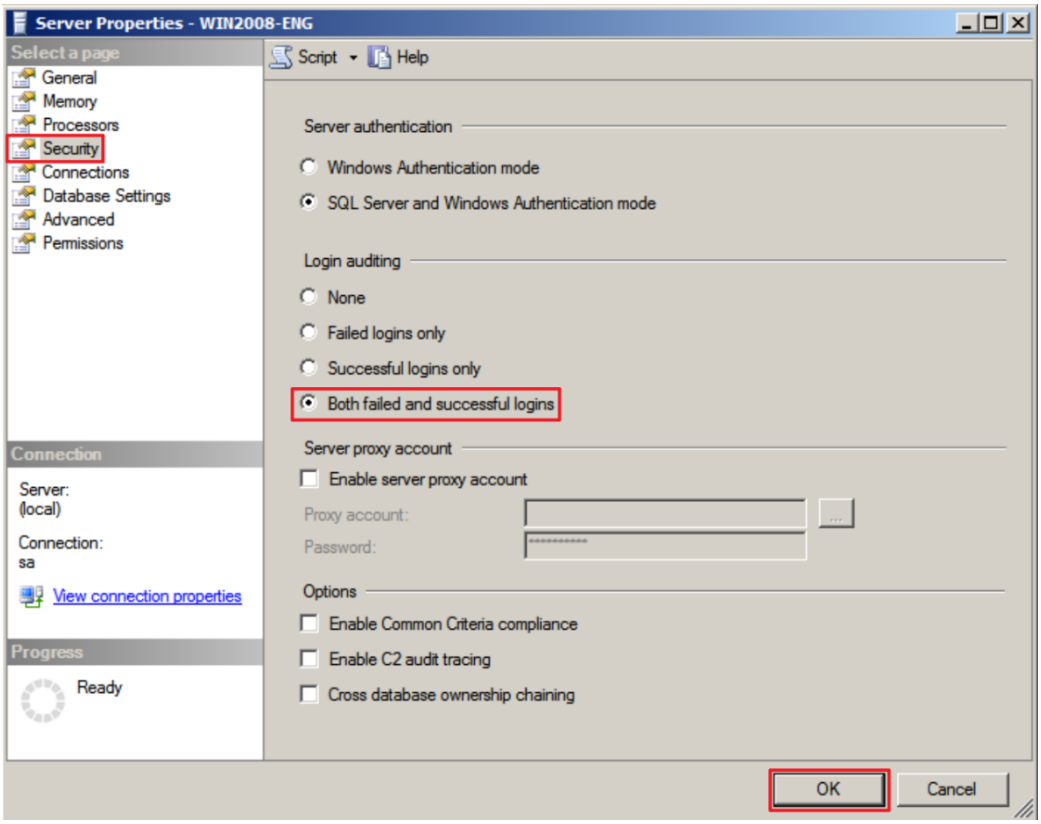
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



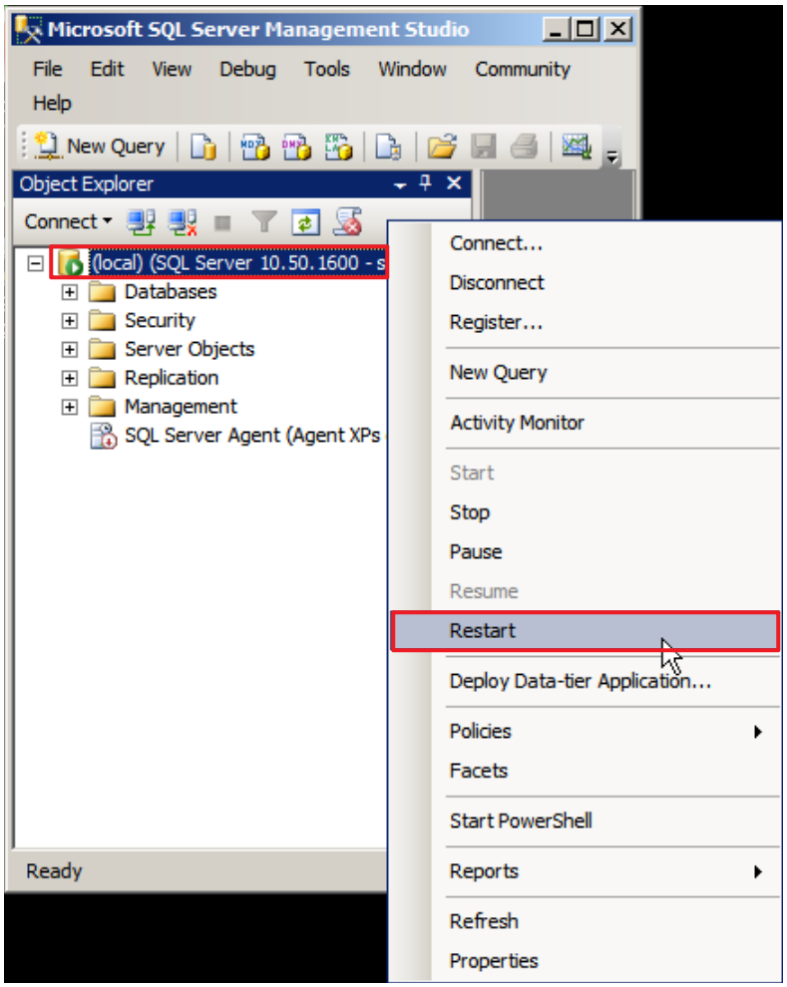
(3) In [Server Name] (the example here is SQL Server 10.50.1600), right-click and select “Properties.”



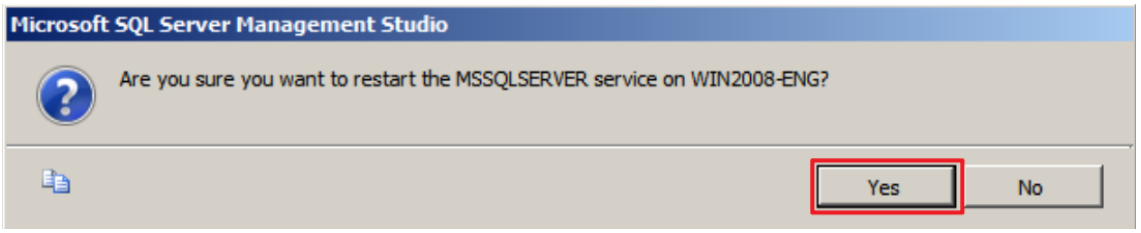
(4) On the Security page, under Login auditing, select “Both failed and successful logins” → click “OK”.



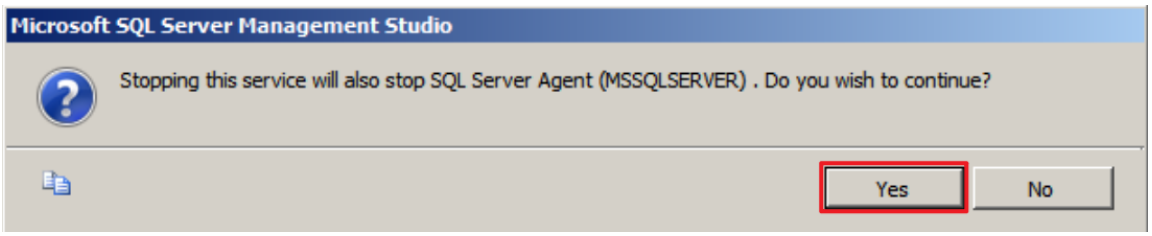
(5) Restart the MS SQL Server service: right-click [Server Name] (the example here is SQL Server 10.50.1600) → select “Restart.”



(6) Click “Yes” to restart the MS SQL Server service.

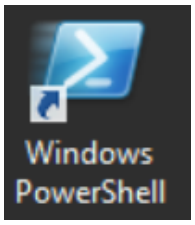


(7) Click “Yes” again to stop the SQL Server Agent service.



2.1.2 Configuring via Command-Line Interface (CLI)

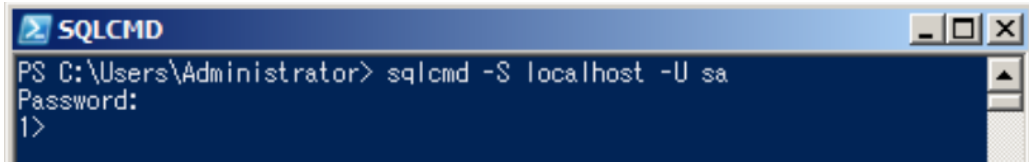
(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”



(2) Enter the command below to log in using sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

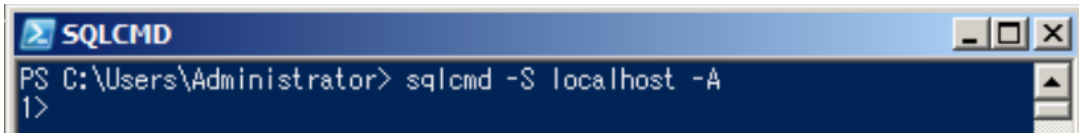
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

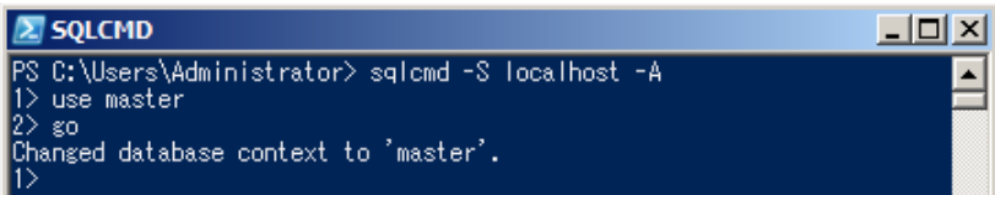
Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



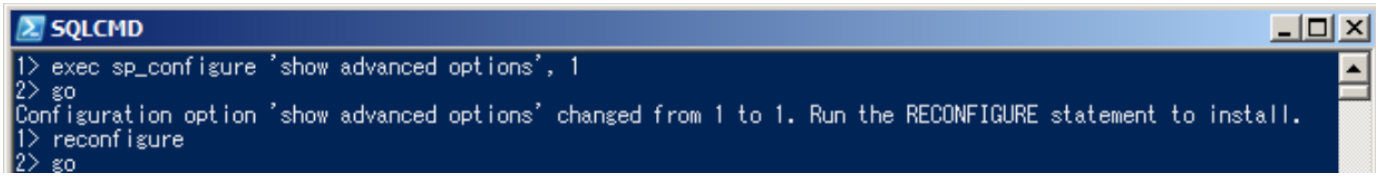
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



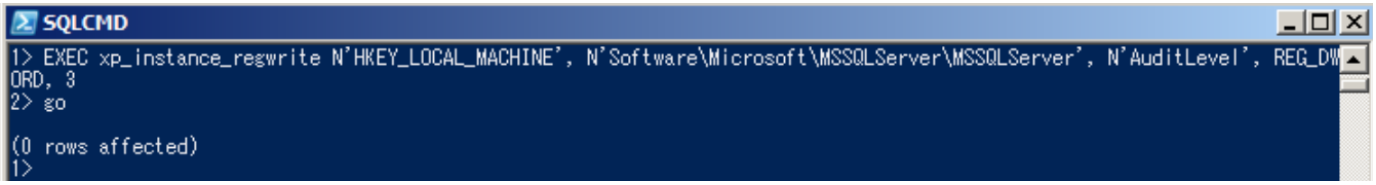
(4) Enter the command below to enable advanced options:

```
1 > exec sp_configure 'show advanced options', 1
2 > go
1 > reconfigure
2 > go
```



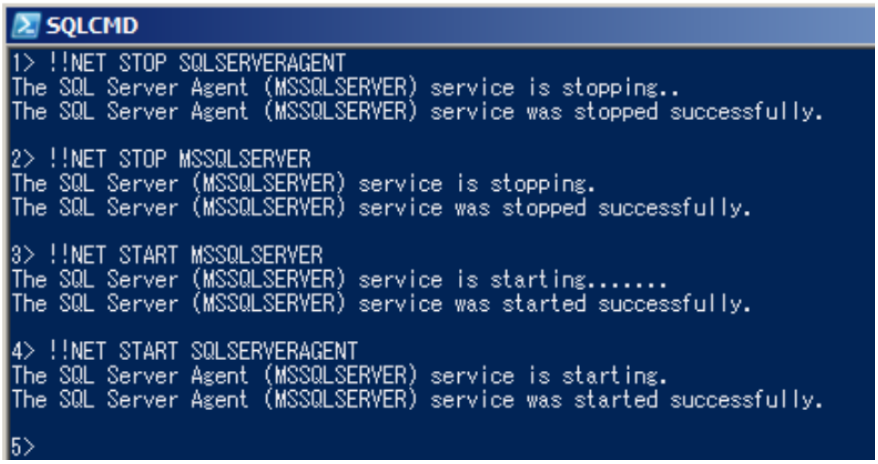
(5) Enter the command below to enable auditing for both failed and successful logins:

```
1 > EXEC xp_instance_regwrite N'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE',
N'Software\Microsoft\MSSQLServer\MSSQLServer', N'AuditLevel', REG_DWORD, 3
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to restart the MS SQL Server services:

```
1 > !!NET STOP SQLSERVERAGENT
2 > !!NET STOP MSSQLSERVER
3 > !!NET START MSSQLSERVER
4 > !!NET START SQLSERVERAGENT
```



2.2 Configuring Auditing

2.2.1 Server-Level Audit

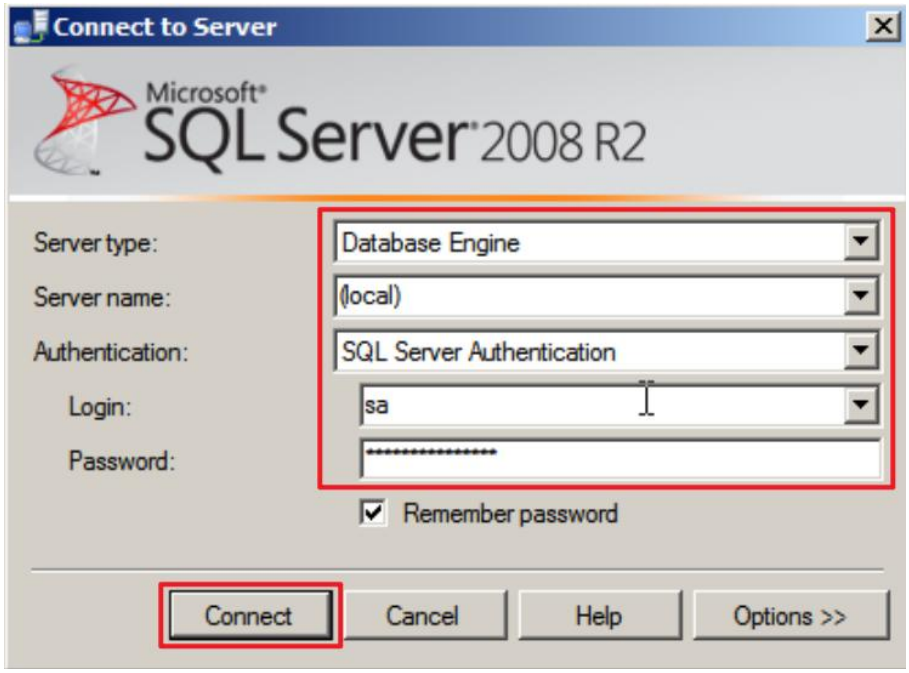
Enabling a server-level audit covers server operations such as administrative changes, login, and logout activities.

The following sections describe how to configure a server-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

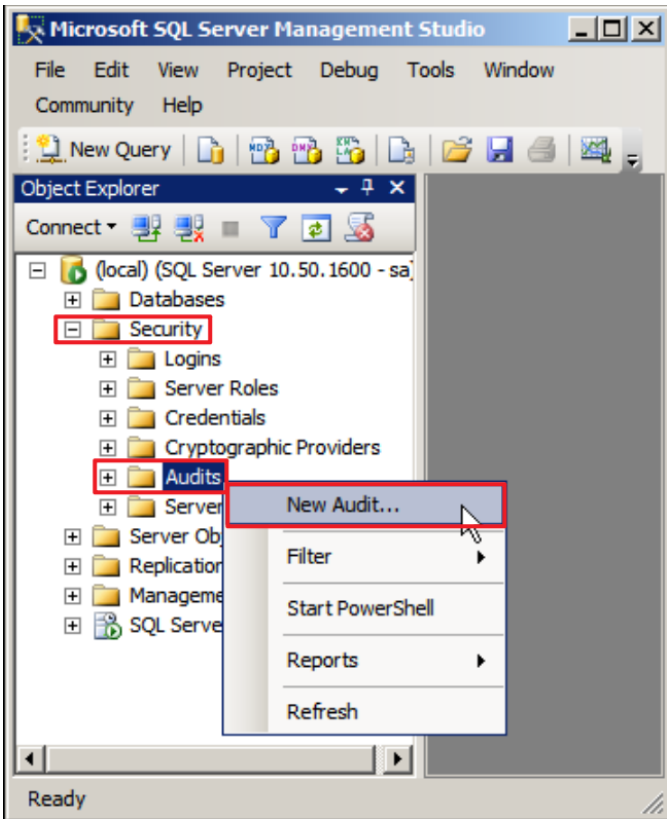
2.2.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

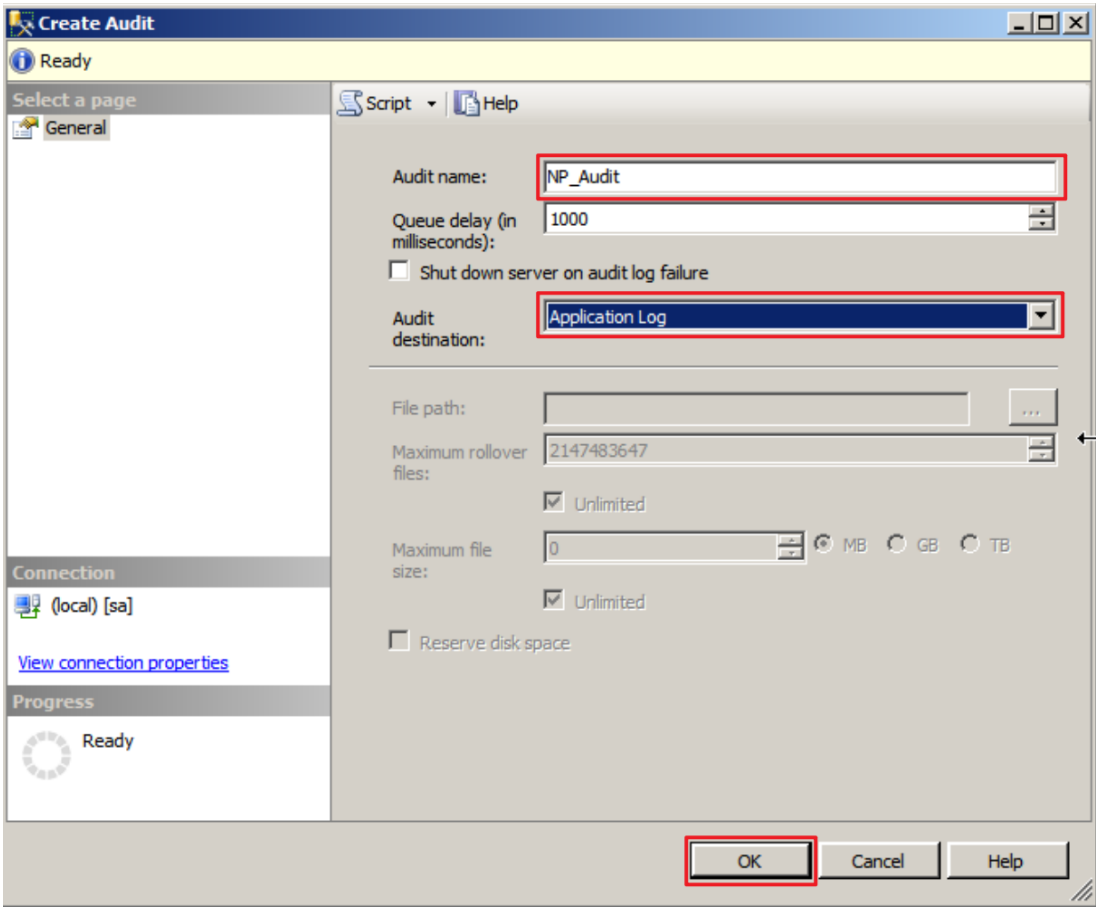
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



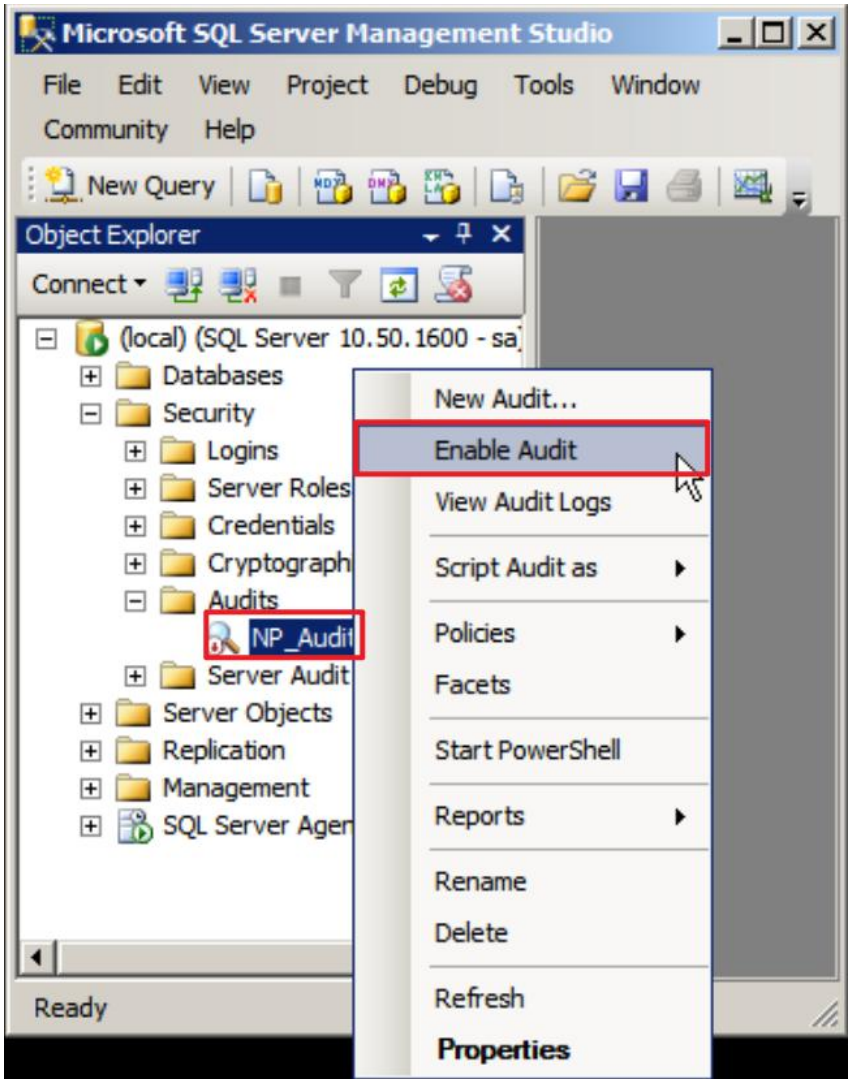
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



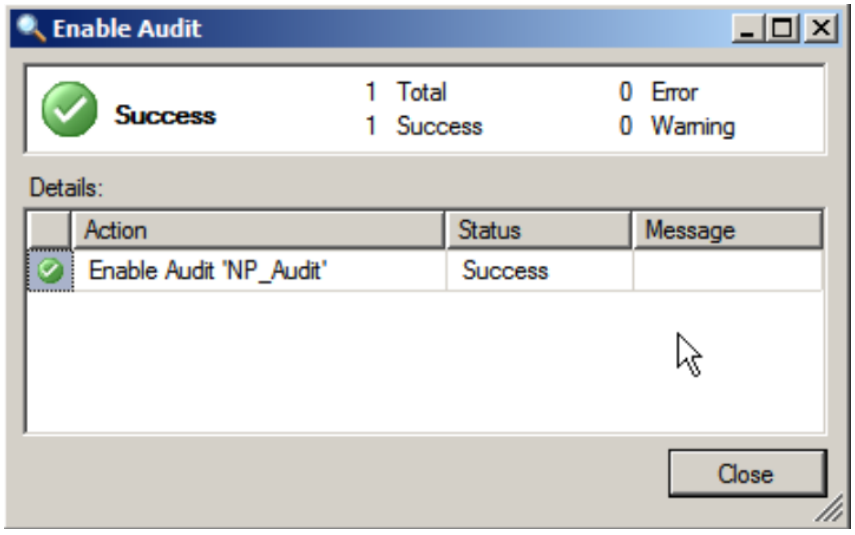
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



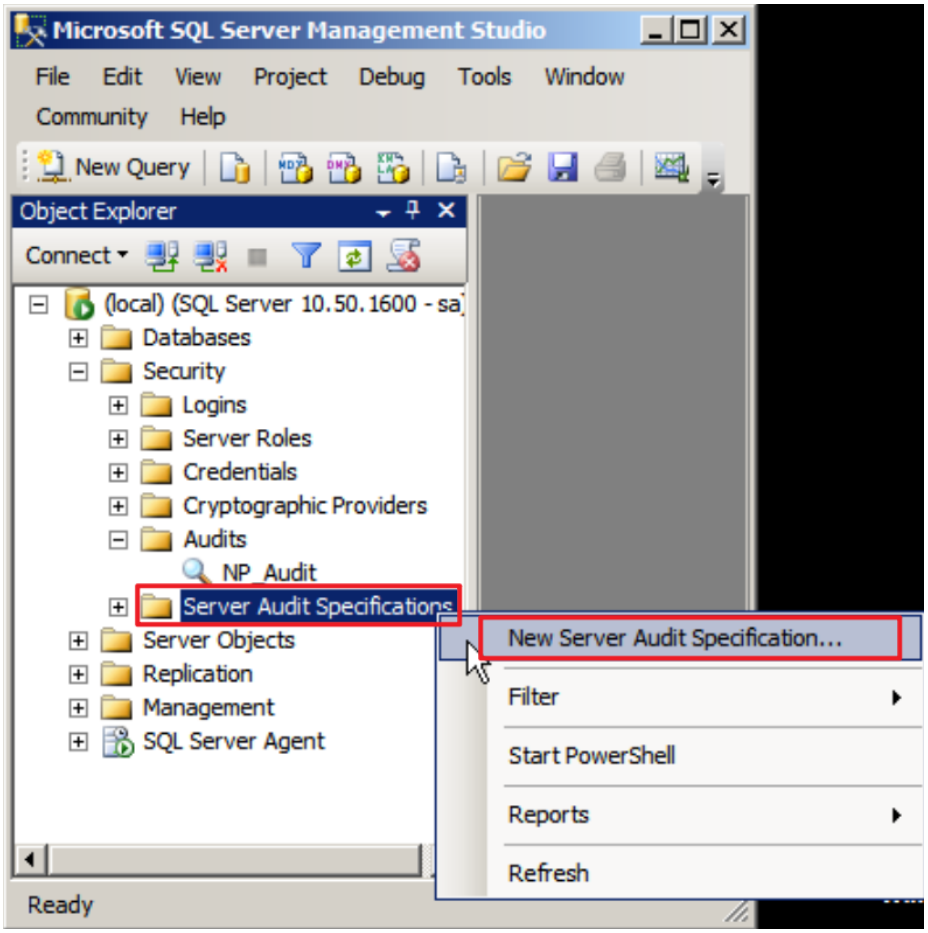
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



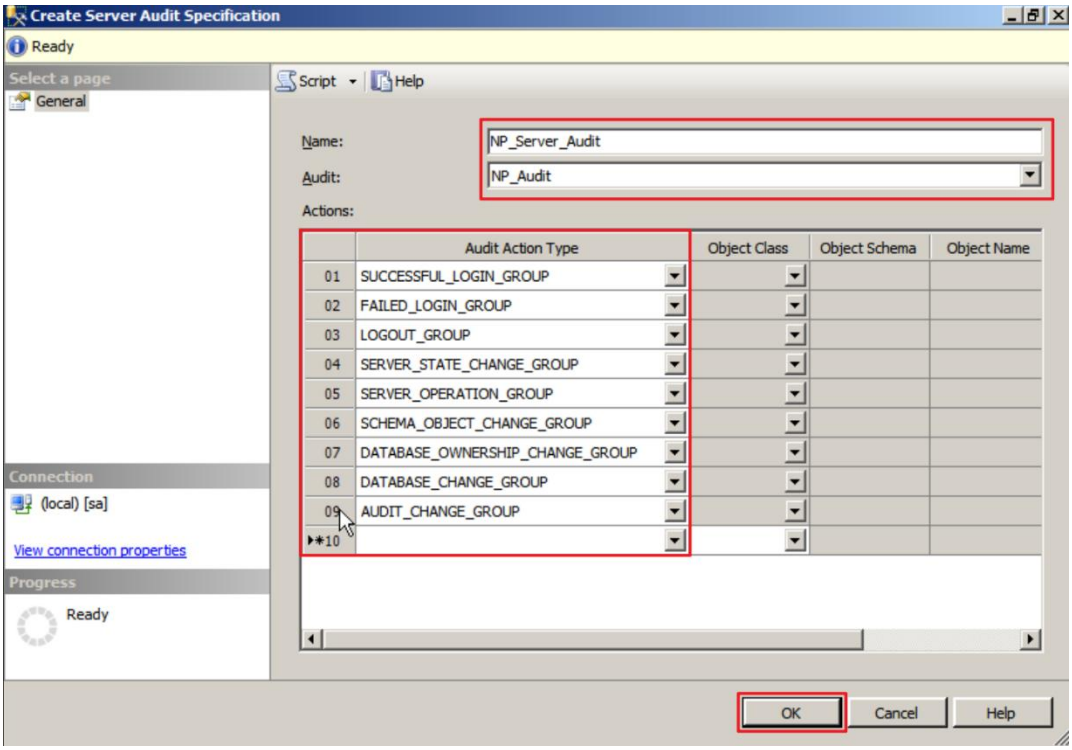
(6) Click “Close.”



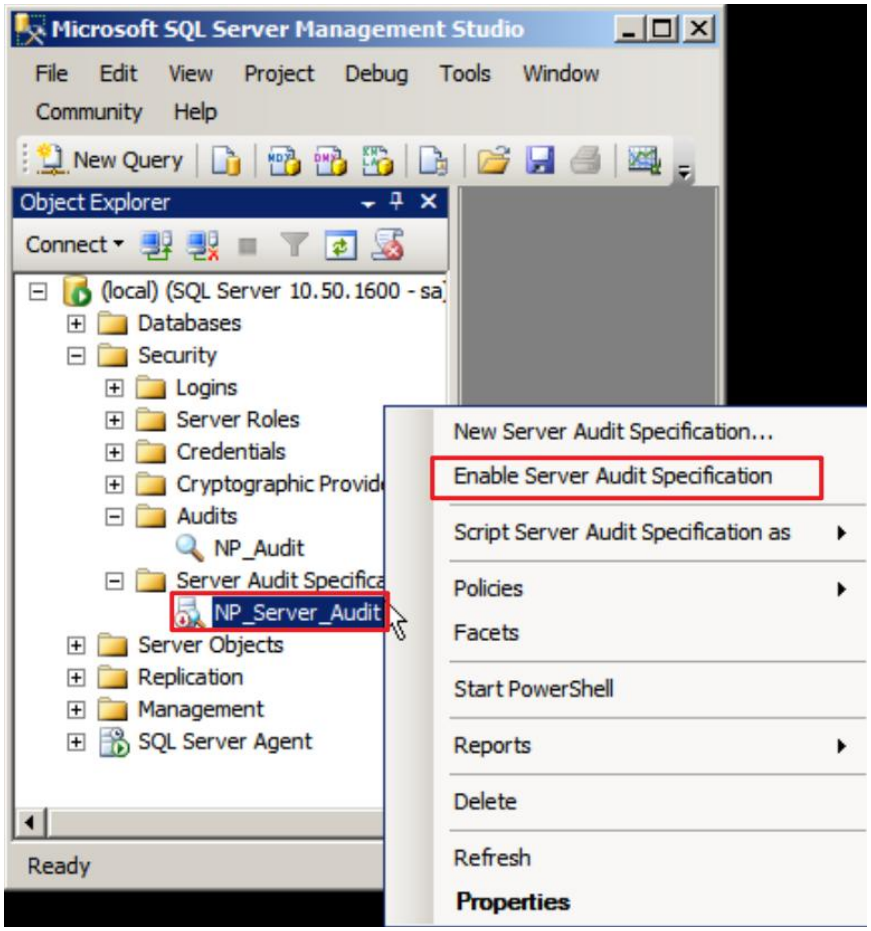
(7) Right-click “Server Audit Specifications,” → select “New Server Audit Specification...”



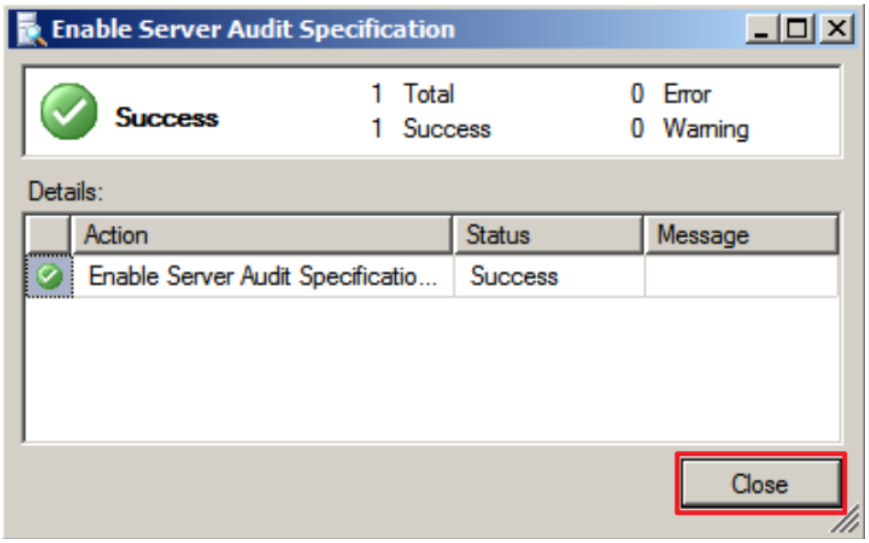
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_Server_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the server audit specification list, right-click “NP_Server_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



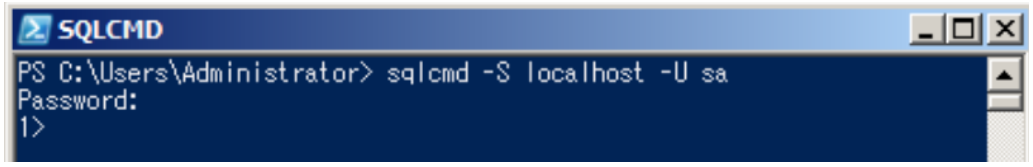
2.2.1.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa account:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

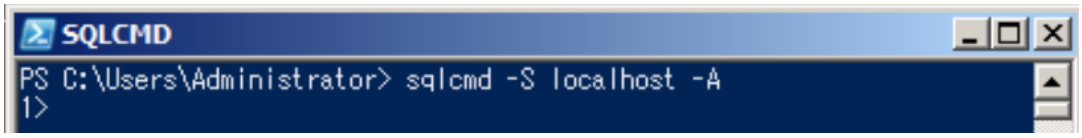
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

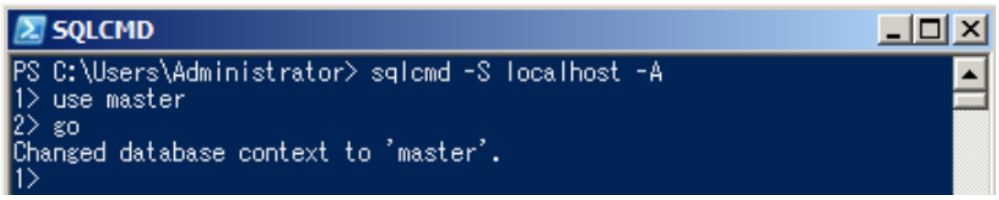
Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



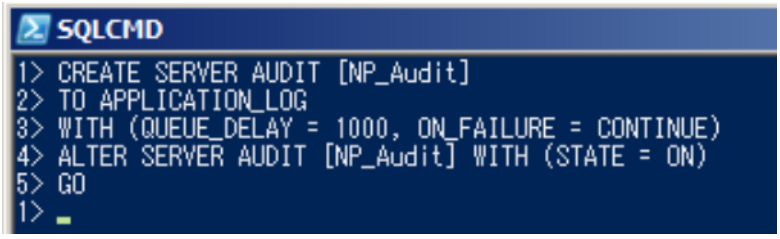
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



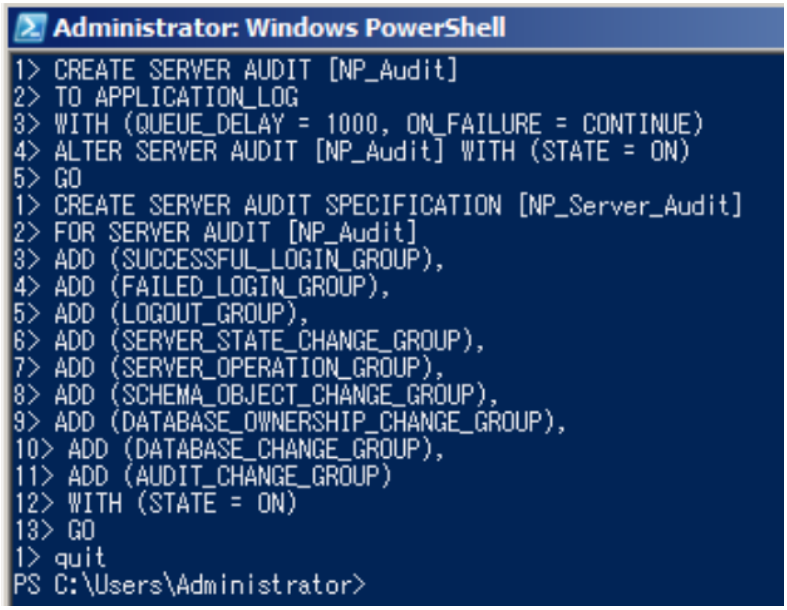
(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



(5) Enter the command below to configure the server audit and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_Server_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (SUCCESSFUL_LOGIN_GROUP),
4 > ADD (FAILED_LOGIN_GROUP),
5 > ADD (LOGOUT_GROUP),
6 > ADD (SERVER_STATE_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (SERVER_OPERATION_GROUP),
8 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
10 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
12 > WITH (STATE = ON)
13 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the server audit specification name.

2.2.2 Database-Level Audit

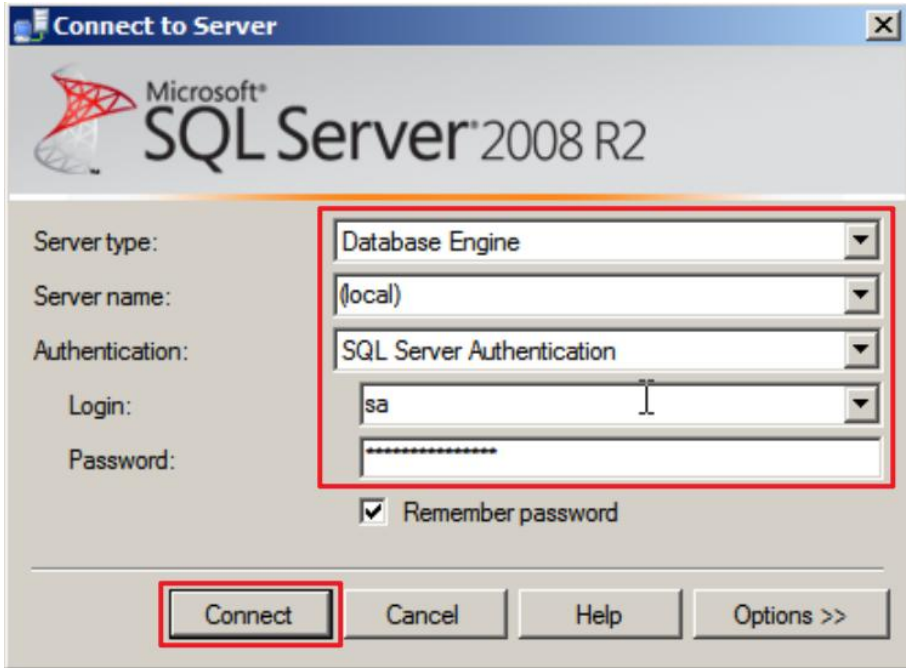
Enabling a database-level audit covers operations involving Data Manipulation Language (DML) and Data Definition Language (DDL) statements.

The following sections describe how to configure a database-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

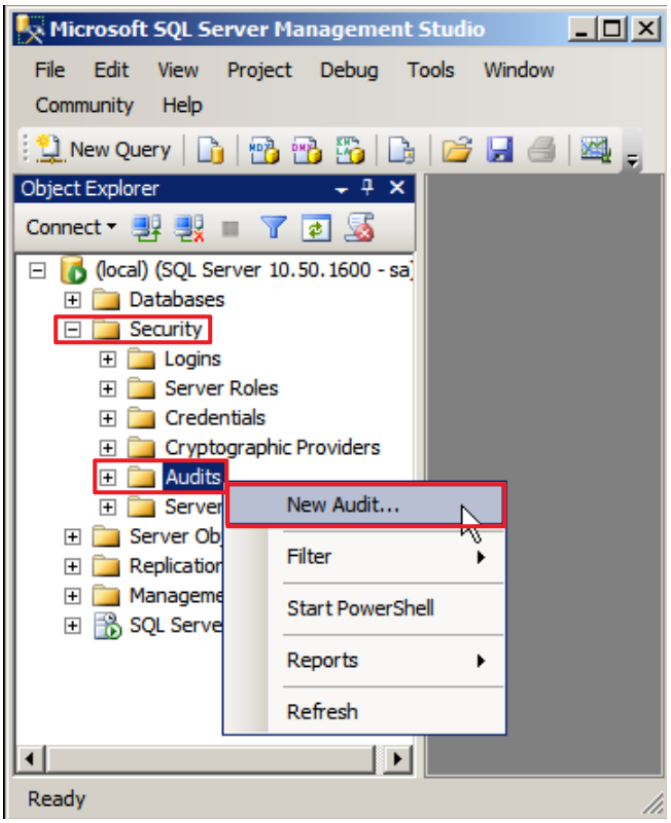
2.2.2.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

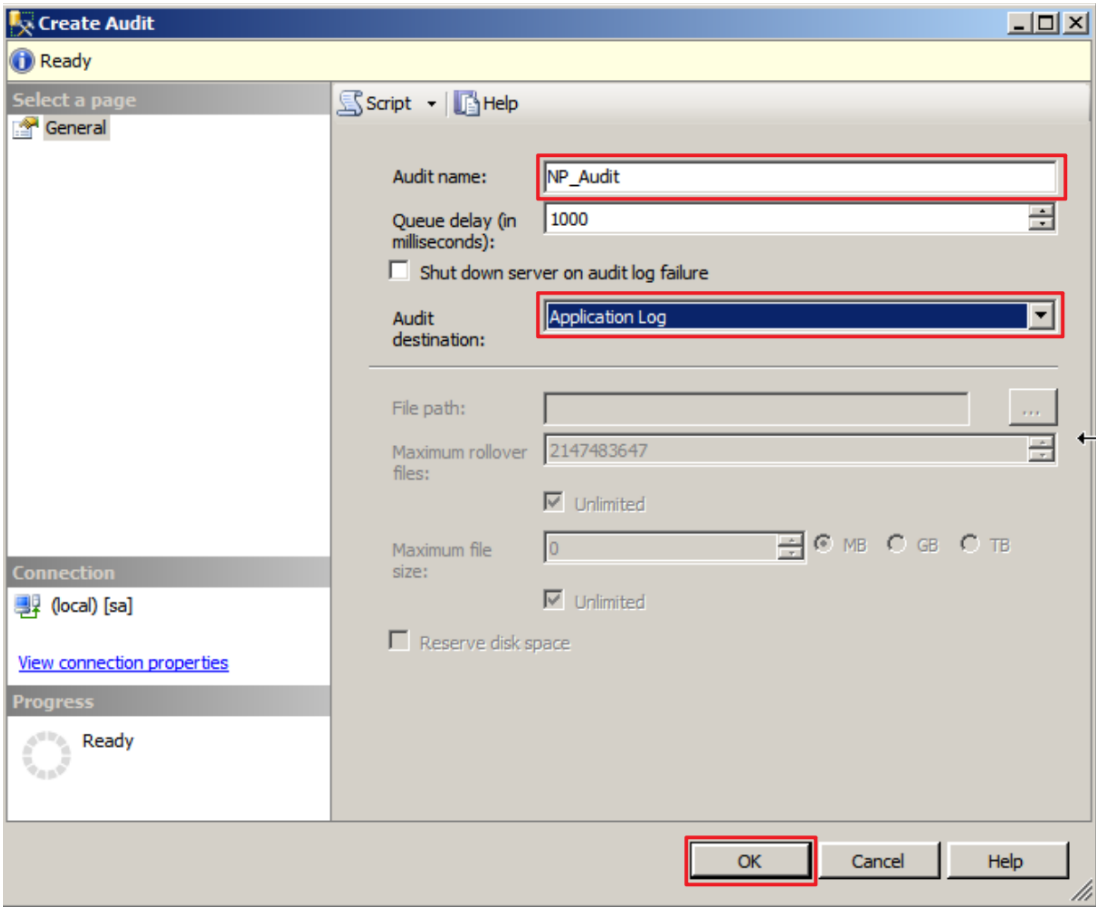
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



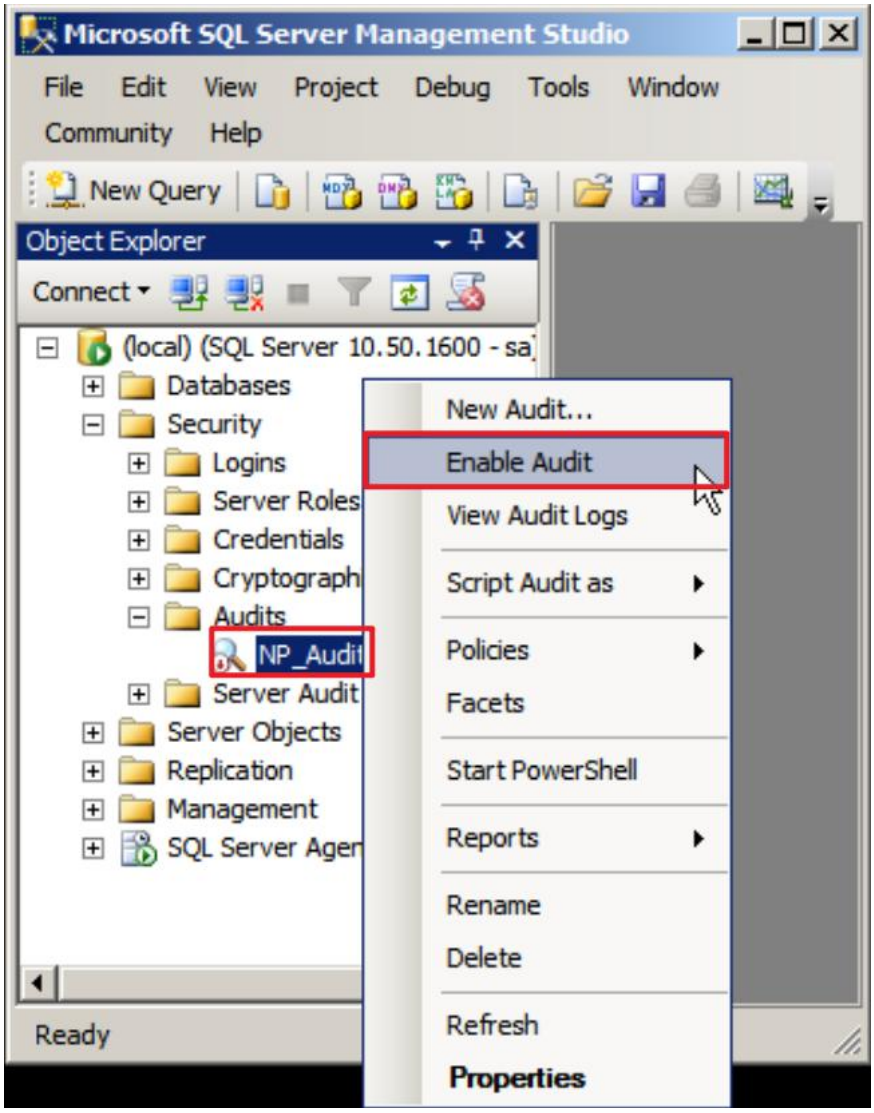
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



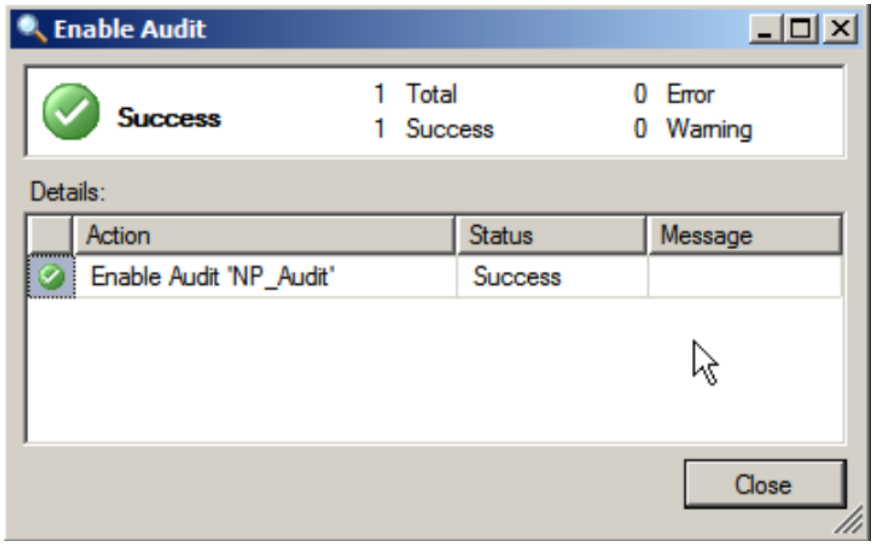
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



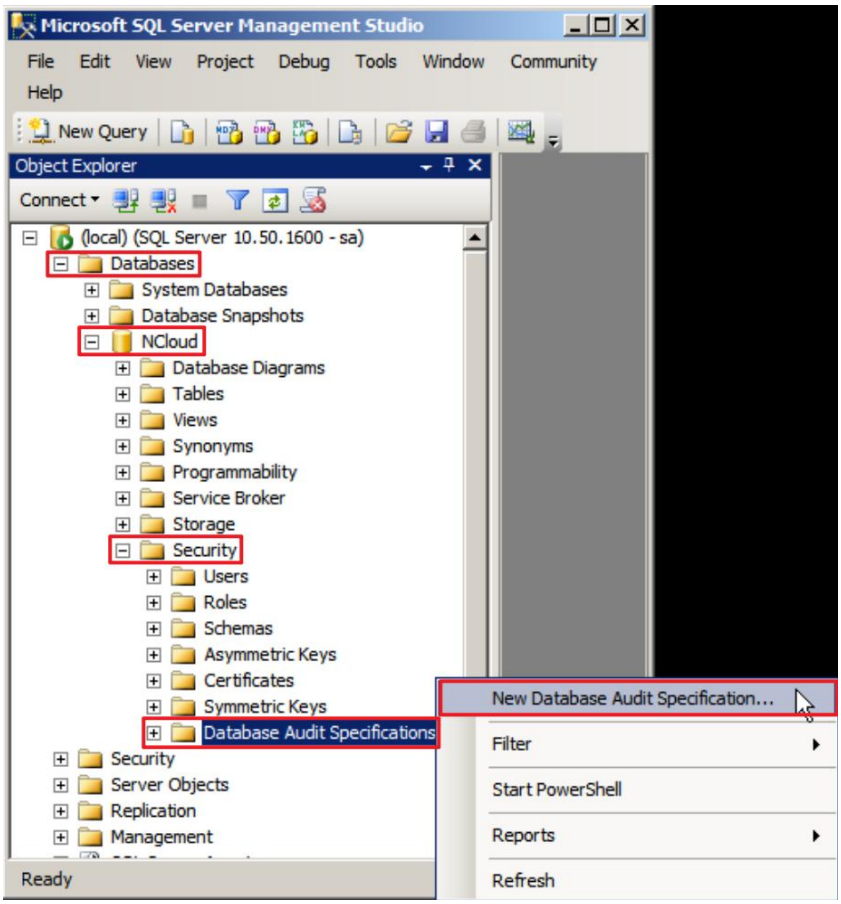
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



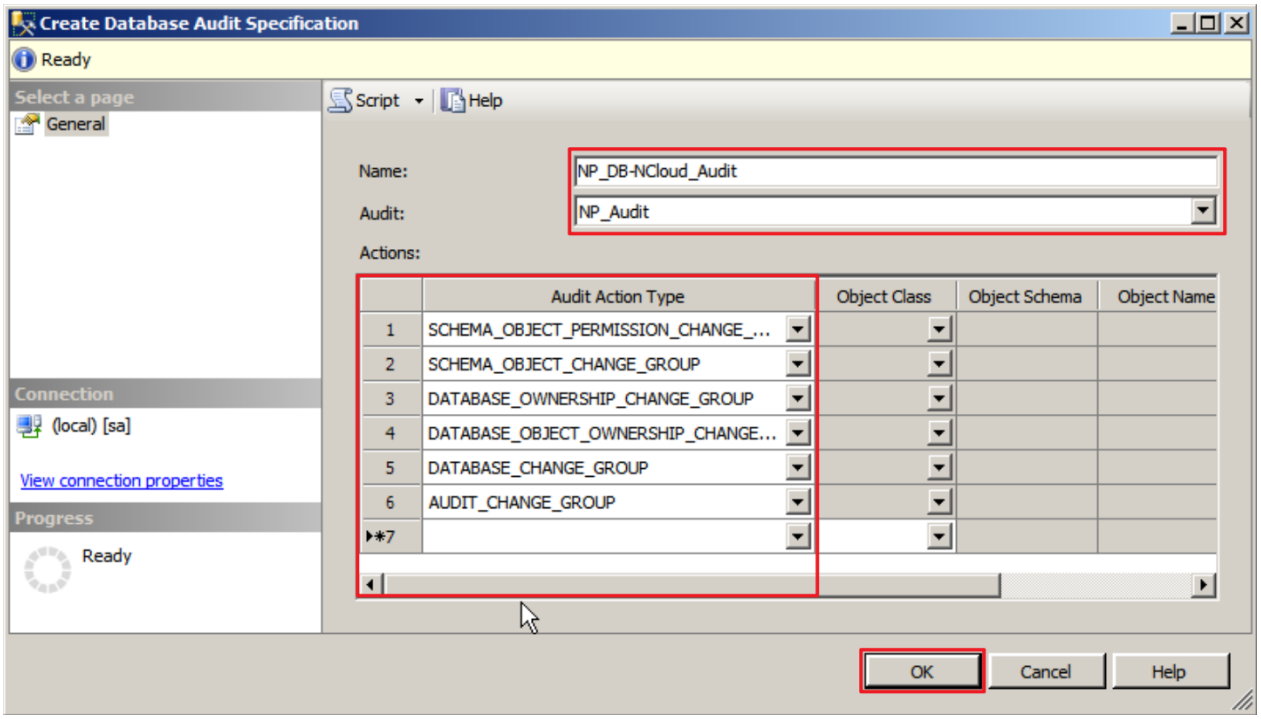
(6) Click “Close.”



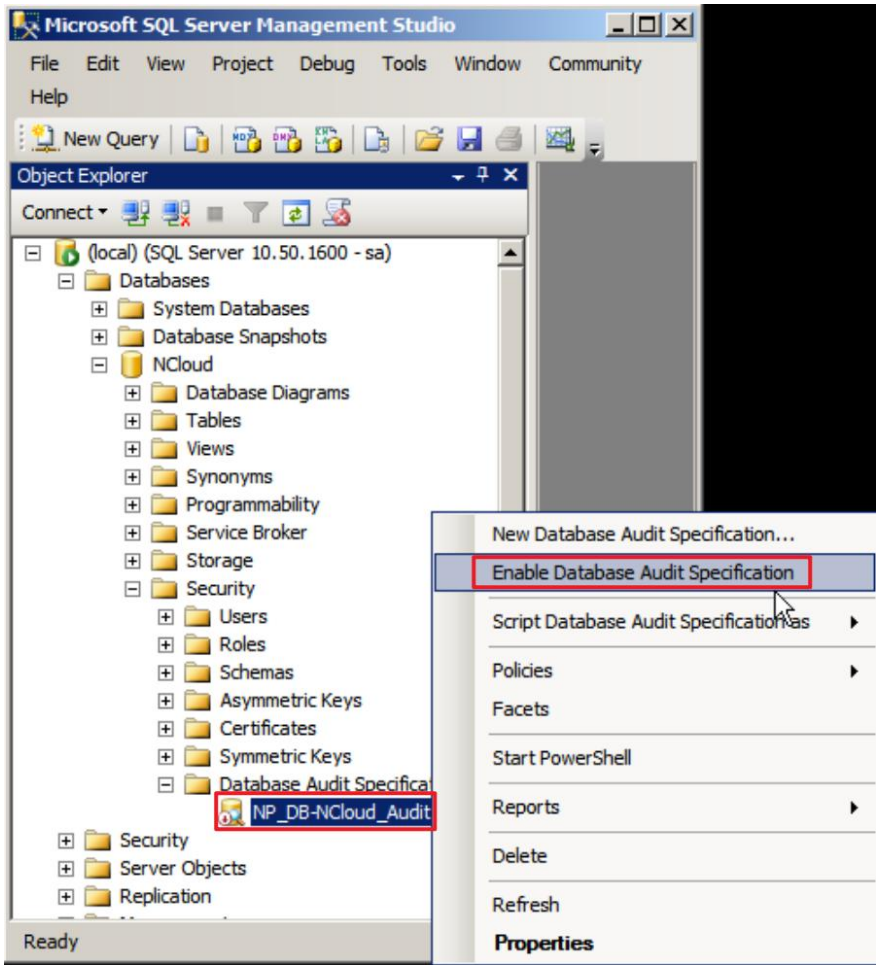
(7) In “Databases,” select the target database (the example here is : NCloud) → expand “Security” → right-click “Database Audit Specifications” → select "New Database Audit Specification...”



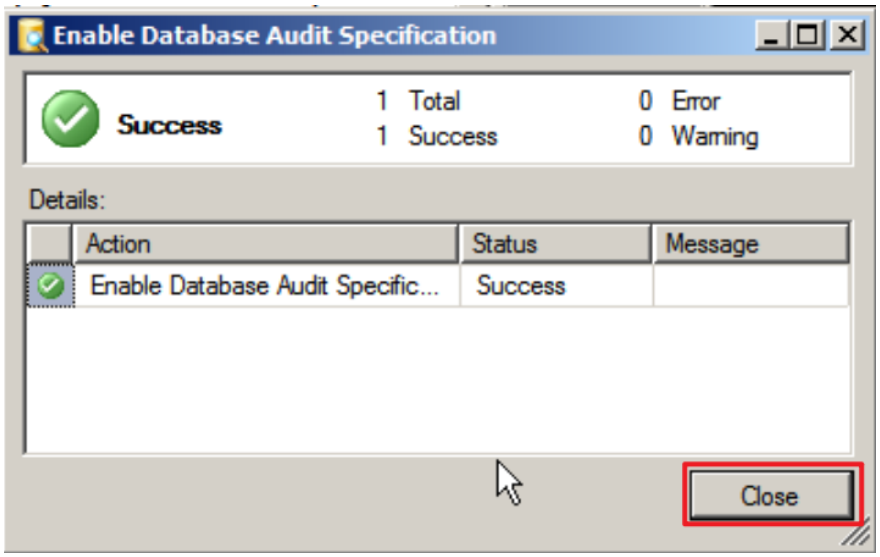
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_DB-NCloud_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit and action(s) → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the database audit specification list, right-click “NP_DB-NCloud_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



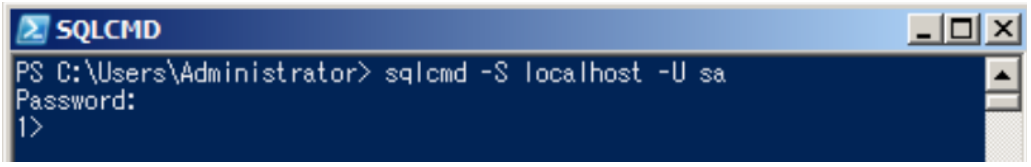
2.2.2.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa account:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

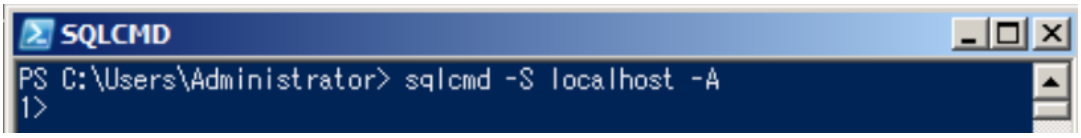
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

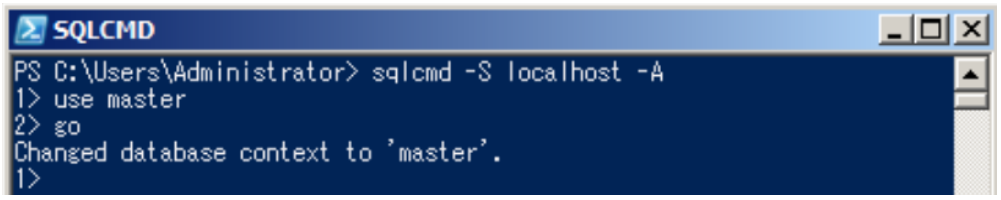
Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



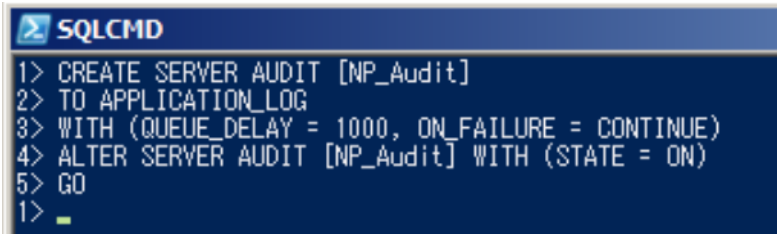
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



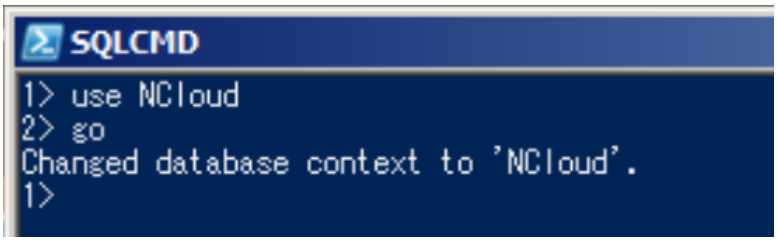
(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



(5) Enter the command below to switch to the target audit database (the example here is: NCloud).

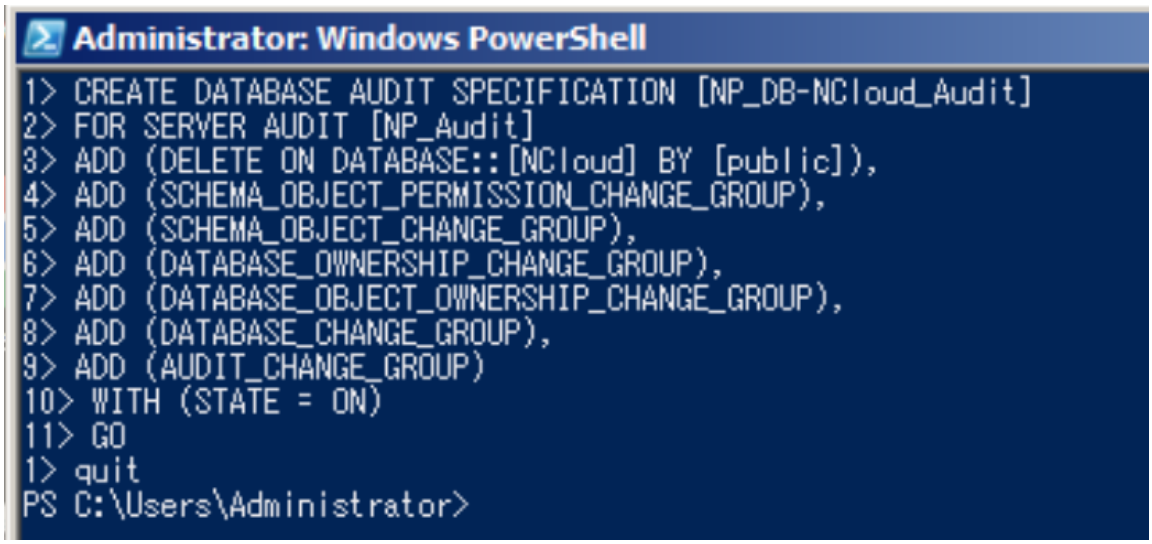
```
1 > use NCloud
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to configure the audit for the database and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_DB-NCloud_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[ NCloud ] BY [public]),
4 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_PERMISSION_CHANGE_GROUP),
5 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
6 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
```

```
8 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
10 > WITH (STATE = ON)
11 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the database audit specification name.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [NP_DB-NCloud_Audit]
```

Replace the text shown in red with the target database name.

```
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[NCloud] BY [public])
```

2.3 Event Log Configuration

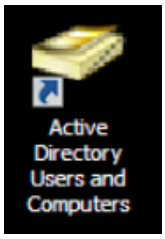
This is an optional configuration.

The following sections describe configuration methods for Domain and Workgroup environments.

2.3.1 Domain

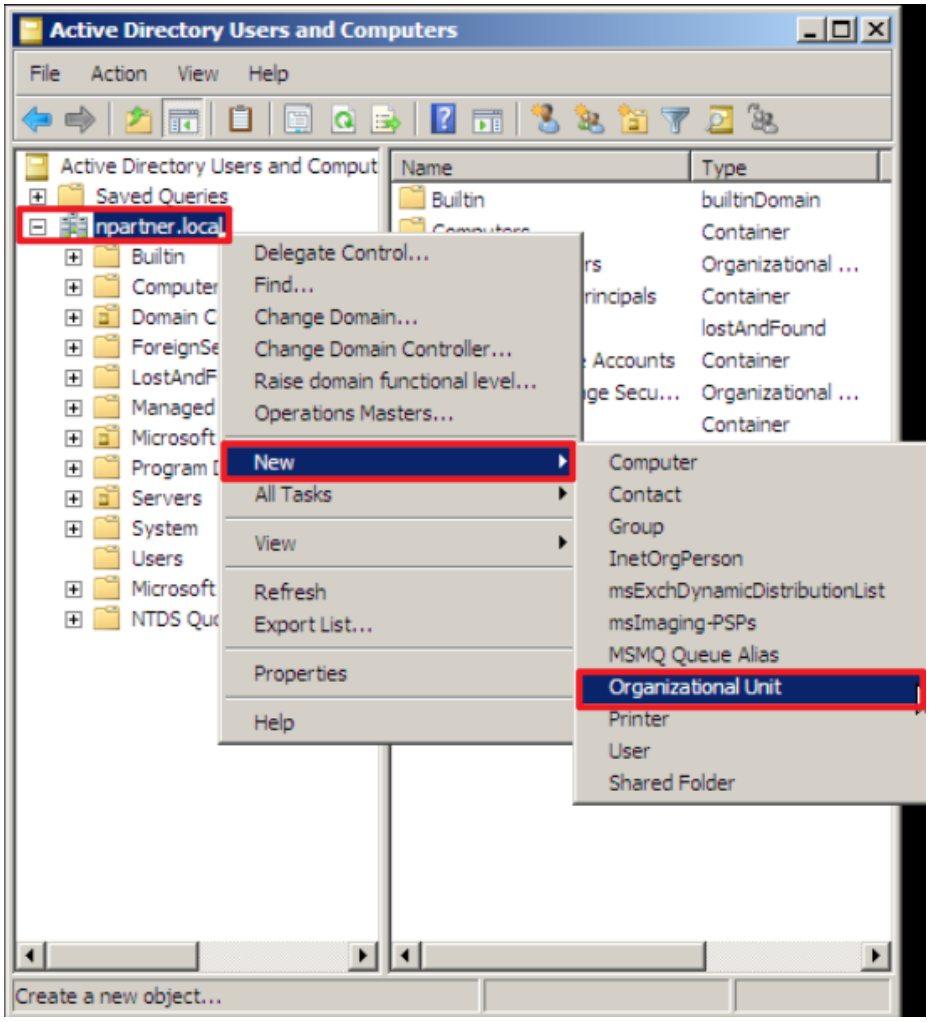
2.3.1.1 Organizational Unit (OU) Configuration

(1) Click “Active Directory Users and Computers.”



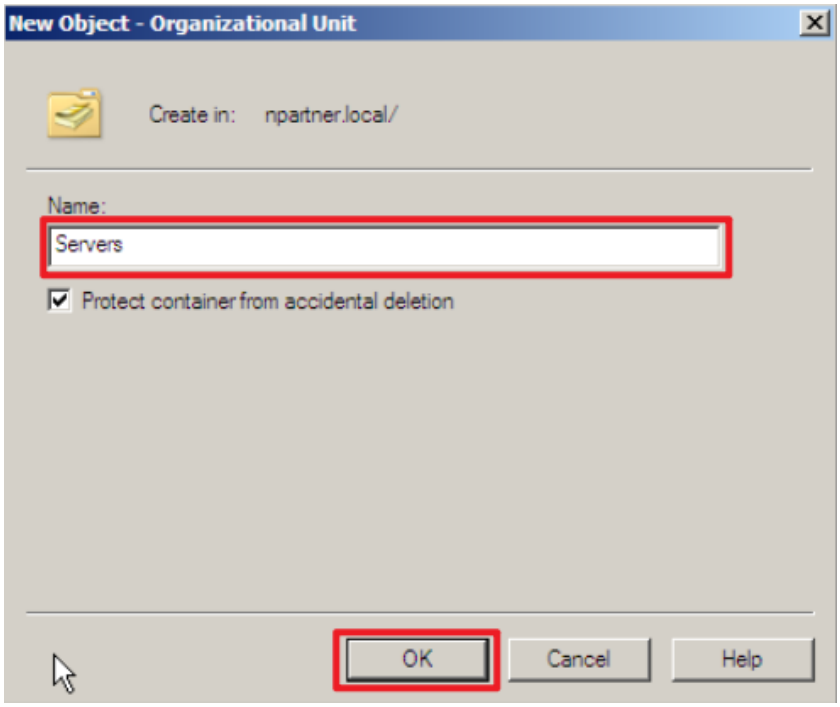
(2) Add an Organizational Unit

Right-click on “Domain Controllers, select “New,” and click “Organizational Unit.”



(3) Enter your Organizational Unit name: (in this example, it is “Servers”)

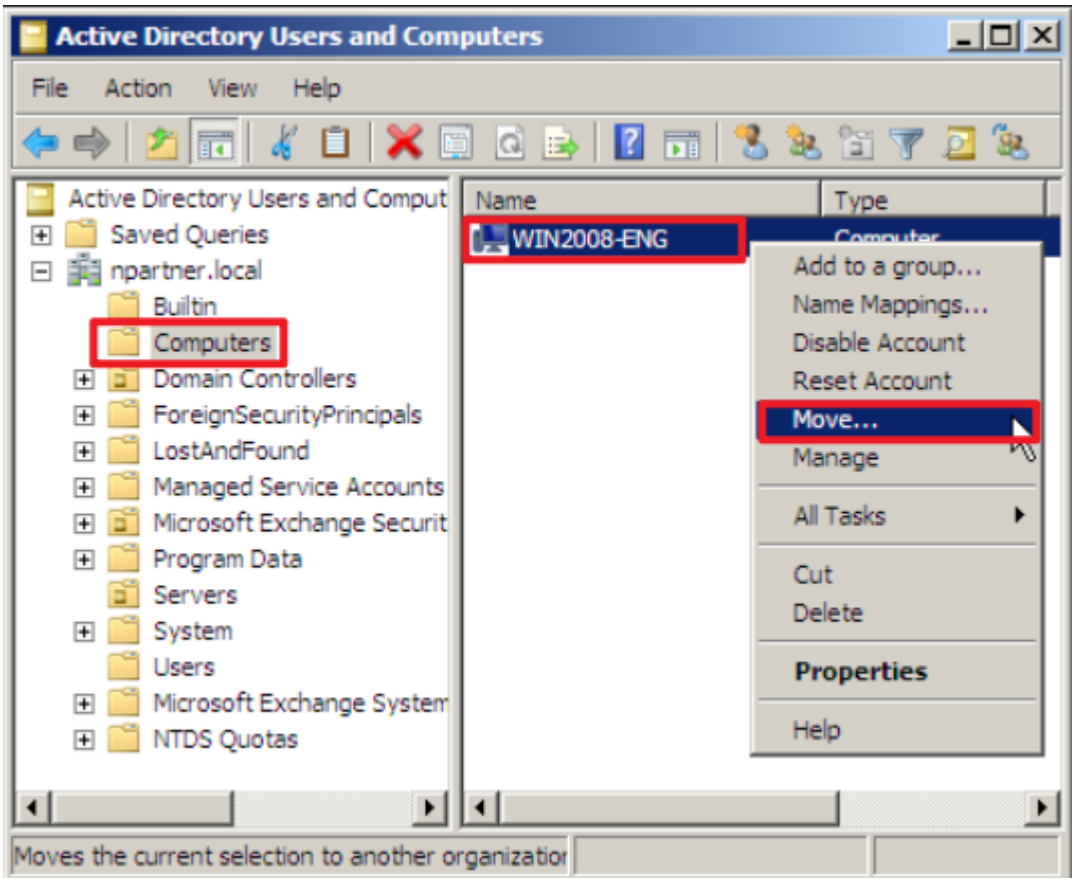
Note: Please create the organizational unit name according to the customer's environment. → click “OK.”



(4) Move the Server to your New Organizational Unit:

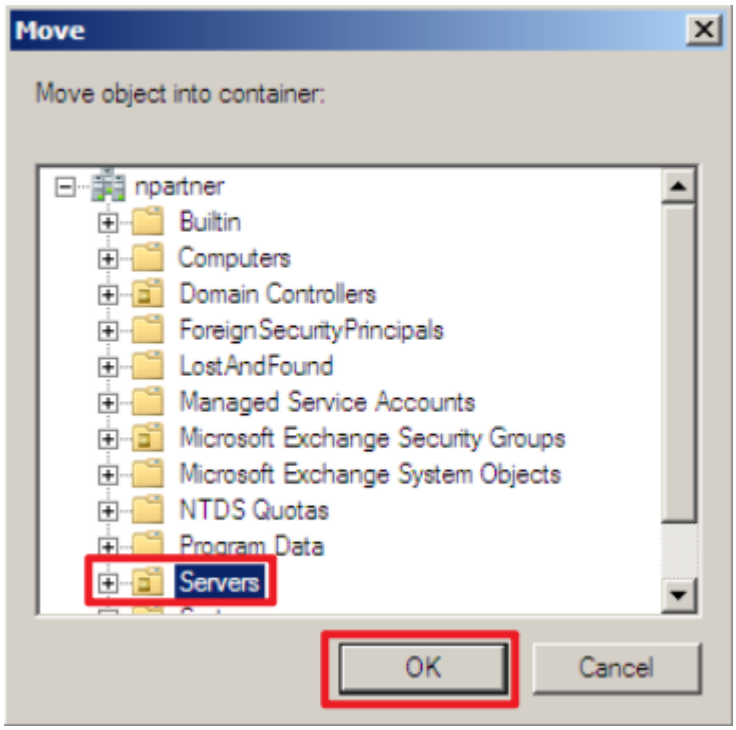
Select your organizational unit in “Domain Controllers” -> Right-click on the “WIN2008-AD-ENG” server.

Note: Please select the Windows AD host according to the actual environment. → click “Move.”



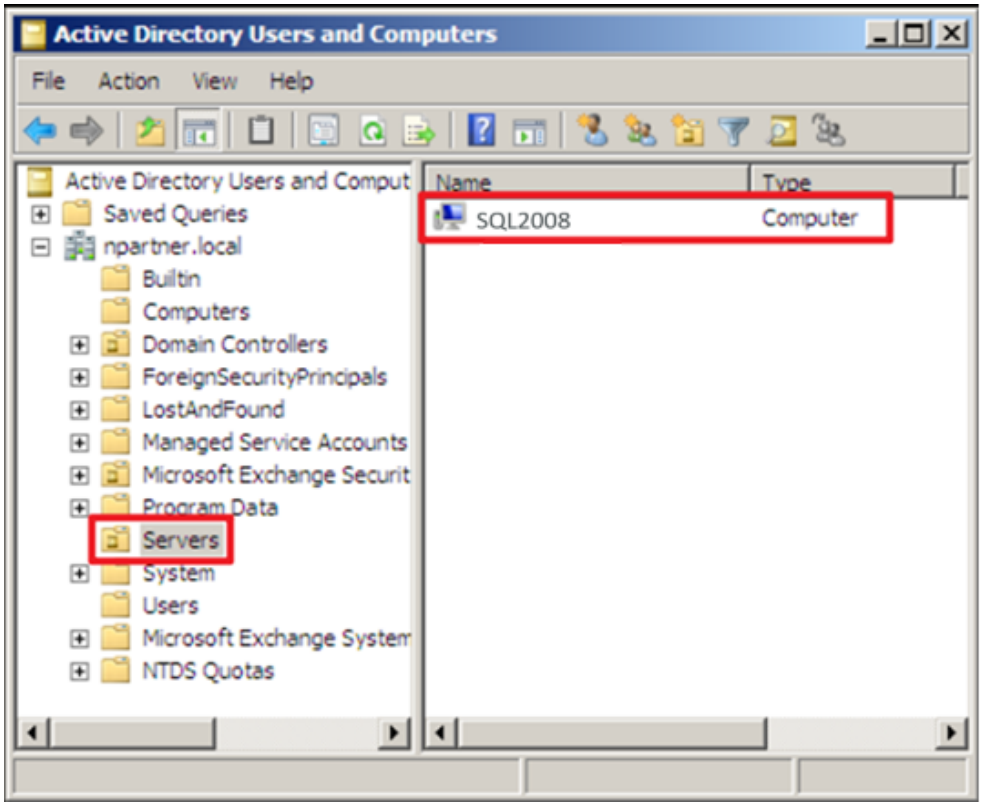
(5) Select your Organizational Unit:

Select your organizational unit (in this example, it is “Servers”) → click “OK.”



(6) Verify the Server Has Been Moved to your New Organizational Unit:

Expand your organizational unit folder (in this example, it is “Servers”) under “Domain Controllers” and confirm that the “SQL008” server has been moved.

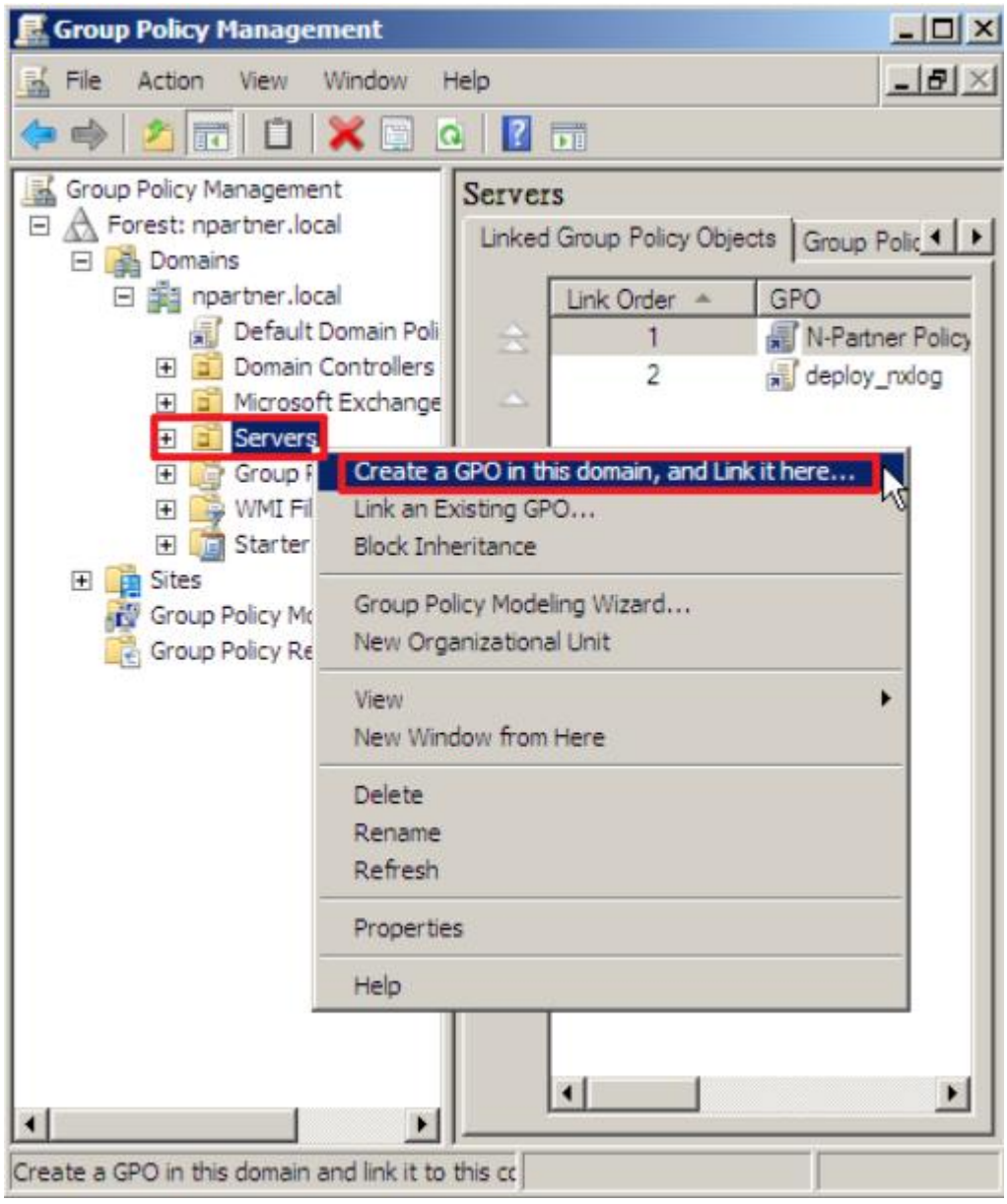


2.3.1.2 Group Policy Settings

(1) Click “Group Policy Management.”

(2) In the Servers organizational unit (OU), create a new Group Policy Object (GPO):

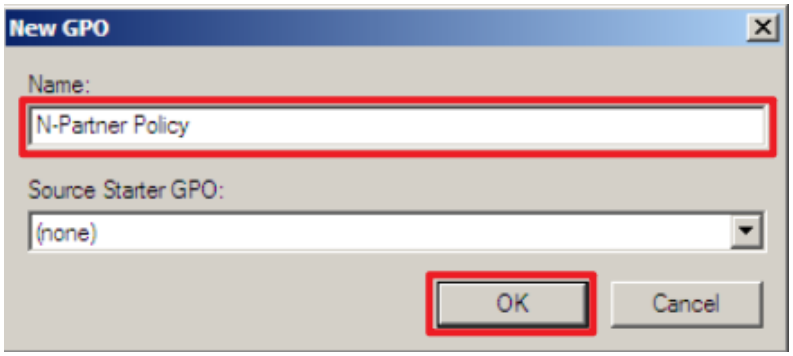
Right-click the [Servers] organizational unit → select “Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here...”



(3) Edit your Group Policy Object

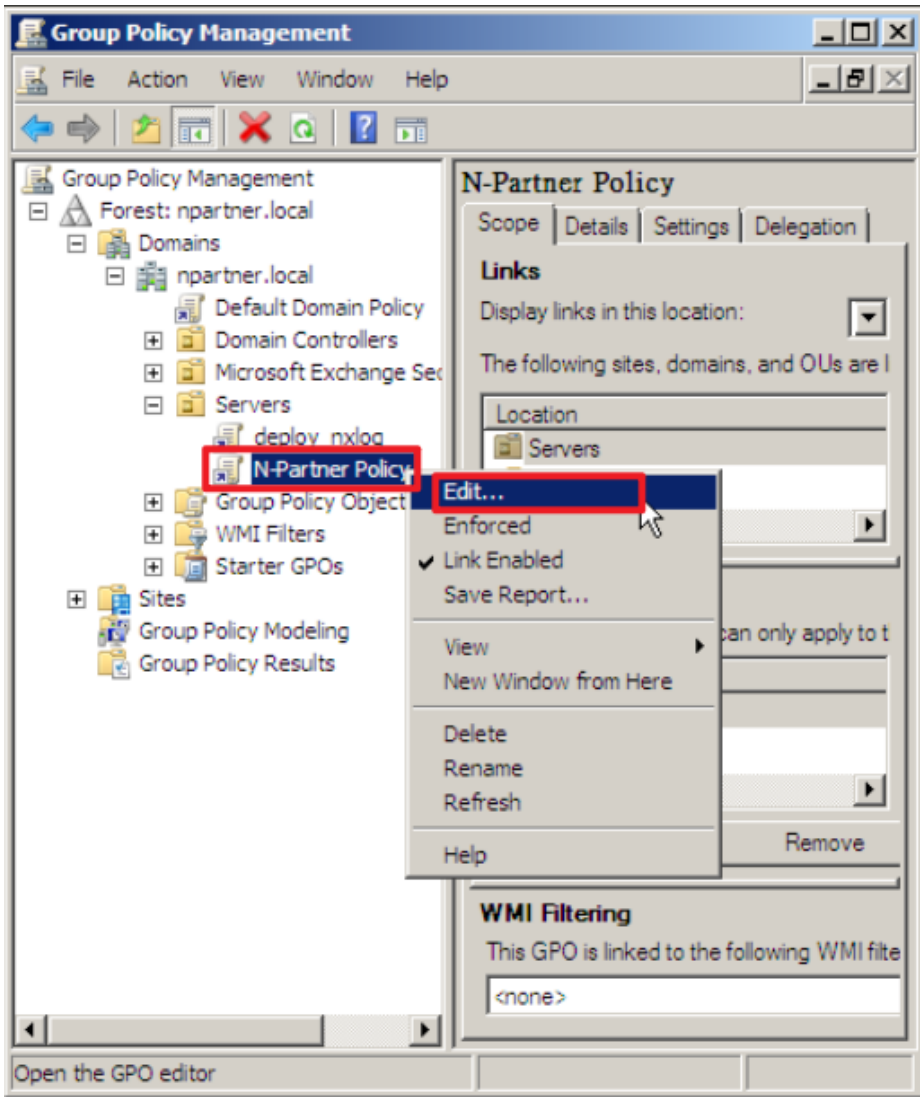
Enter your Group Policy Object name. (in this example, it is “N-Partner Policy”)

Note: Create your GPO name according to the actual environment. Then click “Edit.”



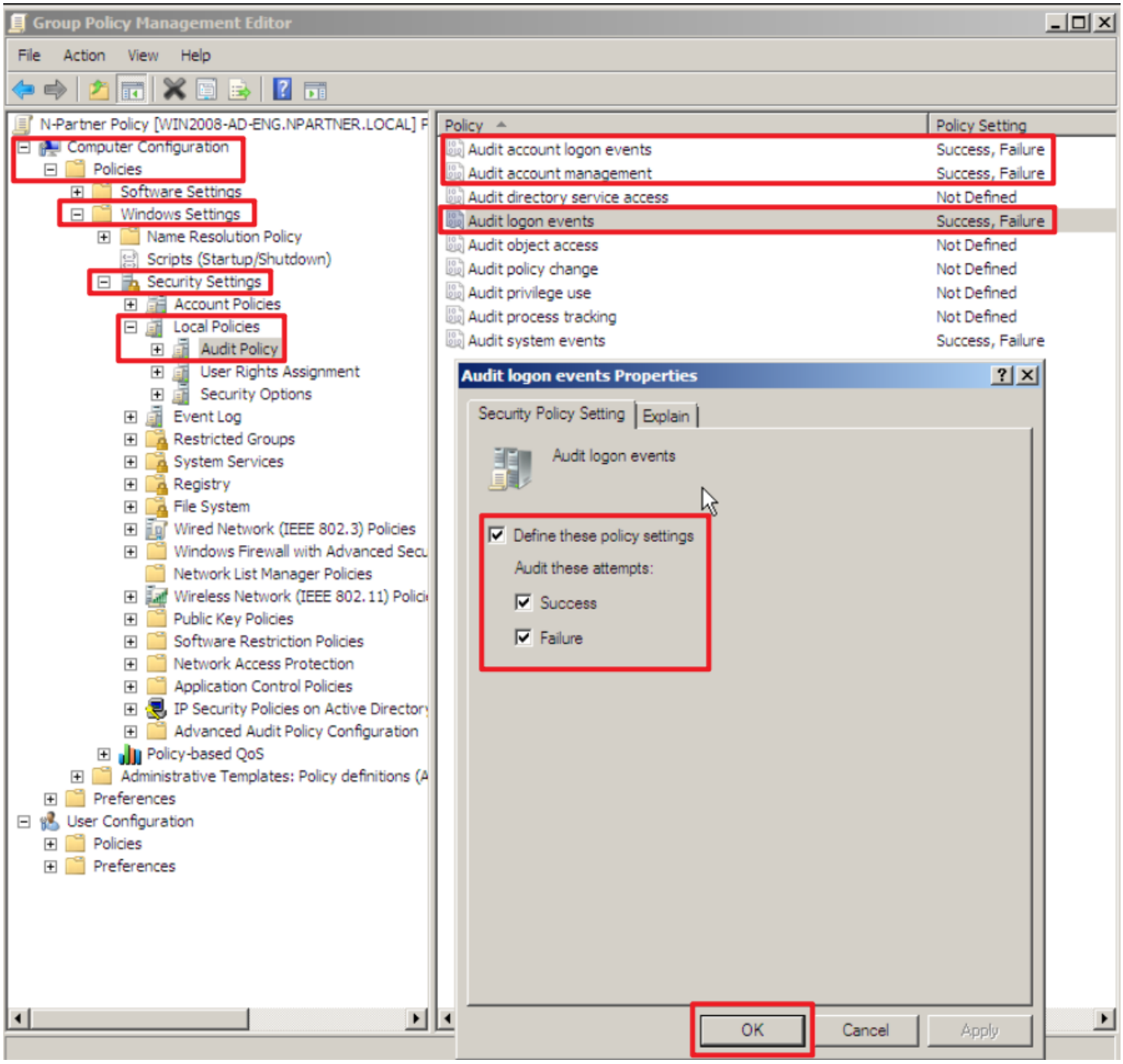
(4) Edit your Group Policy Object

In your group policy object, (in this example, it is “N-Partner Policy”) right-click and select “Edit.”



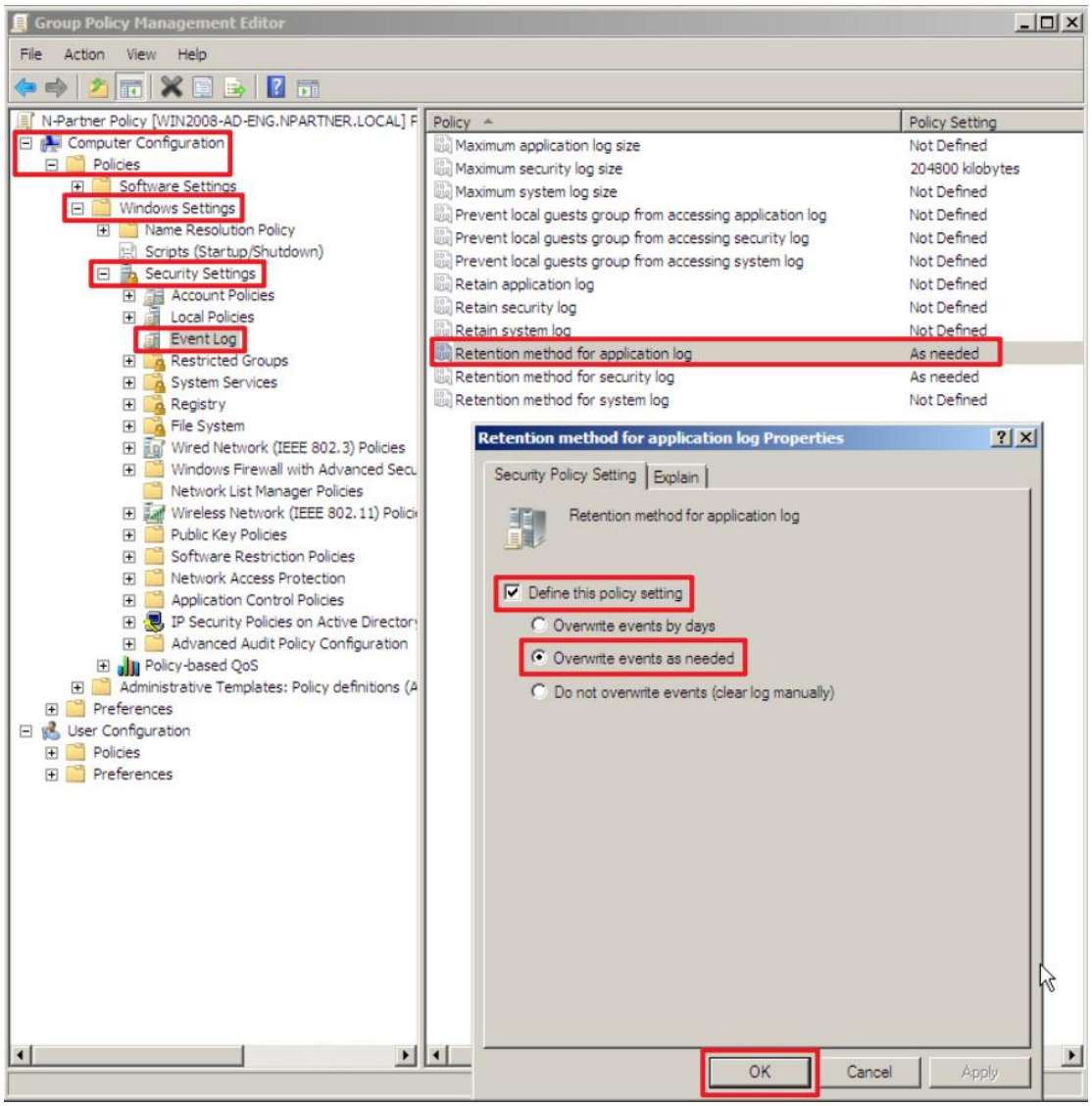
(5) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” -> “Local Policies”-> “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events,” → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(6) Event Log: Application Log Retention Method

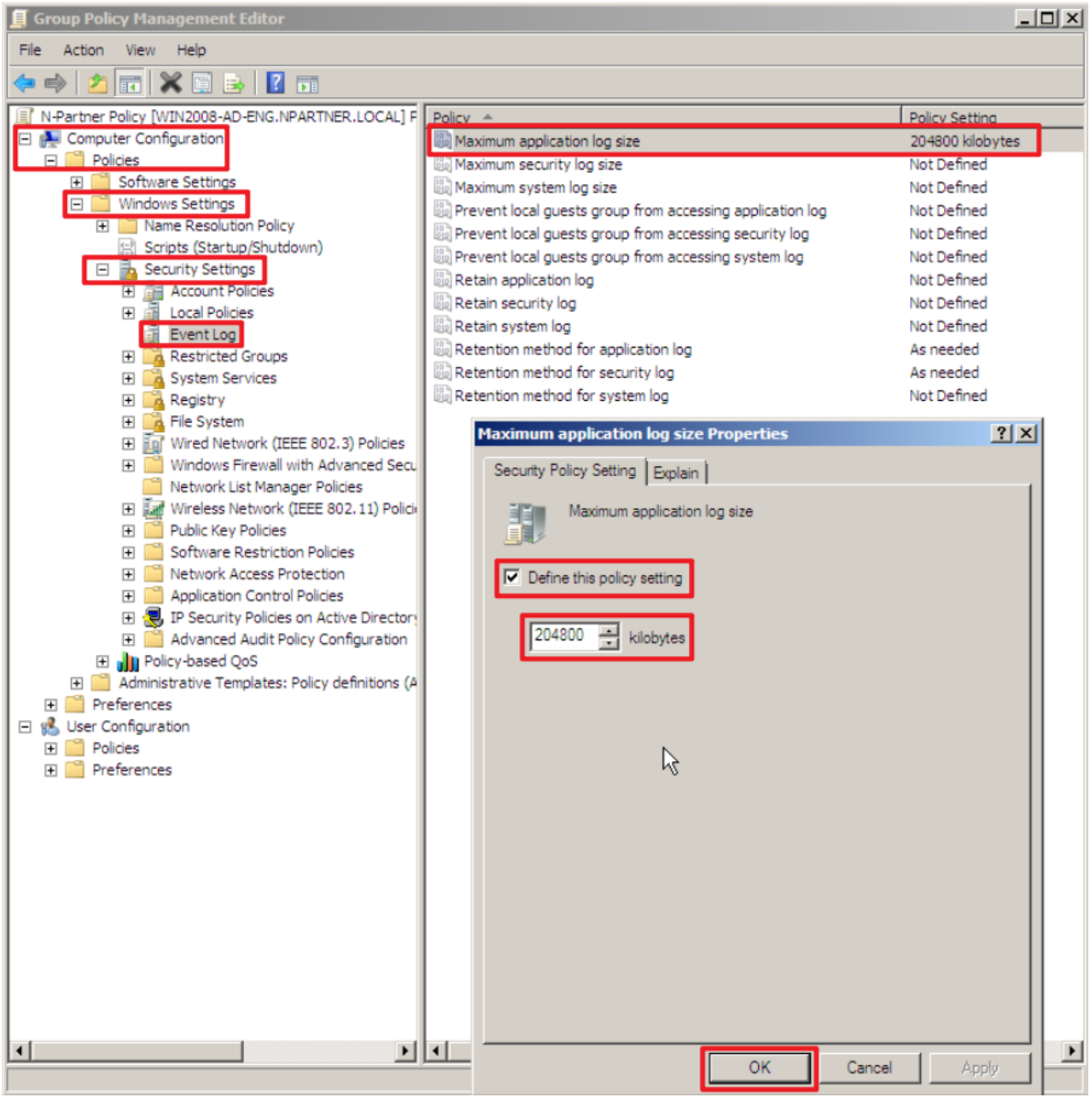
Expand “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” → select “Retention method for application log” → check “Define this policy setting” → select “Overwrite events as needed” → click “OK.”



(7) Event Logs: Maximum Size of Security Log

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” →And click on “Maximum application log size” → Check “Define this policy setting” → enter 204800 KB

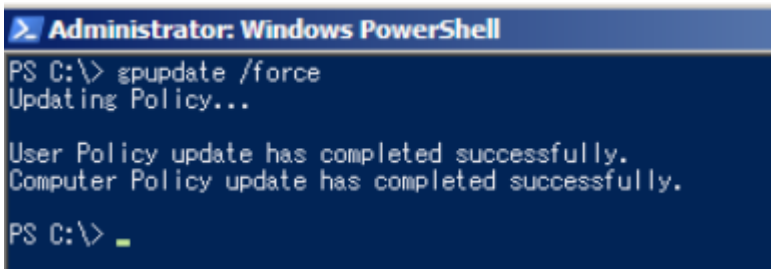
Note: Please adjust the number based on the actual environment. → click “OK.”



(8) On the AD domain server, open “Windows PowerShell.”

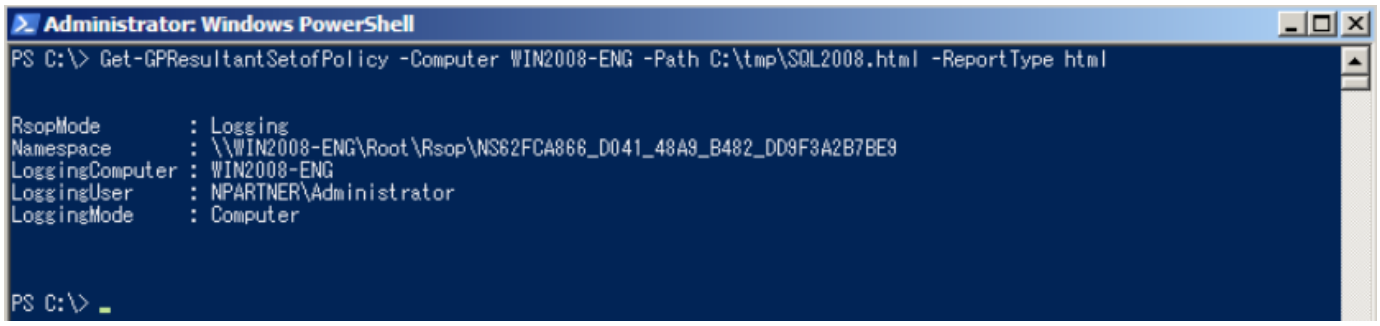
(9) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
```



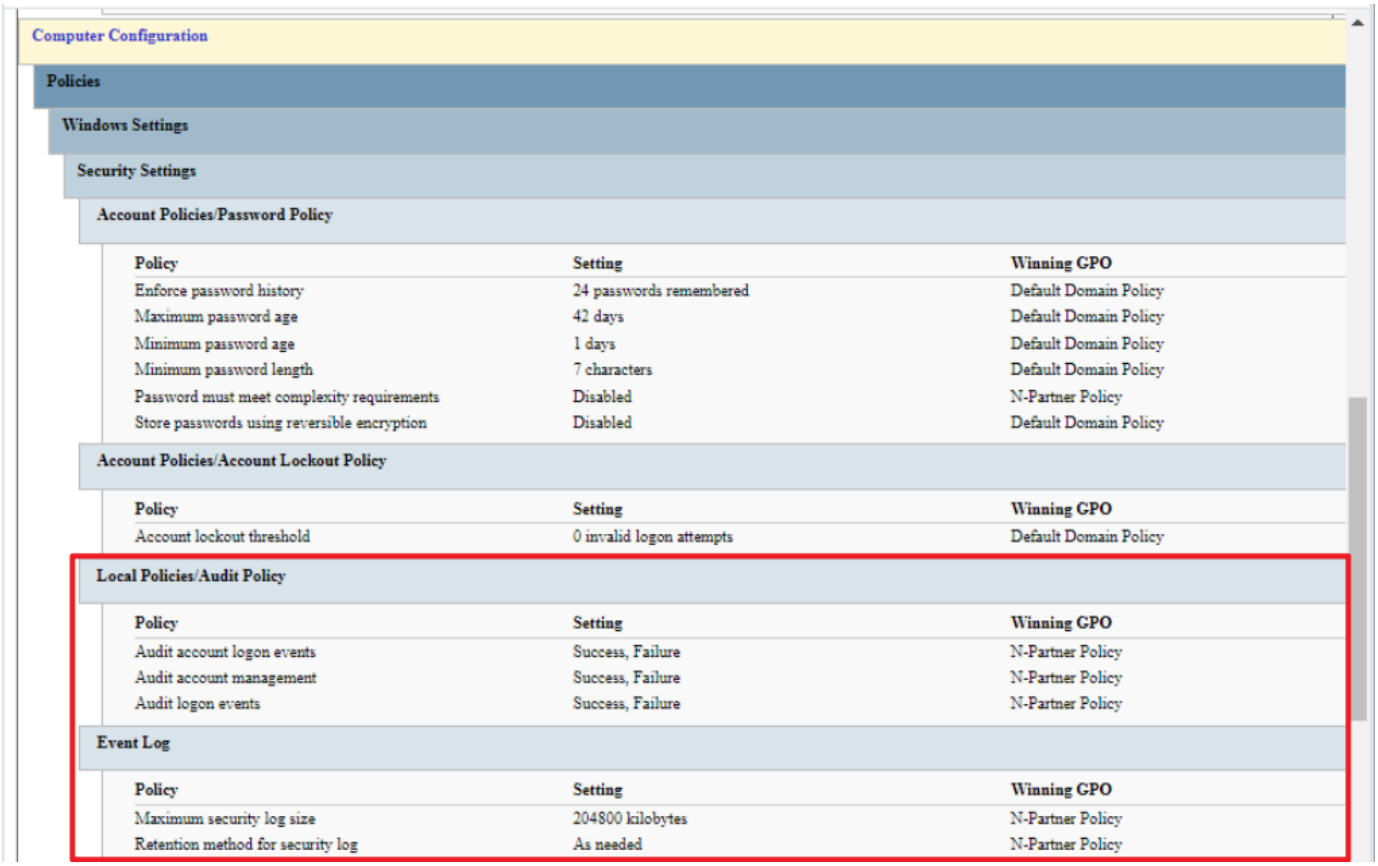
(10) Enter the command below to generate server group policy report.

```
PS C:\> Get-GPResultantSetofPolicy -Computer WIN2008-ENG -Path C:\tmp\SQL2008.html -ReportType html
```



For the red text , please enter the MS SQL server name and the folder path/file name.

(11) Open the report and verify that your MS SQL server is applying the N-Partner Policy Group Policy.



Computer Configuration

Policies

Windows Settings

Security Settings

Account Policies/Password Policy

Policy	Setting	Winning GPO
Enforce password history	24 passwords remembered	Default Domain Policy
Maximum password age	42 days	Default Domain Policy
Minimum password age	1 days	Default Domain Policy
Minimum password length	7 characters	Default Domain Policy
Password must meet complexity requirements	Disabled	N-Partner Policy
Store passwords using reversible encryption	Disabled	Default Domain Policy

Account Policies/Account Lockout Policy

Policy	Setting	Winning GPO
Account lockout threshold	0 invalid logon attempts	Default Domain Policy

Local Policies/Audit Policy

Policy	Setting	Winning GPO
Audit account logon events	Success, Failure	N-Partner Policy
Audit account management	Success, Failure	N-Partner Policy
Audit logon events	Success, Failure	N-Partner Policy

Event Log

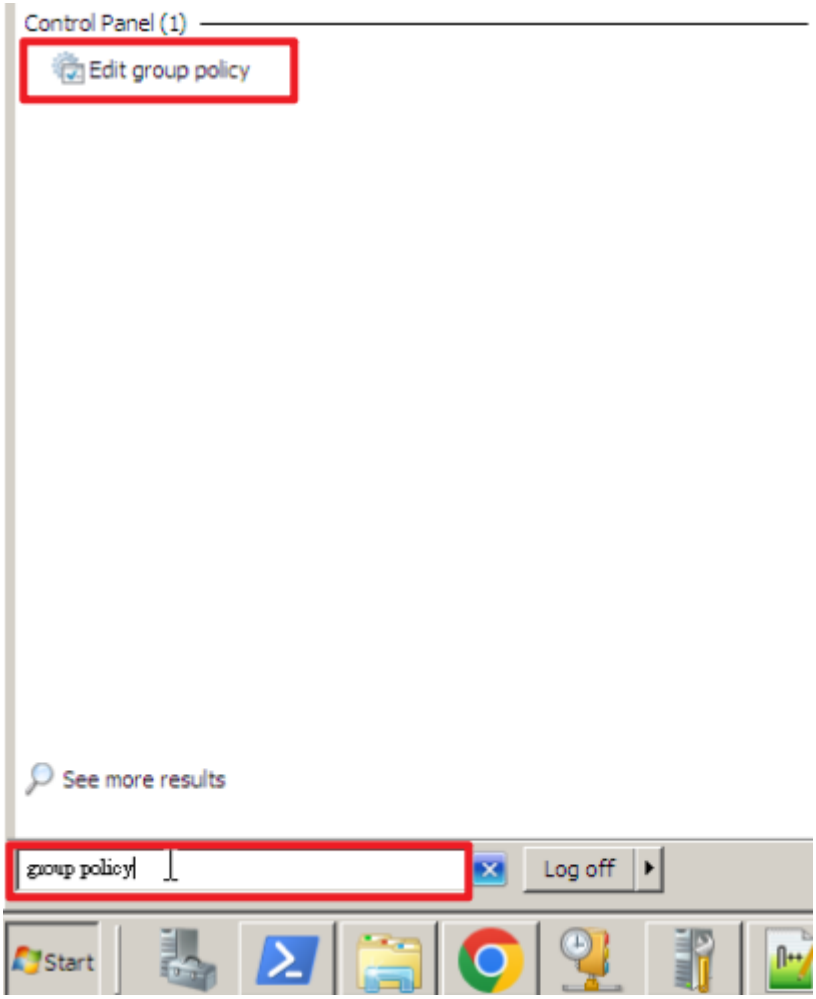
Policy	Setting	Winning GPO
Maximum security log size	204800 kilobytes	N-Partner Policy
Retention method for security log	As needed	N-Partner Policy

2.3.2 Workgroup

2.3.2.1 Audit Policy Configuration

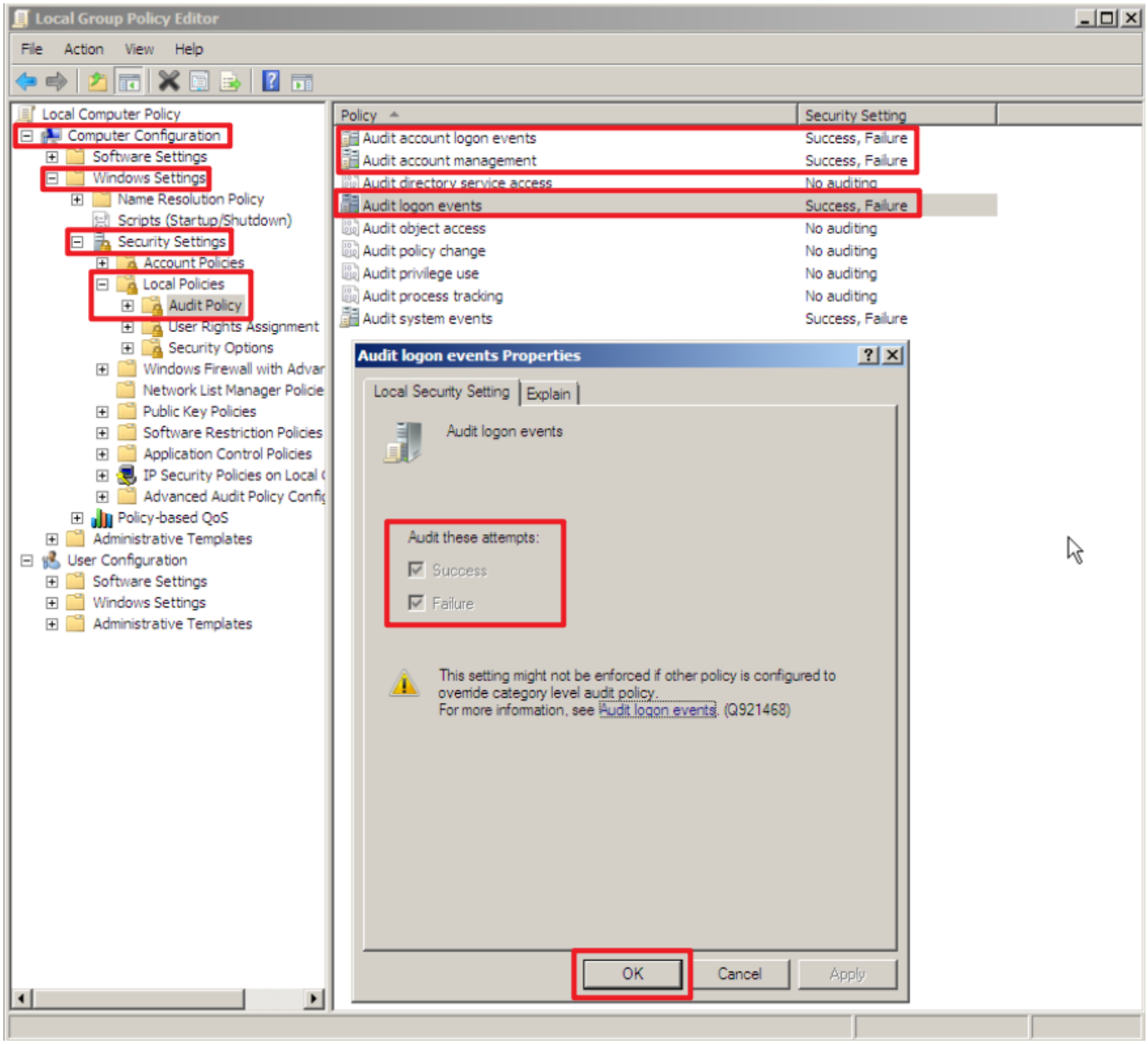
(1) Open Local Group Policy Editor

Click on “Start” → enter “group policy” to search → click on “Edit Group Policy.”



(2) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” -> “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events” items → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(3) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(4) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
```

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
Updating Policy...

User Policy update has completed successfully.
Computer Policy update has completed successfully.

PS C:\> _
```

(5) Enter the command below to view group policy applied status.

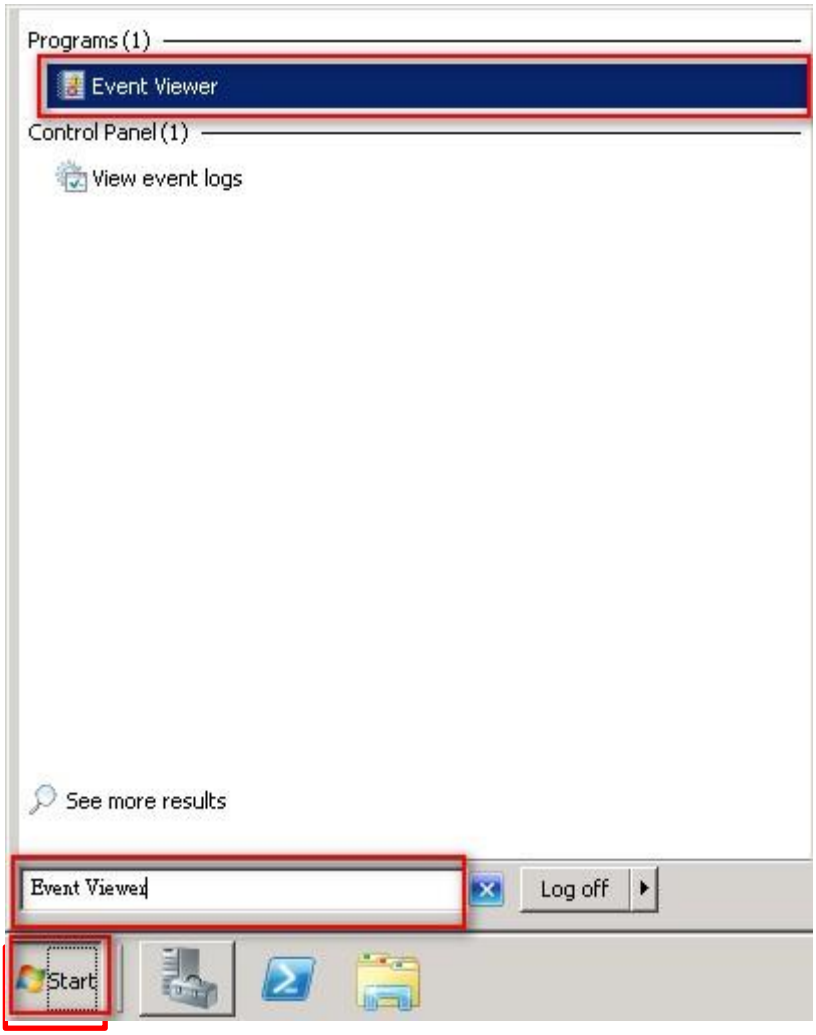
```
PS C: \> auditpol /get /category:*
```

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> auditpol /get /category:*
System audit policy
Category/Subcategory                    Setting
System
  Security System Extension             Success and Failure
  System Integrity                      Success and Failure
  IPsec Driver                          Success and Failure
  Other System Events                   Success and Failure
  Security State Change                 Success and Failure
Logon/Logoff
  Logon                                 Success and Failure
  Logoff                                Success and Failure
  Account Lockout                       Success and Failure
  IPsec Main Mode                       Success and Failure
  IPsec Quick Mode                      Success and Failure
  IPsec Extended Mode                   Success and Failure
  Special Logon                         Success and Failure
  Other Logon/Logoff Events             Success and Failure
  Network Policy Server                 Success and Failure
Object Access
  File System                           No Auditing
  Registry                              No Auditing
  Kernel Object                         No Auditing
  SAM                                   No Auditing
  Certification Services                No Auditing
  Application Generated                 No Auditing
  Handle Manipulation                   No Auditing
  File Share                            No Auditing
  Filtering Platform Packet Drop        No Auditing
  Filtering Platform Connection         No Auditing
  Other Object Access Events            No Auditing
  Detailed File Share                   No Auditing
Privilege Use
  Sensitive Privilege Use               No Auditing
  Non Sensitive Privilege Use           No Auditing
  Other Privilege Use Events            No Auditing
Detailed Tracking
  Process Termination                   No Auditing
  DPAPI Activity                        No Auditing
  RPC Events                            No Auditing
  Process Creation                      No Auditing
Policy Change
  Audit Policy Change                   No Auditing
  Authentication Policy Change          No Auditing
  Authorization Policy Change           No Auditing
  MPSSVC Rule-Level Policy Change       No Auditing
  Filtering Platform Policy Change      No Auditing
  Other Policy Change Events            No Auditing
Account Management
  User Account Management               Success and Failure
  Computer Account Management           Success and Failure
  Security Group Management             Success and Failure
  Distribution Group Management         Success and Failure
  Application Group Management          Success and Failure
  Other Account Management Events       Success and Failure
DS Access
  Directory Service Changes             No Auditing
  Directory Service Replication         No Auditing
  Detailed Directory Service Replication No Auditing
  Directory Service Access              No Auditing
Account Logon
  Kerberos Service Ticket Operations    Success and Failure
  Other Account Logon Events            Success and Failure
  Kerberos Authentication Service       Success and Failure
  Credential Validation                 Success and Failure
PS C:\> _
```

2.3.2.2 Event Log Settings

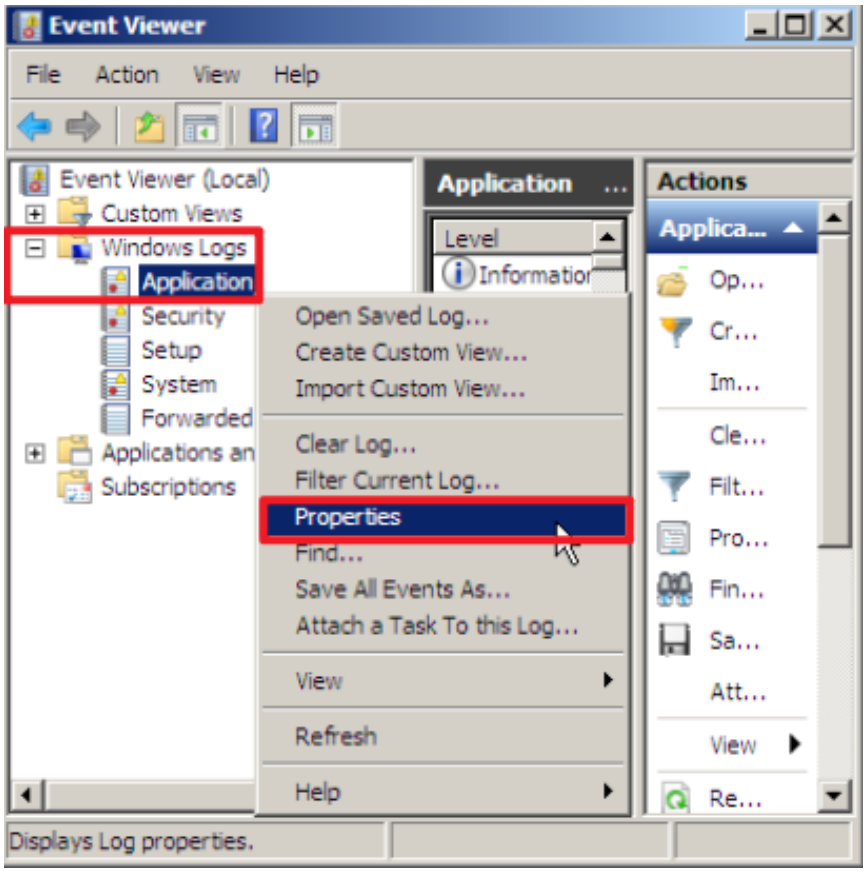
(1) Search for “Event Viewer”

Enter “Event Viewer” to search → click on “Event Viewer” in the search results.



(2) Edit Security Log

Expand folder “Windows Logs.” →right-click on “Application” → And click on “Properties.”

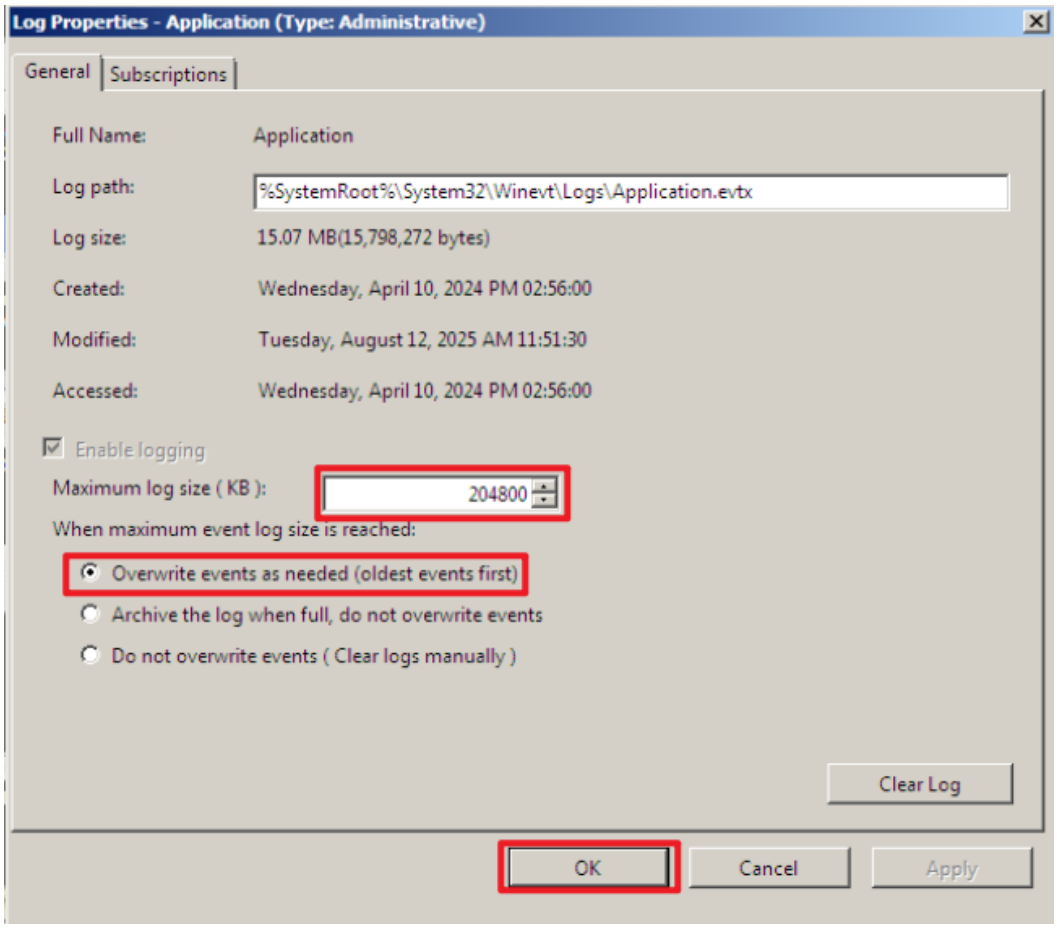


(3) Configure Security Log

Enter maximum log file size: 204800 KB

Note: Please adjust the number according to the actual environment.

→ click on “Overwrite events as needed” -> Click “OK.”



3. SQL Server 2012

3.1 Login Auditing

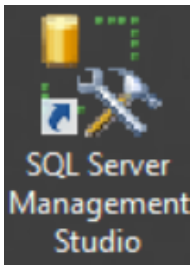
Enable login auditing to monitor SQL Server Database Engine login activities.

After configuration, the MS SQL Server service must be **restarted**.

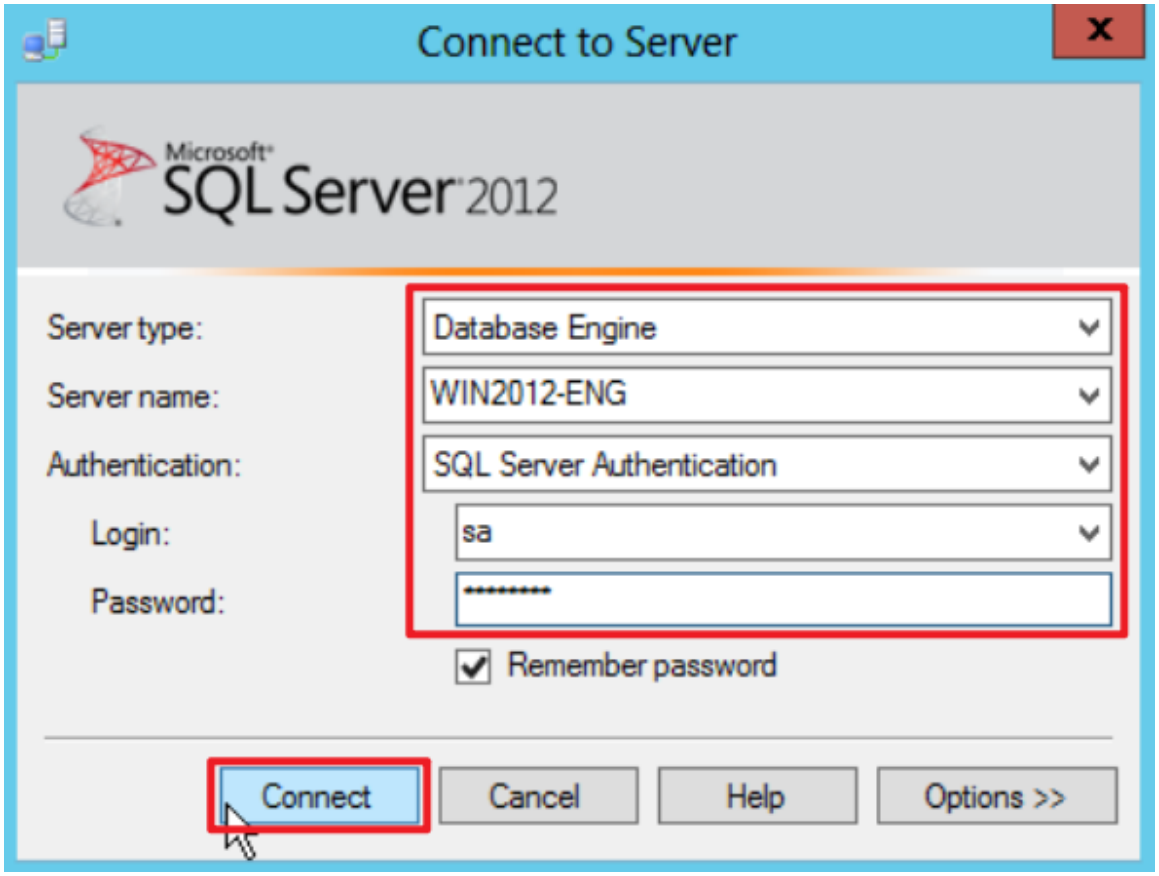
The following sections describe how to configure login auditing using both the graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI).

3.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

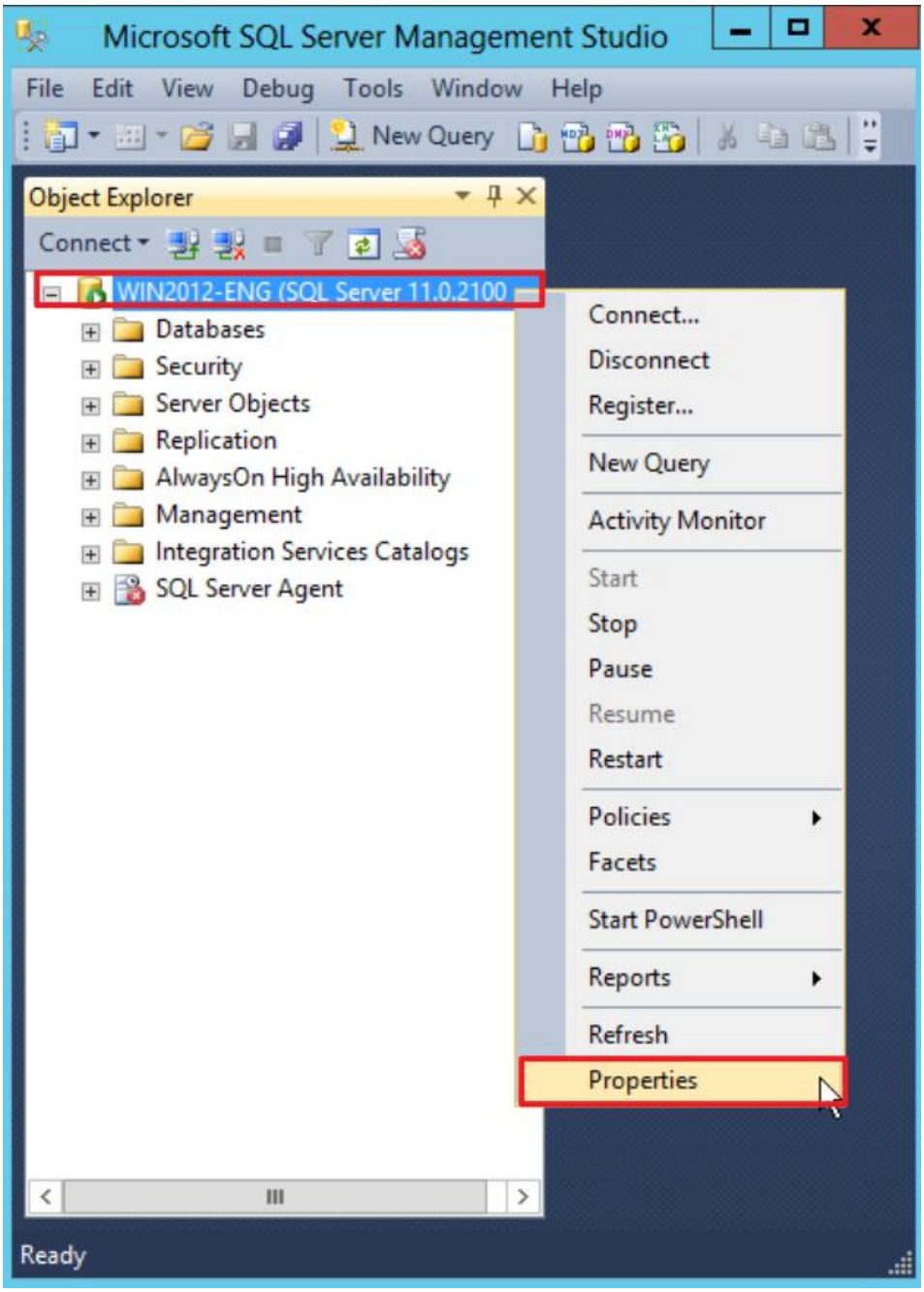
(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”



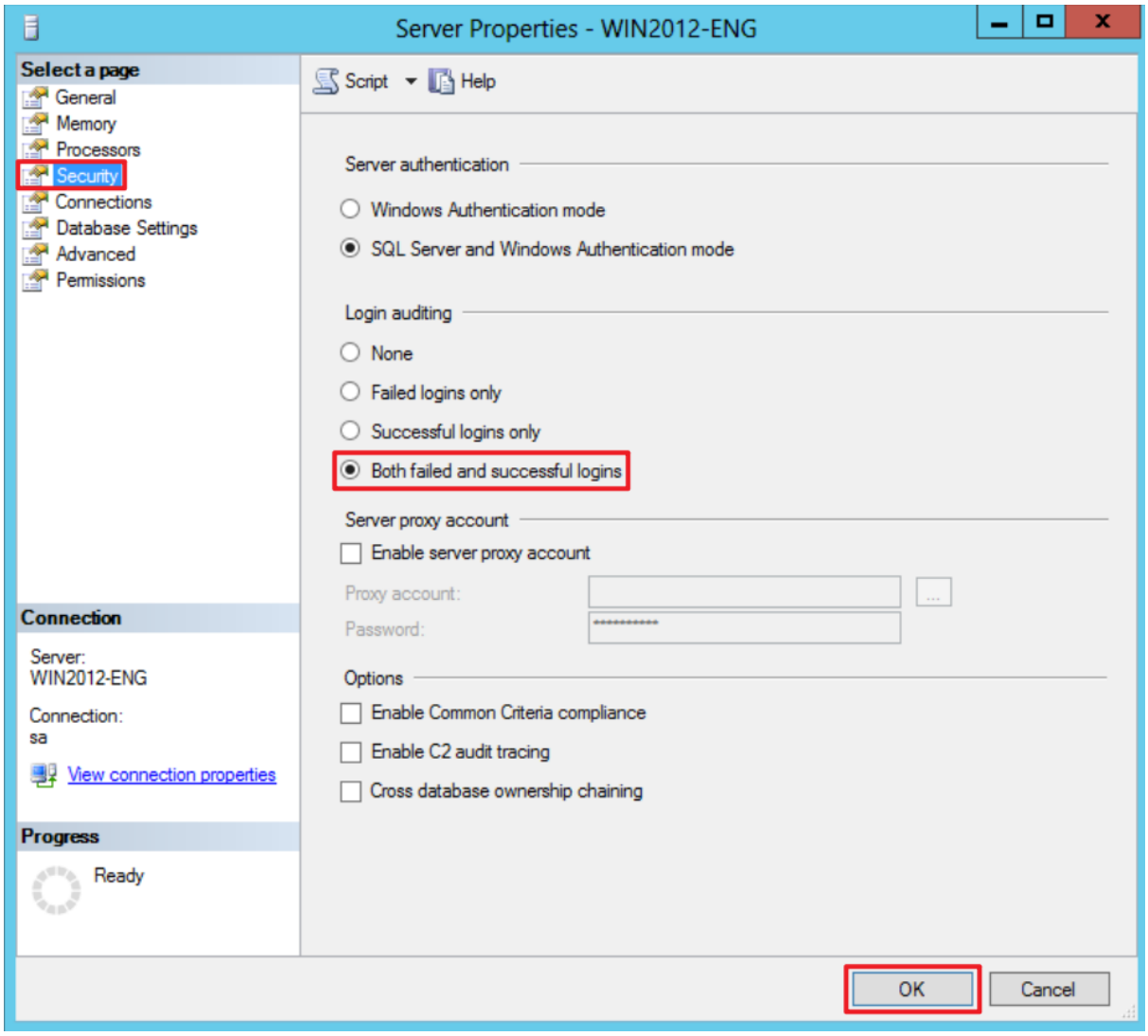
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



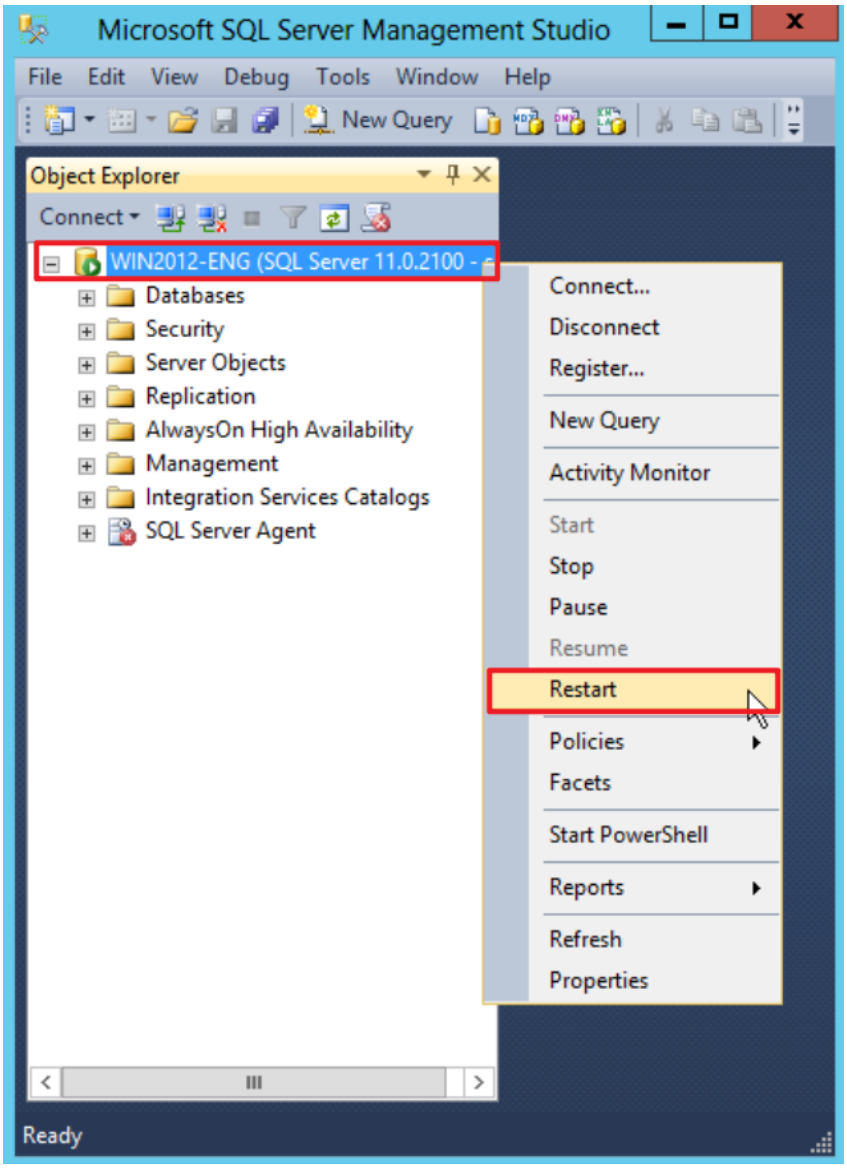
(3) In [Server Name] (the example here is WIN2012-ENG SQL Server 11.0.2100), right-click and select "Properties."



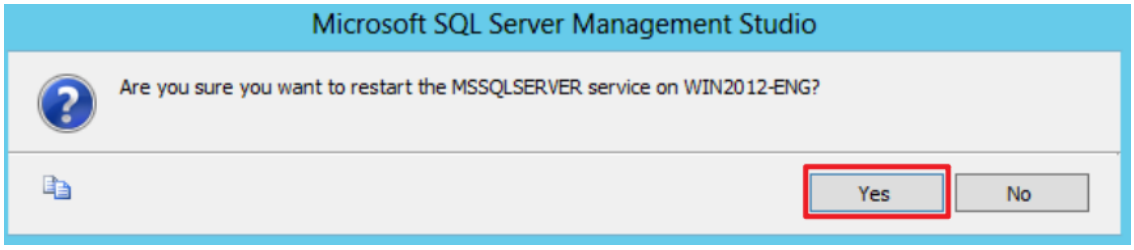
(4) On the Security page, under Login auditing, select “Both failed and successful logins” → click “OK”.



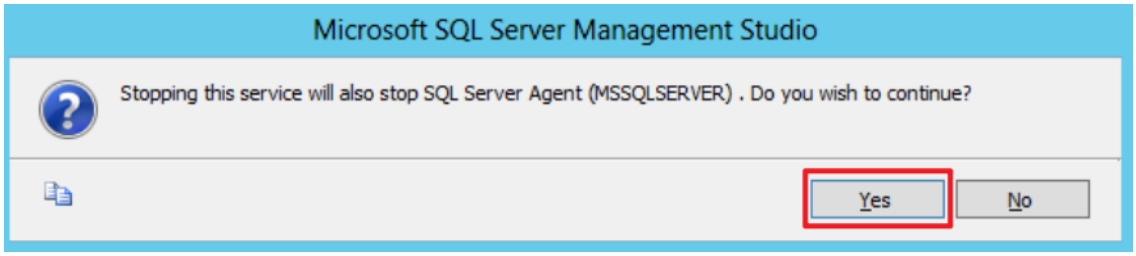
(5) Restart the MS SQL Server service: right-click [Server Name] (the example here is WIN2012-ENG SQL Server 11.0.2100) → select “Restart.”



(6) Click “Yes” to restart the MS SQL Server service.

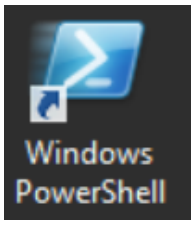


(7) Click “Yes” again to stop the SQL Server Agent service.



3.1.2 Configuring via Command-Line Interface (CLI)

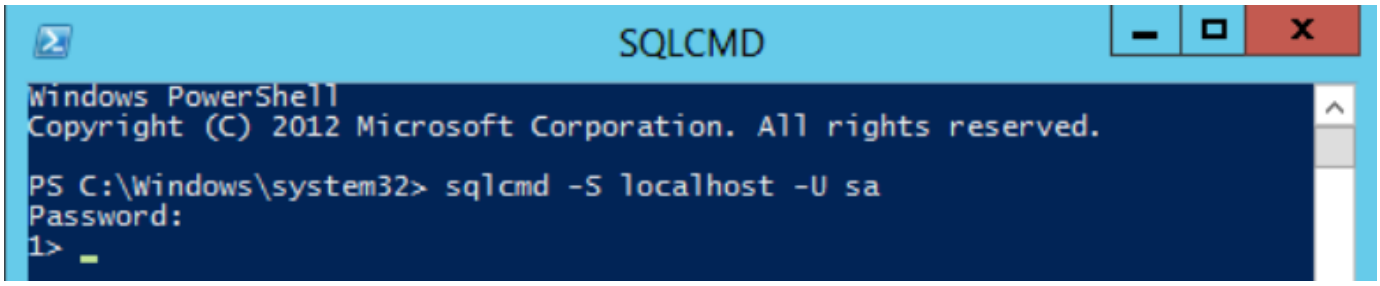
(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”



(2) Enter the command below to log in using sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

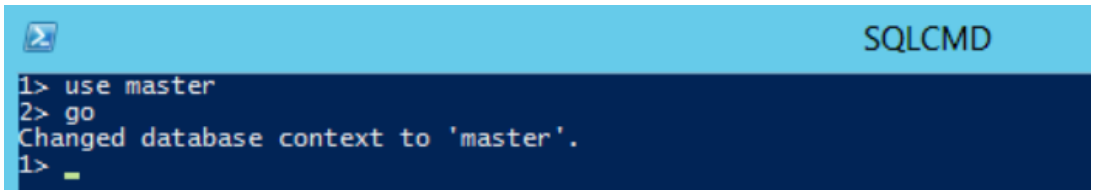
<2.2> Using Windows account:

Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```

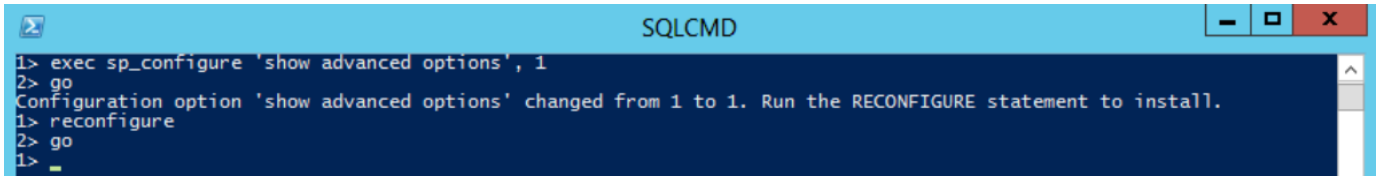
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



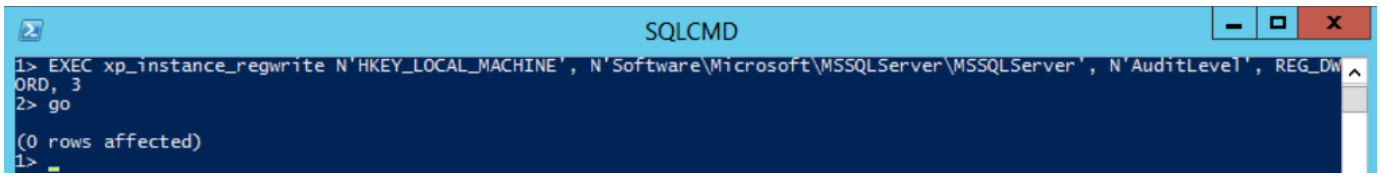
(4) Enter the command below to enable advanced options:

```
1 > exec sp_configure 'show advanced options', 1
2 > go
1 > reconfigure
2 > go
```



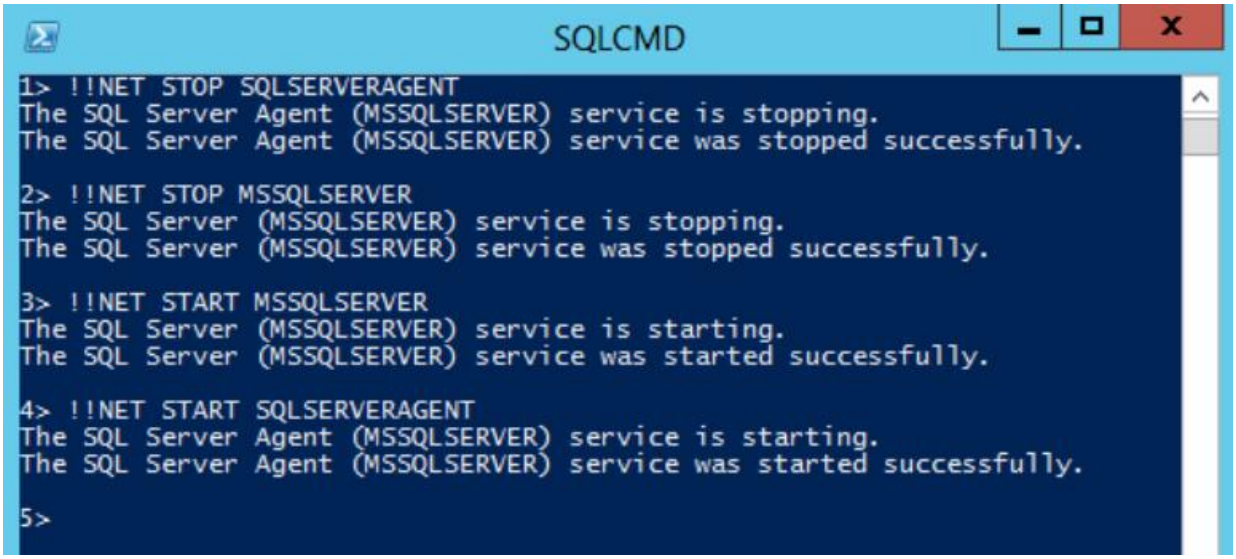
(5) Enter the command below to enable auditing for both failed and successful logins:

```
1 > EXEC xp_instance_regwrite N'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE',
N'Software\Microsoft\MSSQLServer\MSSQLServer', N'AuditLevel', REG_DWORD, 3
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to restart the MS SQL Server services:

```
1 > !!NET STOP SQLSERVERAGENT
2 > !!NET STOP MSSQLSERVER
3 > !!NET START MSSQLSERVER
4 > !!NET START SQLSERVERAGENT
```



3.2 Configuring Auditing

3.2.1 Server-Level Audit

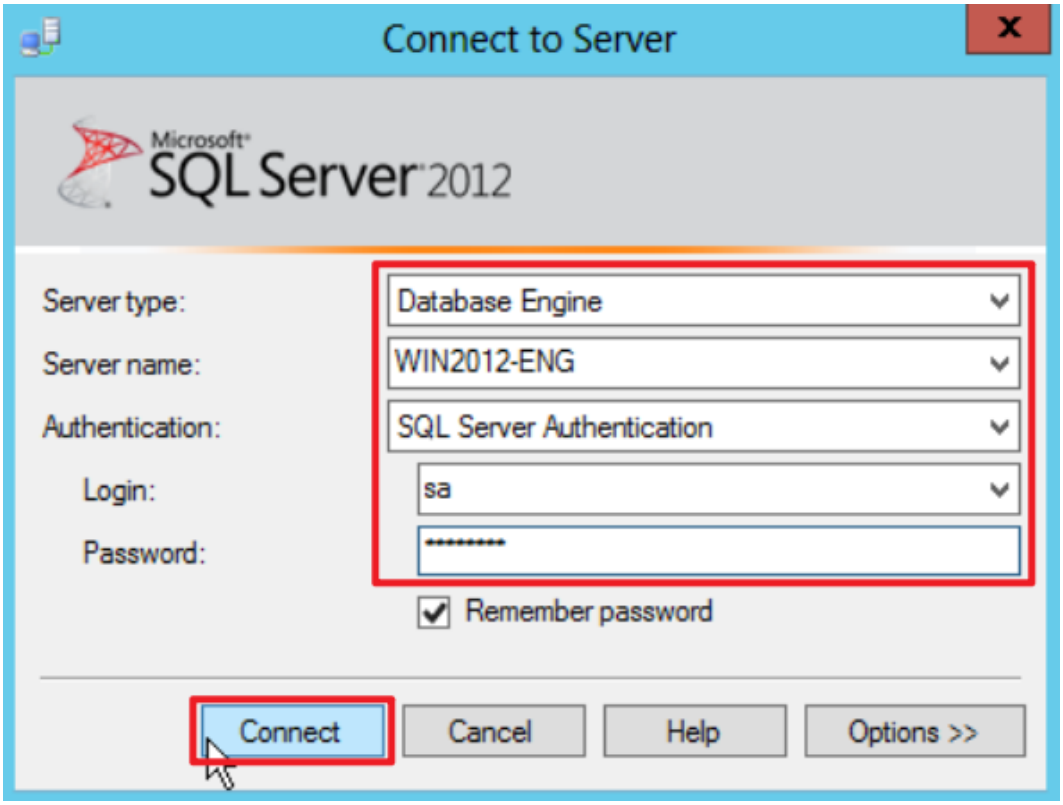
Enabling a server-level audit covers server operations such as administrative changes, login, and logout activities.

The following sections describe how to configure a server-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

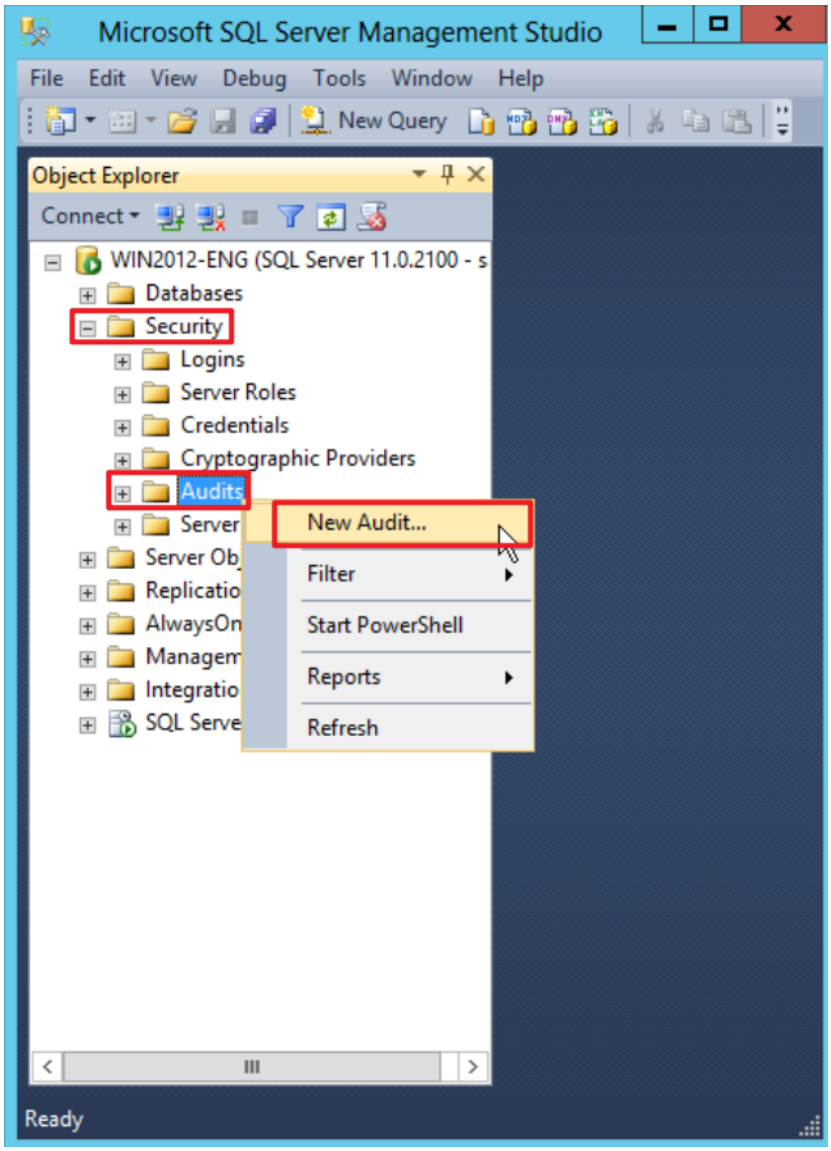
3.2.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

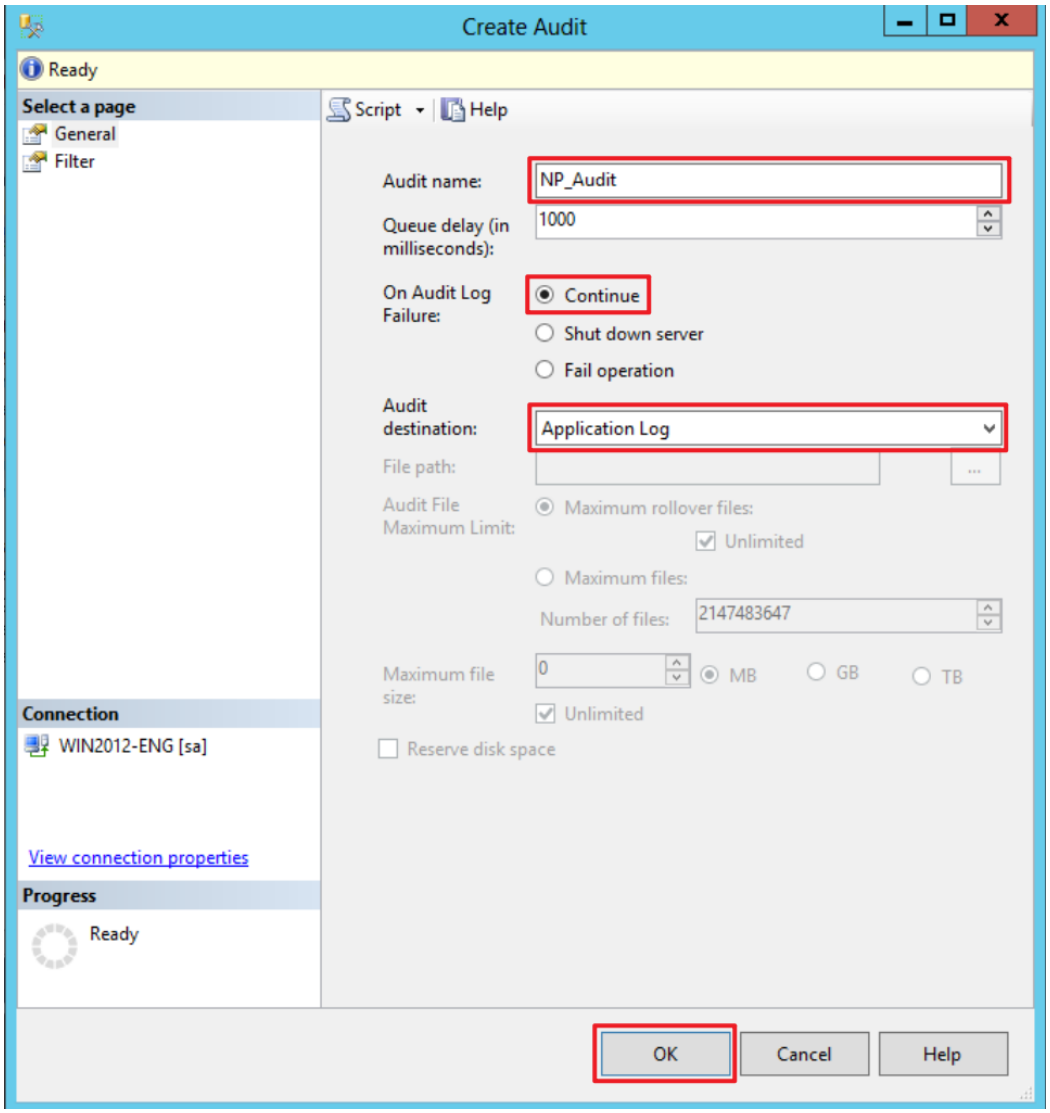
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



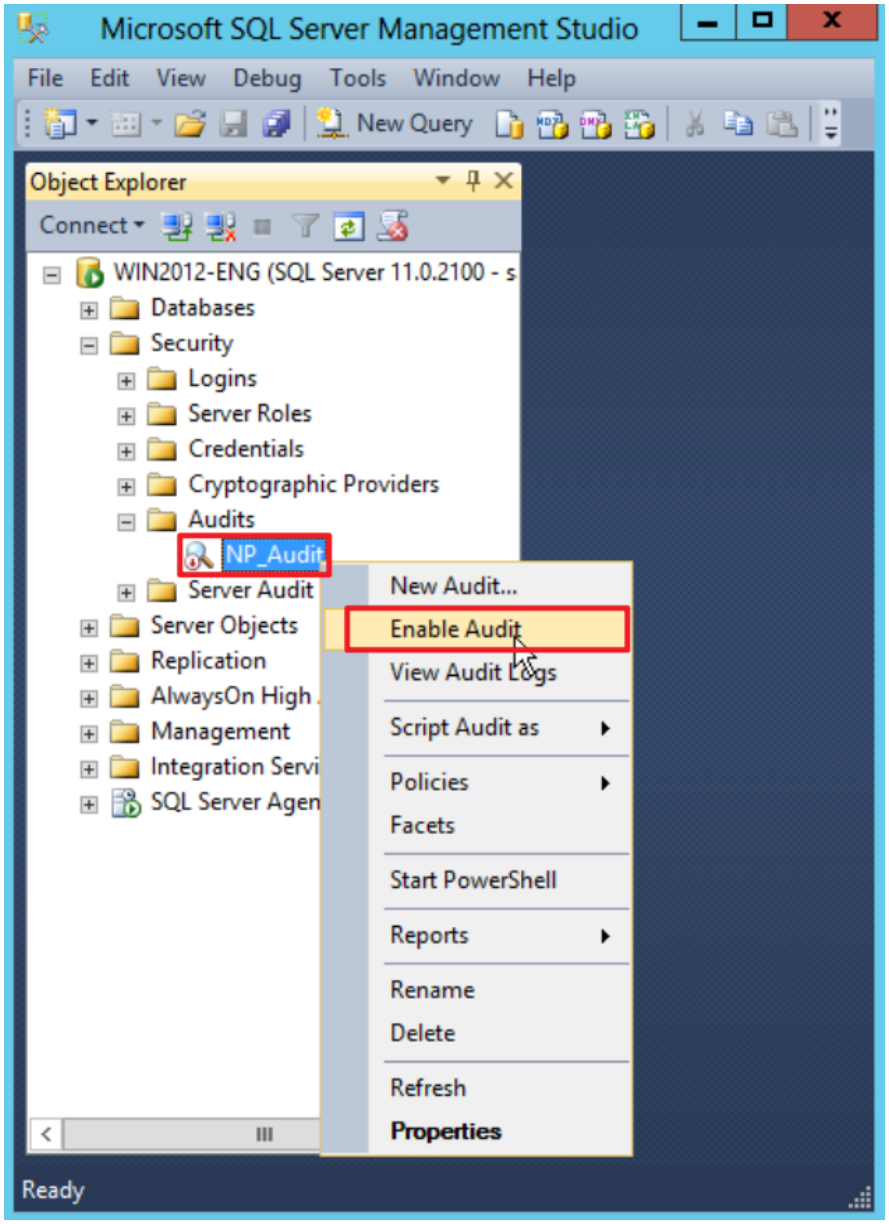
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



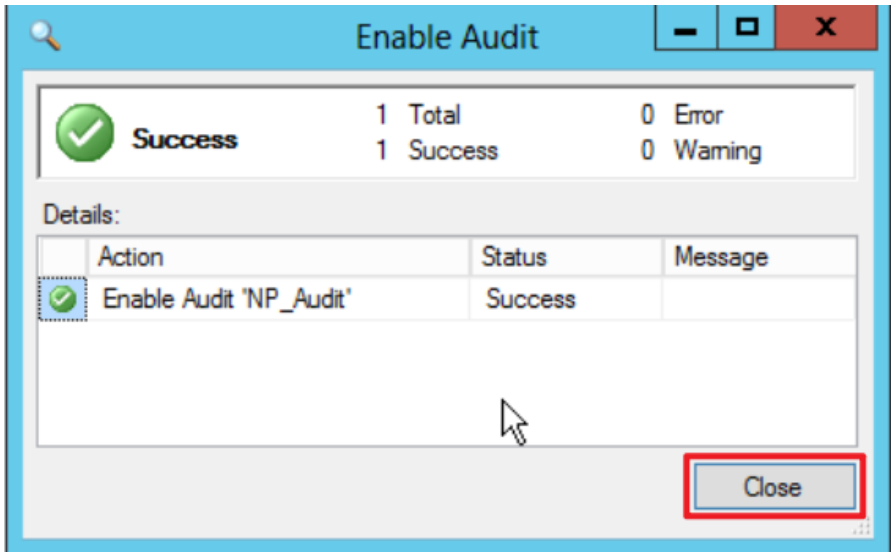
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



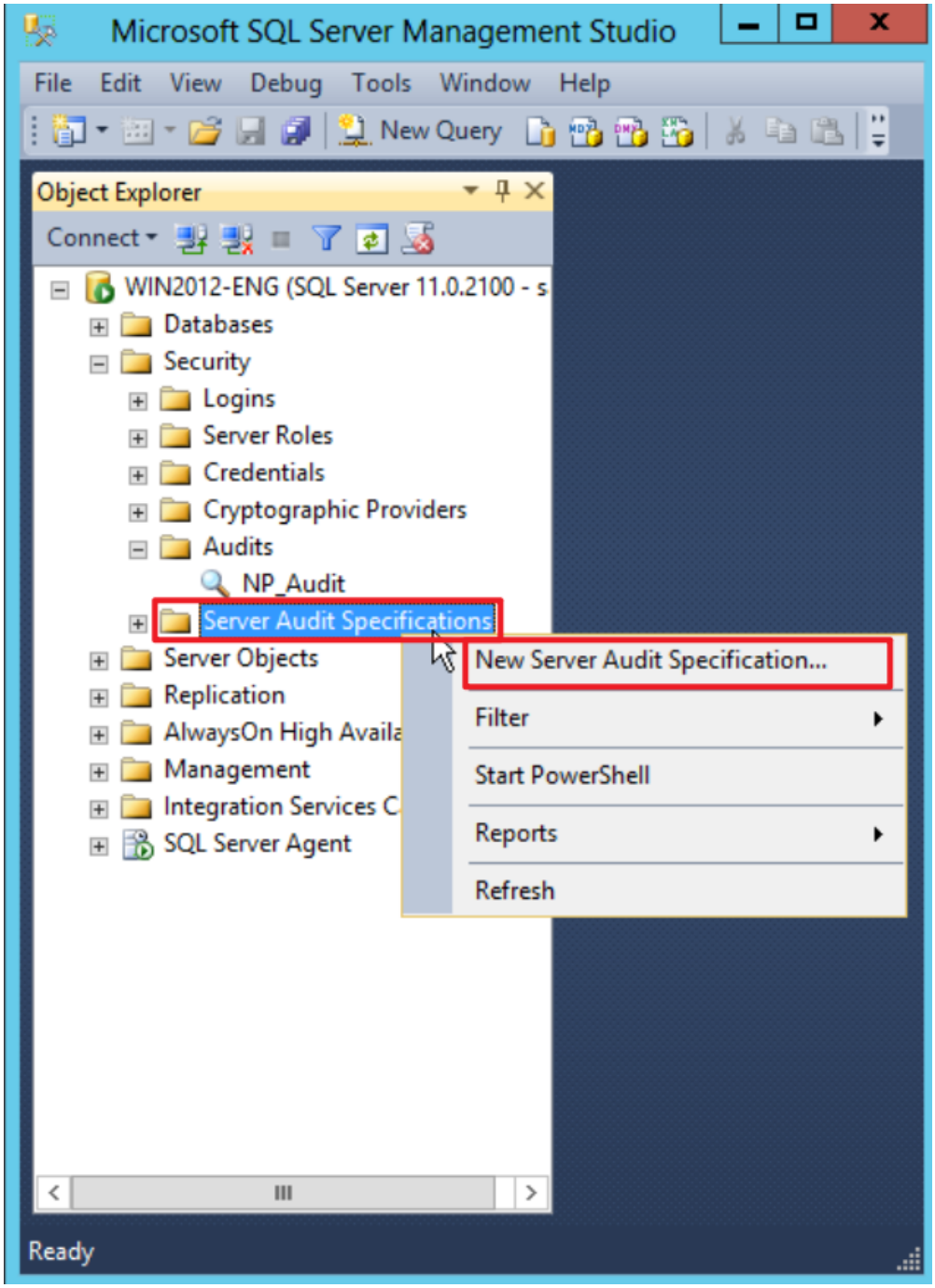
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



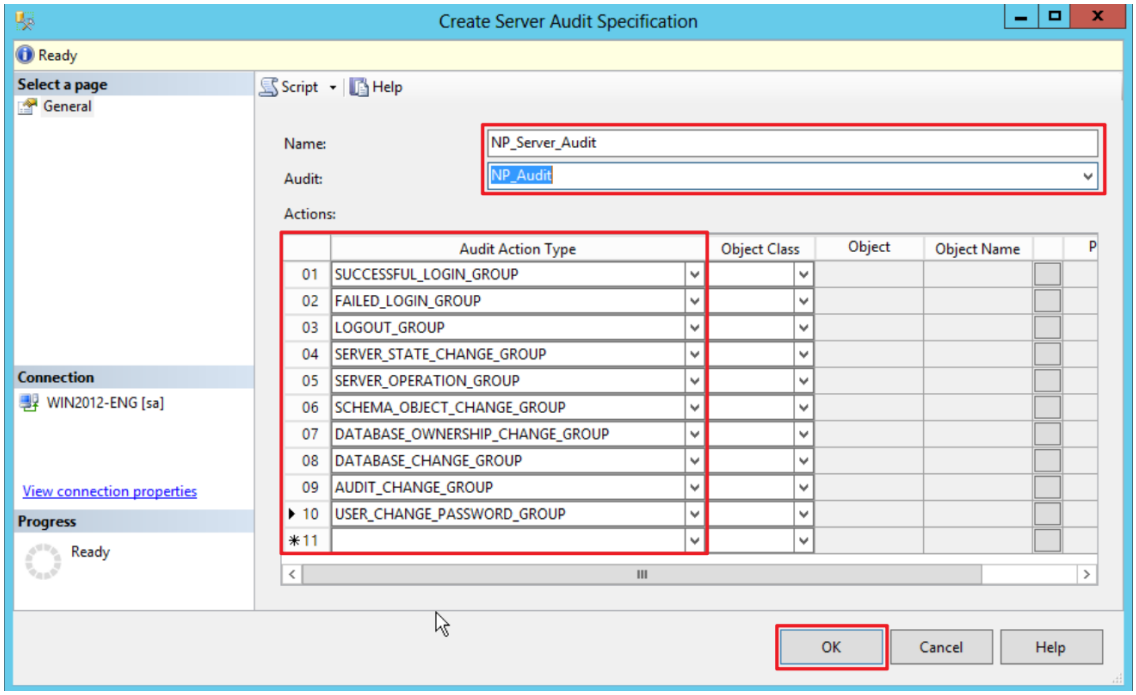
(6) Click “Close.”



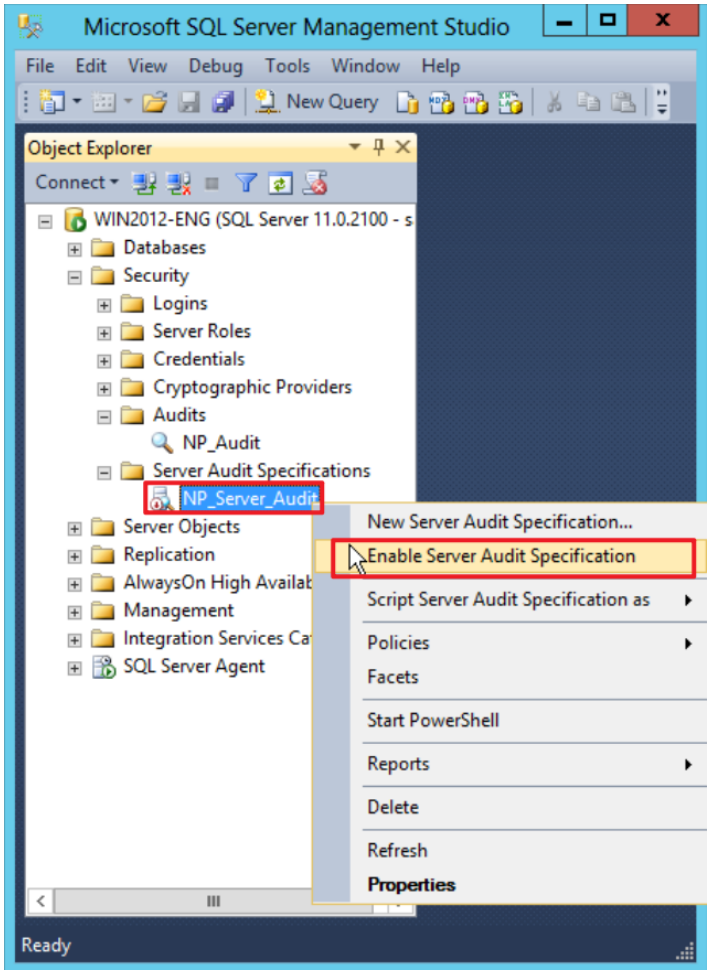
(7) Right-click “Server Audit Specifications,” → select “New Server Audit Specification...”



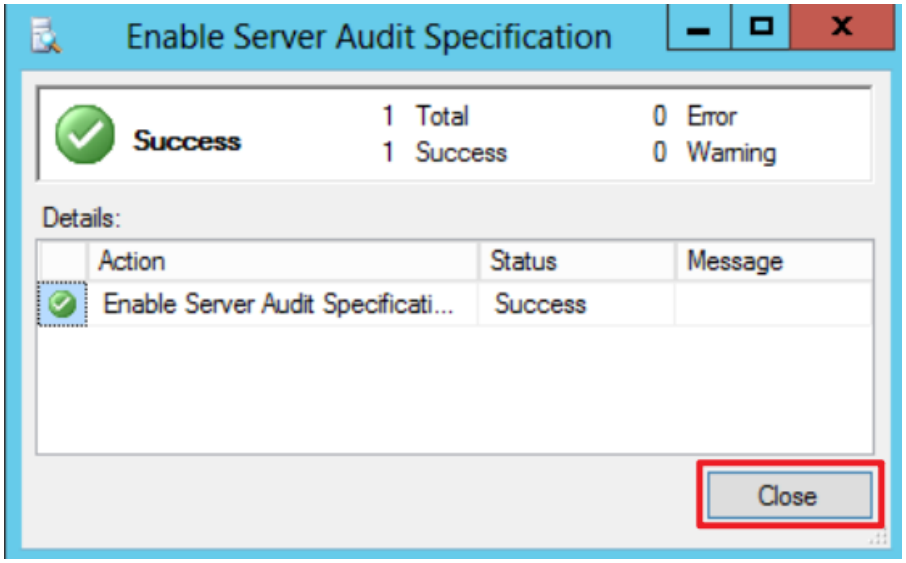
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_Server_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click "OK."



(9) In the server audit specification list, right-click "NP_Server_Audit" → select "Enable Server Audit Specification."



(10) Click “Close.”



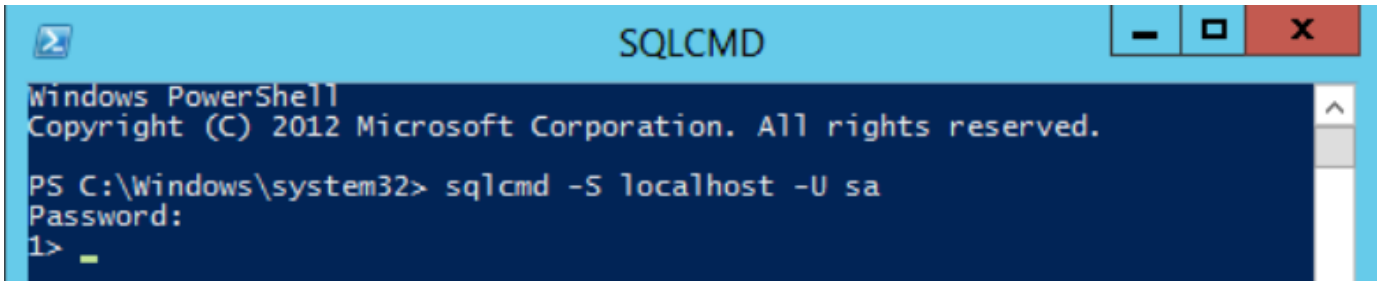
3.2.1.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

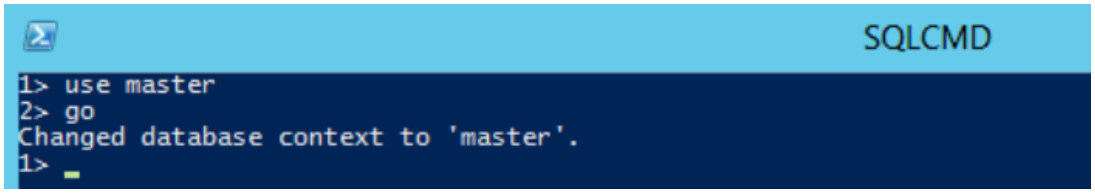
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

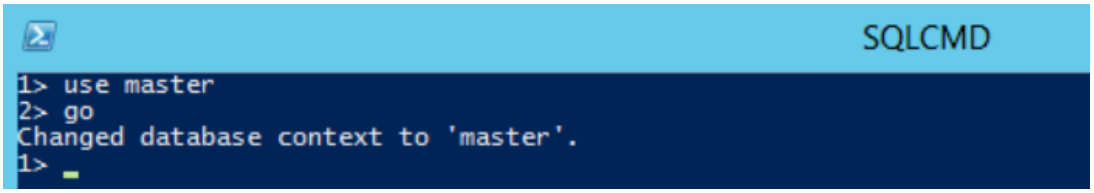
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



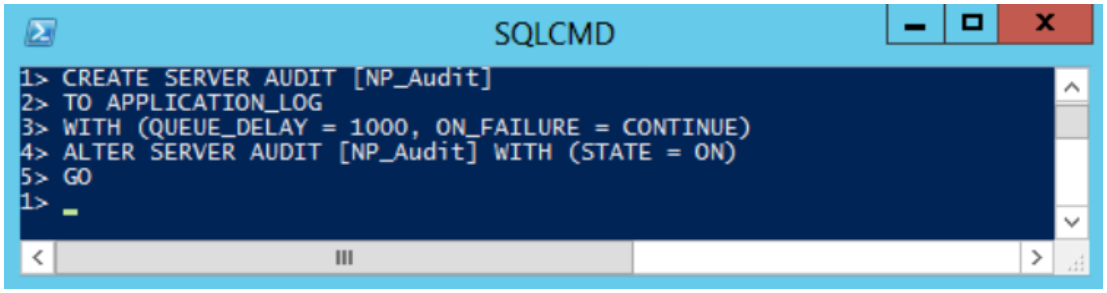
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

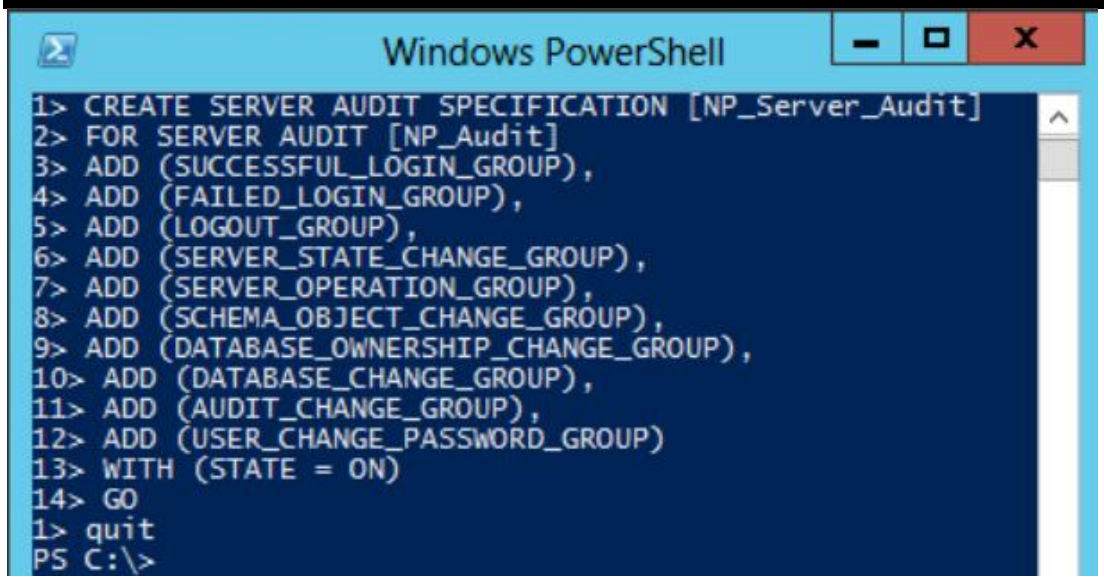
```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



(5) Enter the command below to configure the server audit and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_Server_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (SUCCESSFUL_LOGIN_GROUP),
4 > ADD (FAILED_LOGIN_GROUP),
5 > ADD (LOGOUT_GROUP),
6 > ADD (SERVER_STATE_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (SERVER_OPERATION_GROUP),
8 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
10 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
12 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP)
13 >WITH (STATE = ON)
14> GO
```

```
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the server audit specification name.

3.2.2 Database-Level Audit

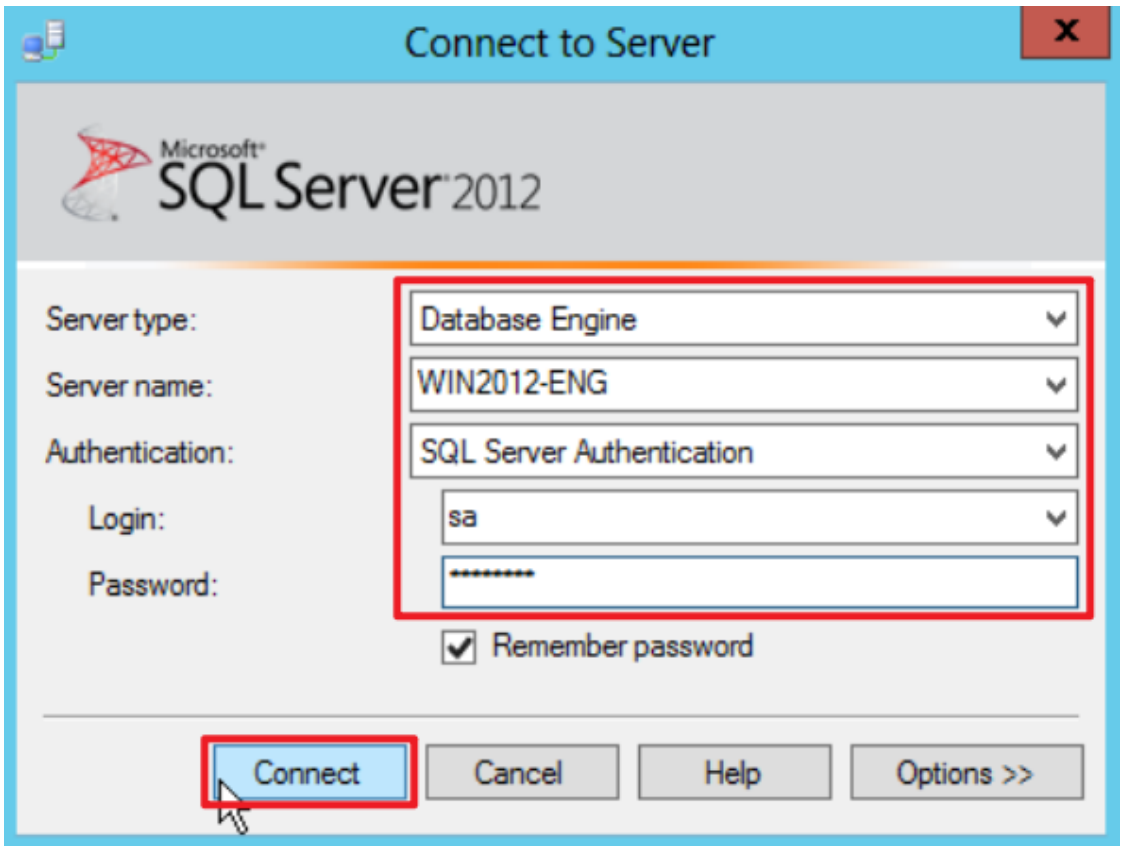
Enabling a database-level audit covers operations involving Data Manipulation Language (DML) and Data Definition Language (DDL) statements.

The following sections describe how to configure a database-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

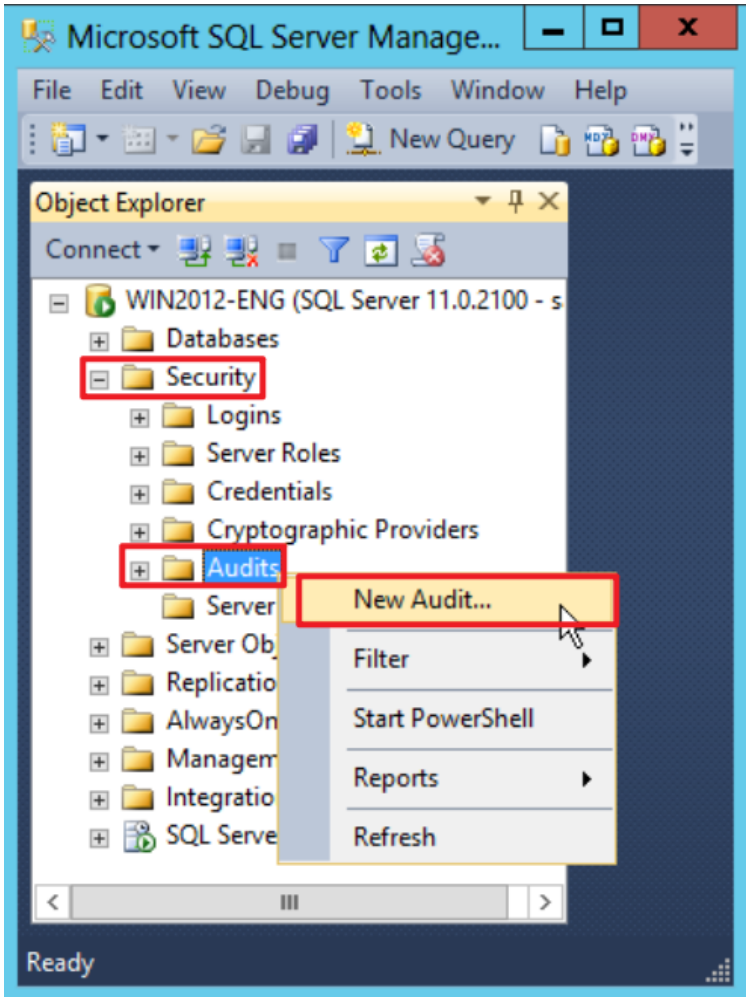
3.2.2.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

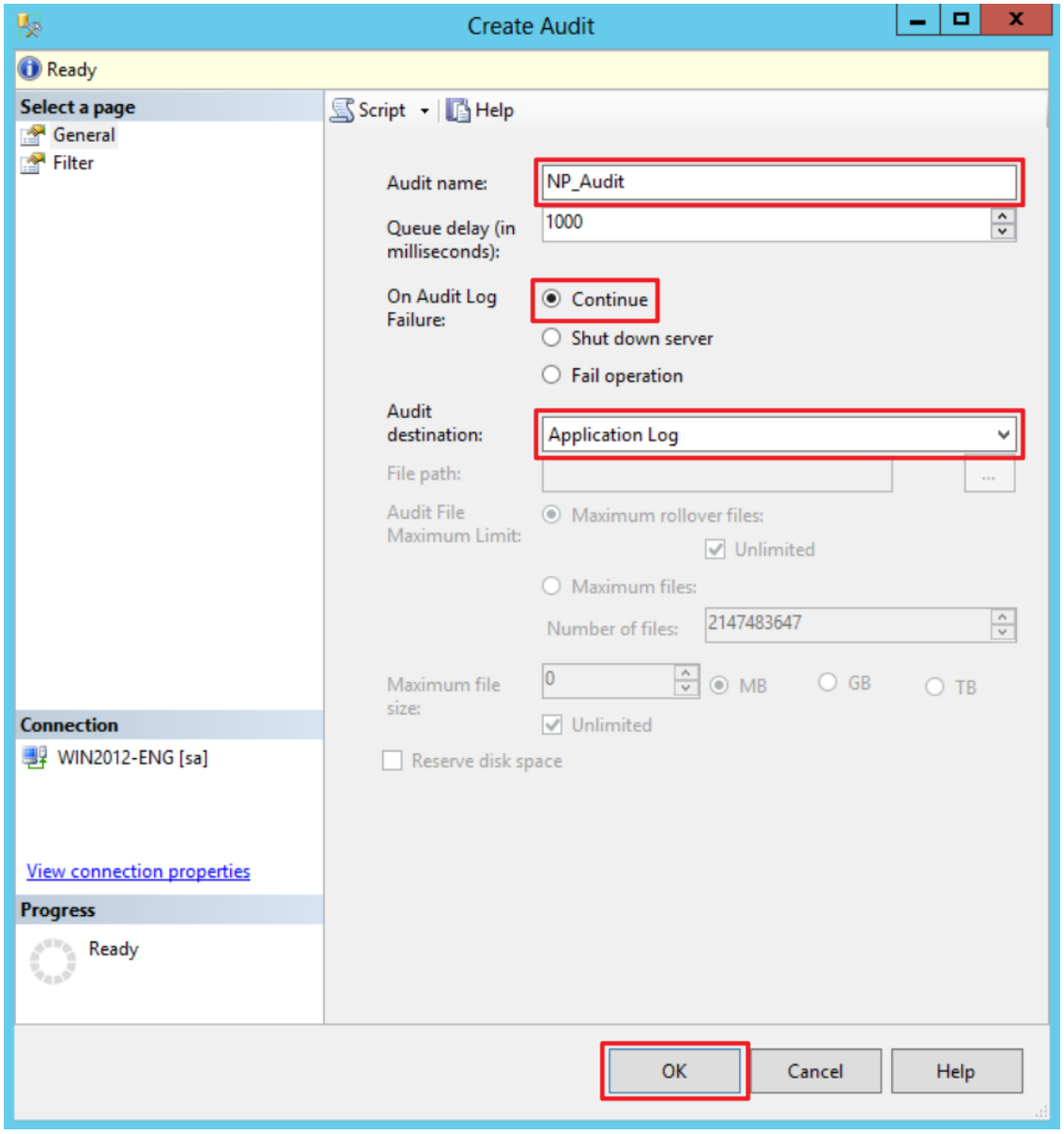
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



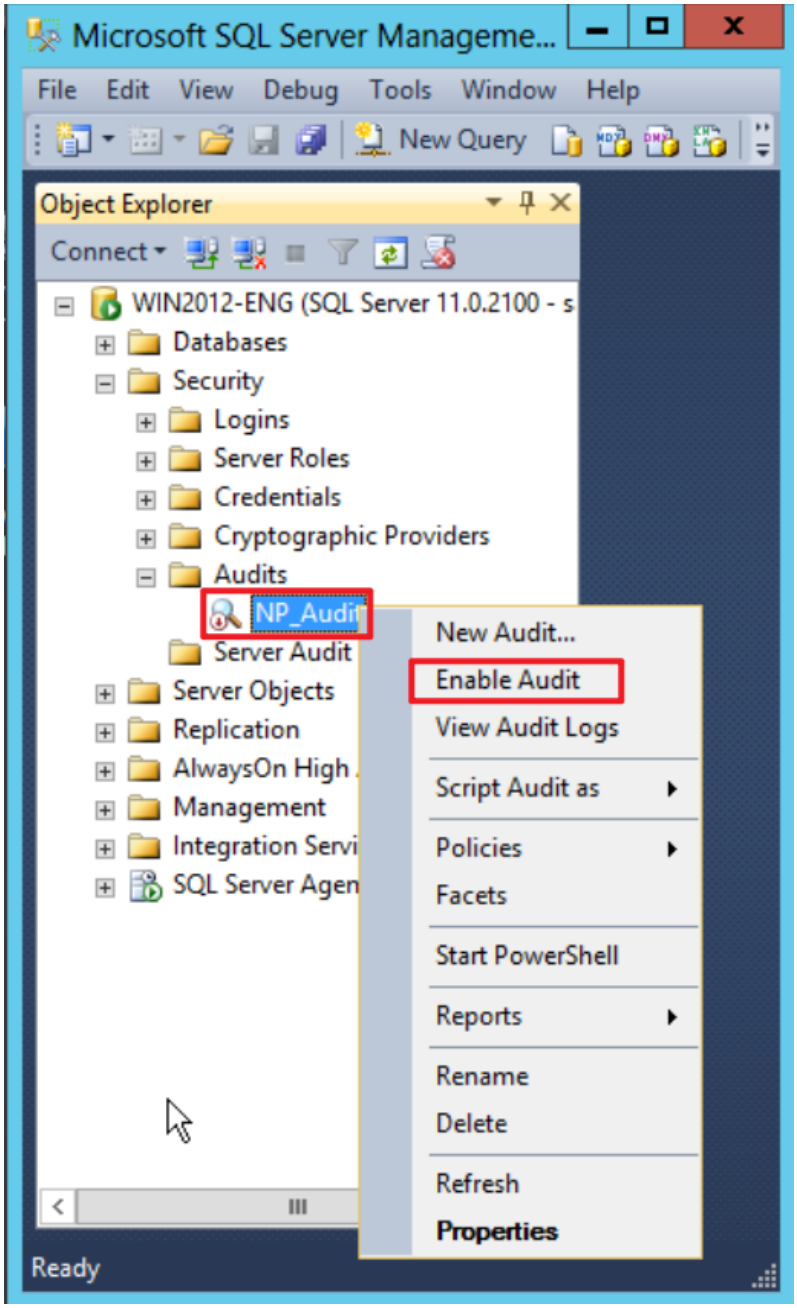
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



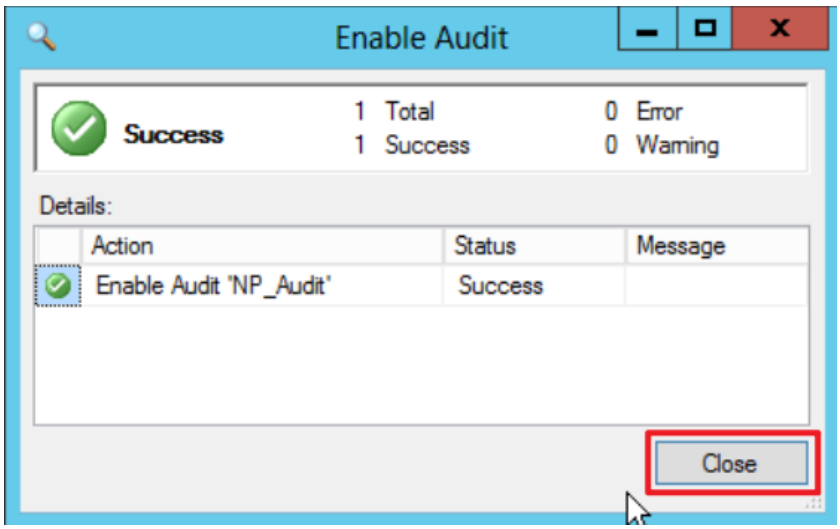
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



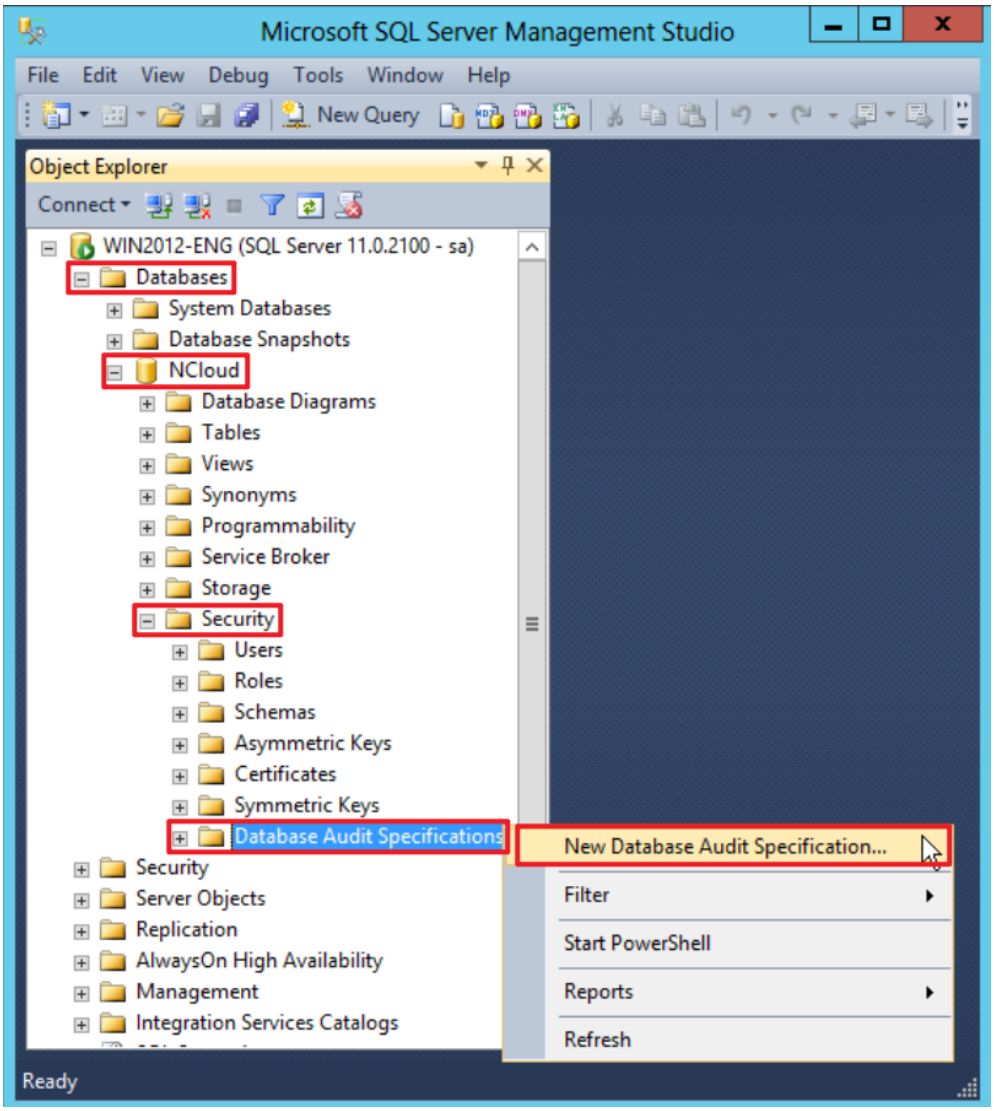
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



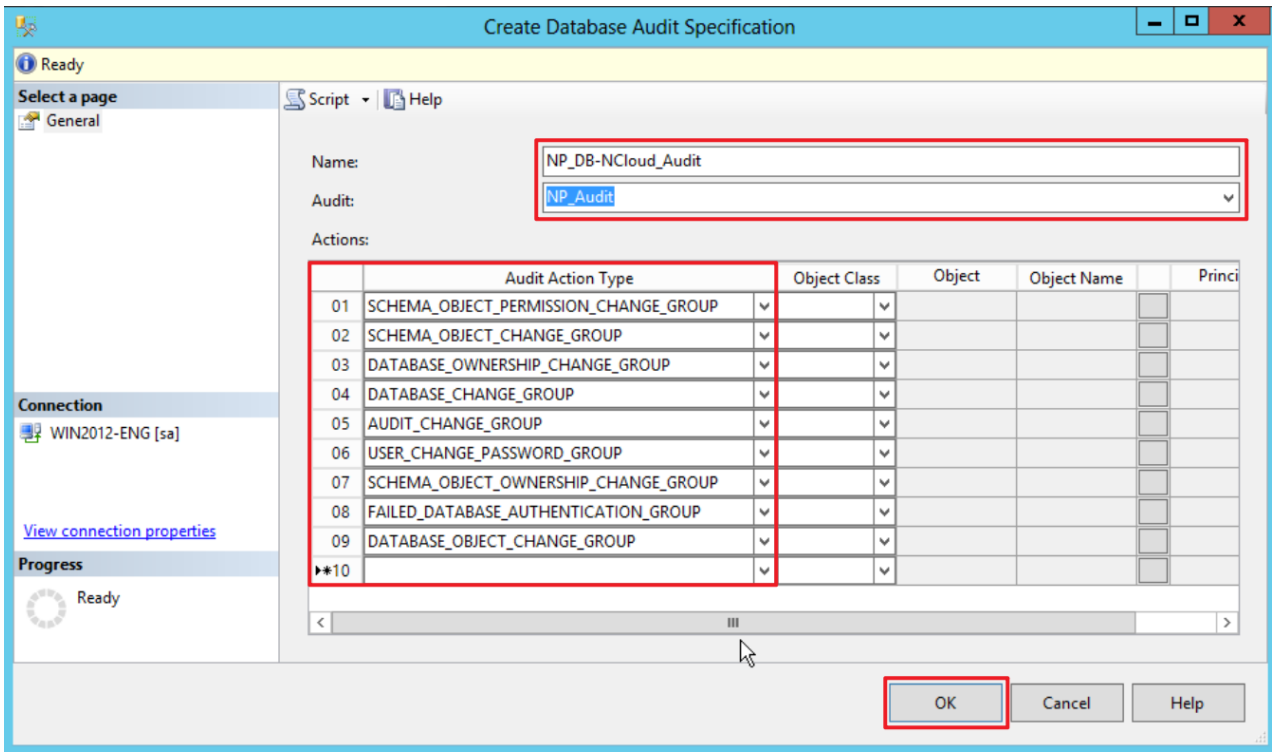
(6) Click “Close.”



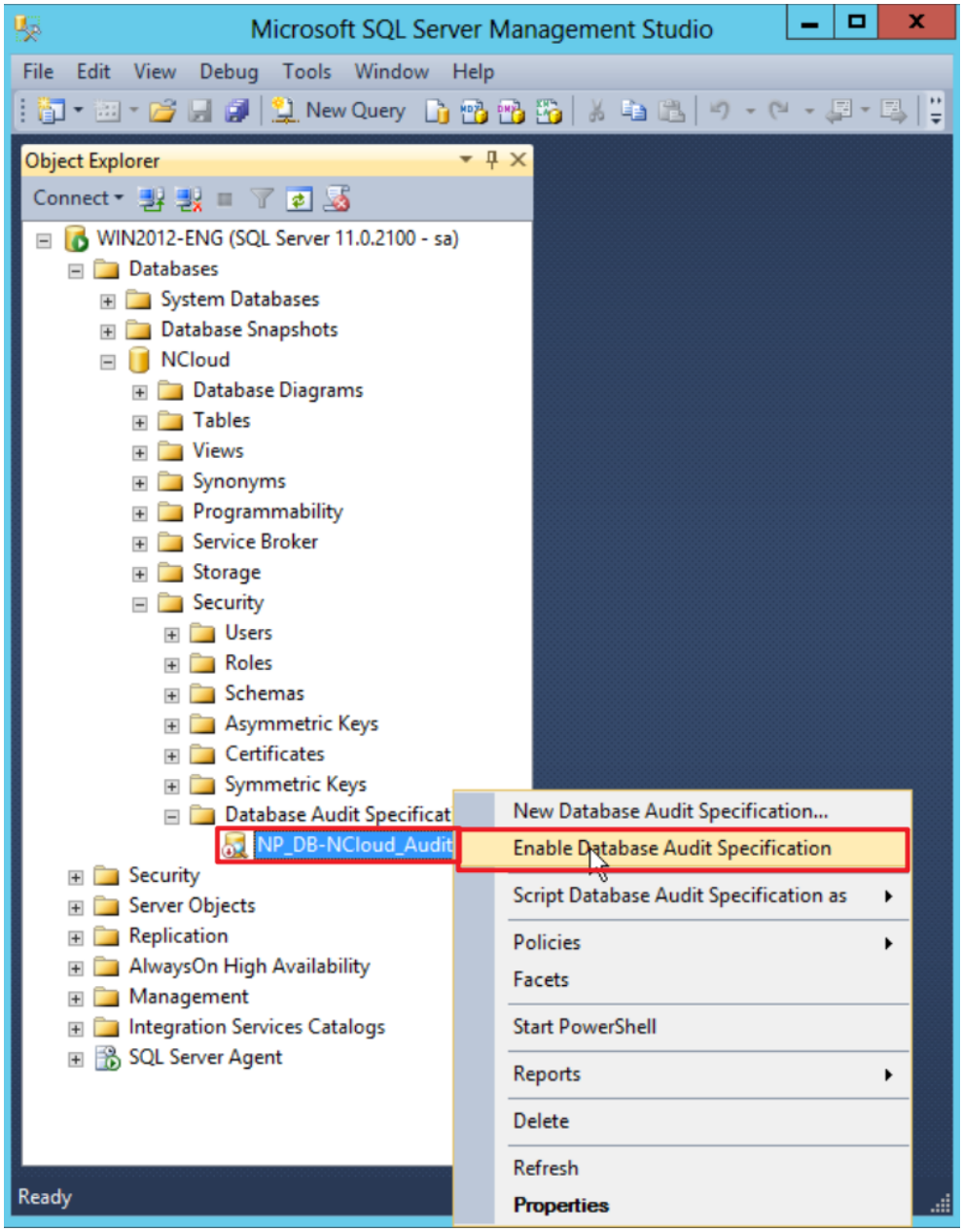
(7) In “Databases,” select the target database (the example here is : NCloud) → expand “Security” → right-click “Database Audit Specifications” → select "New Database Audit Specification...”



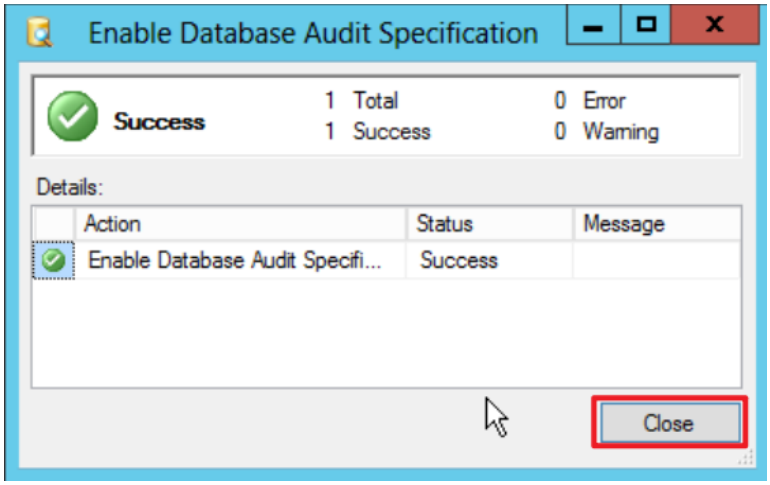
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_DB-NCloud_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit and action(s) → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the database audit specification list, right-click “NP_DB-NCloud_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



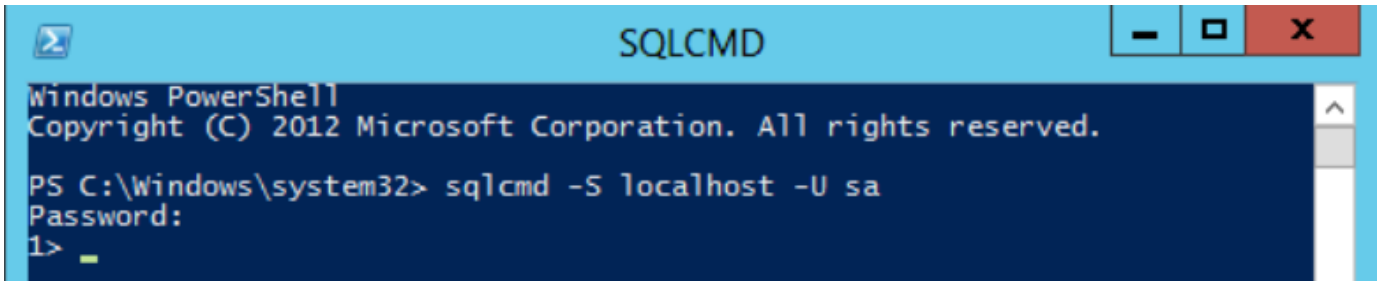
3.2.2.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

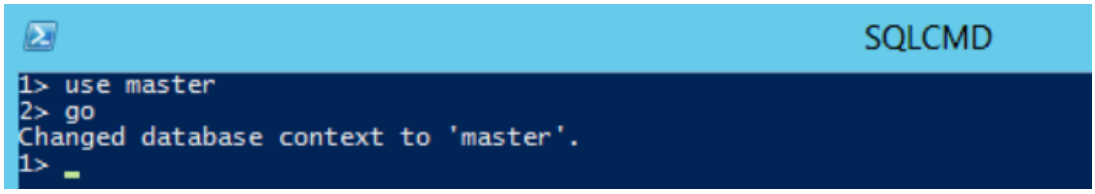
<2.2> Using Windows account:

Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```

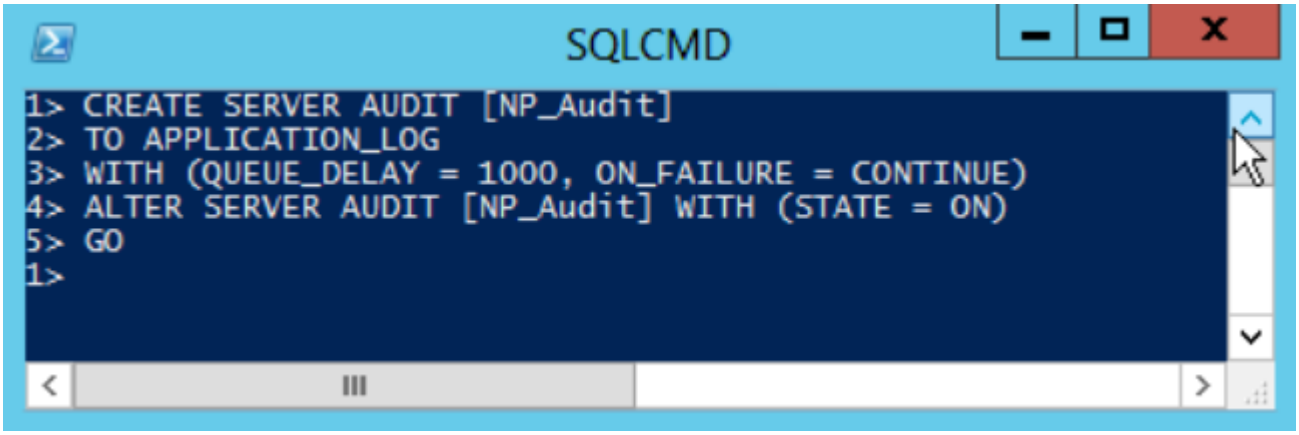
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



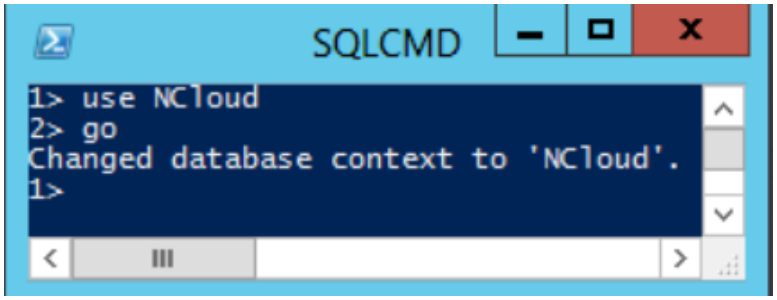
(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



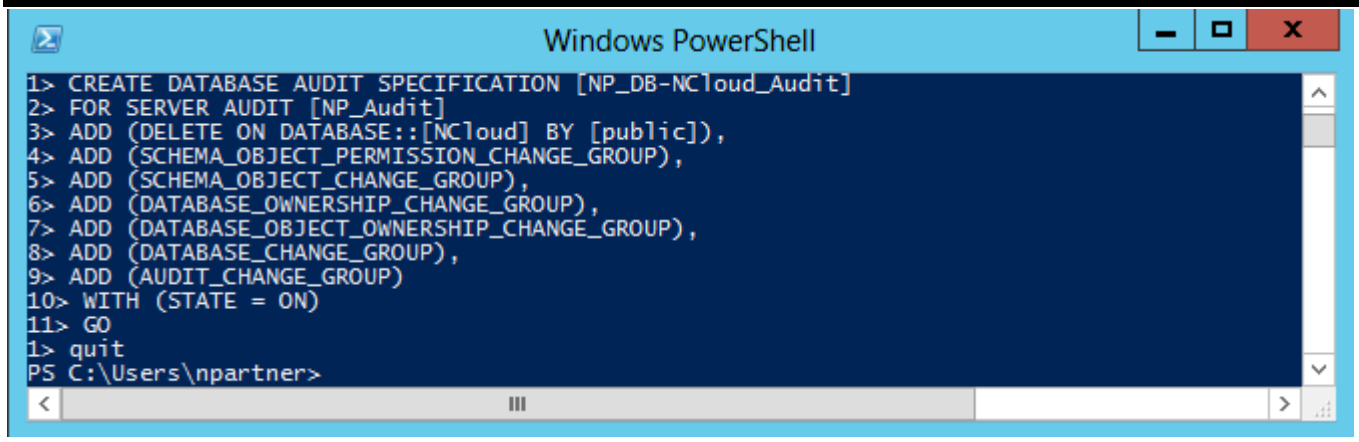
(5) Enter the command below to switch to the target audit database (the example here is: NCloud).

```
1 > use NCloud
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to configure the audit for the database and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_DB-NCloud_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[ NCloud ] BY [public]),
4 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_PERMISSION_CHANGE_GROUP),
5 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
6 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
8 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
10 > WITH (STATE = ON)
11 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the database audit specification name.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [NP_DB-NCloud_Audit]
```

Replace the text shown in red with the target database name.

```
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[NCloud] BY [public])
```

3.3 Event Log Configuration

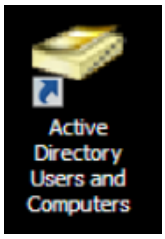
This is an optional configuration.

The following sections describe configuration methods for Domain and Workgroup environments.

3.3.1 Domain

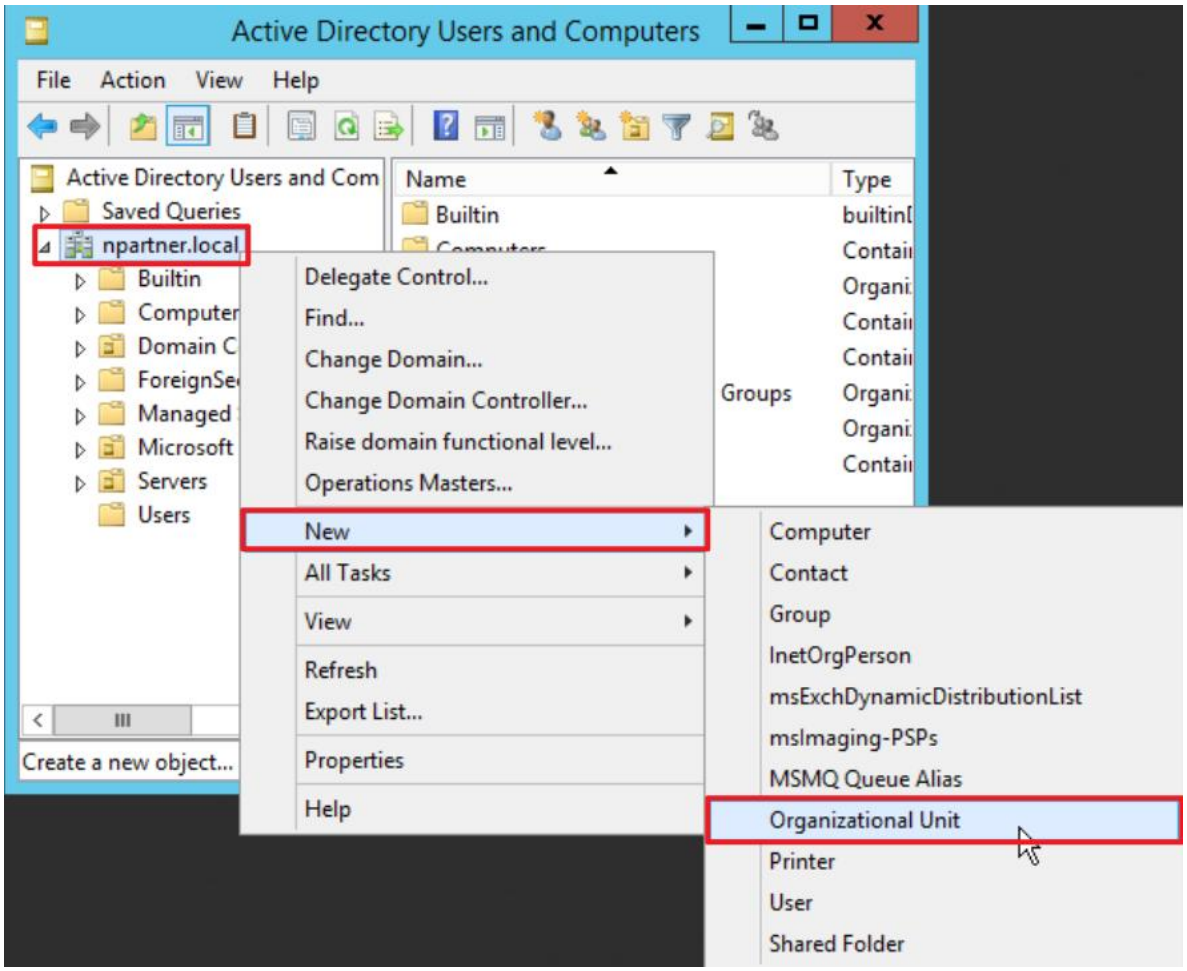
3.3.1.1 Organizational Unit (OU) Configuration

(1) Click “Active Directory Users and Computers.”



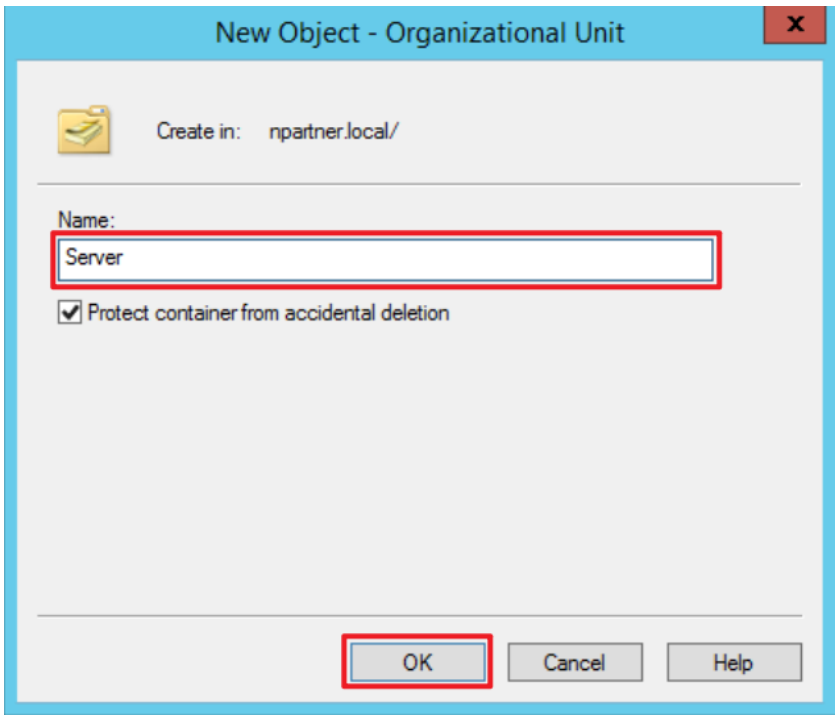
(2) Add an Organizational Unit

Right-click on “Domain Controllers, select “New,” and click “Organizational Unit.”



(3) Enter your Organizational Unit name: (in this example, it is “Servers”)

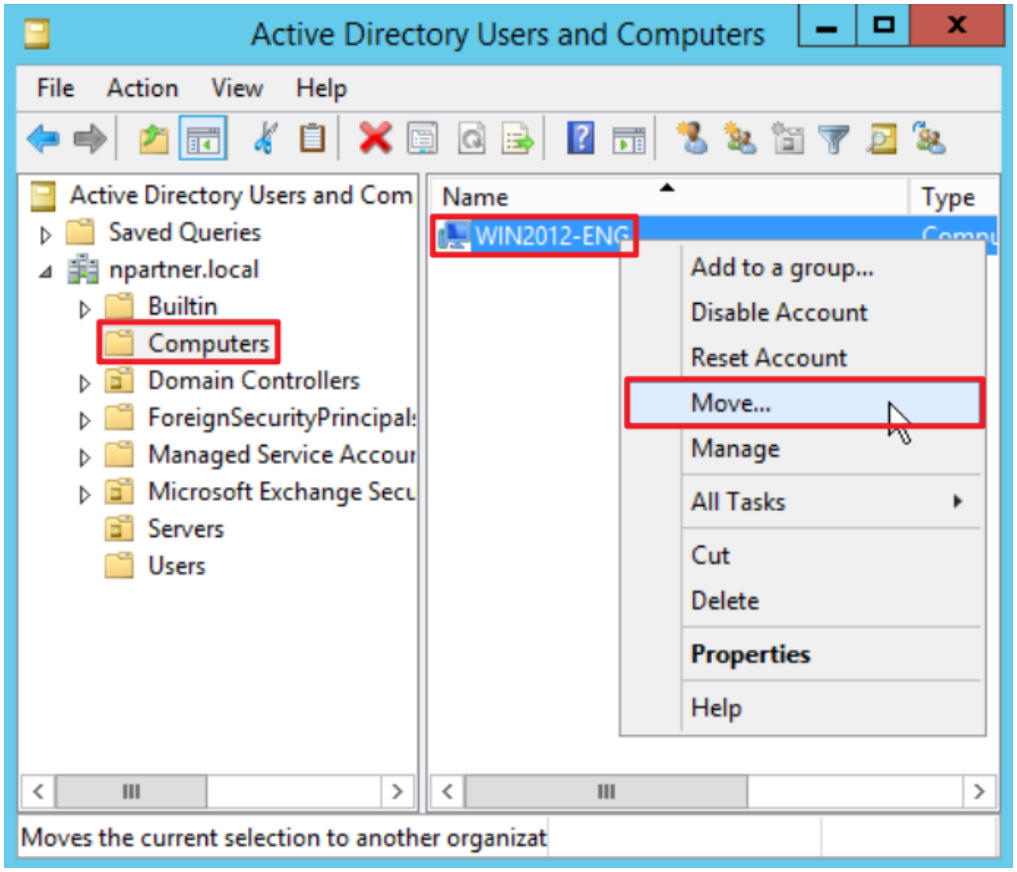
Note: Please create the organizational unit name according to the customer's environment. → click “OK.”



(4) Move the Server to your New Organizational Unit:

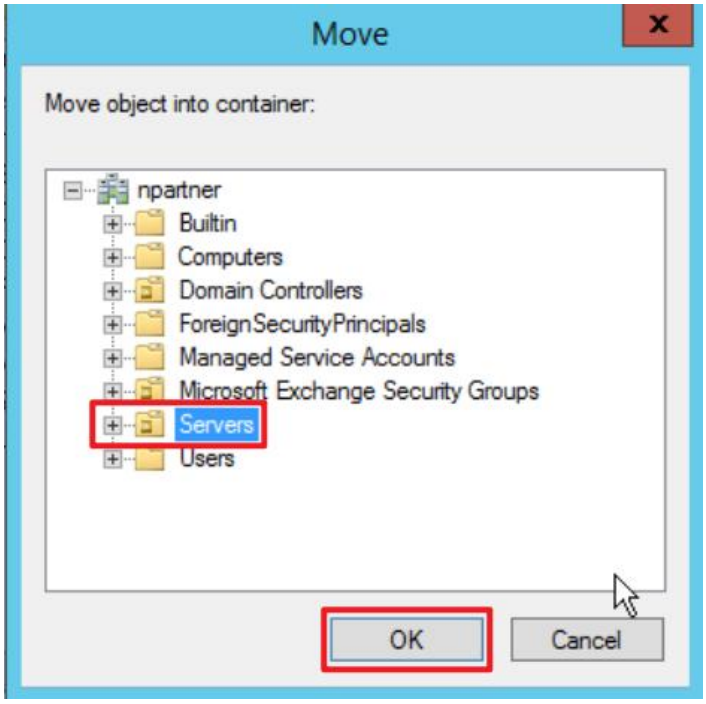
Select your organizational unit in “Domain Controllers” -> Right-click on the “WIN2012” server.

Note: Please select the MS SQL server according to the actual environment. → click “Move.”



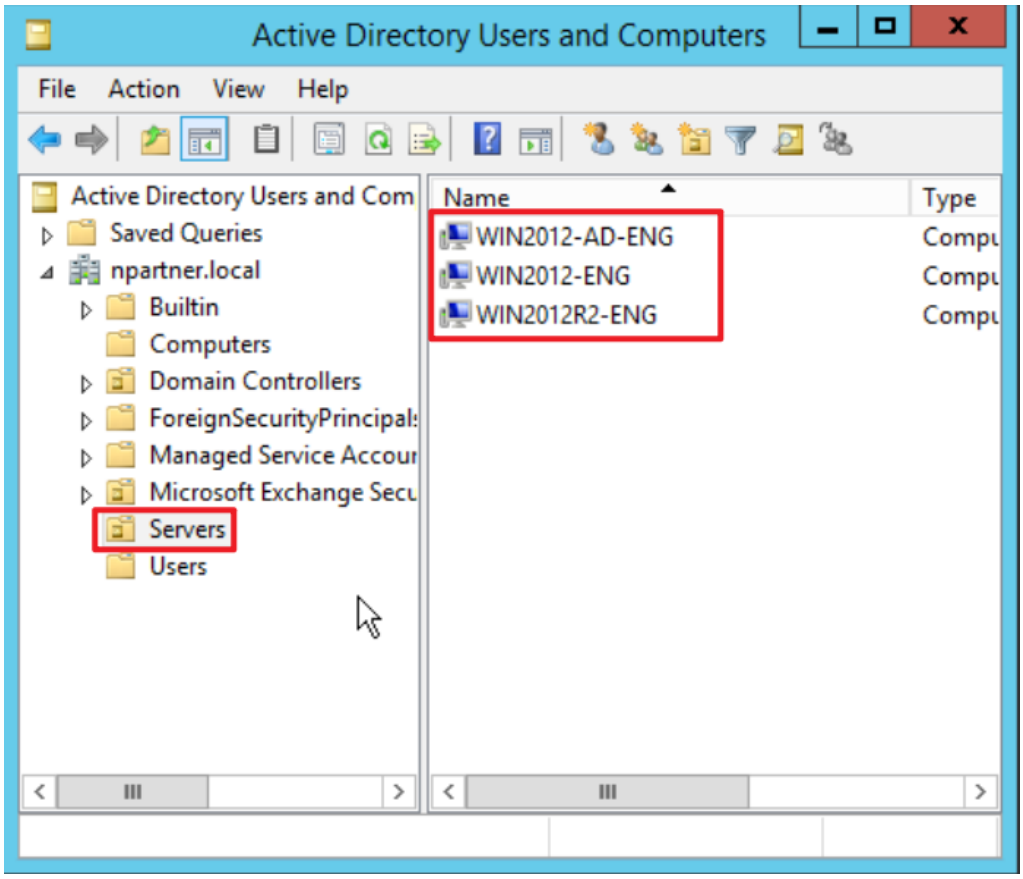
(5) Select your Organizational Unit:

Select your organizational unit (in this example, it is “Servers”) → Click “OK.”



(6) Verify the Server Has Been Moved to your New Organizational Unit:

Expand your organizational unit folder (in this example, it is “Servers”) and confirm that the “WIN2012-ENG” server has been moved.

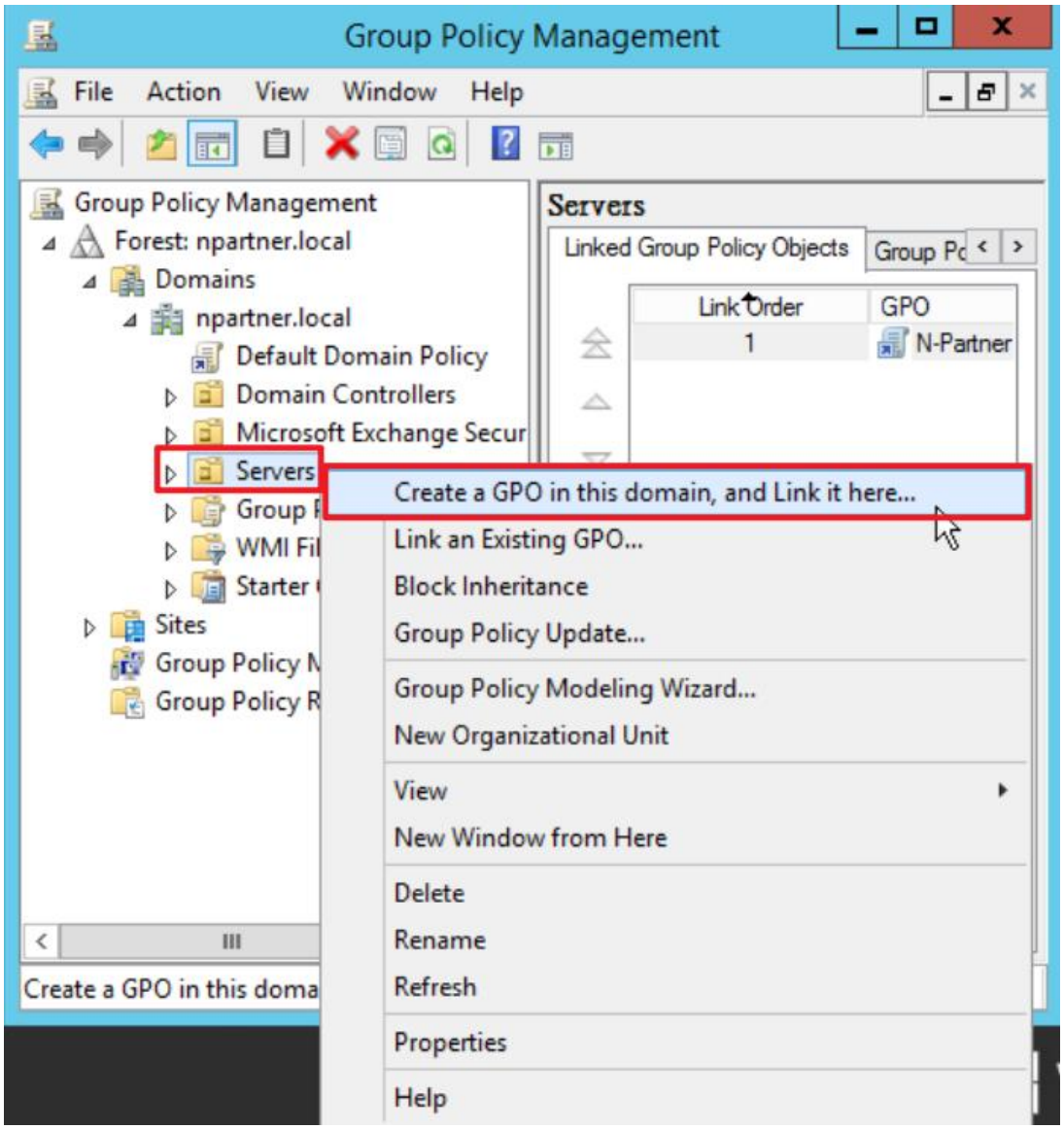


3.3.1.2 Group Policy Settings

(1) Click “Group Policy Management.”

(2) In the Servers organizational unit (OU), create a new Group Policy Object (GPO):

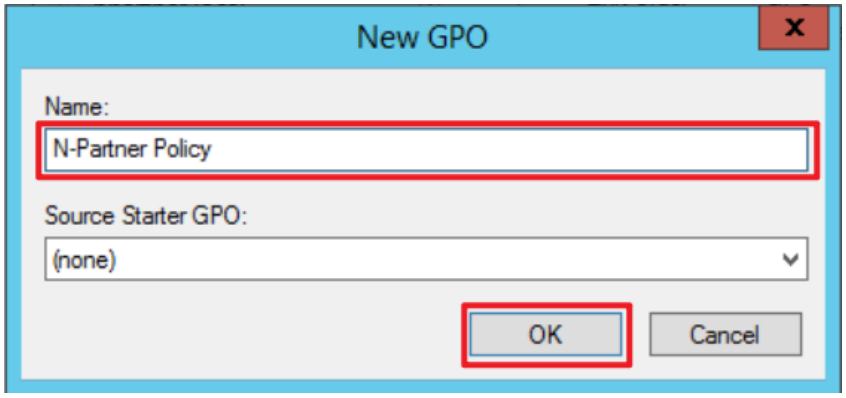
Right-click the [Servers] organizational unit → select “Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here...”



(3) Edit your Group Policy Object

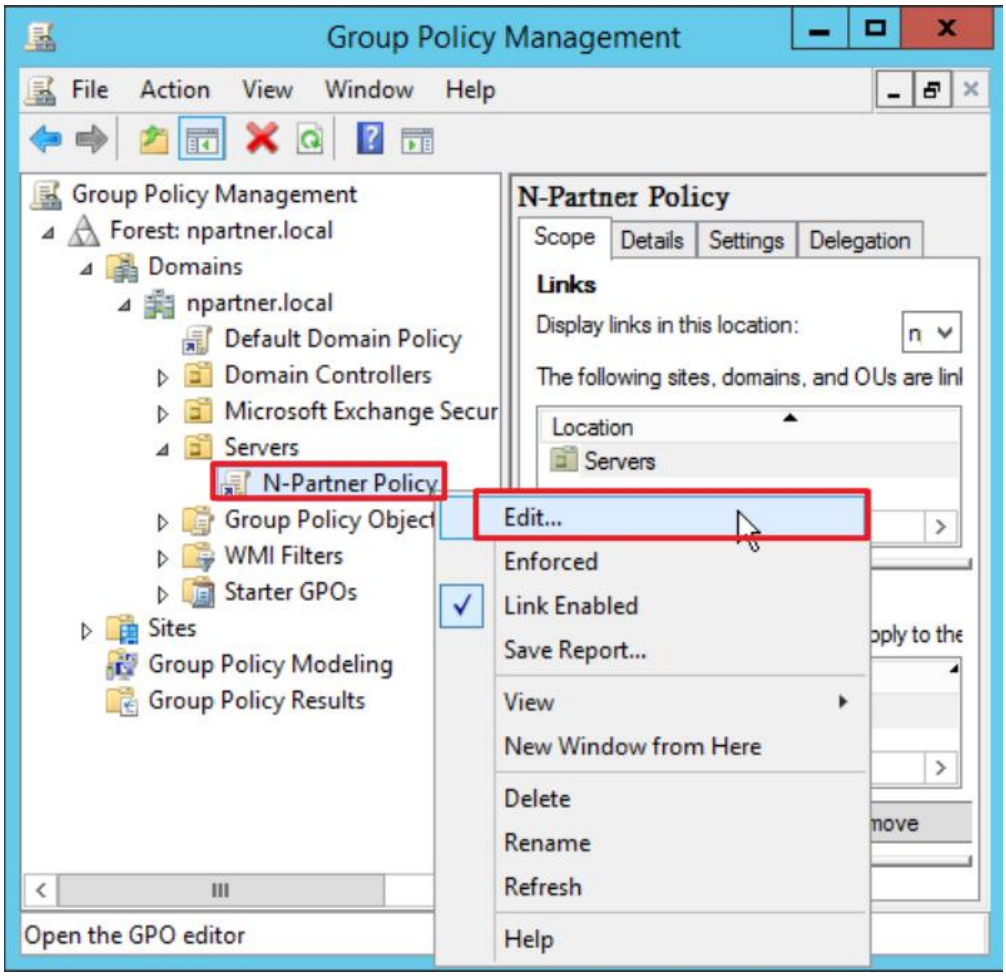
Enter your Group Policy Object name. (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")

Note: Create your GPO name according to the actual environment. Then click "Edit."



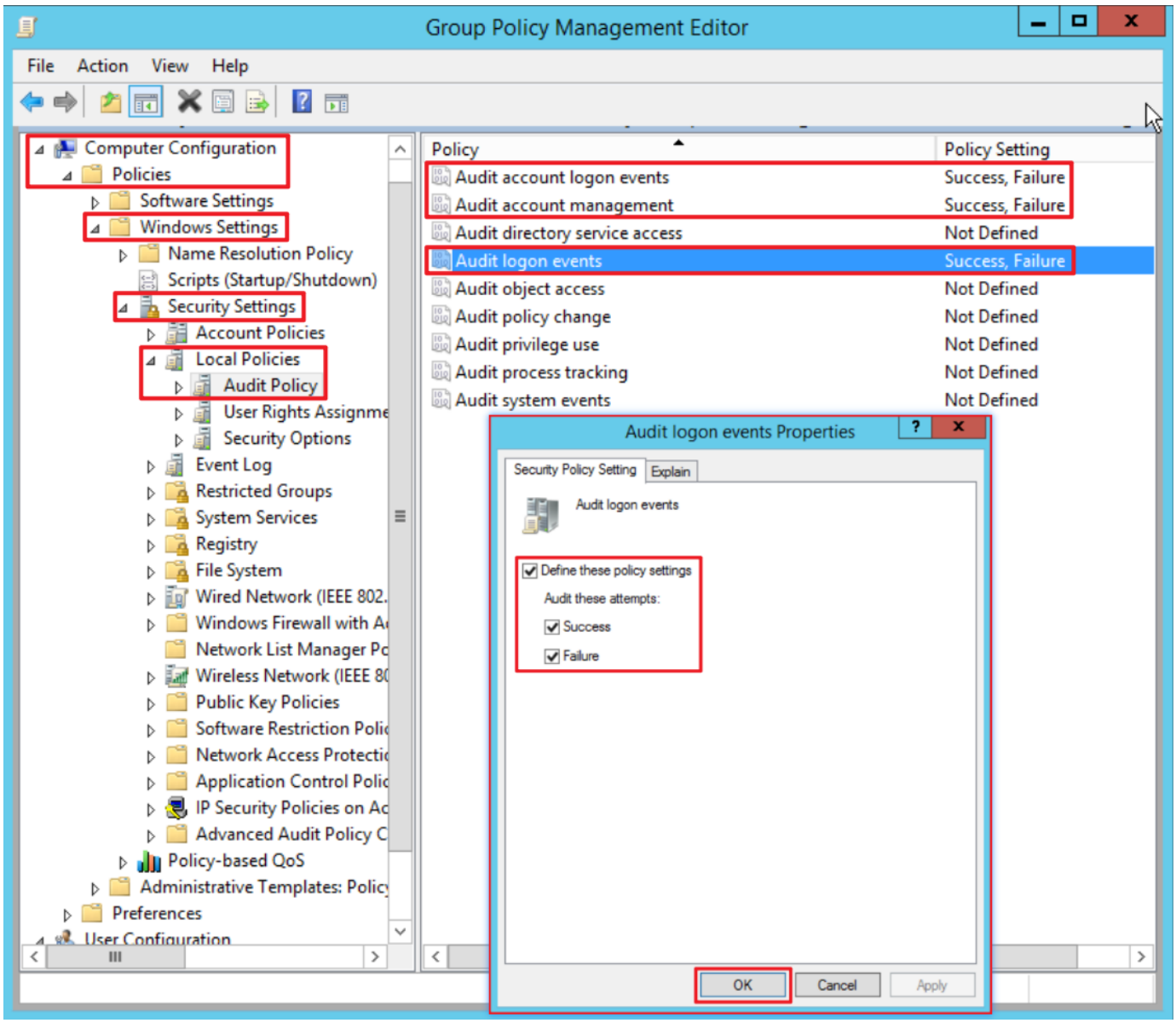
(4) Edit your Group Policy Object

In your group policy object, (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")
right-click and select "Edit."



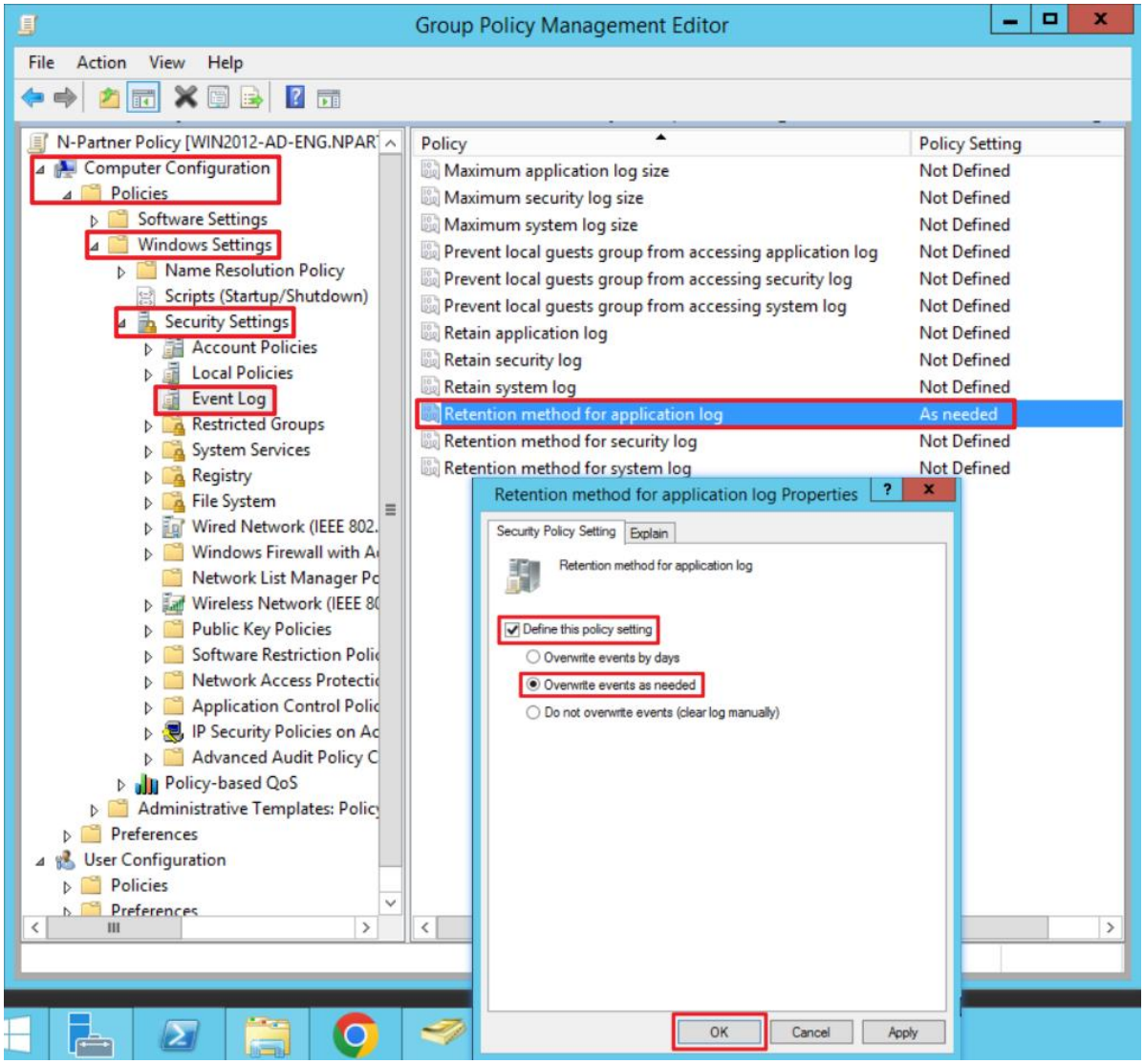
(5) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events,” → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(6) Event Log: Application Log Retention Method

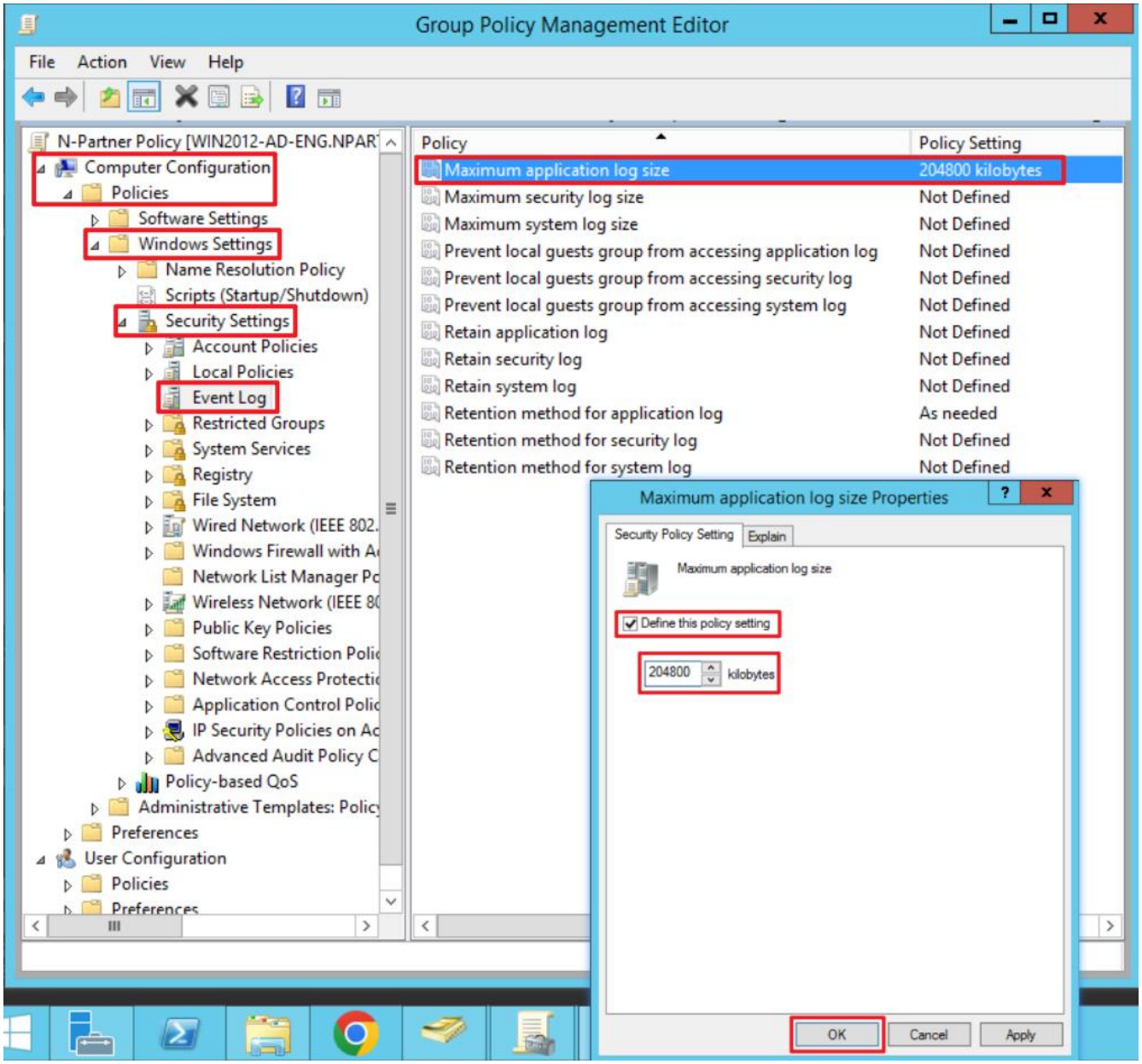
Expand “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” → select “Retention method for application log” → check “Define this policy setting” → select “Overwrite events as needed” → click “OK.”



(7) Event Logs: Maximum Size of Security Log

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” →And click on “Maximum application log size” → Check “Define this policy setting” → enter 204800 KB

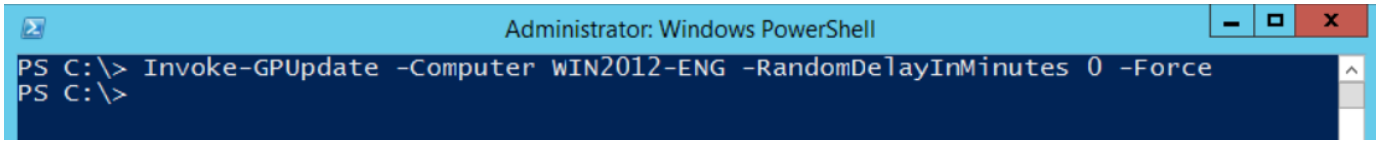
Note: Please adjust the number based on the actual environment. → click “OK.”



(8) On the AD domain server, open “Windows PowerShell.”

(8) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

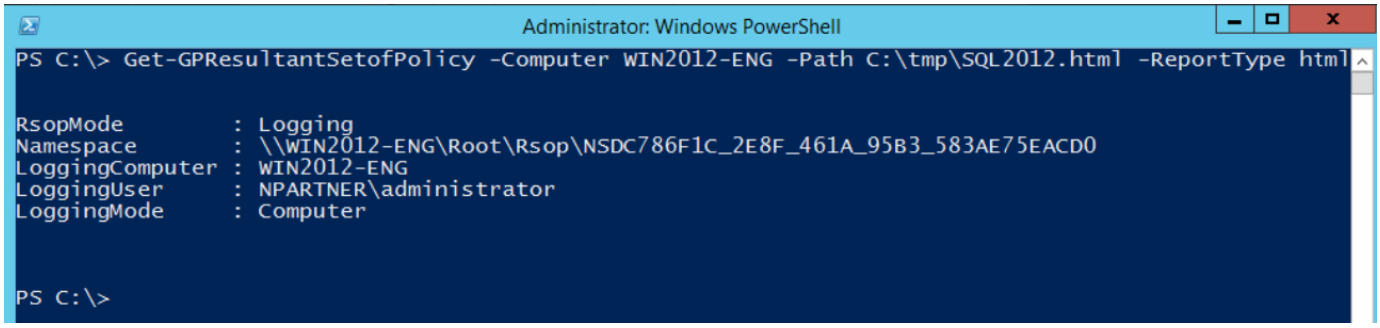
```
PS C:\> Invoke-GPUpdate -Computer WIN2012-ENG -RandomDelayInMinutes 0 -Force
```



Replace the text shown in red with the MS SQL server name.

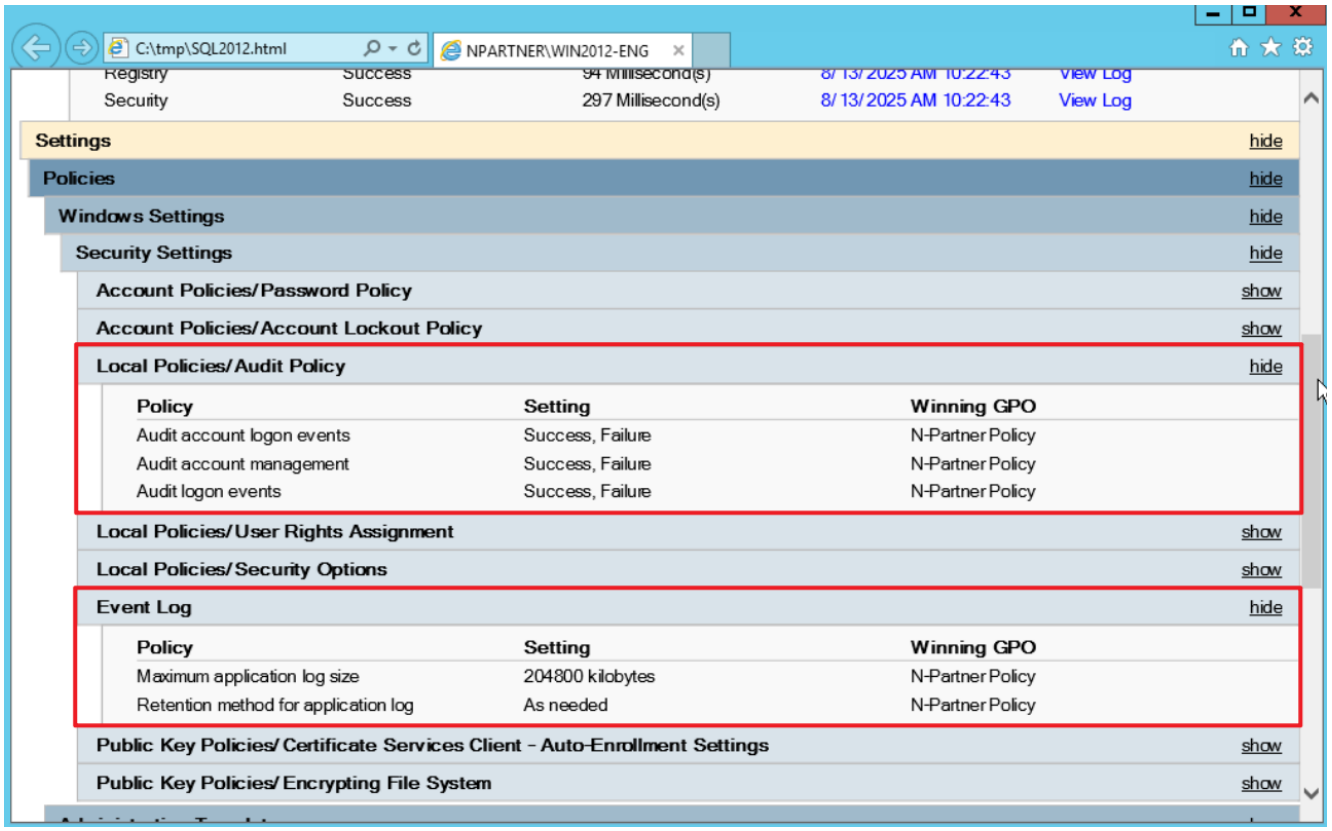
(9) Enter the command below to generate server group policy report.

```
PS C:\> Get-GPResultantSetofPolicy -Computer WIN2012-ENG -Path C:\tmp\WIN2012.htnl -ReportType.html
```



For the red text , please enter the MS SQL server name and the folder path/file name.

(11) Open the report and verify that your MS SQL server is applying the N-Partner Policy Group Policy.

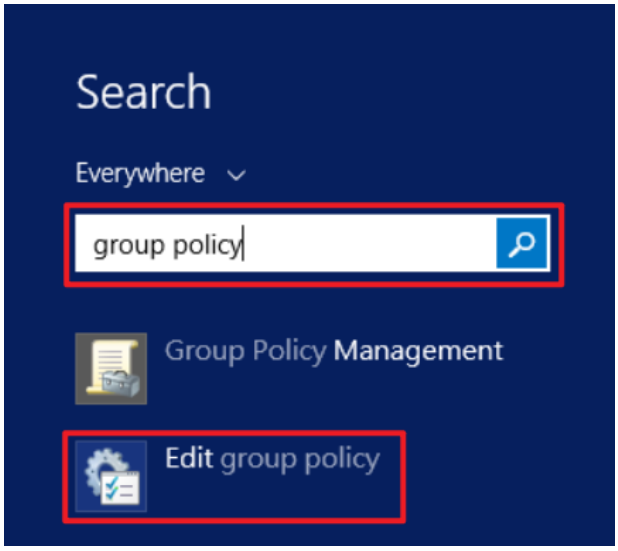


3.3.2 Workgroup

3.3.2.1 Audit Policy Configuration

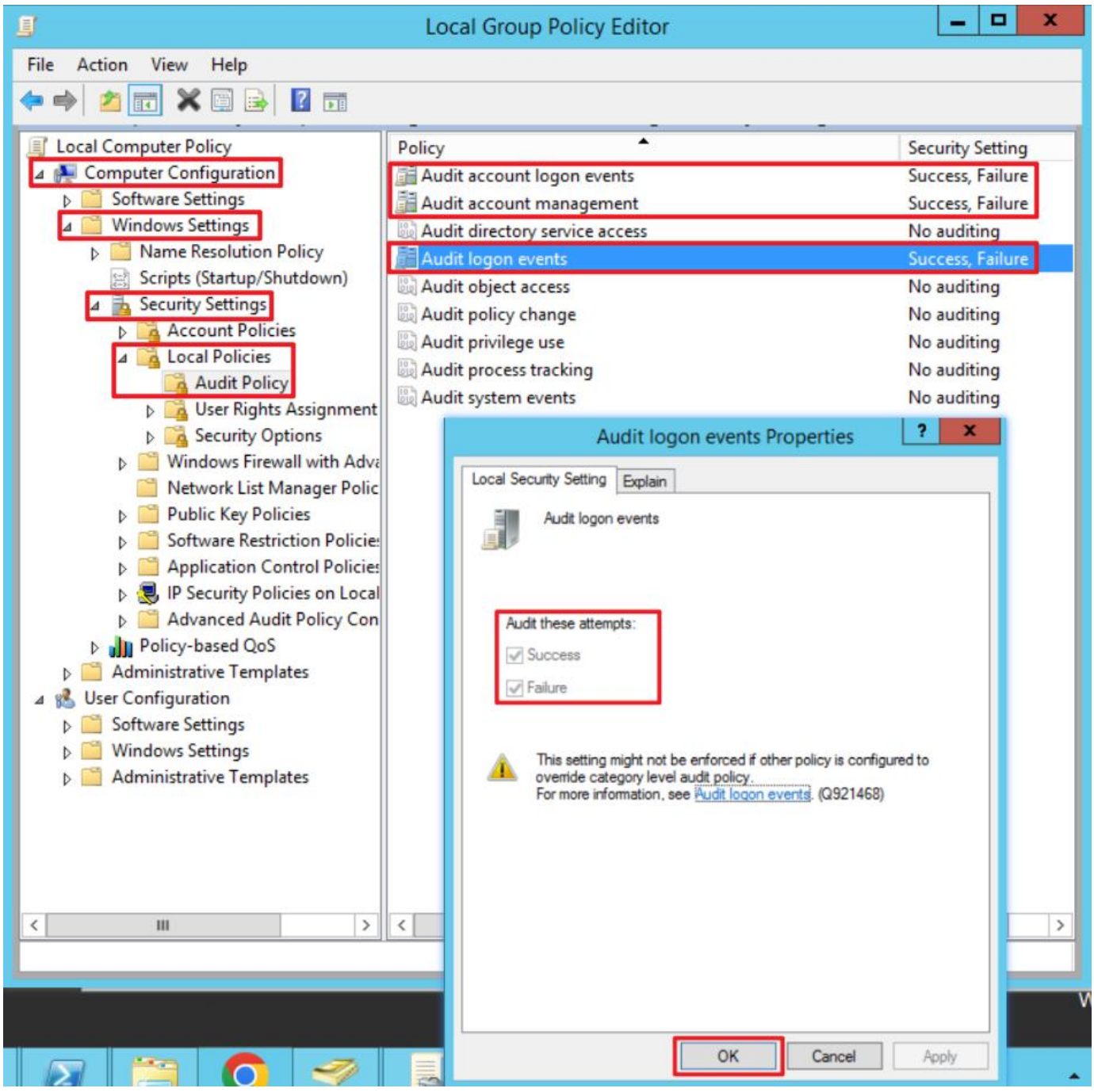
(1) Open Local Group Policy Editor

Click on “Start” → enter “group policy” to search → click on “Edit Group Policy.”



(2) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

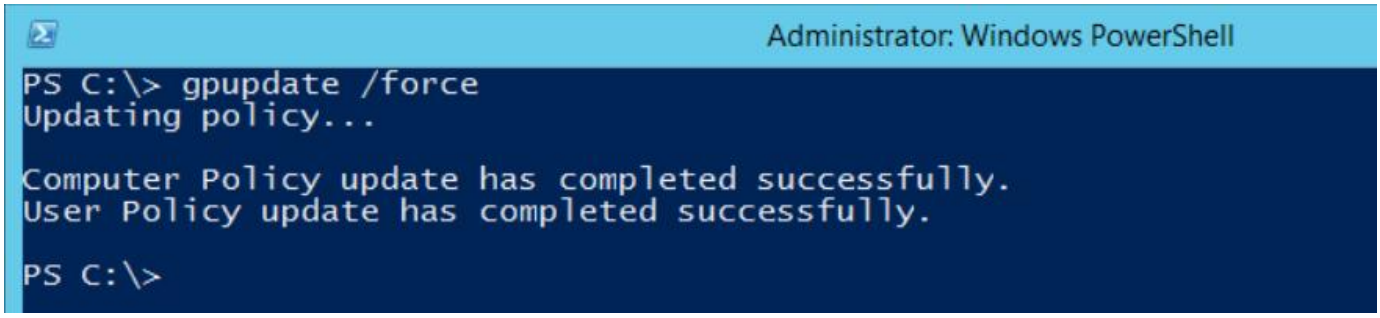
Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” -> “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events” items → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(3) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

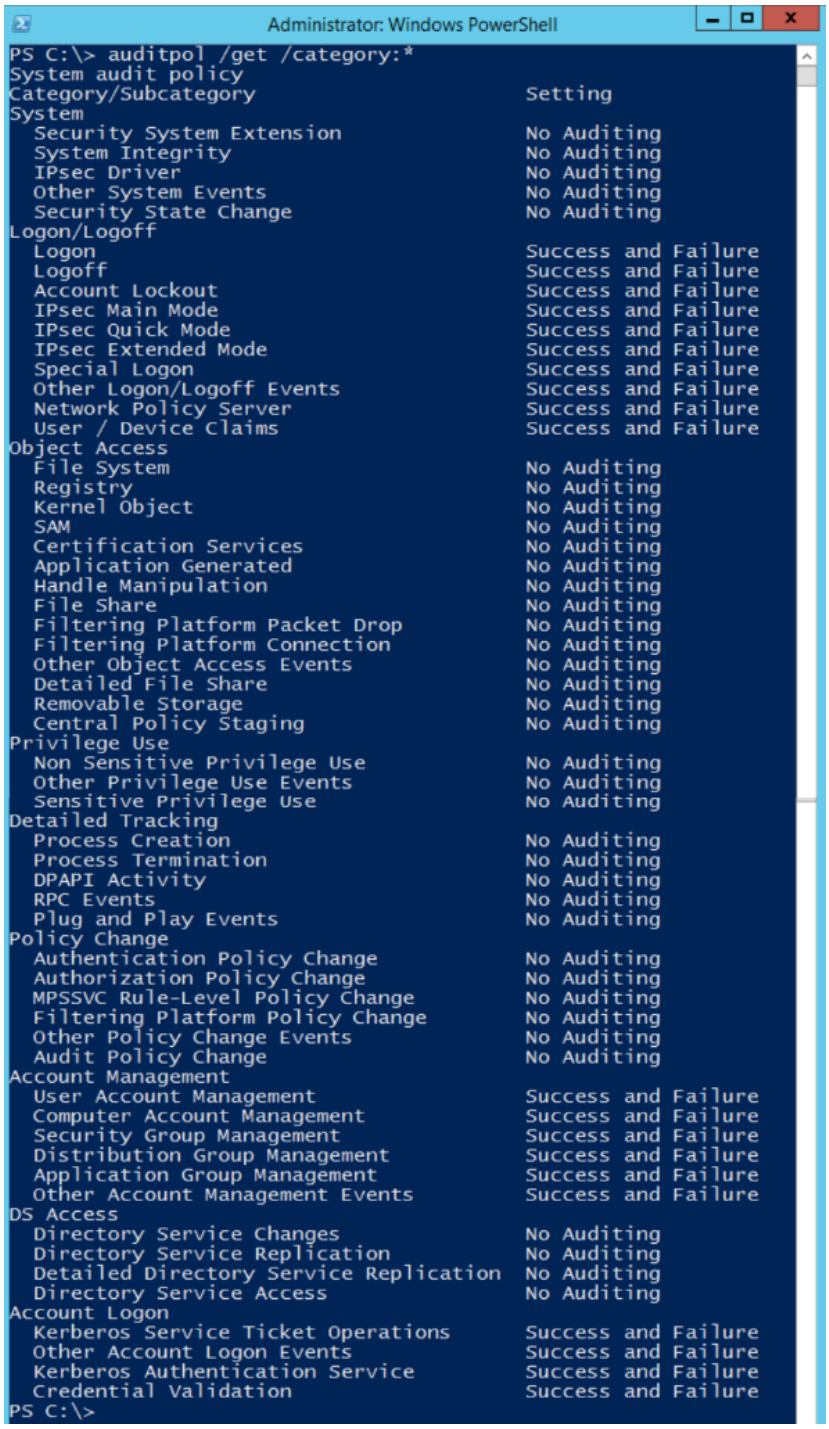
(4) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
```



(5) Enter the command below to view group policy applied status.

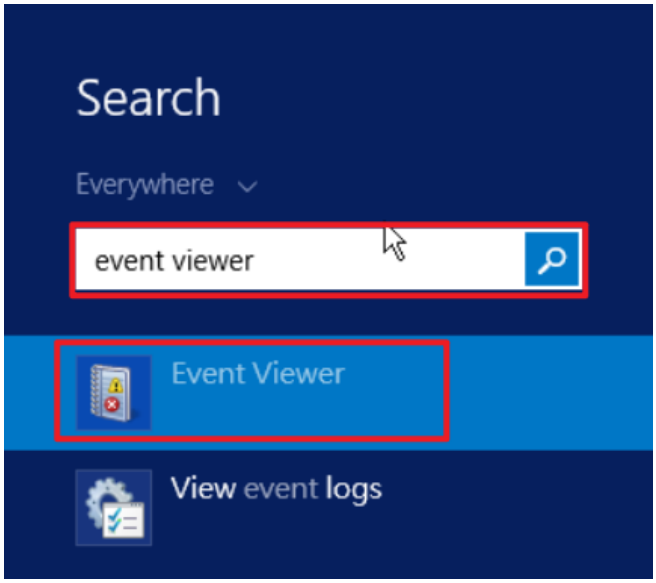
```
PS C: \> auditpol /get /category:*
```



3.3.2.2 Event Log Settings

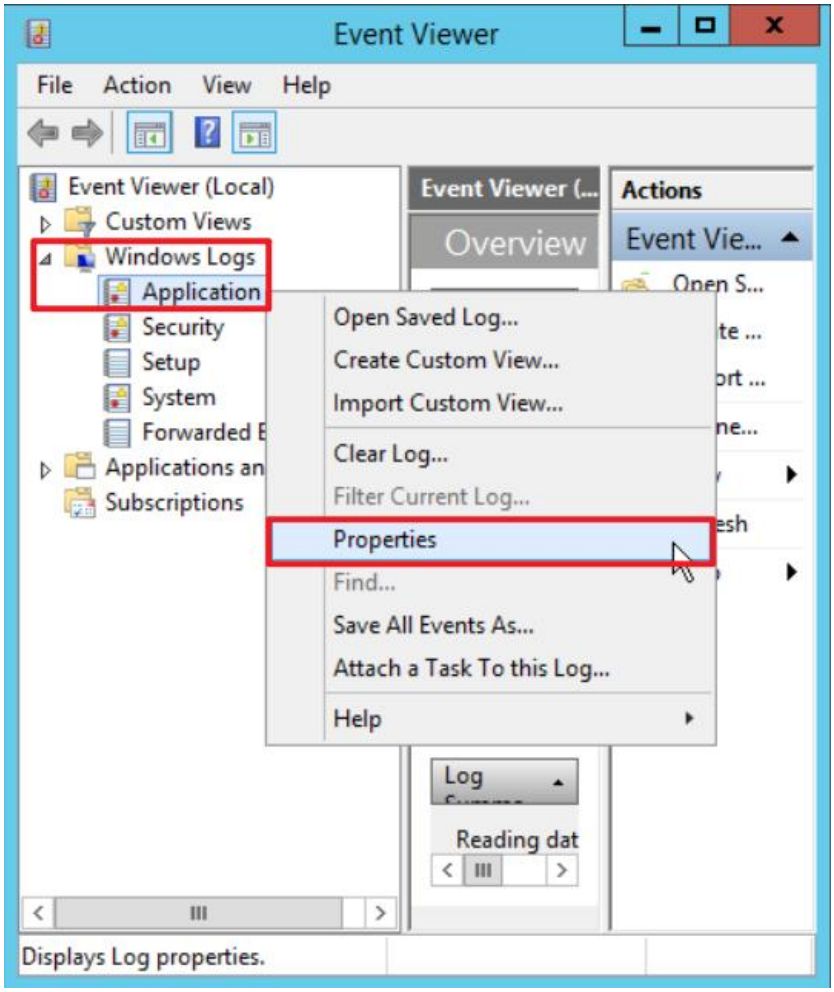
(1) Search for “Event Viewer”

Enter “Event Viewer” to search → click on “Event Viewer” in the search results.



(2) Edit Security Log

Expand folder “Windows Logs” → right-click on “Application” → And click on “Properties.”

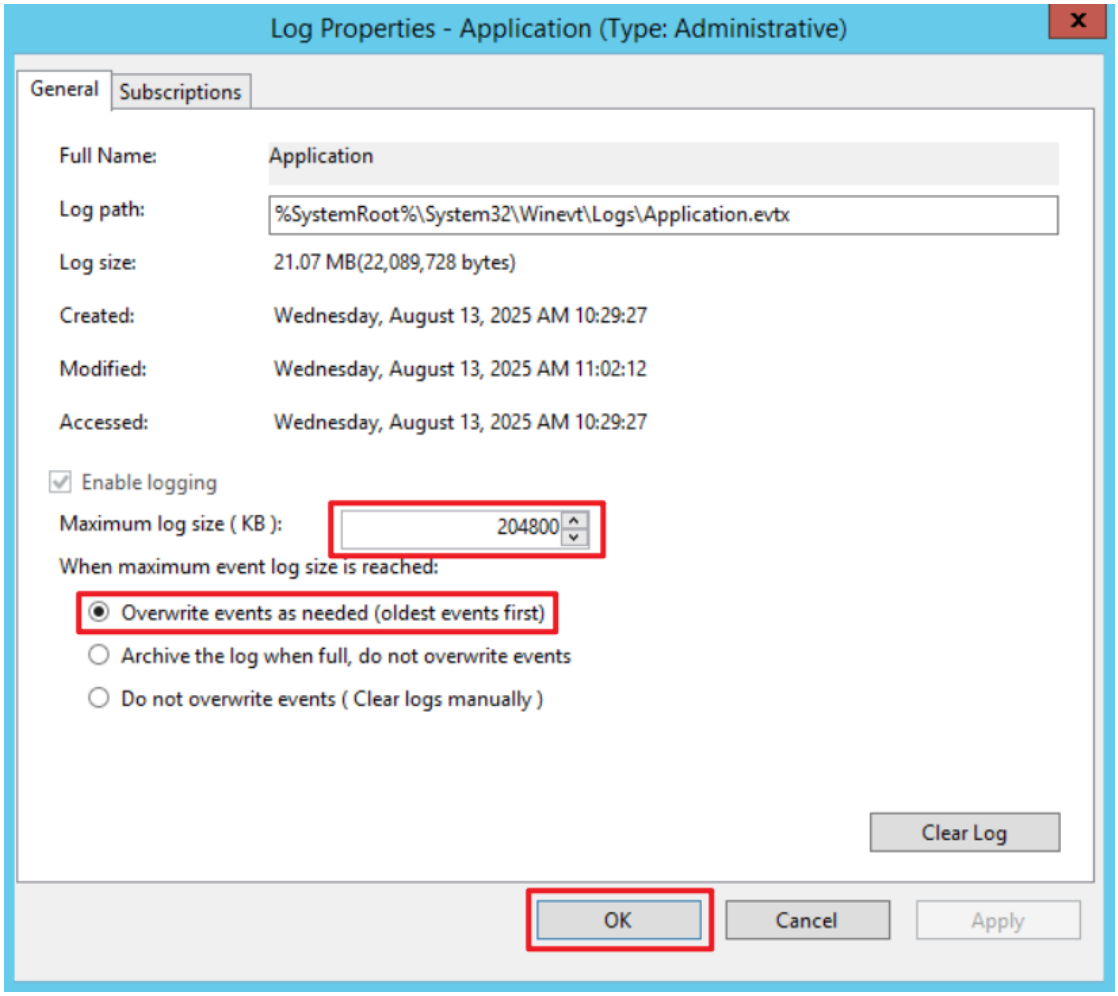


(3) Configure Security Log

Enter maximum log file size: 204800 KB

Note: Please adjust the number according to the actual environment.

→ click on “Overwrite events as needed” → click “OK.”



4. SQL Server 2016

4.1 Login Auditing

Enable login auditing to monitor SQL Server Database Engine login activities.

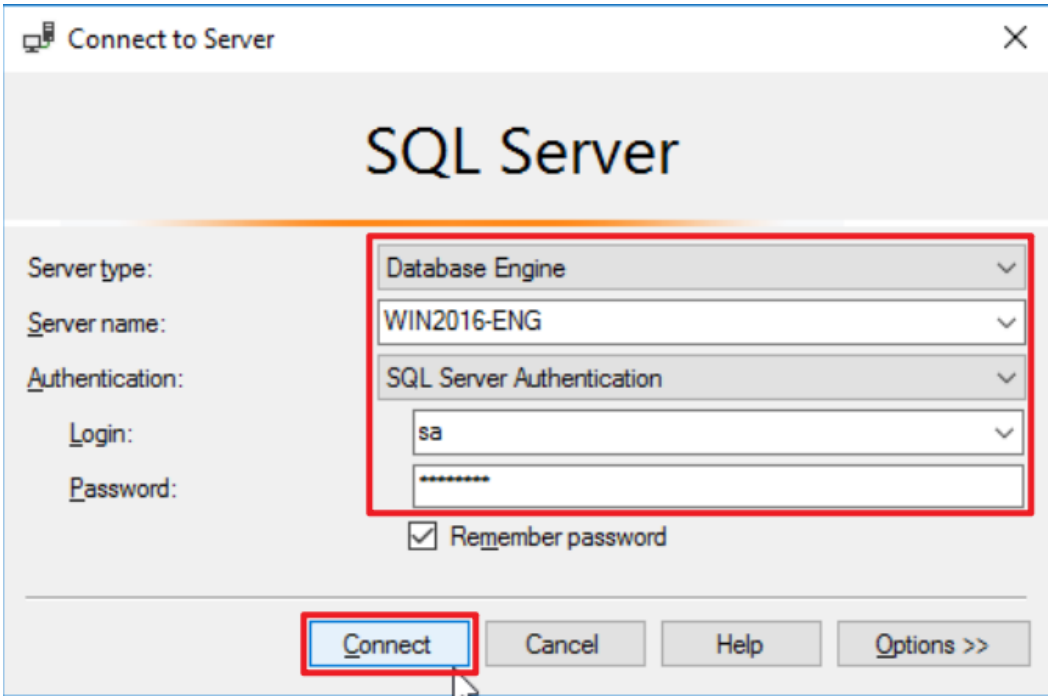
After configuration, the MS SQL Server service must be **restarted**.

The following sections describe how to configure login auditing using both the graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI).

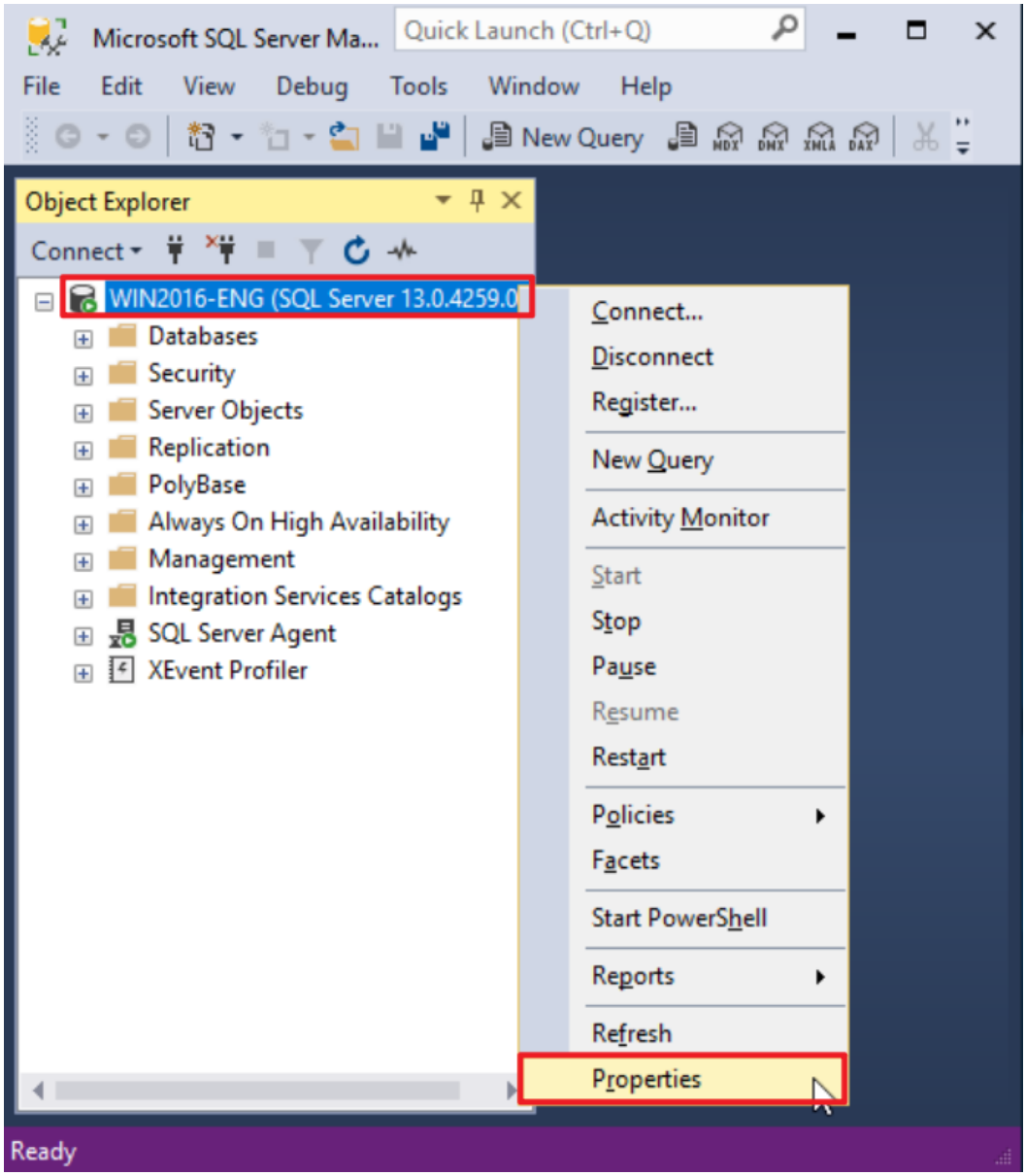
4.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open "SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS)."

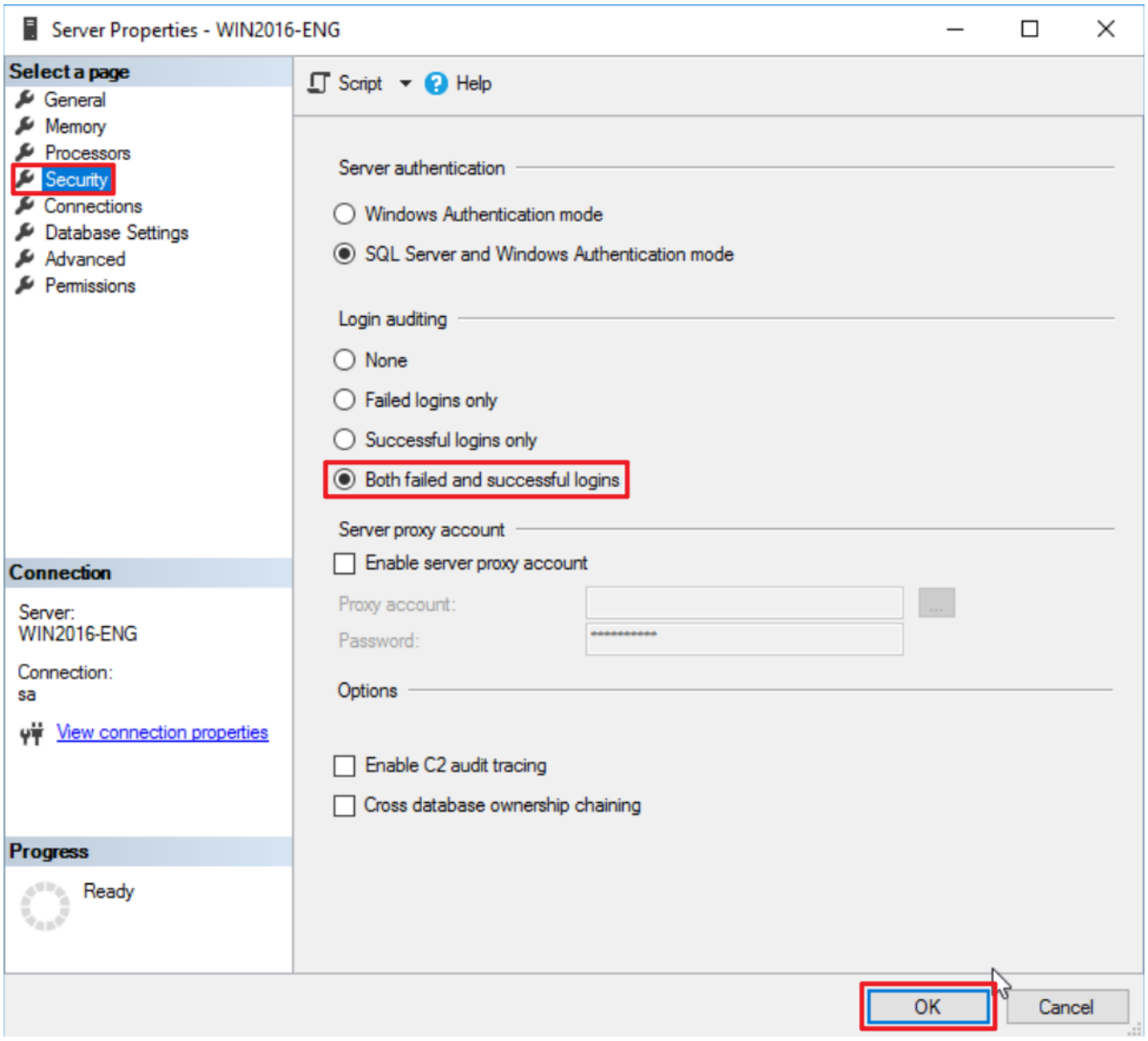
(2) Enter the server's name → select the authentication method → click "Connect."



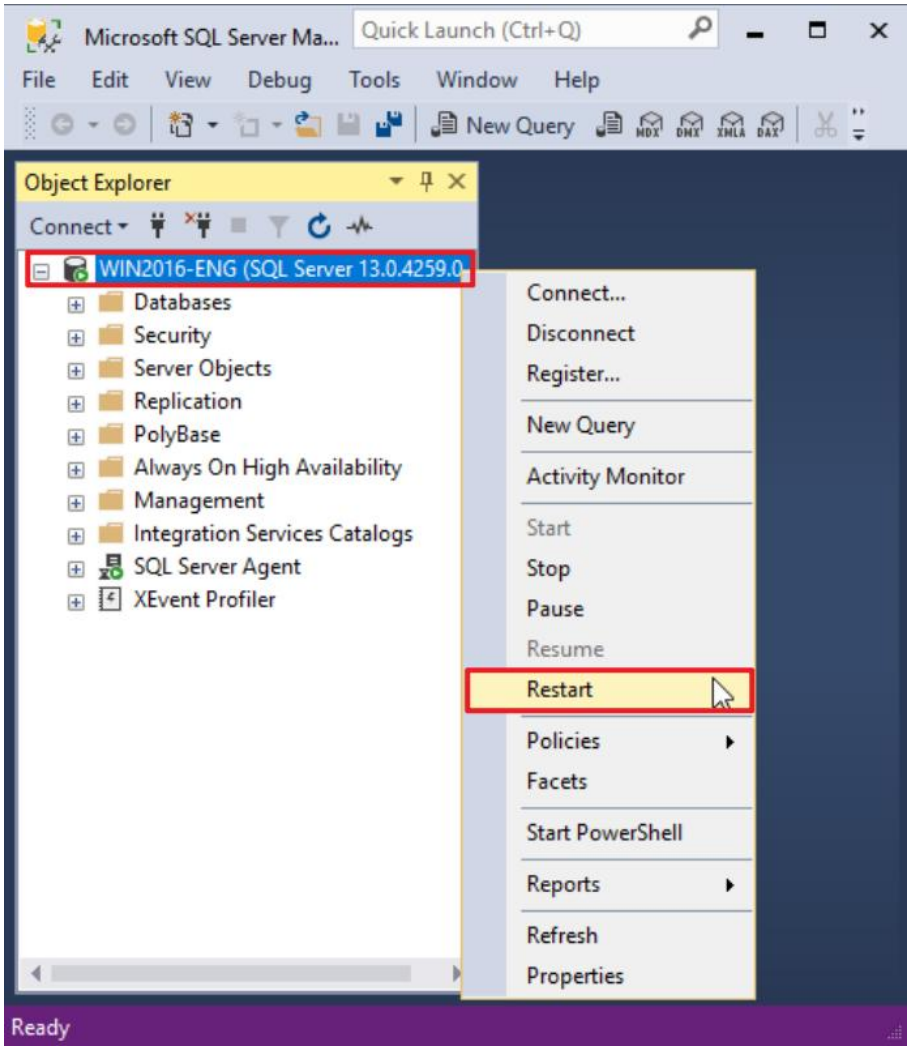
(3) In [Server Name] (the example here is WIN2016-ENG SQL Server 13.0.4259), right-click and select "Properties."



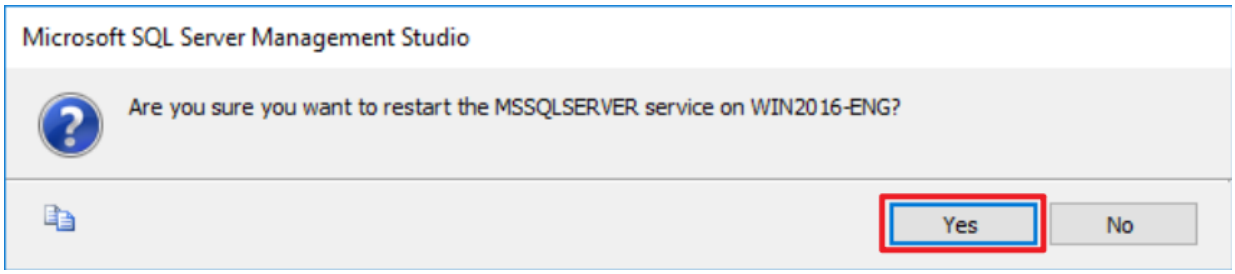
(4) On the Security page, under Login auditing, select “Both failed and successful logins” → click “OK”.



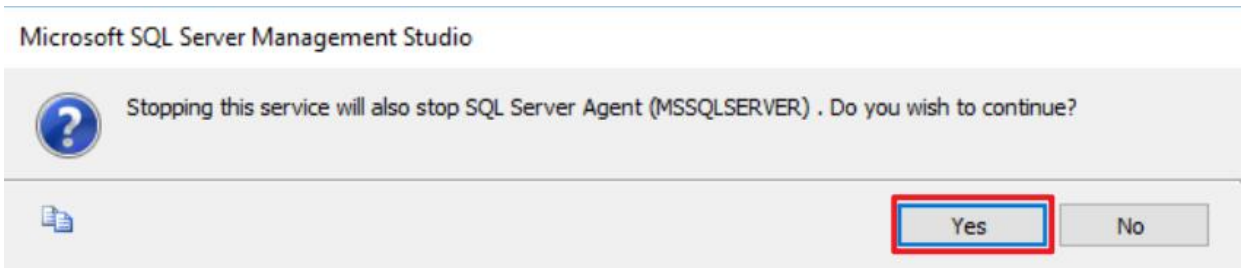
(5) Restart the MS SQL Server service: right-click [Server Name] (the example here is WIN2016-ENG SQL Server 13.0.4259) → select “Restart.”



(6) Click “Yes” to restart the MS SQL Server service.

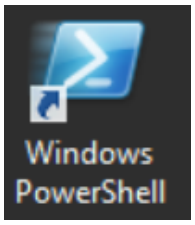


(7) Click “Yes” again to stop the SQL Server Agent service.



4.1.2 Configuring via Command-Line Interface (CLI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”



(2) Enter the command below to log in using sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```

Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

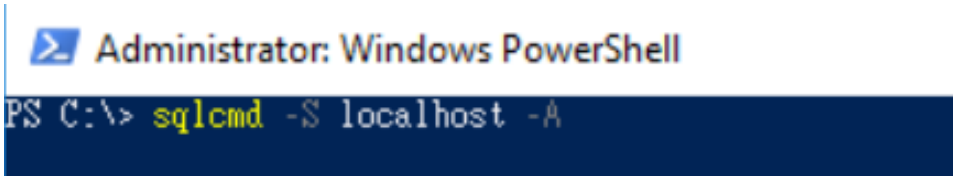
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

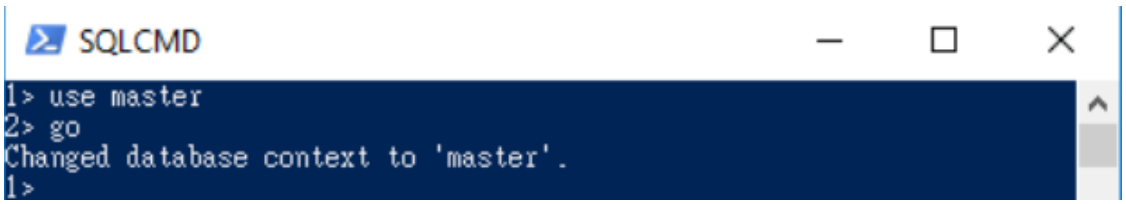
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



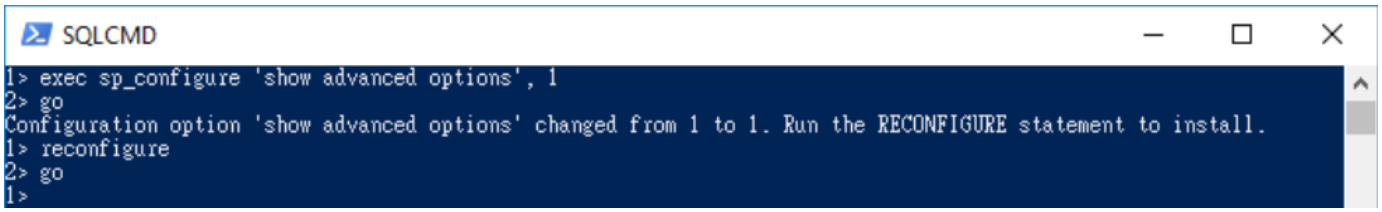
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



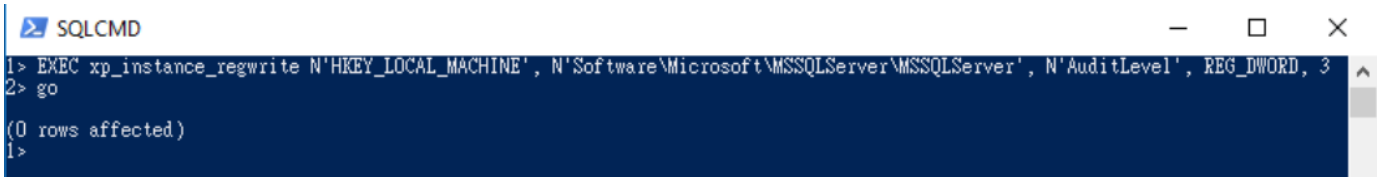
(4) Enter the command below to enable advanced options:

```
1 > exec sp_configure 'show advanced options', 1
2 > go
1 > reconfigure
2 > go
```



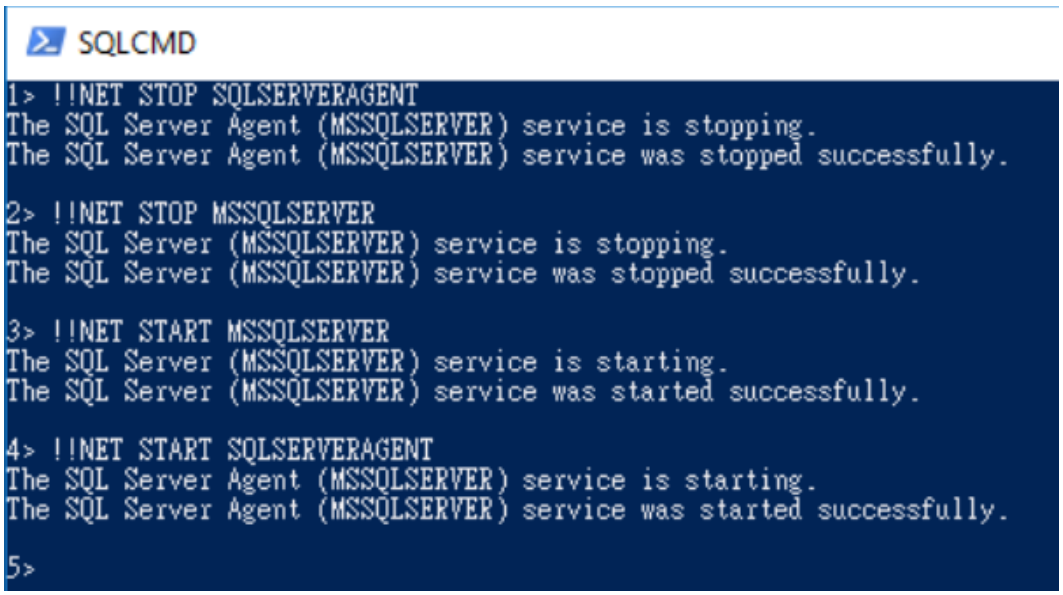
(5) Enter the command below to enable auditing for both failed and successful logins:

```
1 > EXEC xp_instance_regwrite N'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE',
N'Software\Microsoft\MSSQLServer\MSSQLServer', N'AuditLevel', REG_DWORD, 3
2 > go
```



(7) Enter the command below to restart the MS SQL Server services:

```
1 > !!NET STOP SQLSERVERAGENT
2 > !!NET STOP MSSQLSERVER
3 > !!NET START MSSQLSERVER
4 > !!NET START SQLSERVERAGENT
```



4.2 Configuring Auditing

4.2.1 Server-Level Audit

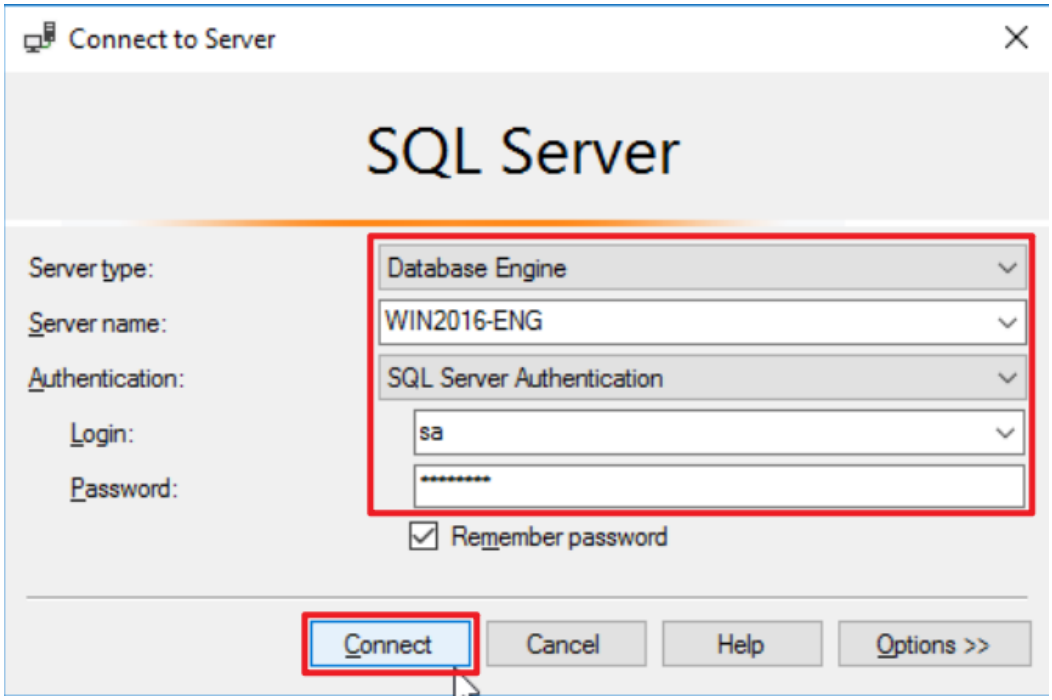
Enabling a server-level audit covers server operations such as administrative changes, login, and logout activities.

The following sections describe how to configure a server-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

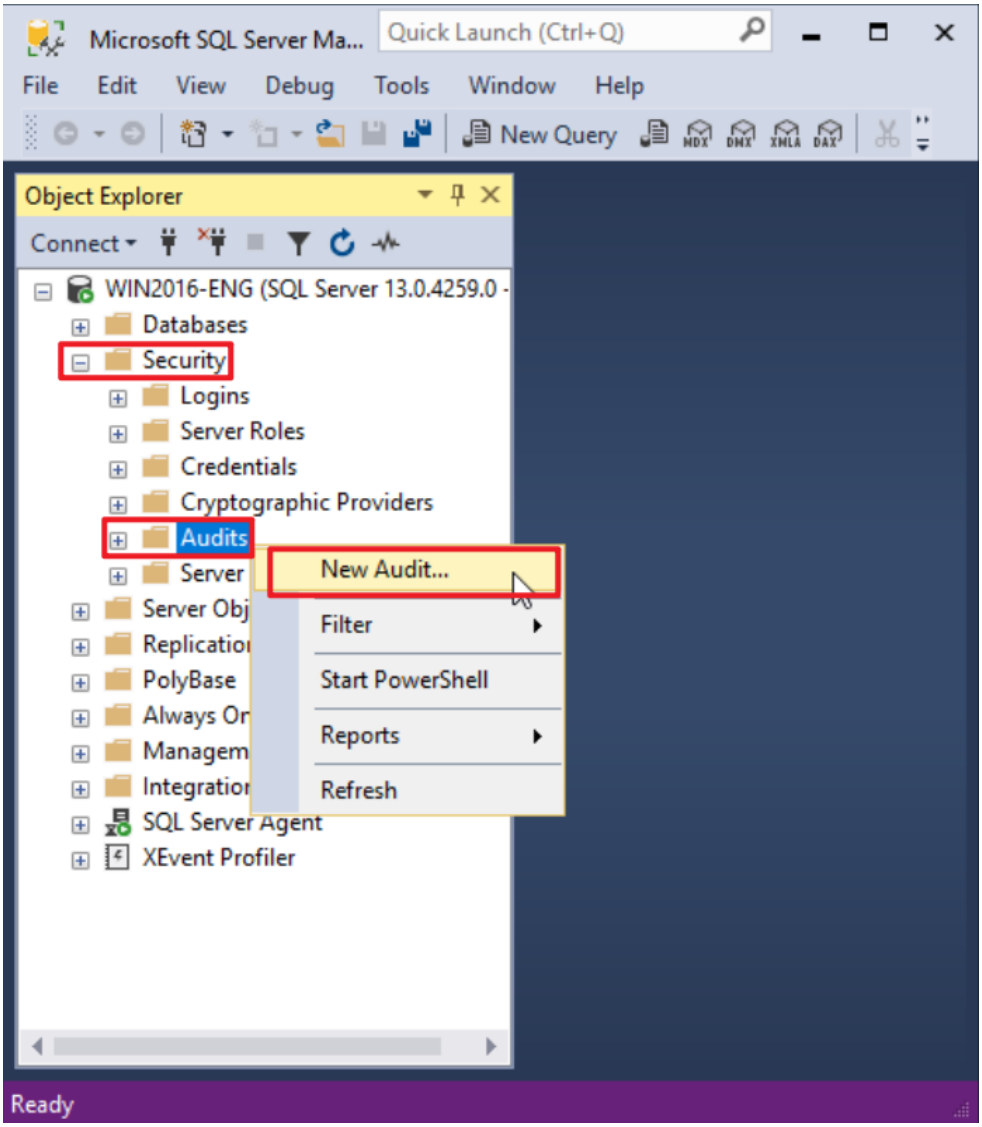
4.2.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

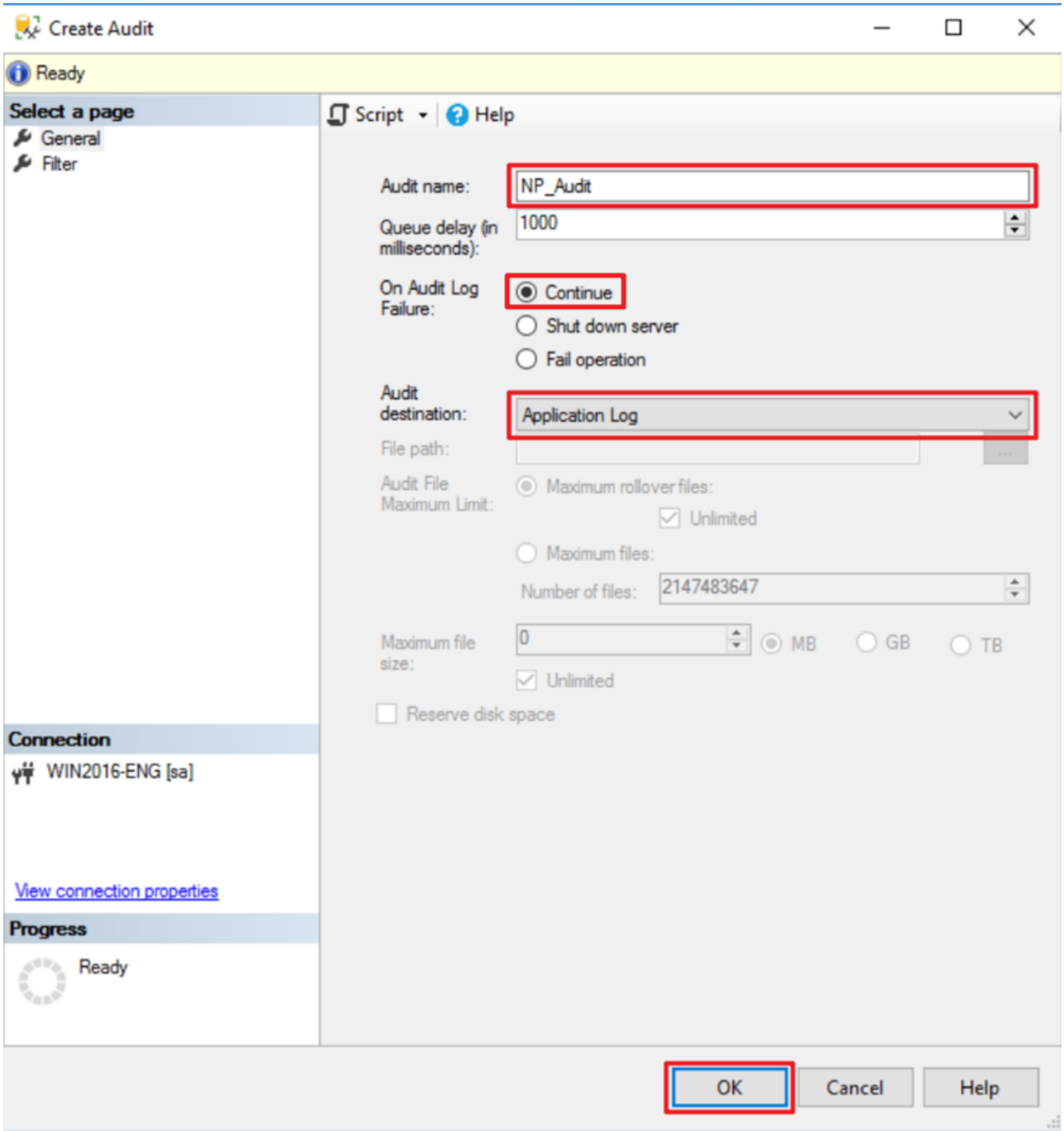
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



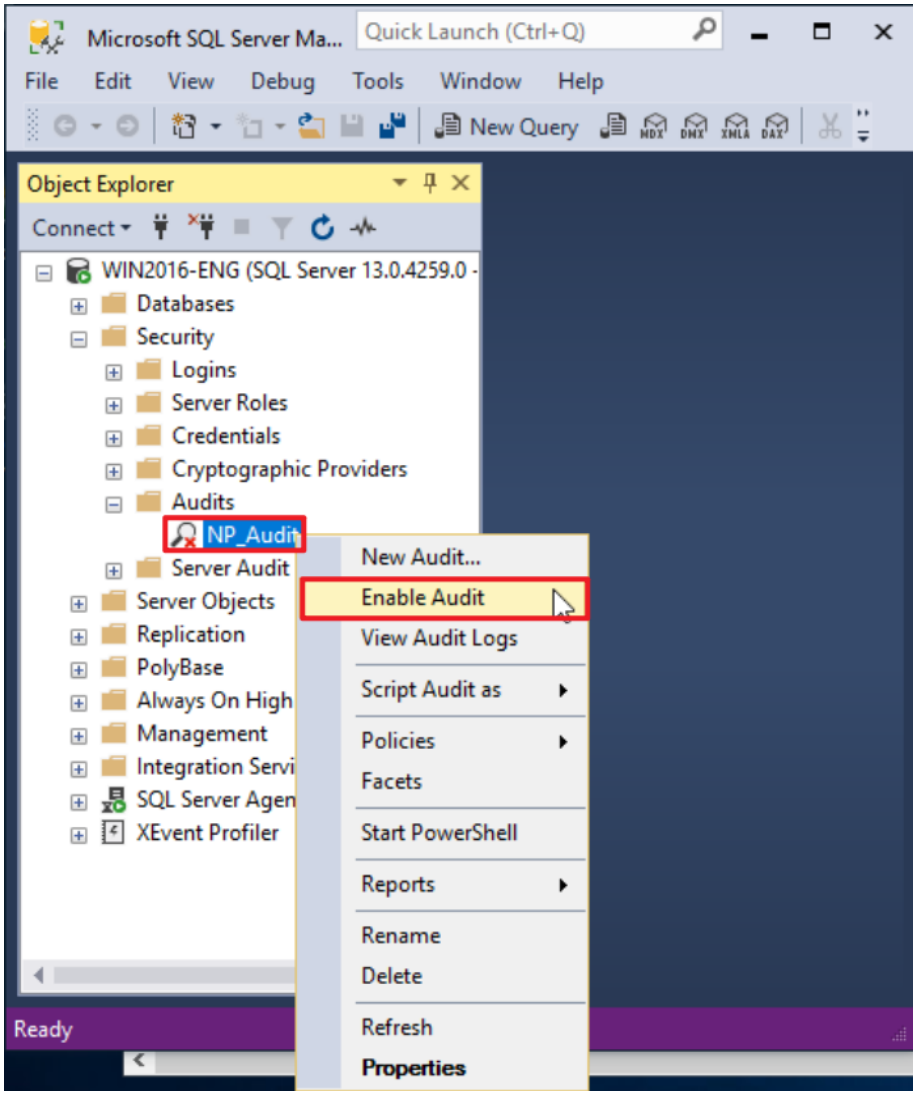
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



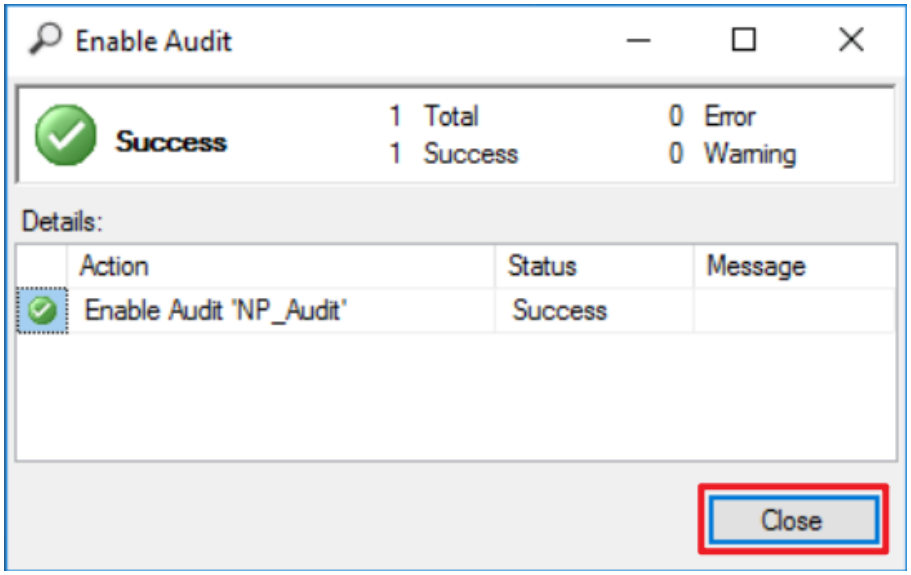
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



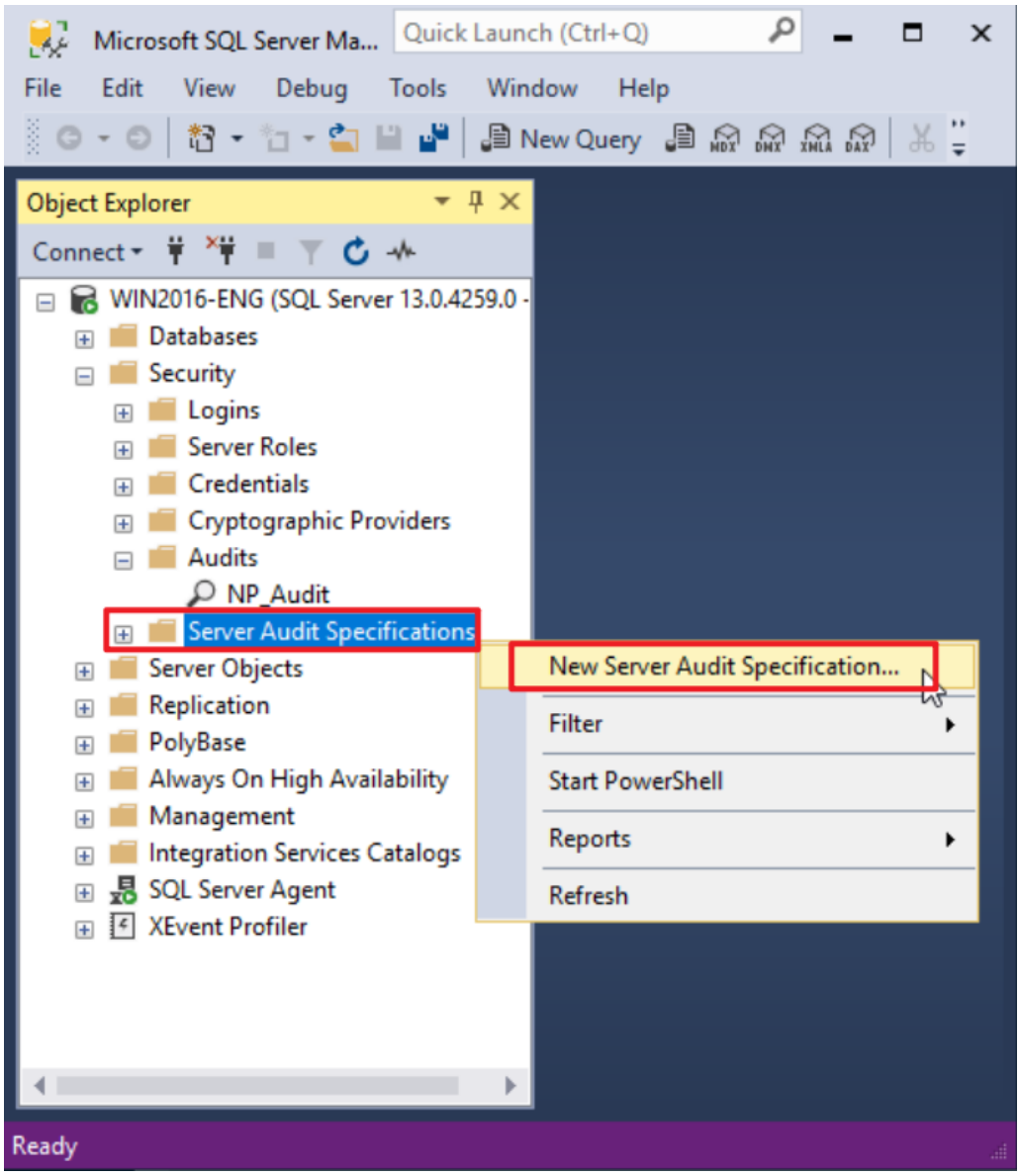
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



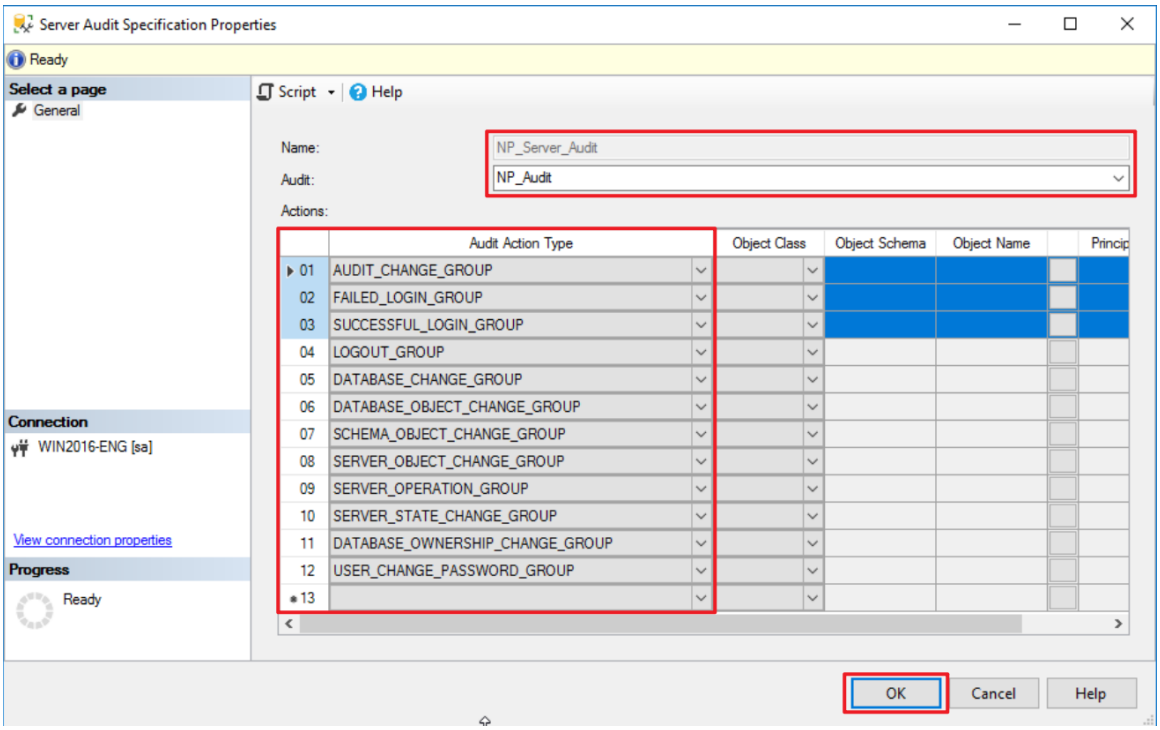
(6) Click “Close.”



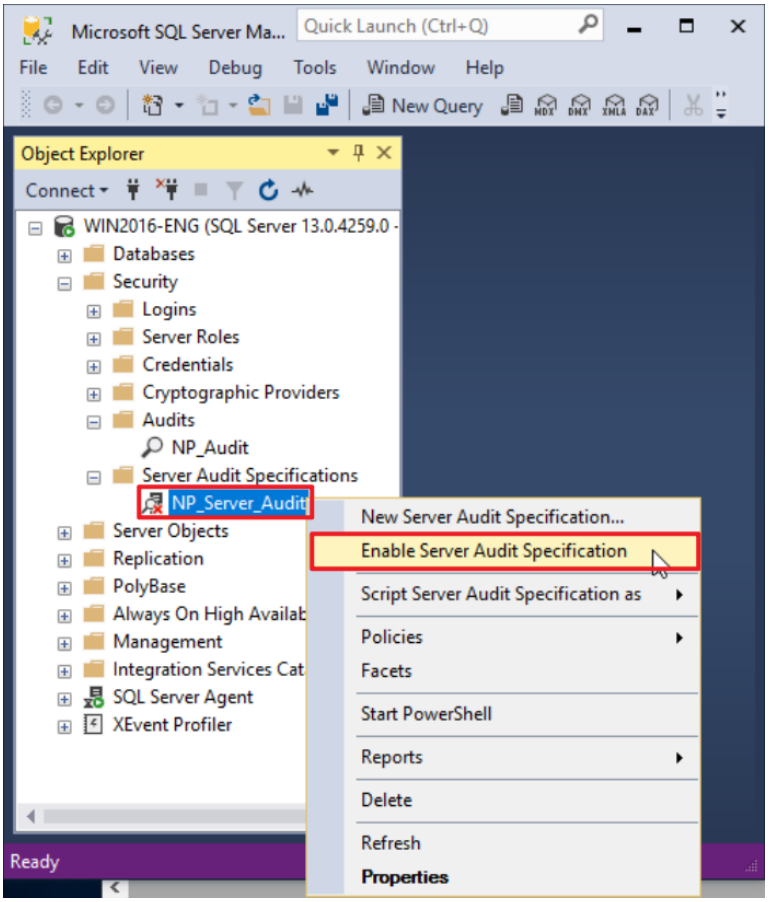
(7) Right-click “Server Audit Specifications,” → select “New Server Audit Specification...”



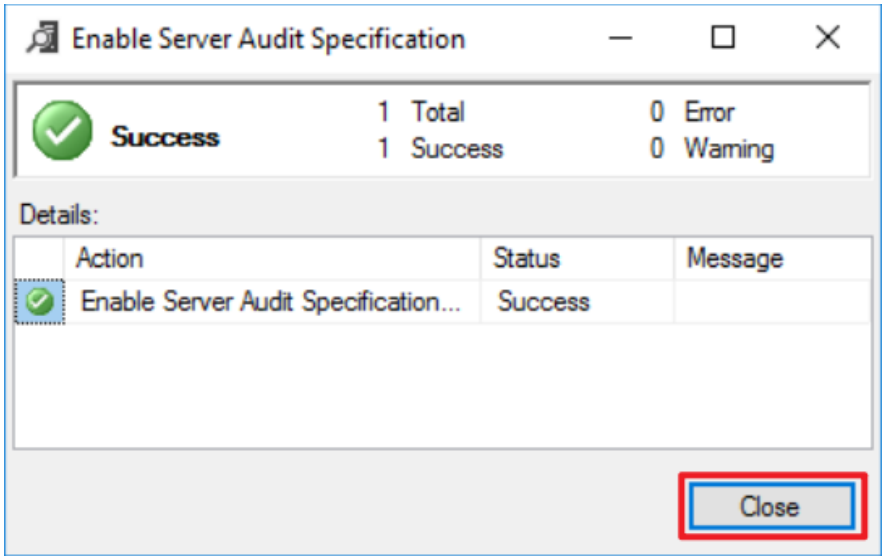
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_Server_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click "OK."



(9) In the server audit specification list, right-click "NP_Server_Audit" → select "Enable Server Audit Specification."



(10) Click “Close.”



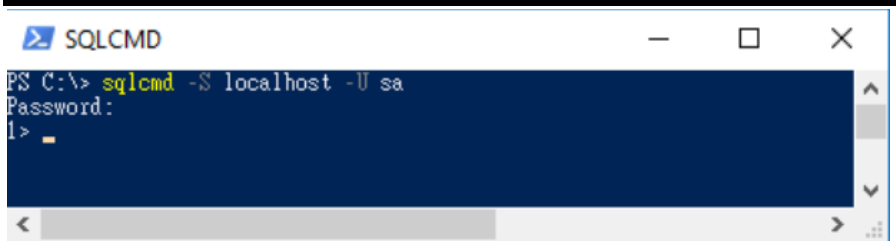
4.2.1.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

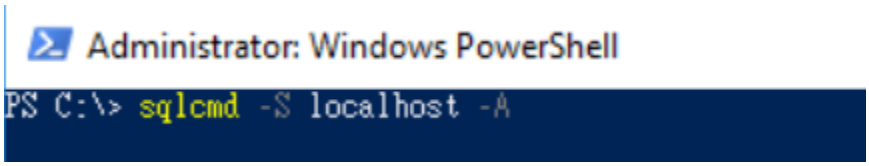
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

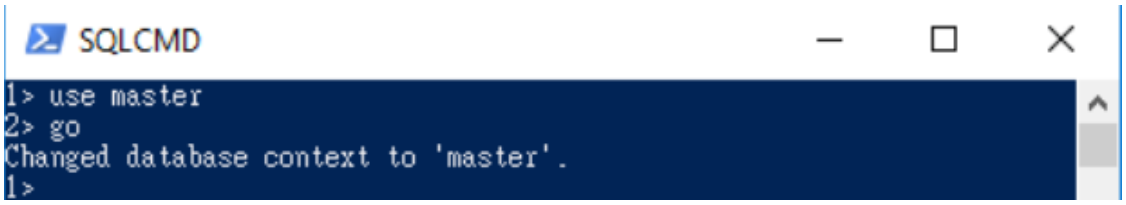
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



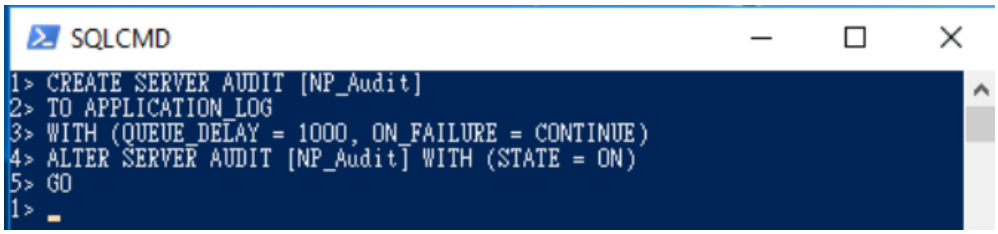
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

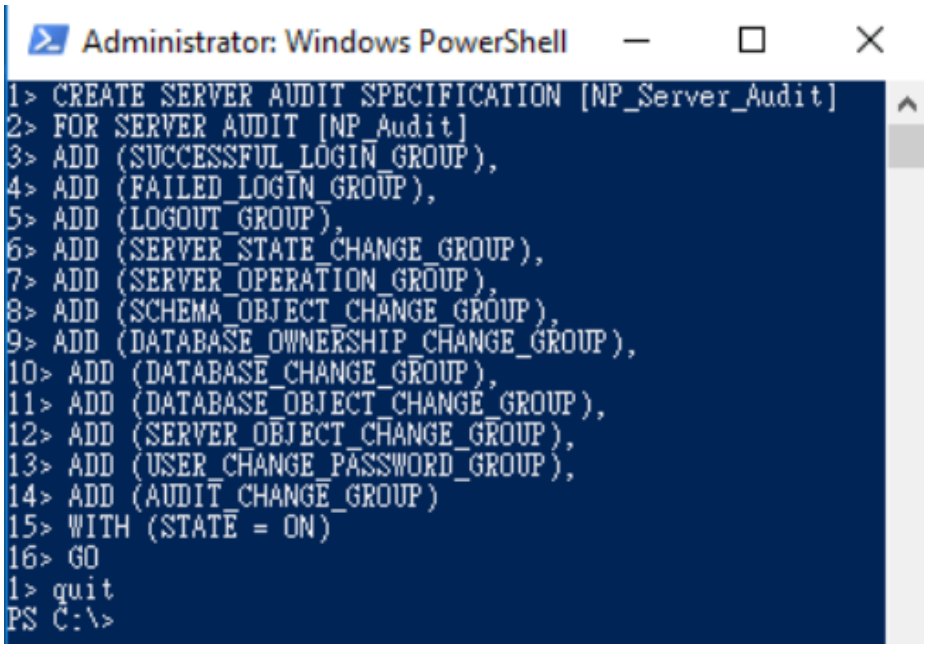
```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



(5) Enter the command below to configure the server audit and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_Server_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (SUCCESSFUL_LOGIN_GROUP),
4 > ADD (FAILED_LOGIN_GROUP),
5 > ADD (LOGOUT_GROUP),
6 > ADD (SERVER_STATE_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (SERVER_OPERATION_GROUP),
8 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
10 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
12 > ADD (SERVER_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
13 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP)
14 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
15> WITH (STATE = ON)
```

```
16 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the server audit specification name.

4.2.2 Database-Level Audit

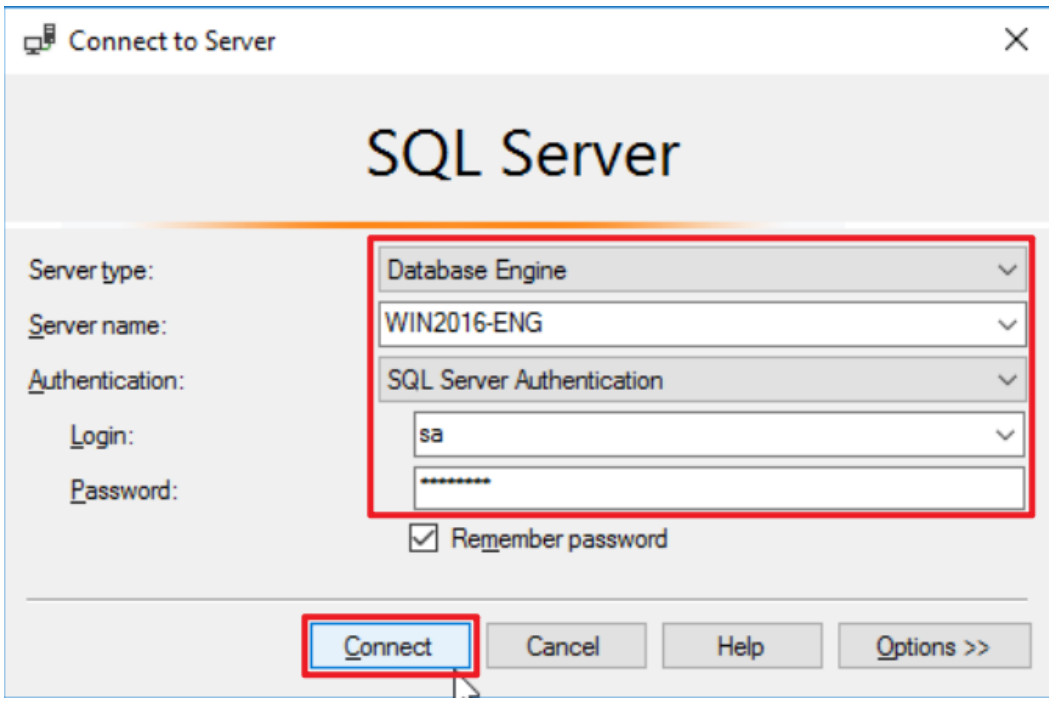
Enabling a database-level audit covers operations involving Data Manipulation Language (DML) and Data Definition Language (DDL) statements.

The following sections describe how to configure a database-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

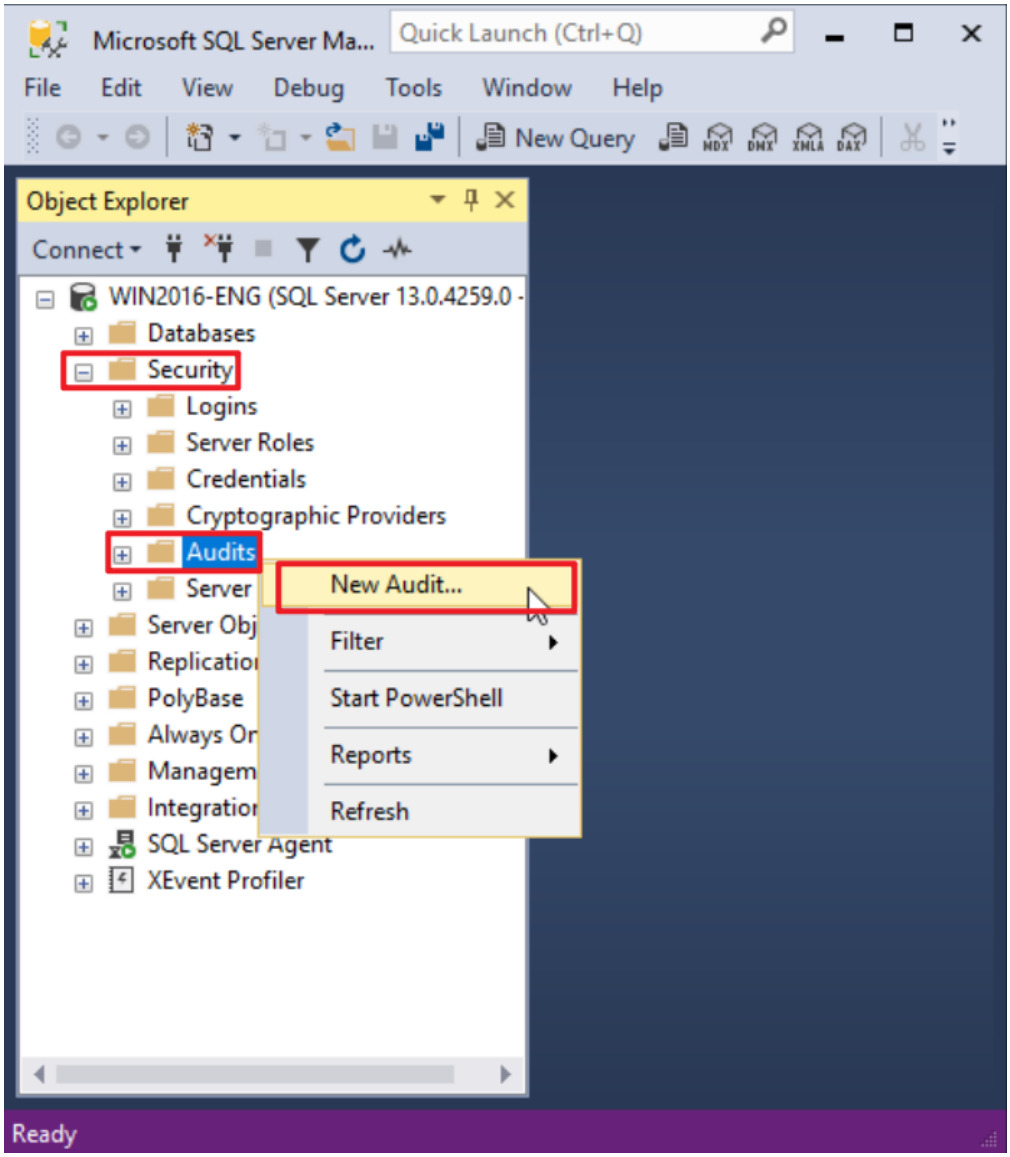
4.2.2.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

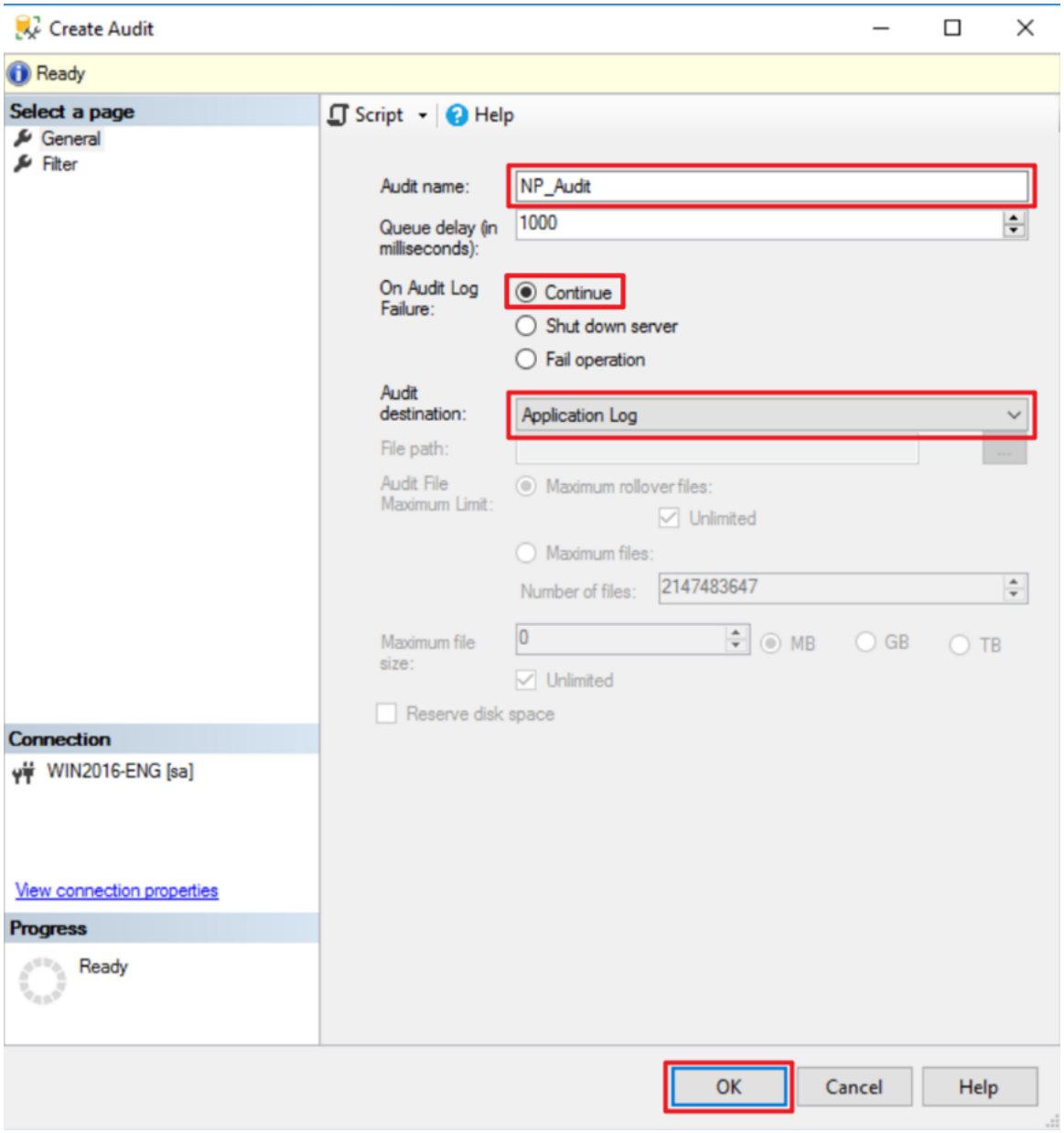
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



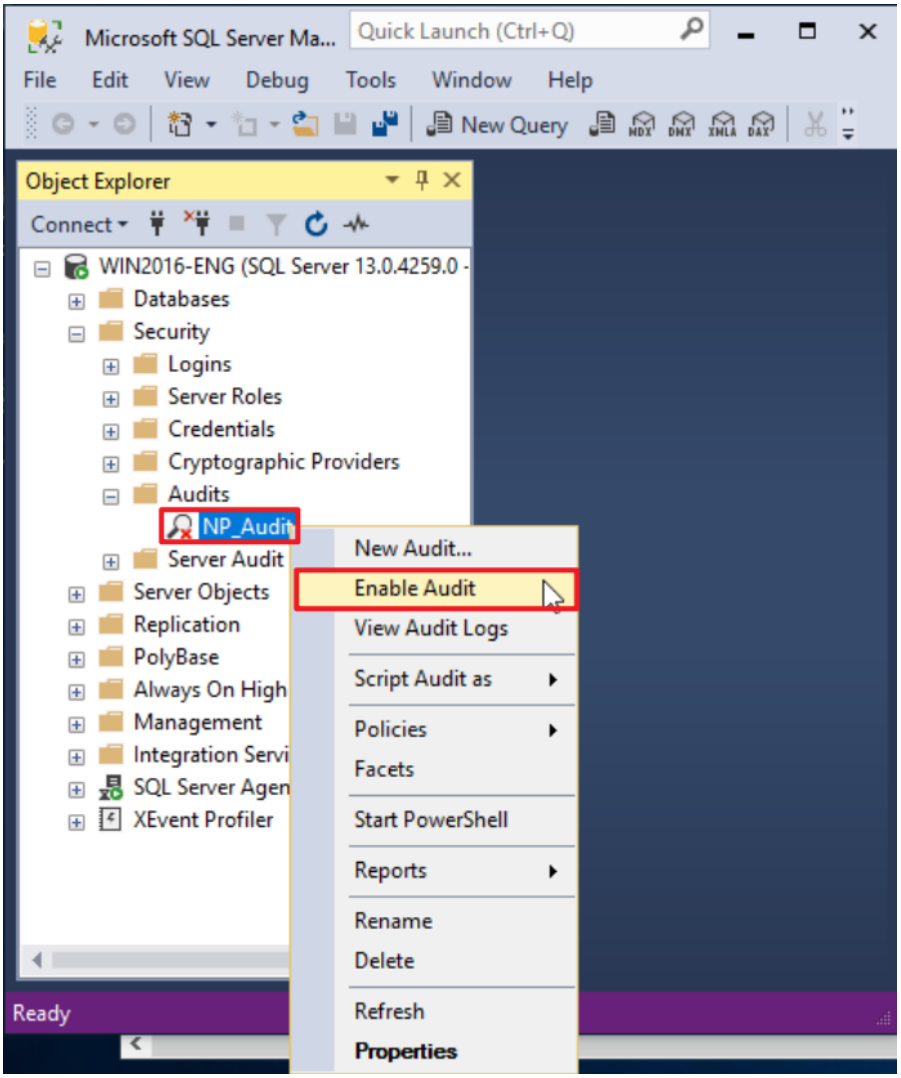
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



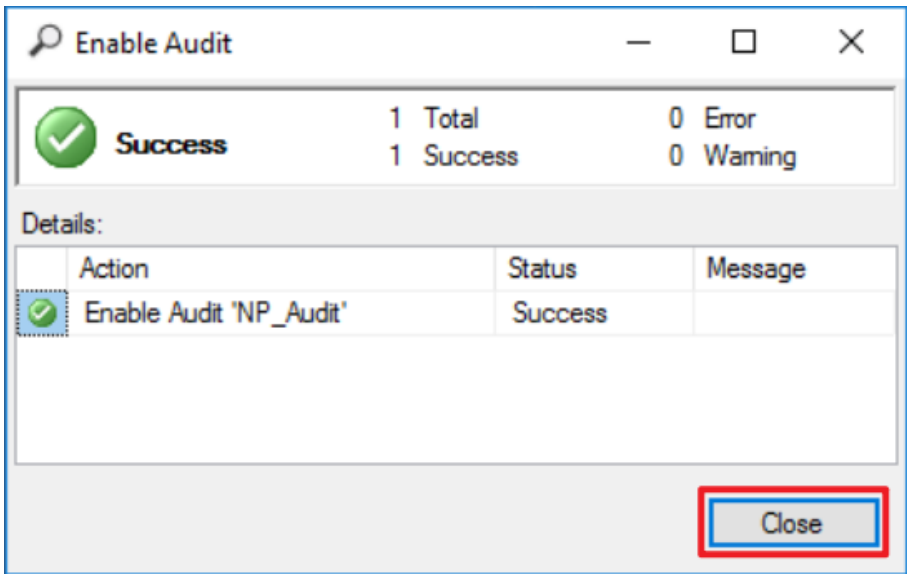
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



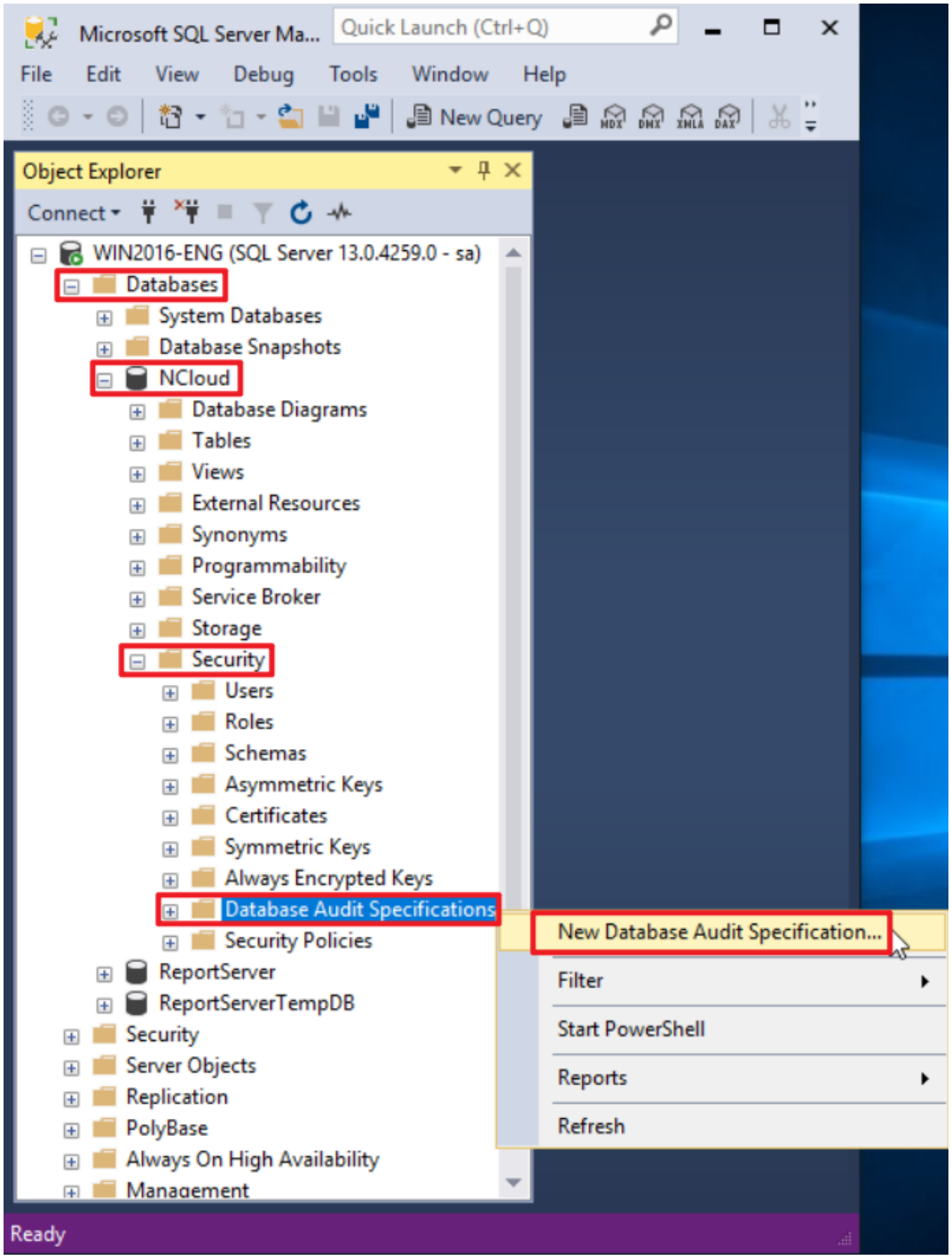
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



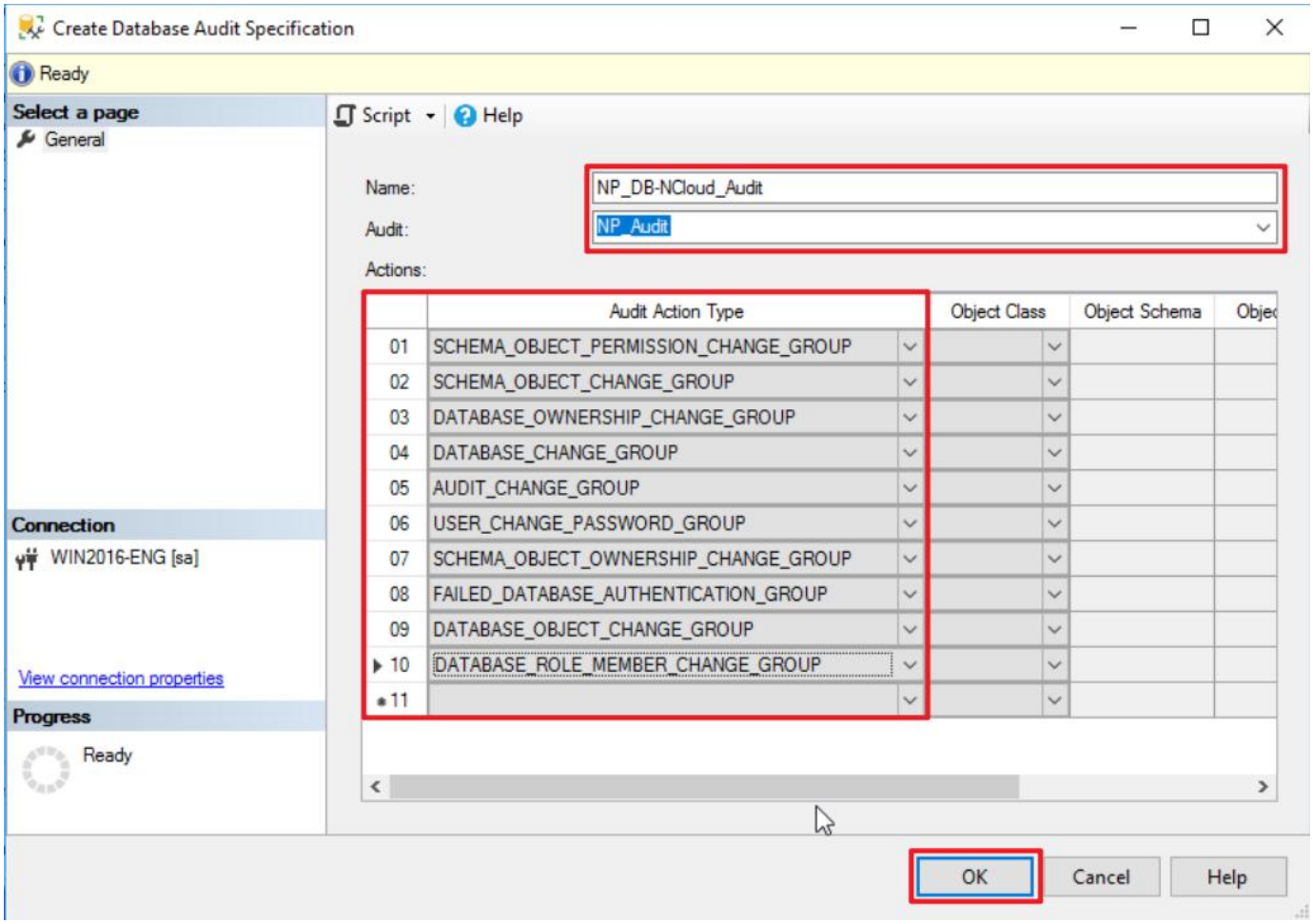
(6) Click “Close.”



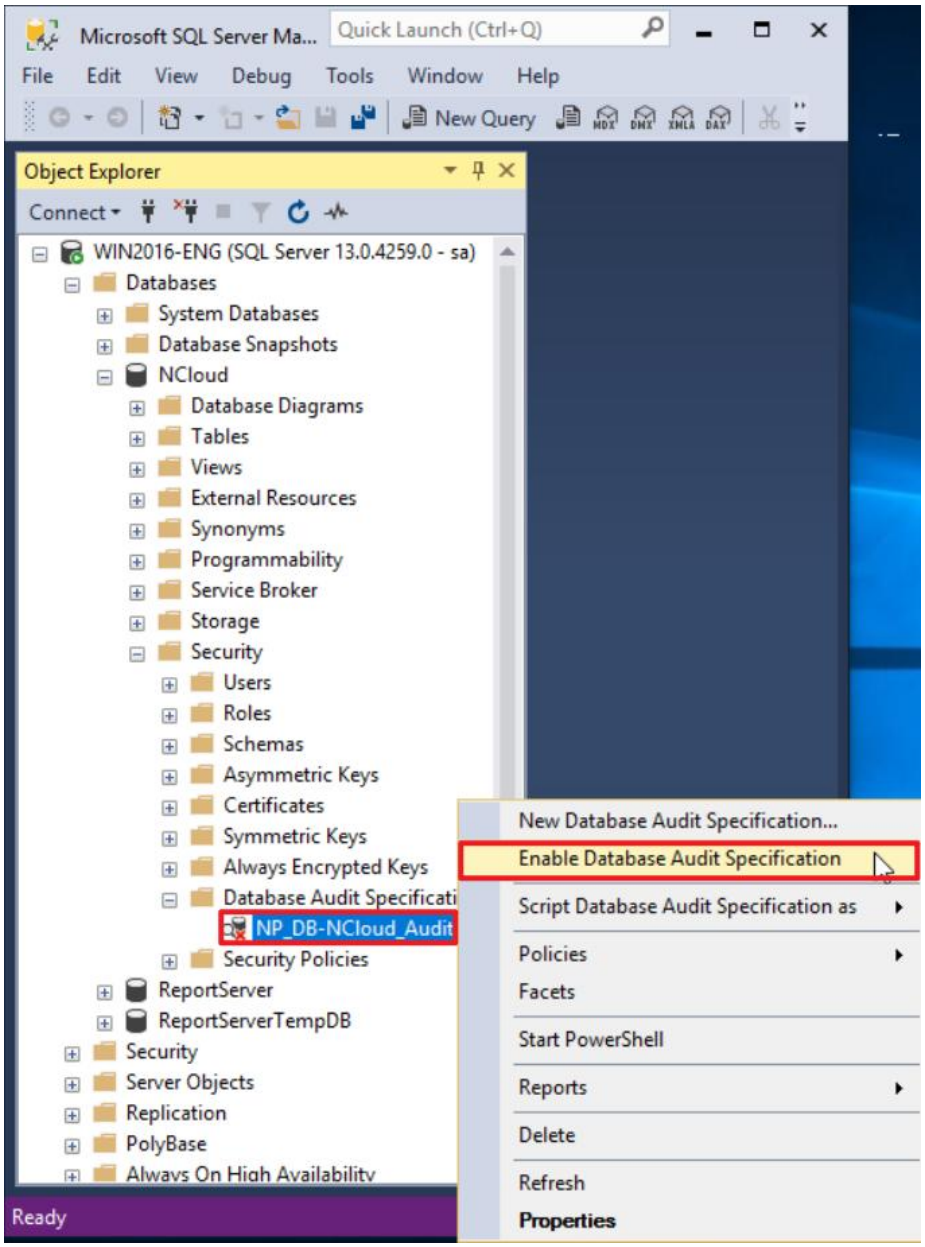
(7) In “Databases,” select the target database (the example here is : NCloud) → expand “Security” → right-click “Database Audit Specifications” → select "New Database Audit Specification...”



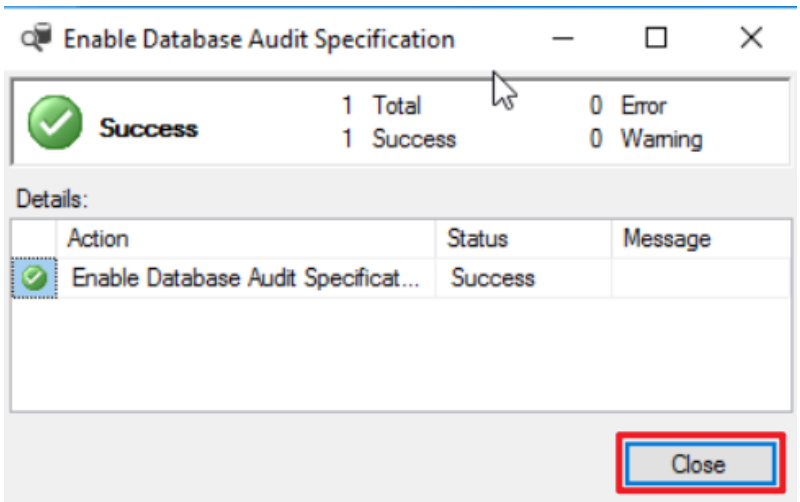
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_DB-NCloud_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit and action(s) → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the database audit specification list, right-click “NP_DB-NCloud_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



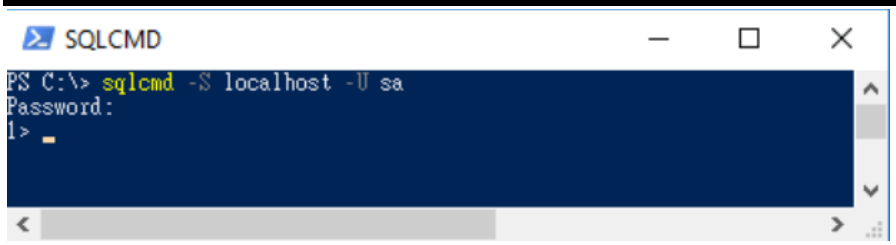
4.2.2.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

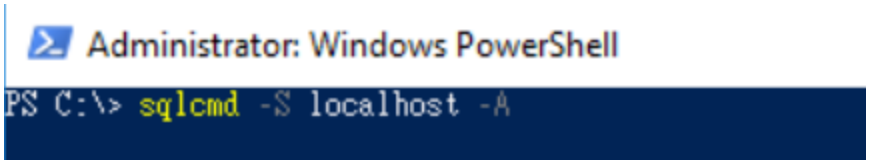
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

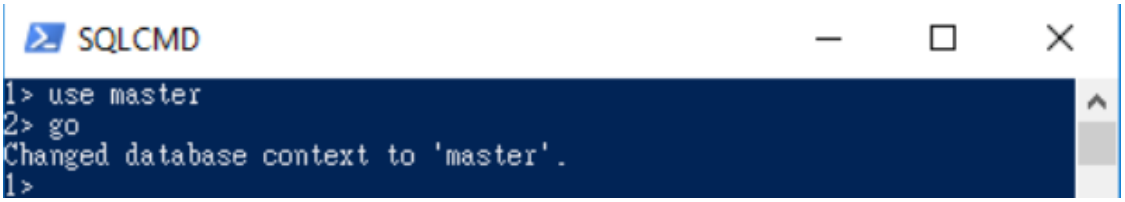
Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



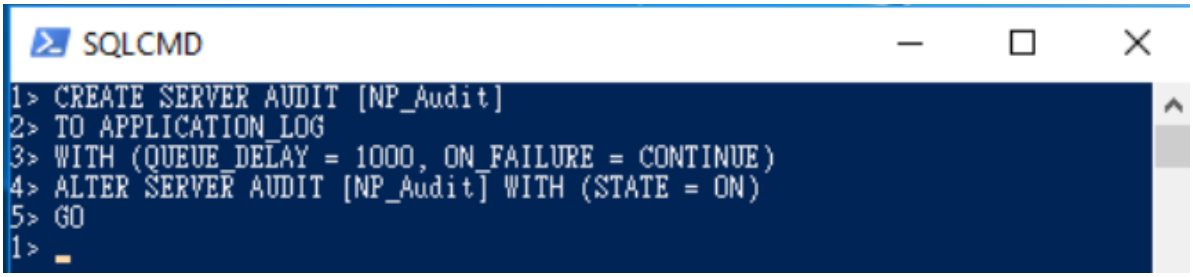
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



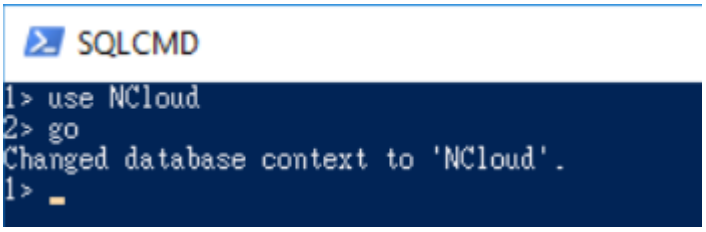
(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



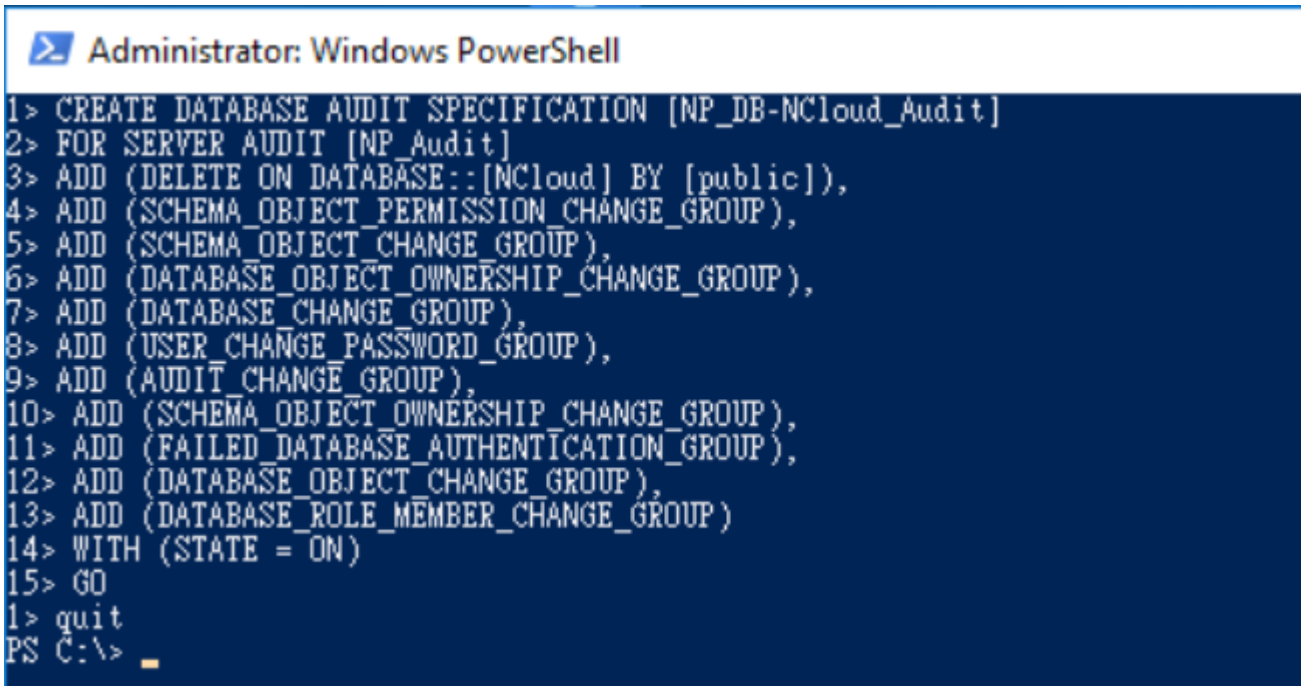
(5) Enter the command below to switch to the target audit database (the example here is: NCloud).

```
1 > use NCloud
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to configure the audit for the database and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_DB-NCloud_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[ NCloud ] BY [public]),
4 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_PERMISSION_CHANGE_GROUP),
5 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
6 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (DATABASE _CHANGE_GROUP),
8 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP),
10 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (FAILED_DATABASE_AUTHENTICATION_GROUP),
12 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
13 > ADD (DATABASE_ROLE_MEMBER_CHANGE_GROUP)
14 > WITH (STATE = ON)
15 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the database audit specification name.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [NP_DB-NCloud_Audit]
```

Replace the text shown in red with the target database name.

```
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[NCloud] BY [public])
```

4.3 Event Log Configuration

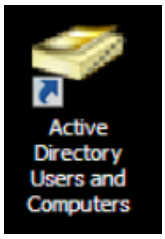
This is an optional configuration.

The following sections describe configuration methods for Domain and Workgroup environments.

4.3.1 Domain

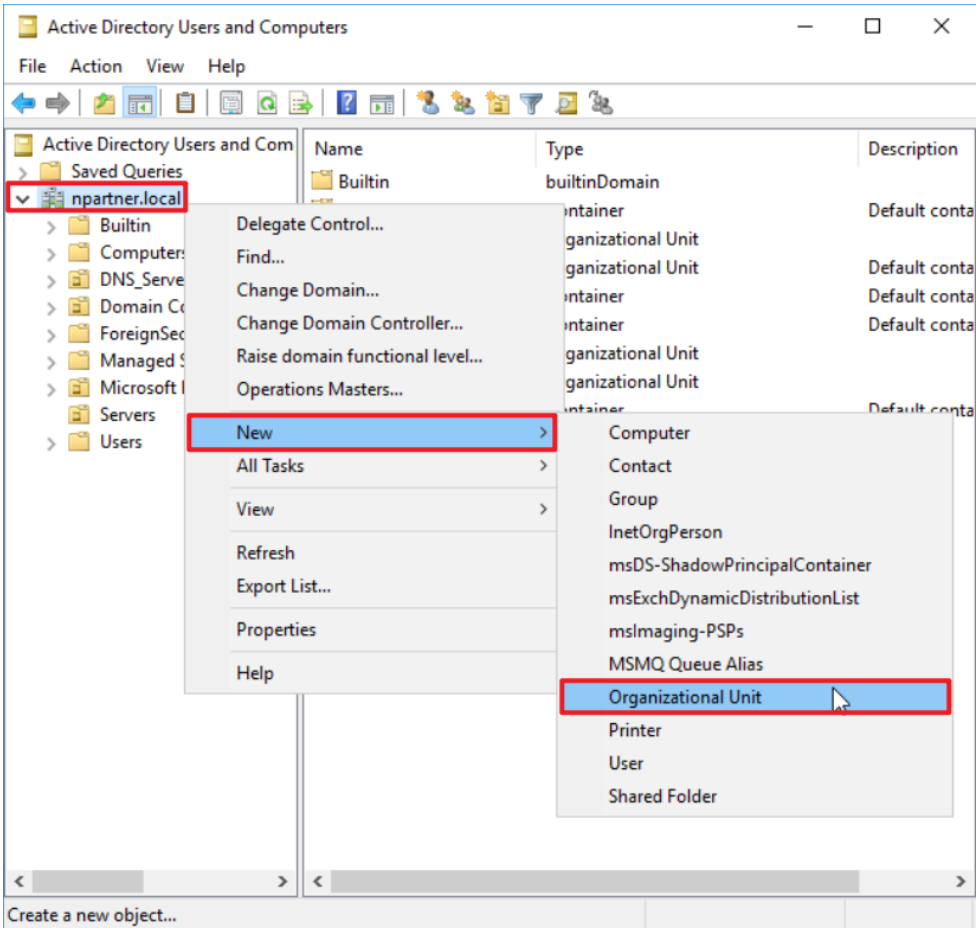
4.3.1.1 Organizational Unit (OU) Configuration

(1) Click “Active Directory Users and Computers.”



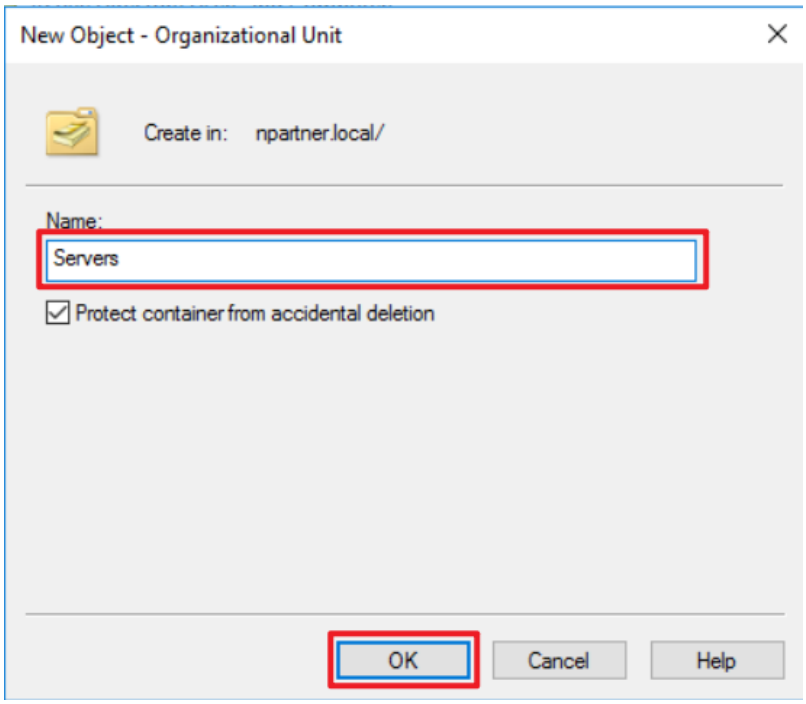
(2) Add an Organizational Unit

Right-click on “Domain Controllers, select “New,” and click “Organizational Unit.”



(3) Enter your Organizational Unit name: (in this example, it is “Servers”)

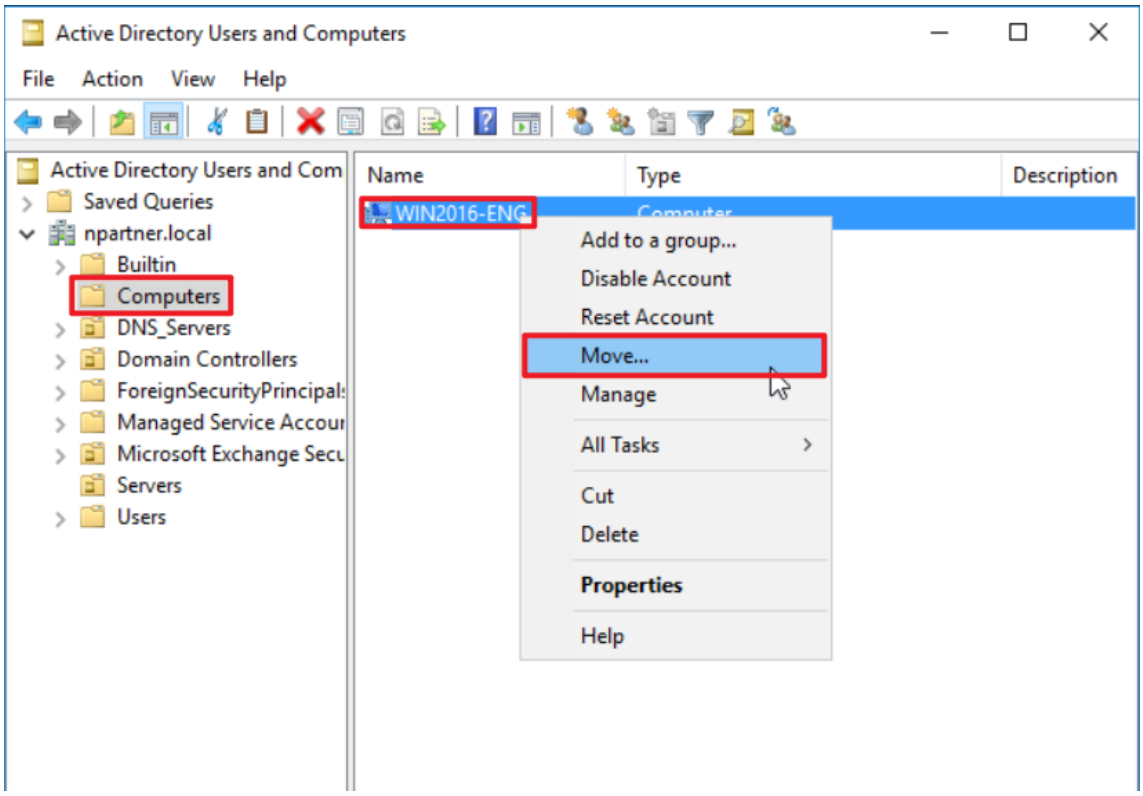
Note: Please create the organizational unit name according to the customer's environment. → click “OK.”



(4) Move the Server to your New Organizational Unit:

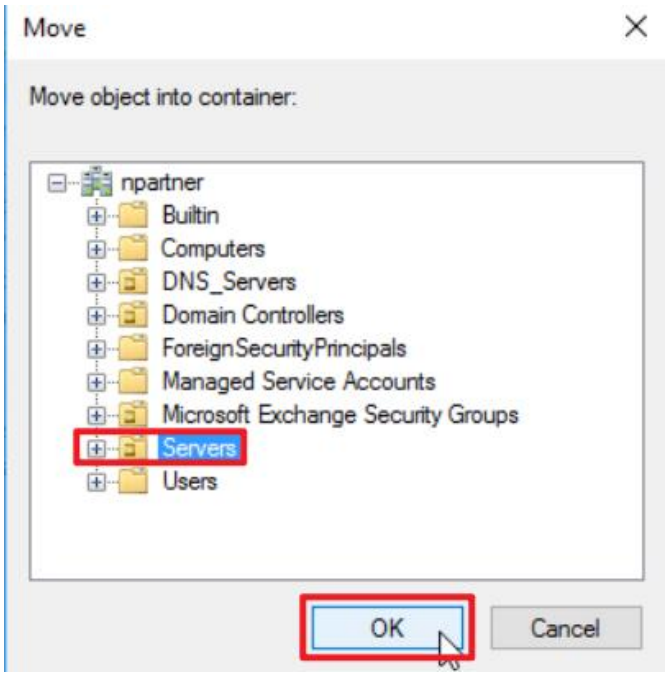
Select your organizational unit in “Domain Controllers” -> Right-click on the “WIN2016” server.

Note: Please select the MS SQL server according to the actual environment. → click “Move.”



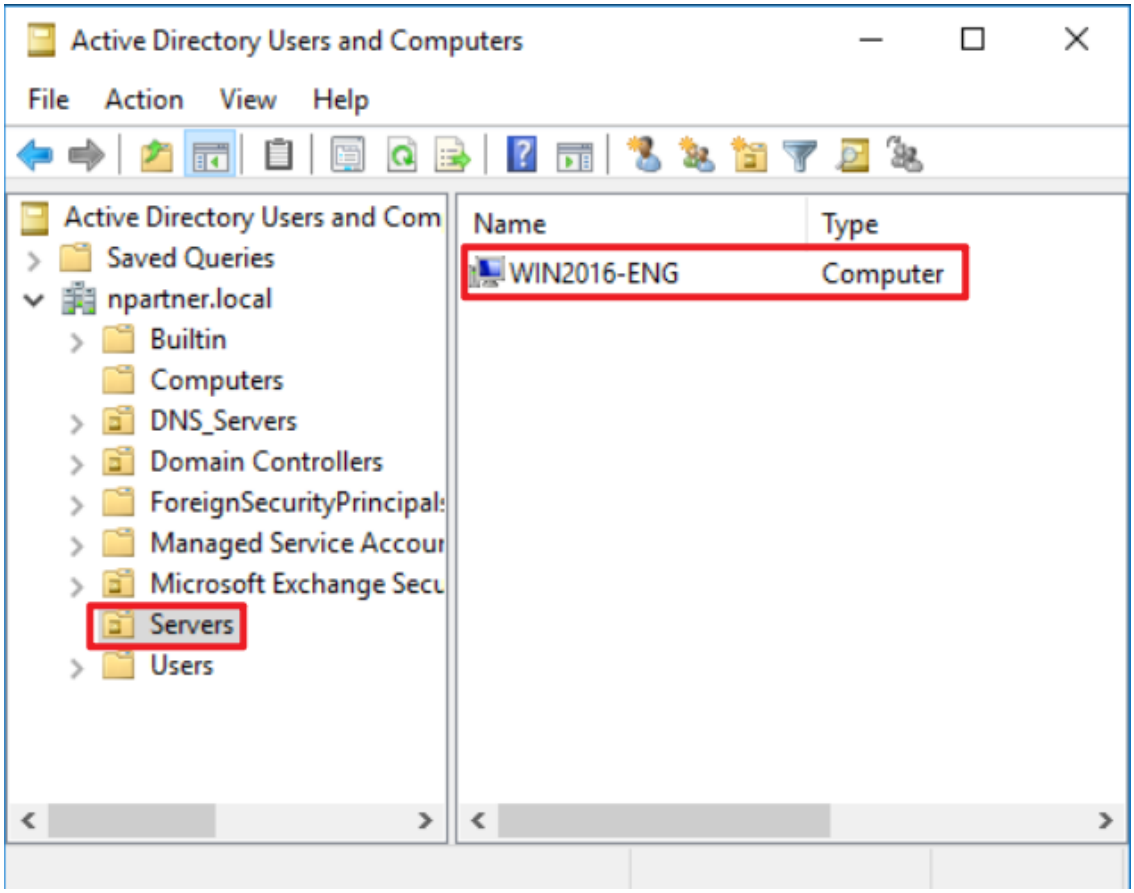
(5) Select your Organizational Unit:

Select your organizational unit (in this example, it is “Servers”) → click “OK.”



(6) Verify the Server Has Been Moved to your New Organizational Unit:

Expand your organizational unit folder (in this example, it is “Servers”) and confirm that the “WIN2016-ENG” server has been moved.

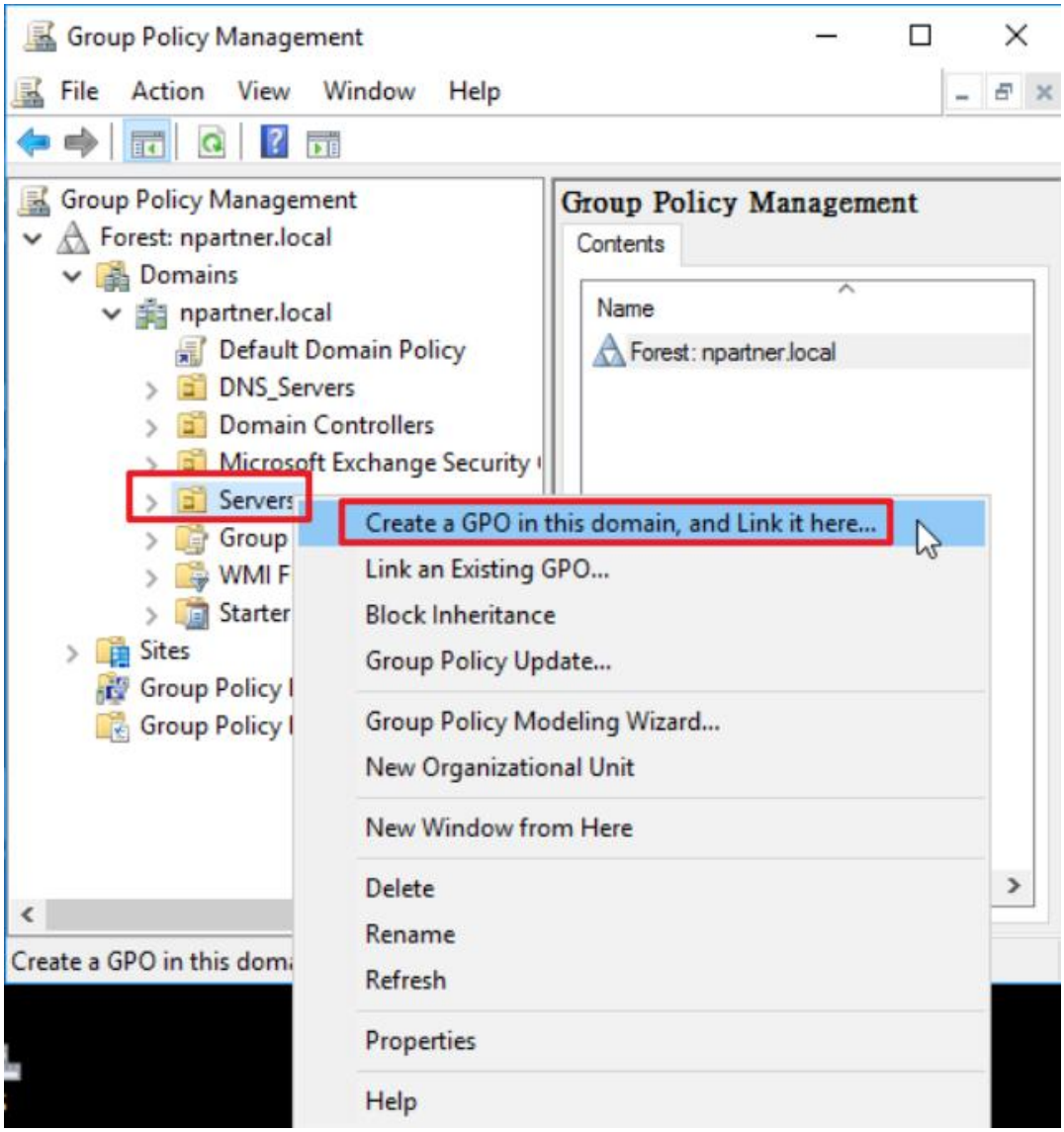


4.3.1.2 Group Policy Settings

(1) Click “Group Policy Management.”

(2) In the Servers organizational unit (OU), create a new Group Policy Object (GPO):

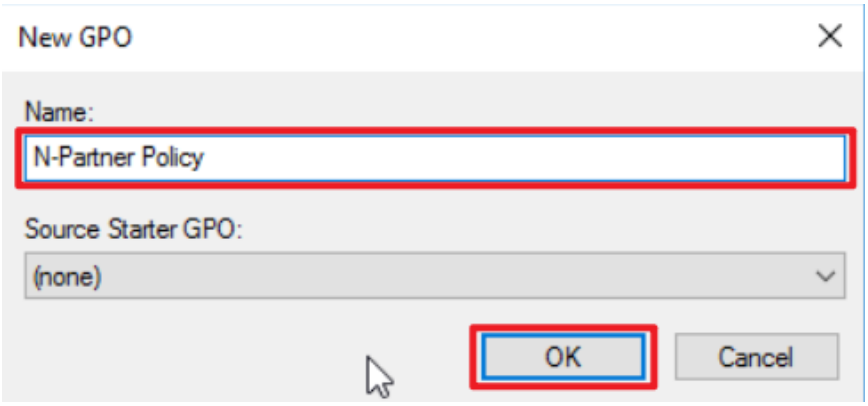
Right-click the [Servers] organizational unit → select “Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here...”



(3) Edit your Group Policy Object

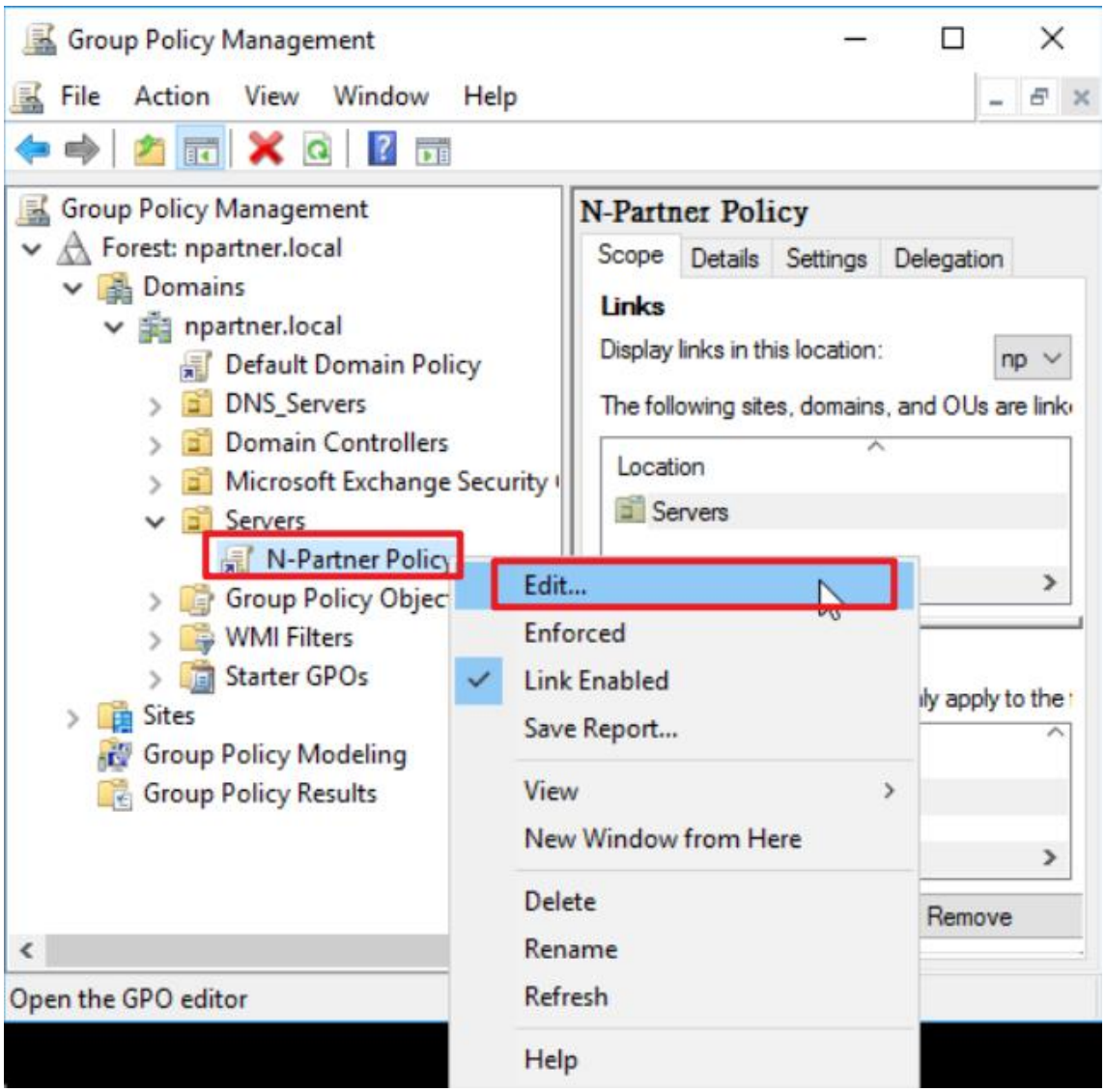
Enter your Group Policy Object name. (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")

Note: Create your GPO name according to the actual environment. Then click "Edit."



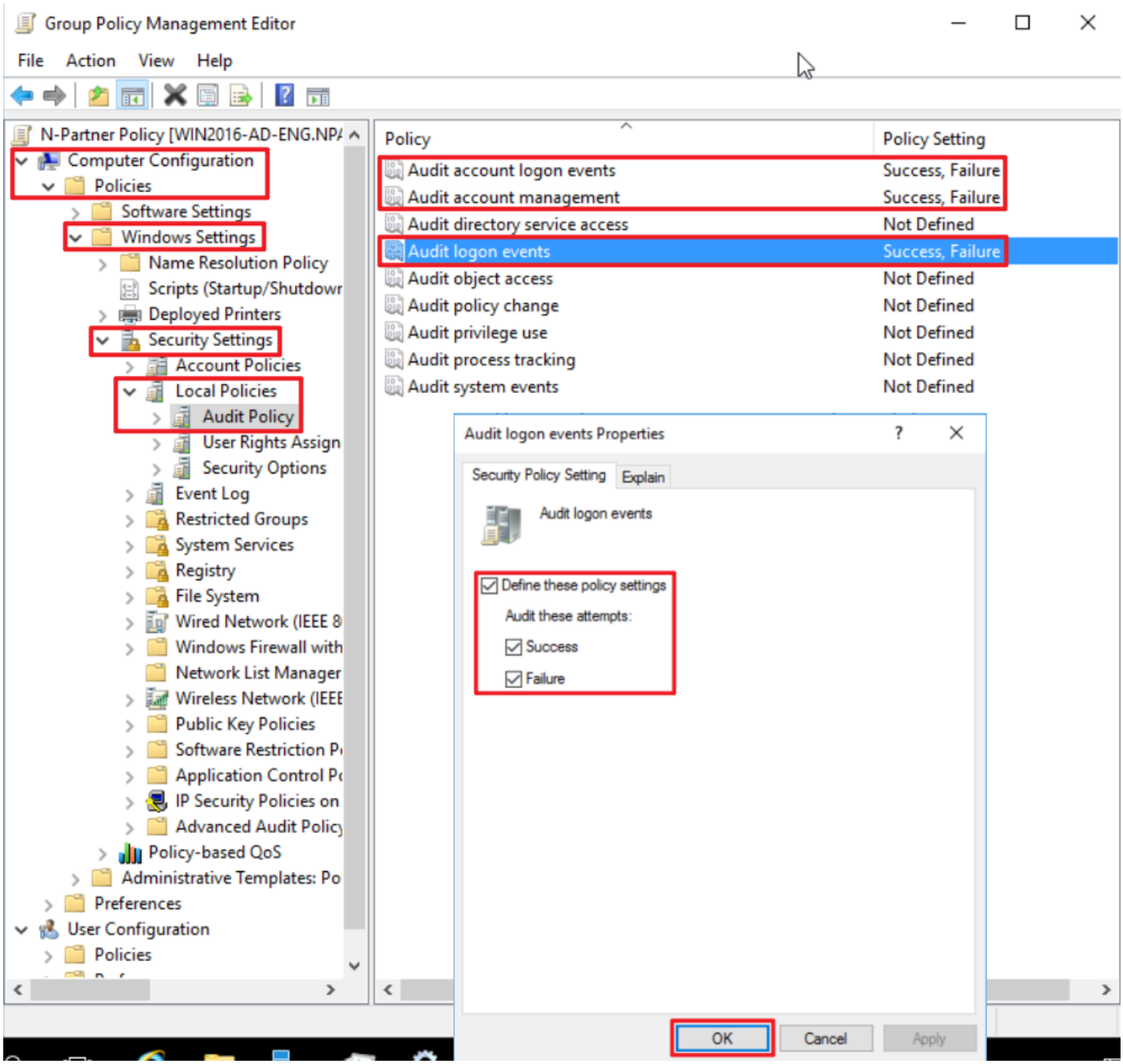
(4) Edit your Group Policy Object

In your group policy object, (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")
right-click and select "Edit."



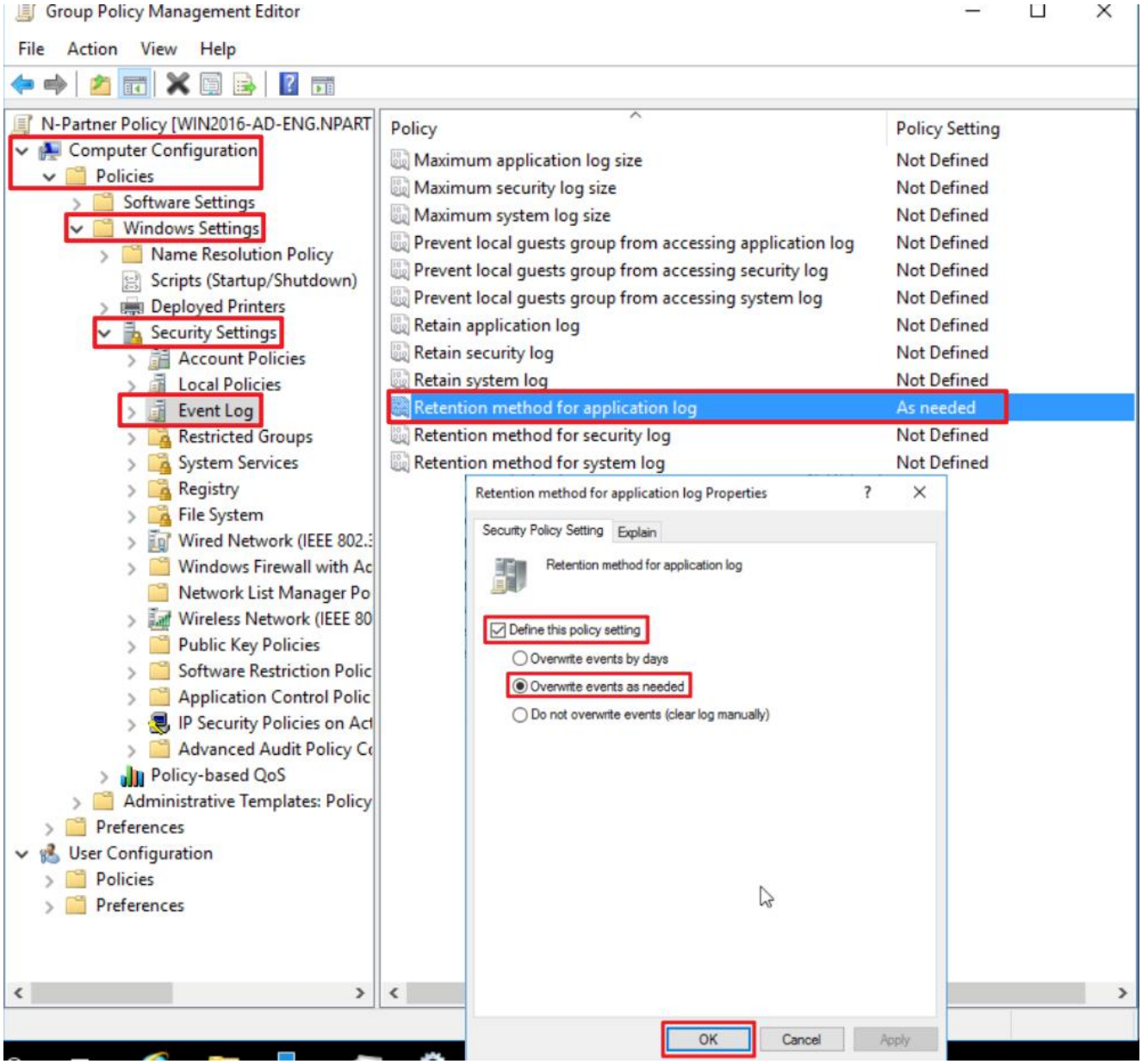
(5) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events,” → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(6) Event Log: Application Log Retention Method

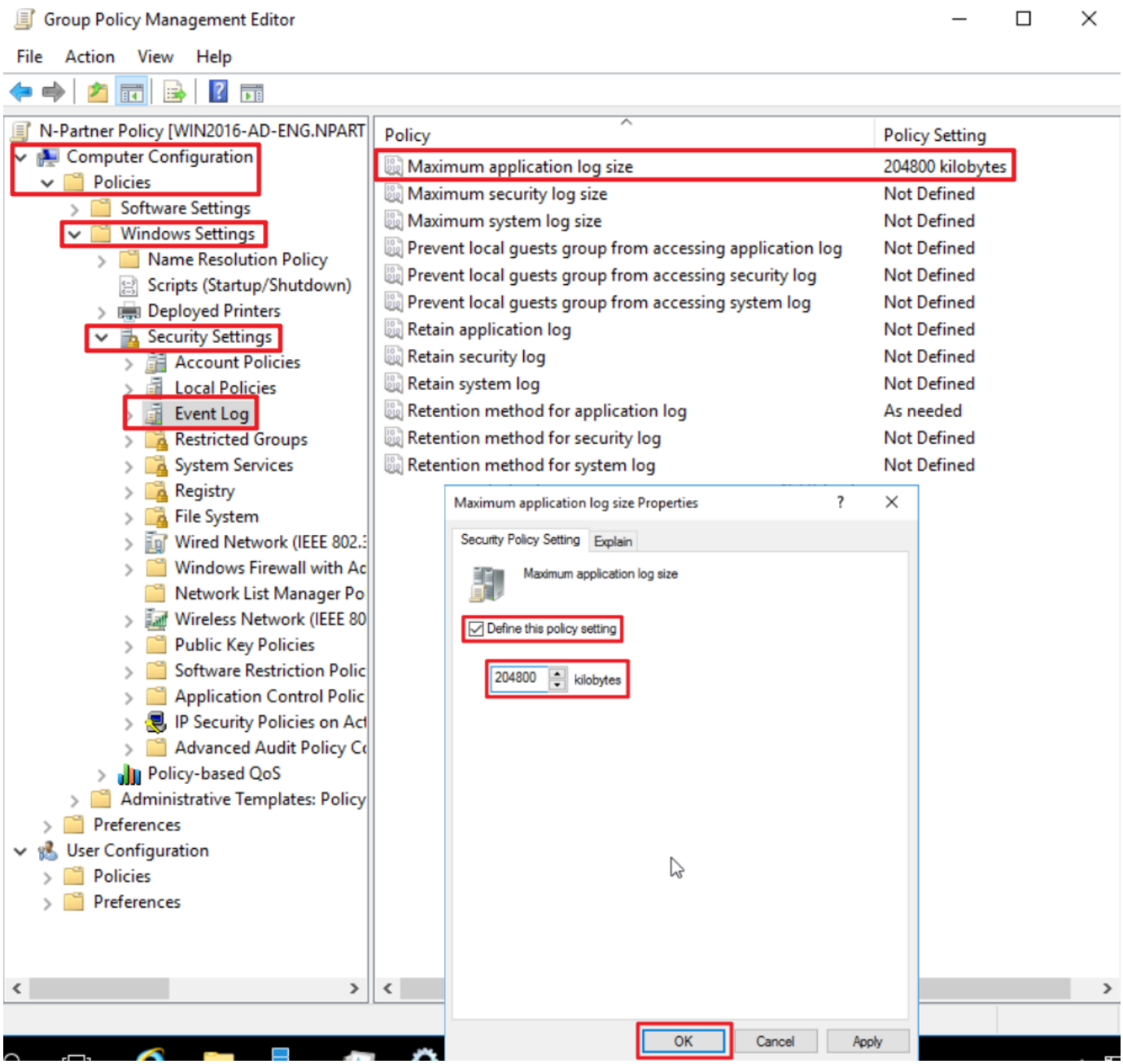
Expand “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” → select “Retention method for application log” → check “Define this policy setting” → select “Overwrite events as needed” → click “OK.”



(7) Event Logs: Maximum Size of Security Log

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” →And click on “Maximum application log size” → Check “Define this policy setting” → enter 204800 KB

Note: Please adjust the number based on the actual environment. → click “OK.”



(8) On the AD domain server, open “Windows PowerShell.”

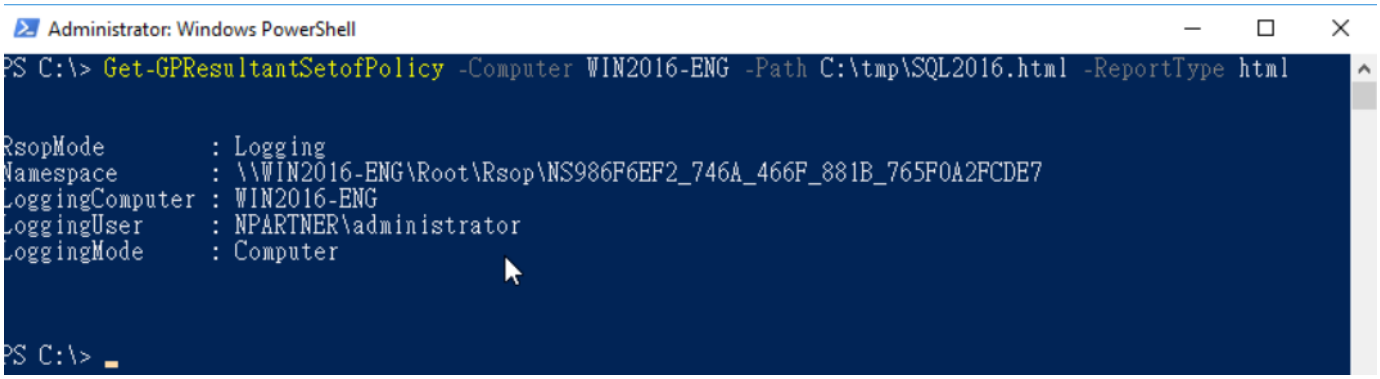
(9) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> Invoke-GPUpdate -Computer WIN2016-ENG -RandomDelayInMinutes 0 -Force
```

Replace the text shown in red with the MS SQL server name.

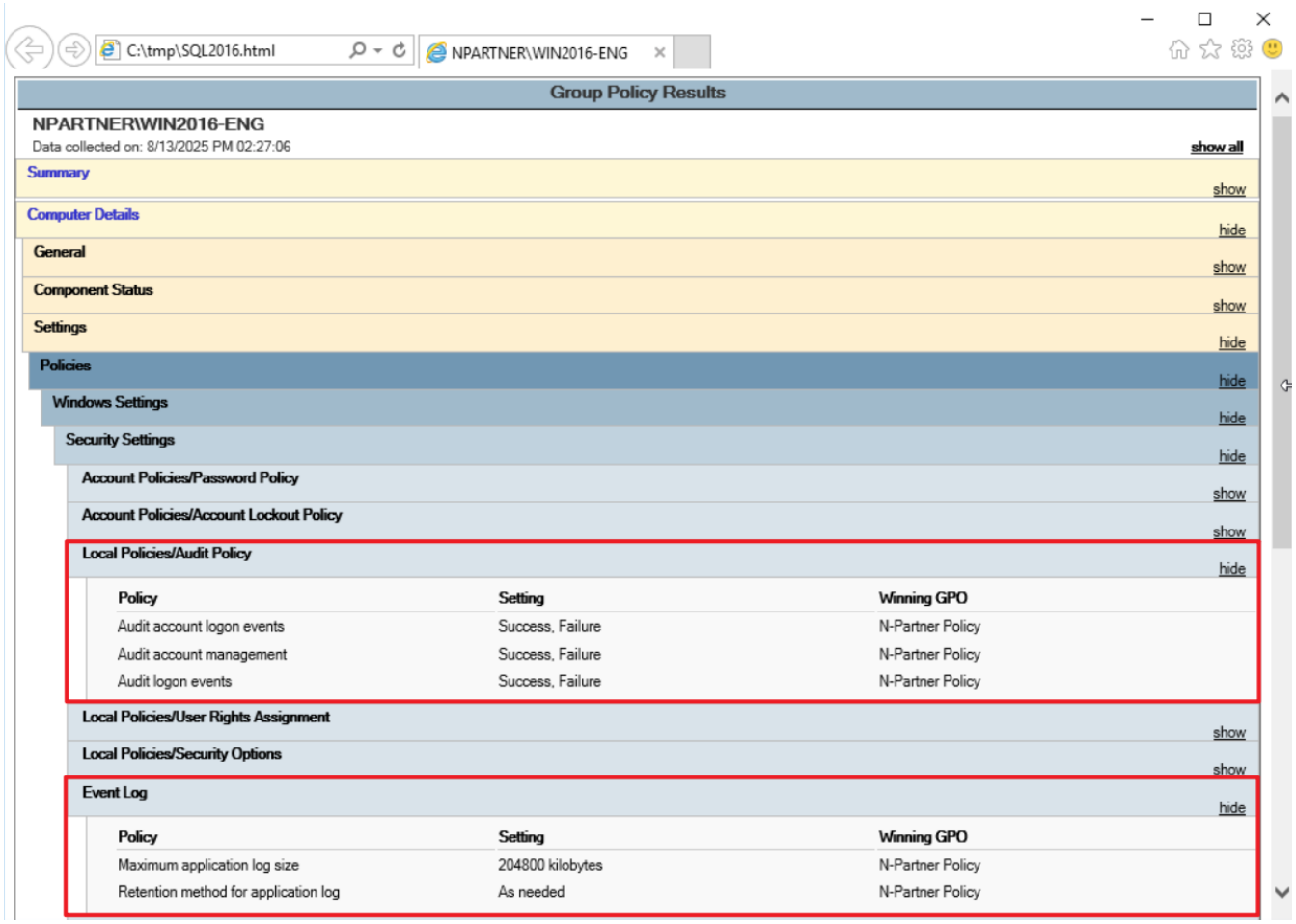
(10) Enter the command below to generate server group policy report.

```
PS C:\> Get-GPResultantSetofPolicy -Computer WIN2016-ENG -Path C:\tmp\SQL2016.html -ReportType html
```



For the red text , please enter the MS SQL server name and the folder path/file name.

(11) Open the report and verify that your MS SQL server is applying the N-Partner Policy Group Policy.

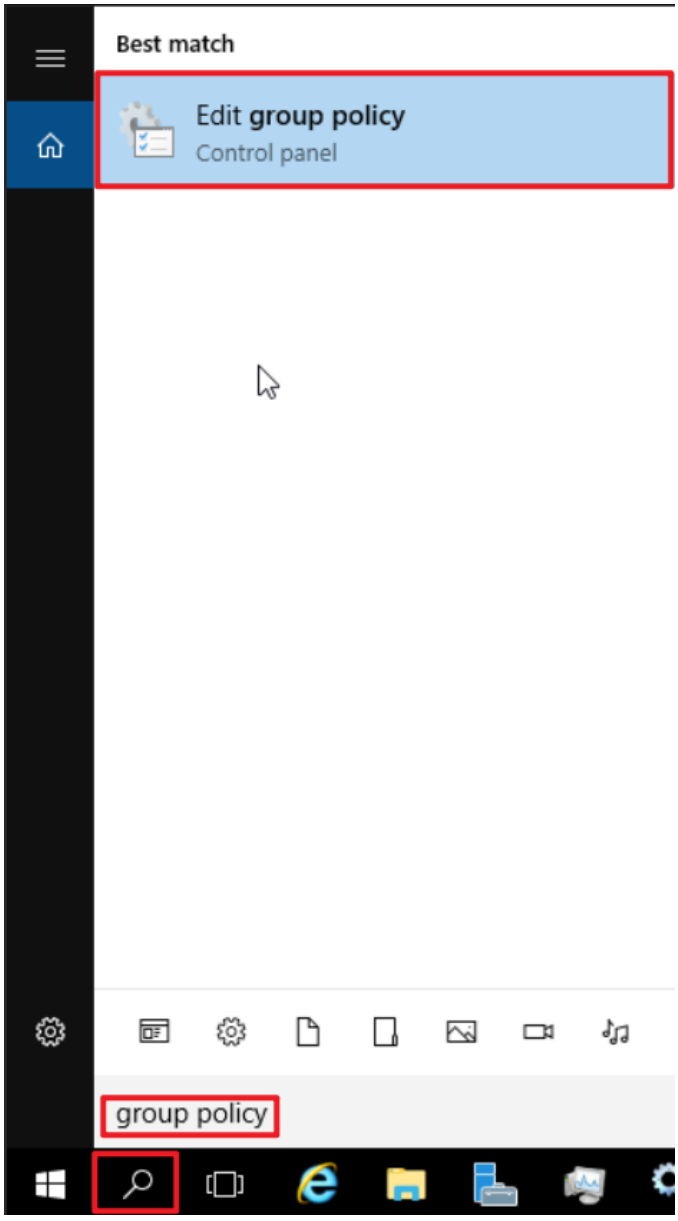


4.3.2 Workgroup

4.3.2.1 Audit Policy Configuration

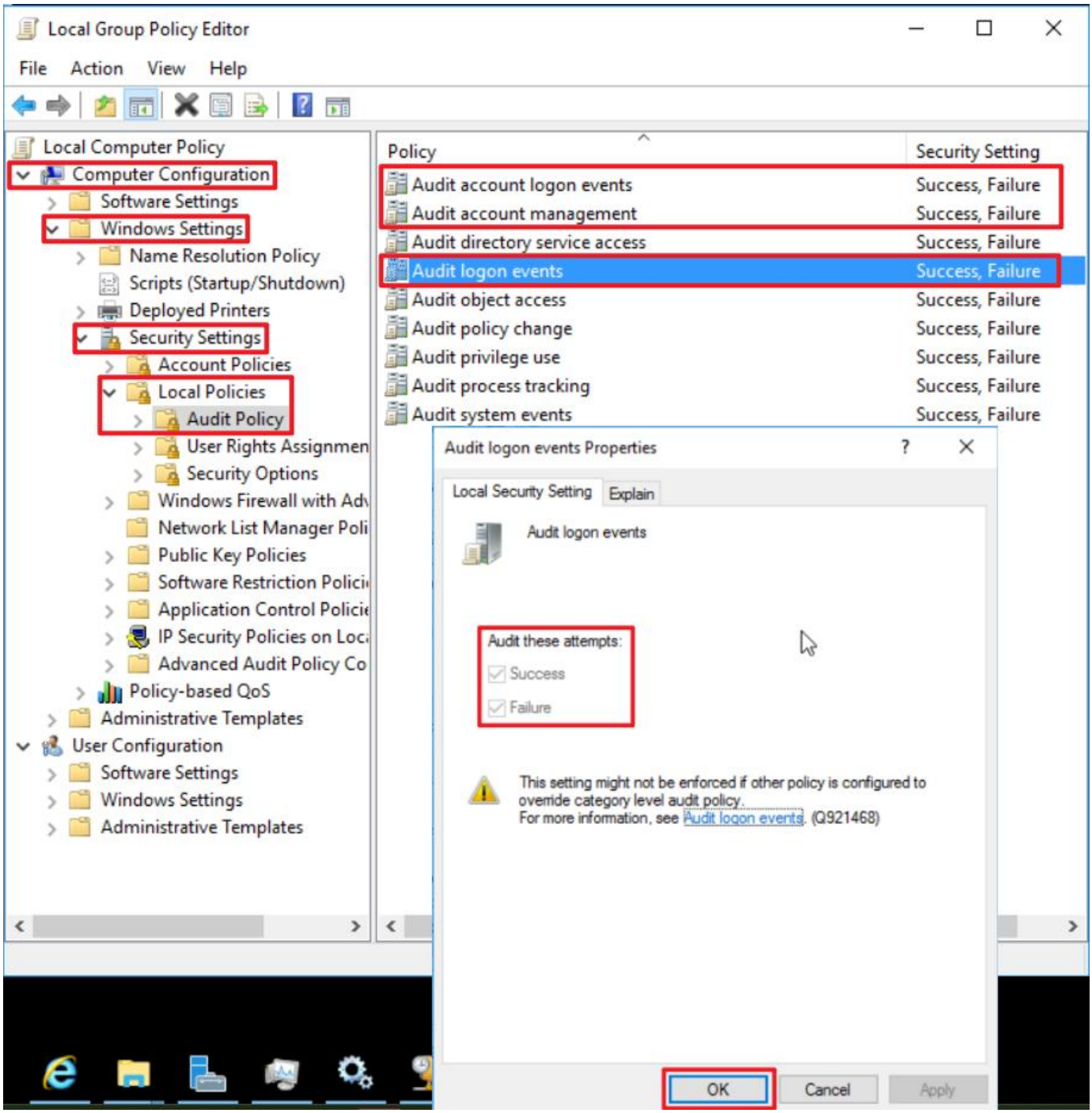
(1) Open Local Group Policy Editor

Click on “Start” → enter “group policy” to search → click on “Edit Group Policy.”



(2) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

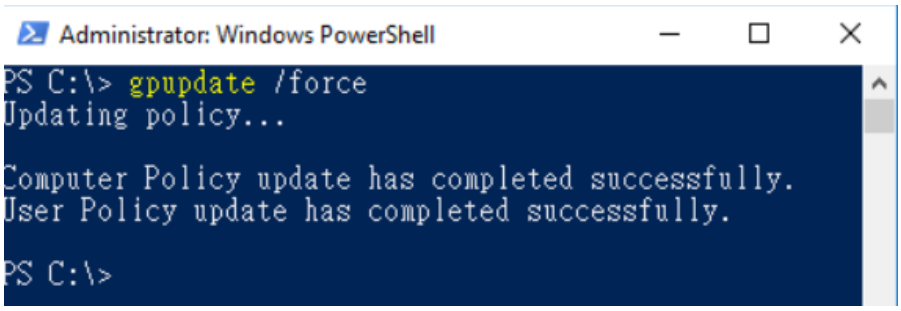
Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” -> “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events” items → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(3) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(4) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
```



(5) Enter the command below to view group policy applied status.

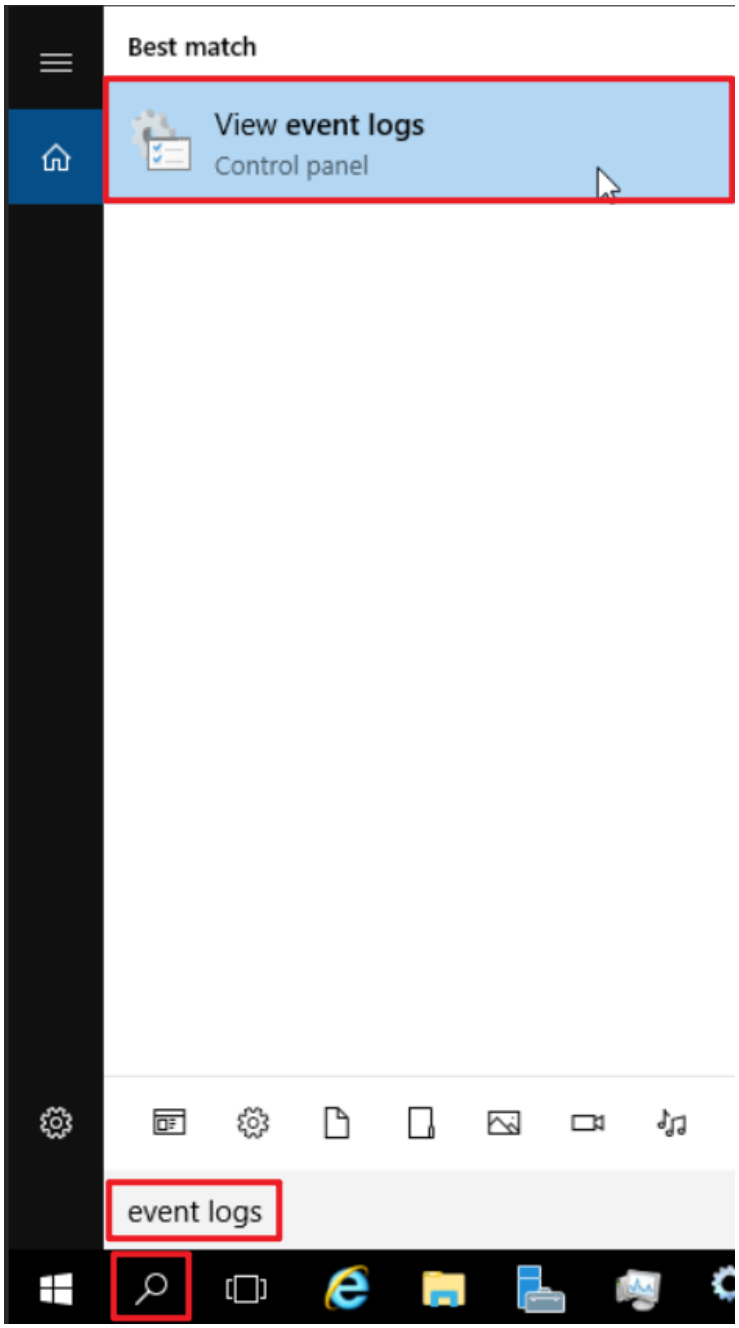
```
PS C: \> auditpol /get /category:*
```

```
PS C:\> auditpol /get /category:*
System audit policy
Category/Subcategory                      Setting
System
  Security System Extension               Success and Failure
  System Integrity                        Success and Failure
  IPsec Driver                            Success and Failure
  Other System Events                     Success and Failure
  Security State Change                   Success and Failure
Logon/Logoff
  Logon                                   Success and Failure
  Logoff                                  Success and Failure
  Account Lockout                         Success and Failure
  IPsec Main Mode                         Success and Failure
  IPsec Quick Mode                        Success and Failure
  IPsec Extended Mode                     Success and Failure
  Special Logon                           Success and Failure
  Other Logon/Logoff Events               Success and Failure
  Network Policy Server                   Success and Failure
  User / Device Claims                    Success and Failure
  Group Membership                        Success and Failure
Object Access
  File System                             Success and Failure
  Registry                                Success and Failure
  Kernel Object                           Success and Failure
  SAM                                     Success and Failure
  Certification Services                  Success and Failure
  Application Generated                   Success and Failure
  Handle Manipulation                     Success and Failure
  File Share                              Success and Failure
  Filtering Platform Packet Drop          Success and Failure
  Filtering Platform Connection           Success and Failure
  Other Object Access Events              Success and Failure
  Detailed File Share                     Success and Failure
  Removable Storage                       Success and Failure
  Central Policy Staging                  Success and Failure
Privilege Use
  Non Sensitive Privilege Use             Success and Failure
  Other Privilege Use Events              Success and Failure
  Sensitive Privilege Use                 Success and Failure
Detailed Tracking
  Process Creation                        Success and Failure
  Process Termination                     Success and Failure
  DPAPI Activity                          Success and Failure
  RPC Events                              Success and Failure
  Plug and Play Events                    Success and Failure
  Token Right Adjusted Events             Success and Failure
Policy Change
  Audit Policy Change                     Success and Failure
  Authentication Policy Change            Success and Failure
  Authorization Policy Change             Success and Failure
  MPSSVC Rule-Level Policy Change         Success and Failure
  Filtering Platform Policy Change        Success and Failure
  Other Policy Change Events              Success and Failure
Account Management
  Computer Account Management             Success and Failure
  Security Group Management               Success and Failure
  Distribution Group Management           Success and Failure
  Application Group Management            Success and Failure
  Other Account Management Events         Success and Failure
  User Account Management                 Success and Failure
DS Access
  Directory Service Access                Success and Failure
  Directory Service Changes               Success and Failure
  Directory Service Replication           Success and Failure
  Detailed Directory Service Replication  Success and Failure
Account Logon
  Kerberos Service Ticket Operations      Success and Failure
  Other Account Logon Events              Success and Failure
  Kerberos Authentication Service         Success and Failure
  Credential Validation                   Success and Failure
PS C:\>
```

4.3.2.2 Event Log Settings

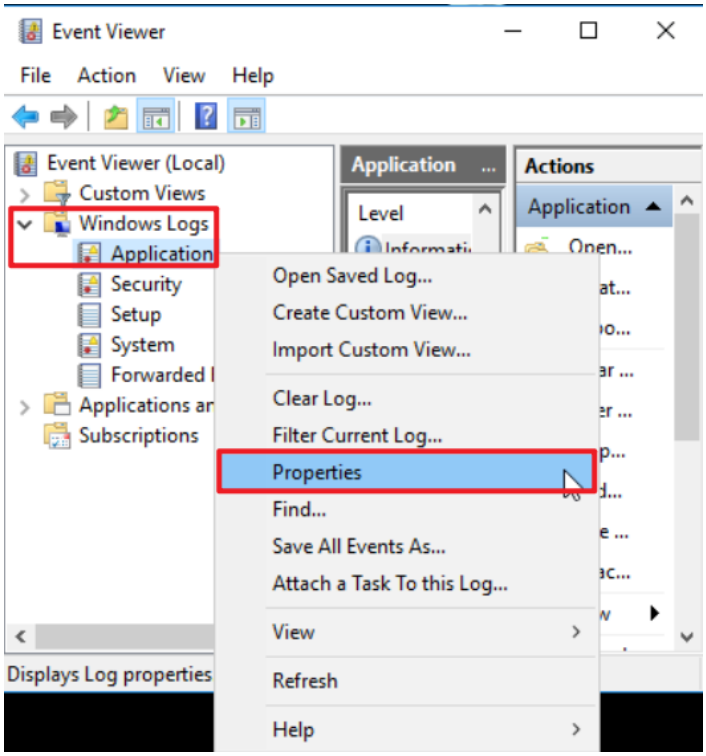
(1) Search for “Event Viewer”

Enter “Event Viewer” to search → click on “Event Viewer” in the search results.



(2) Edit Security Log

Expand folder “Windows Logs” → right-click on “Application” → And click on “Properties.”

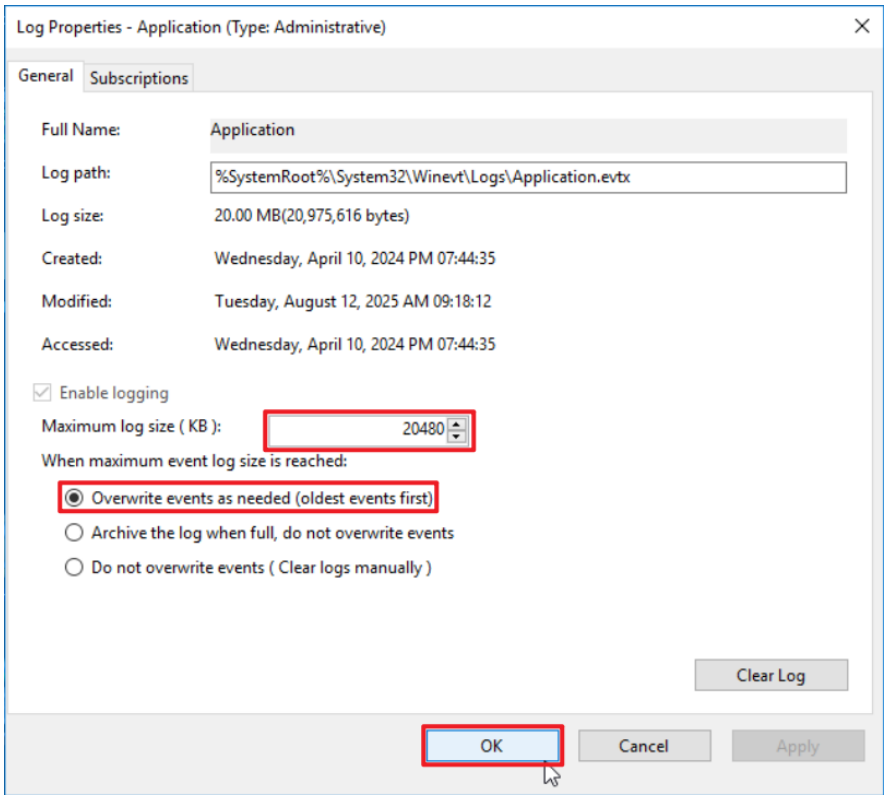


(3) Configure Security Log

Enter maximum log file size: 204800 KB

Note: Please adjust the number according to the actual environment.

→ click on “Overwrite events as needed (oldest events first)” → click “OK.”



5. SQL Server 2019

5.1 Login Auditing

Enable login auditing to monitor SQL Server Database Engine login activities.

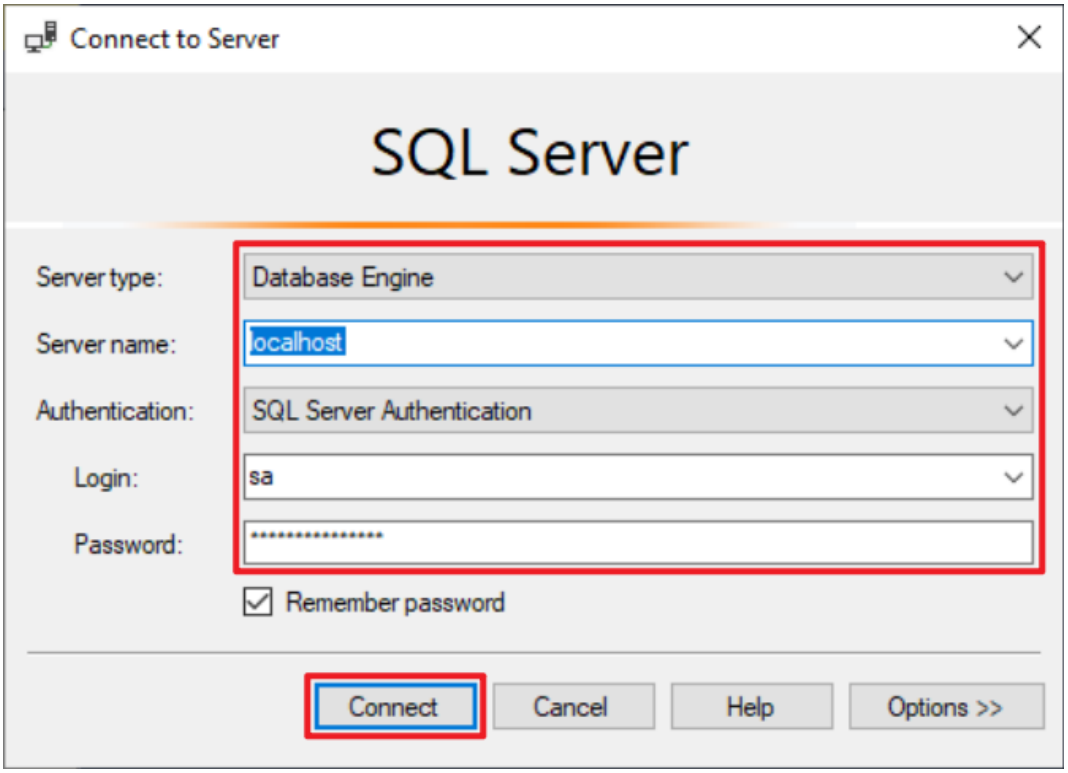
After configuration, the MS SQL Server service must be **restarted**.

The following sections describe how to configure login auditing using both the graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI).

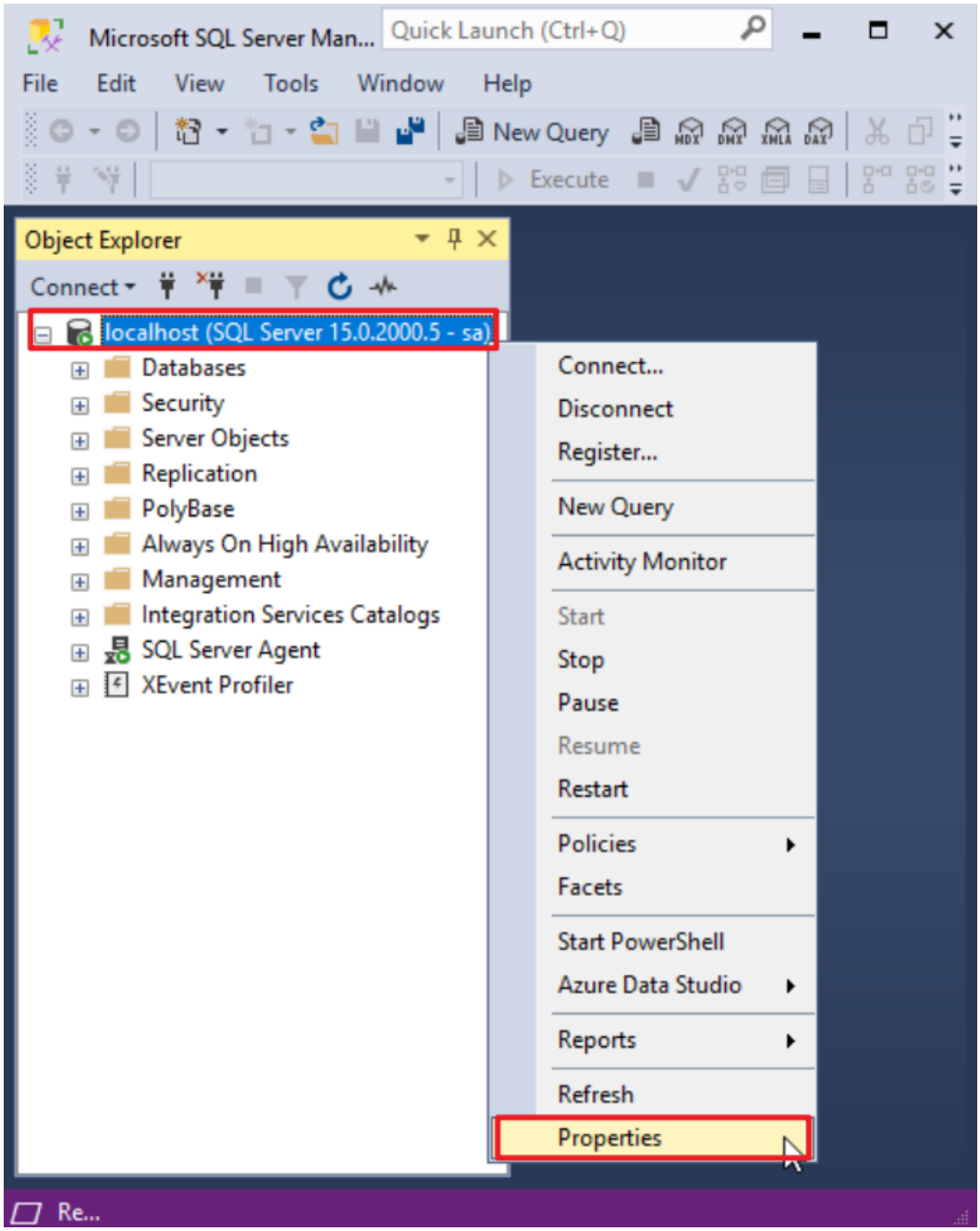
5.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

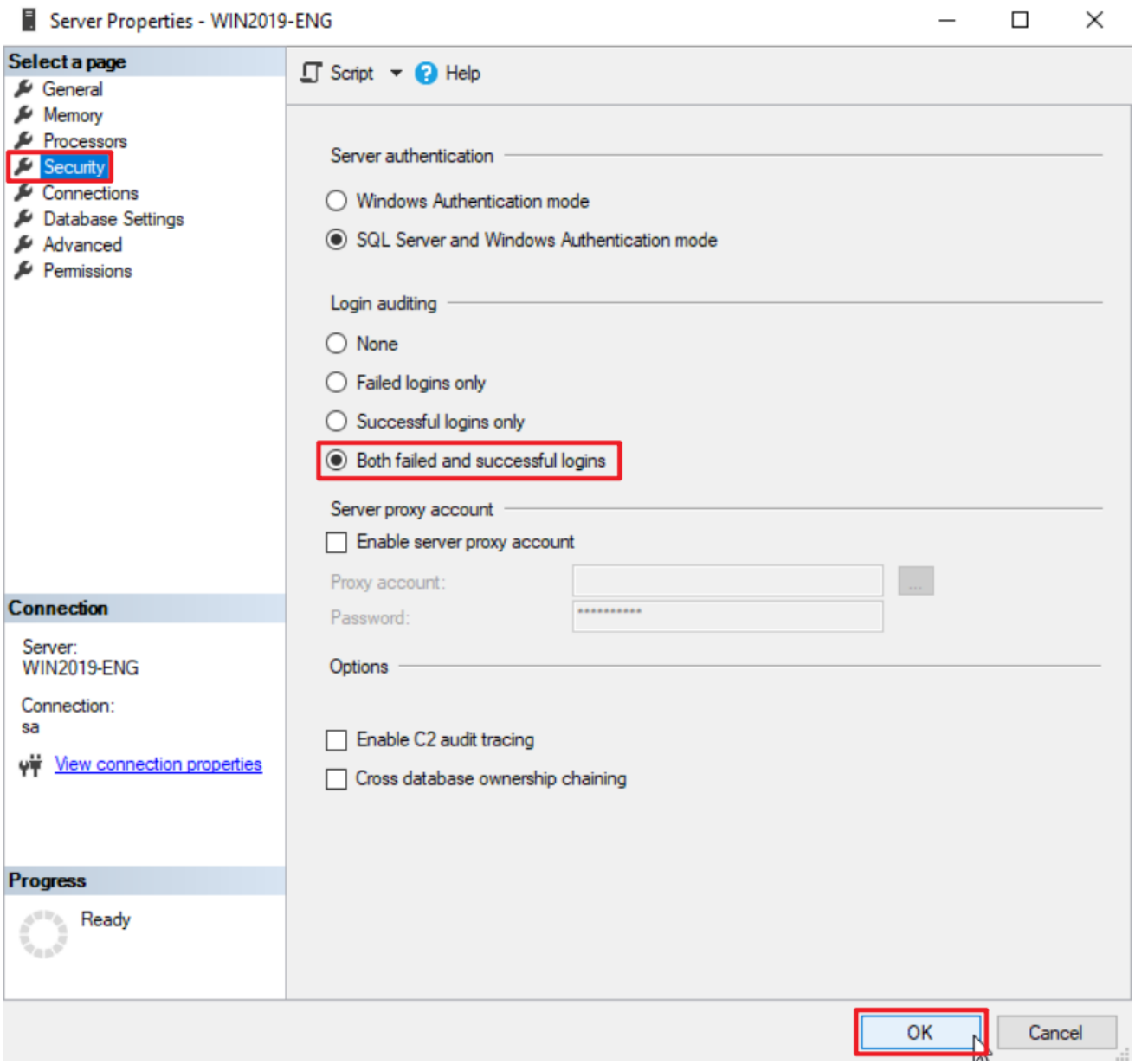
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



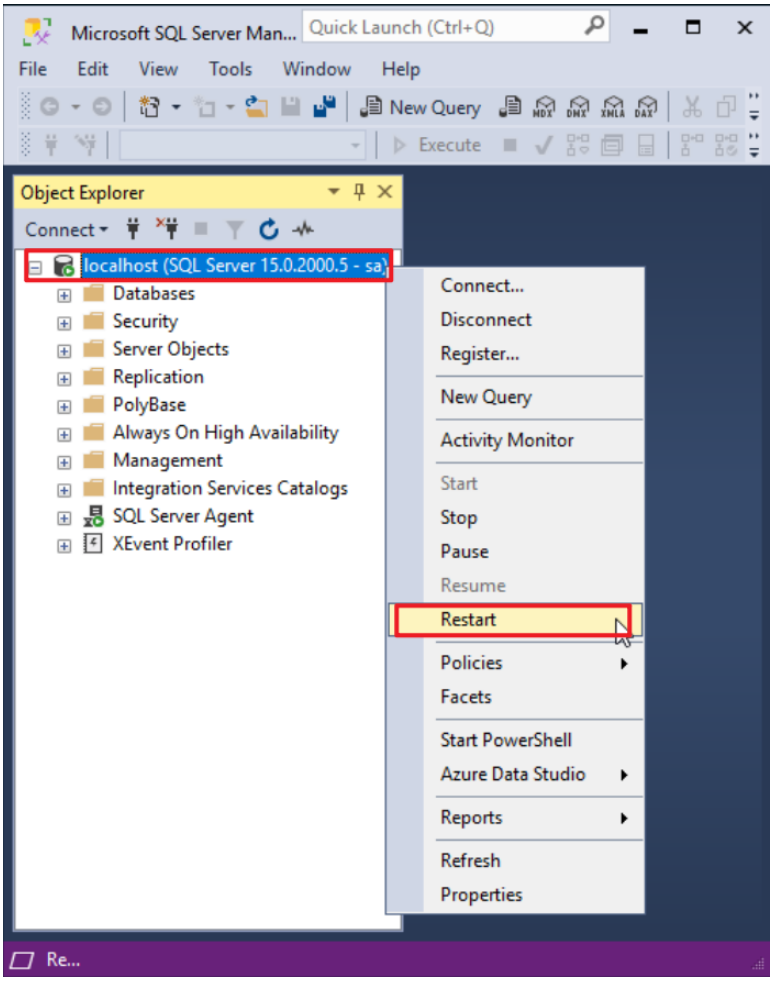
(3) In [Server Name] (the example here is SQL Server 15.0.2000.5), right-click and select “Properties.”



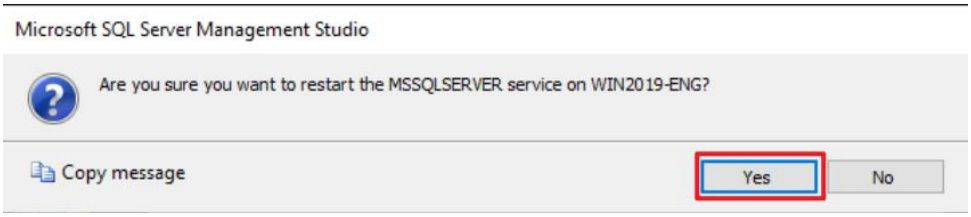
(4) On the Security page, under Login auditing, select “Both failed and successful logins” → click “OK”.



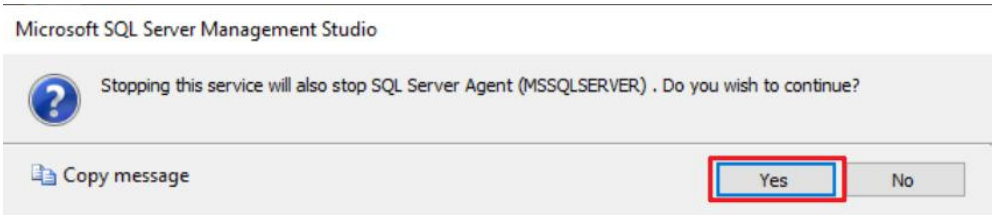
(5) Restart the MS SQL Server service: right-click [Server Name] (the example here is SQL Server 15.0.2000.5) → select “Restart.”



(6) Click “Yes” to restart the MS SQL Server service.

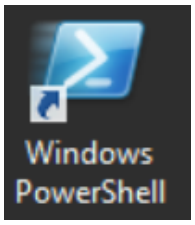


(7) Click “Yes” again to stop the SQL Server Agent service.



5.1.2 Configuring via Command-Line Interface (CLI)

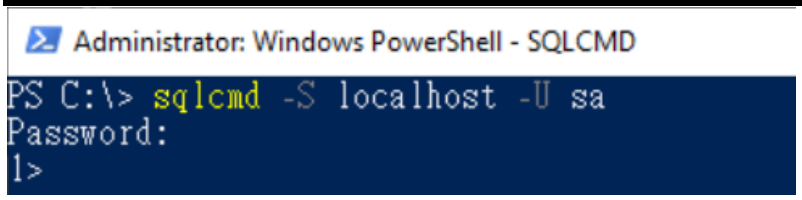
(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”



(2) Enter the command below to log in using sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

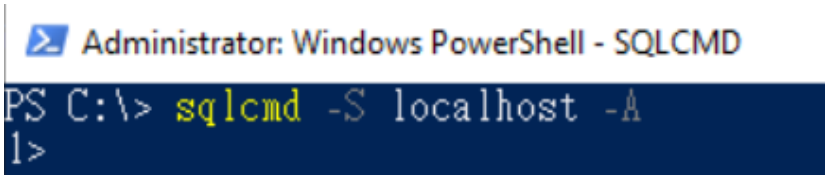
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

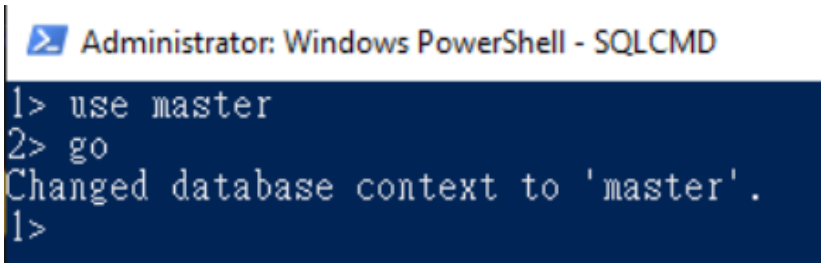
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



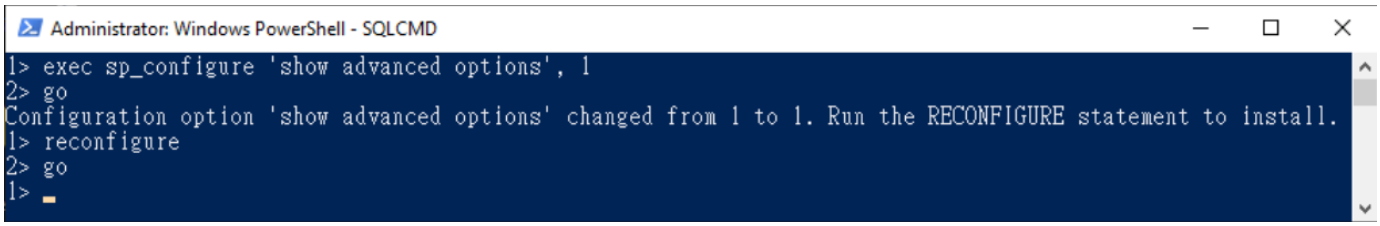
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



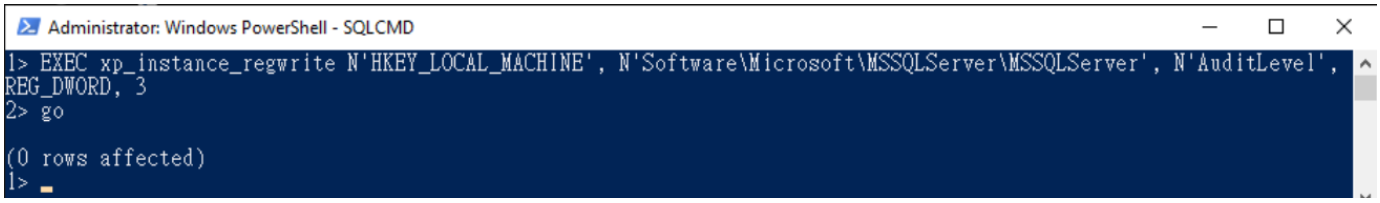
(4) Enter the command below to enable advanced options:

```
1 > exec sp_configure 'show advanced options', 1
2 > go
1 > reconfigure
2 > go
```



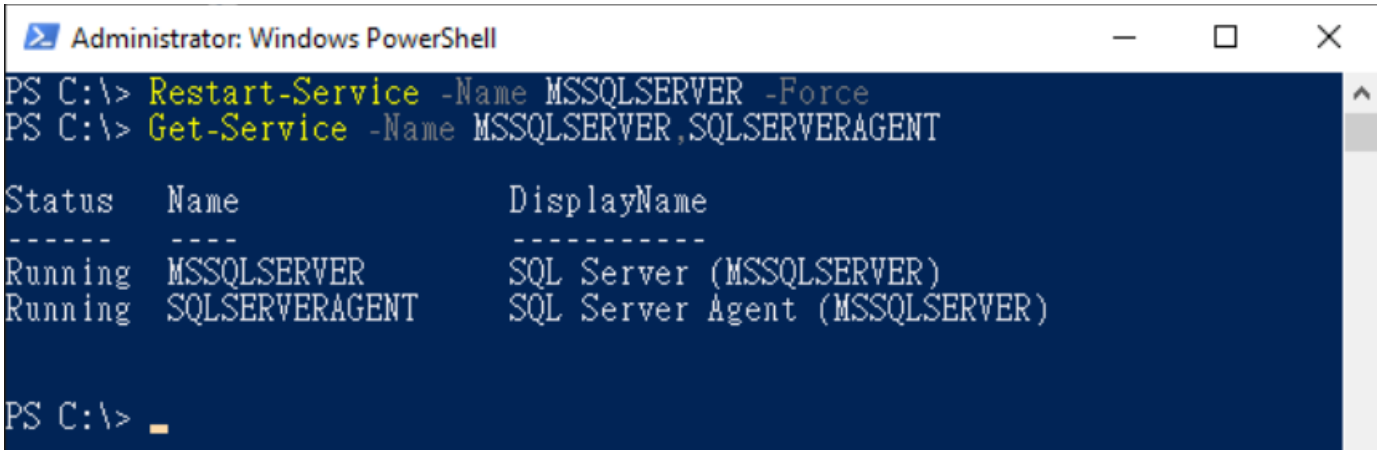
(5) Enter the command below to enable auditing for both failed and successful logins:

```
1 > EXEC xp_instance_regwrite N'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE',
N'Software\Microsoft\MSSQLServer\MSSQLServer', N'AuditLevel', REG_DWORD, 3
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to restart the MS SQL Server services:

```
PS C:\> Restart-Service -Name MSSQLSERVER -Force
PS C:\> Get-Service -Name MSSQLSERVER,SQLSERVERAGENT
```



5.2 Configuring Auditing

5.2.1 Server-Level Audit

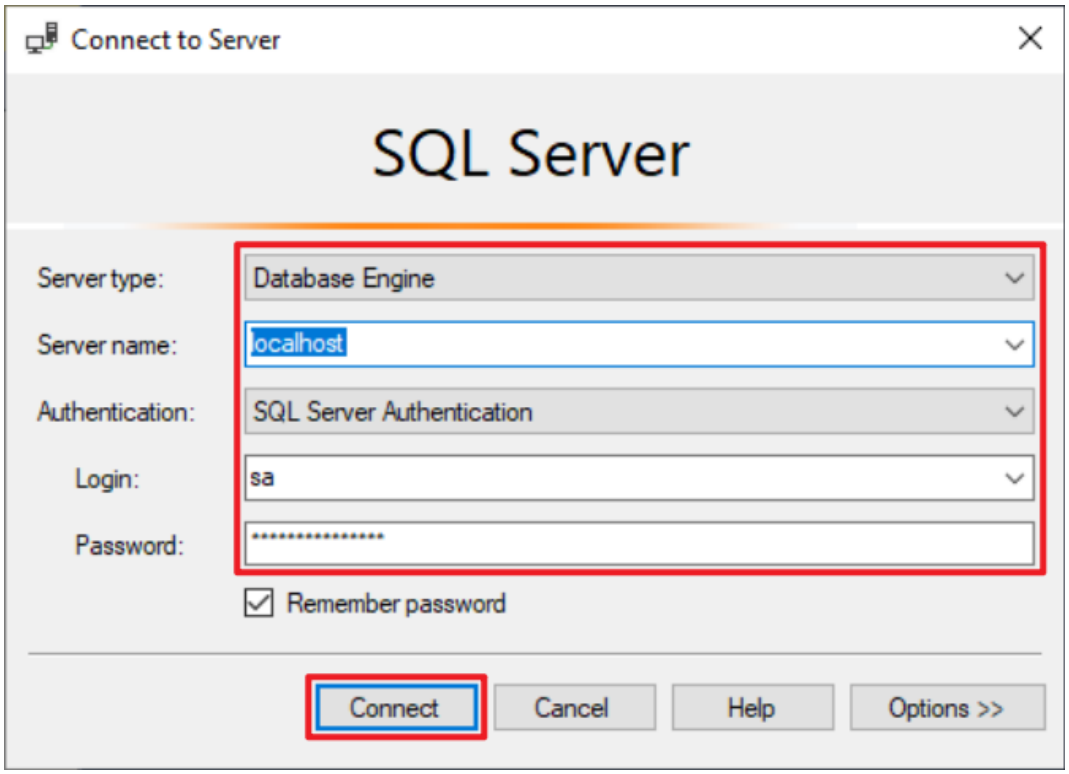
Enabling a server-level audit covers server operations such as administrative changes, login, and logout activities.

The following sections describe how to configure a server-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

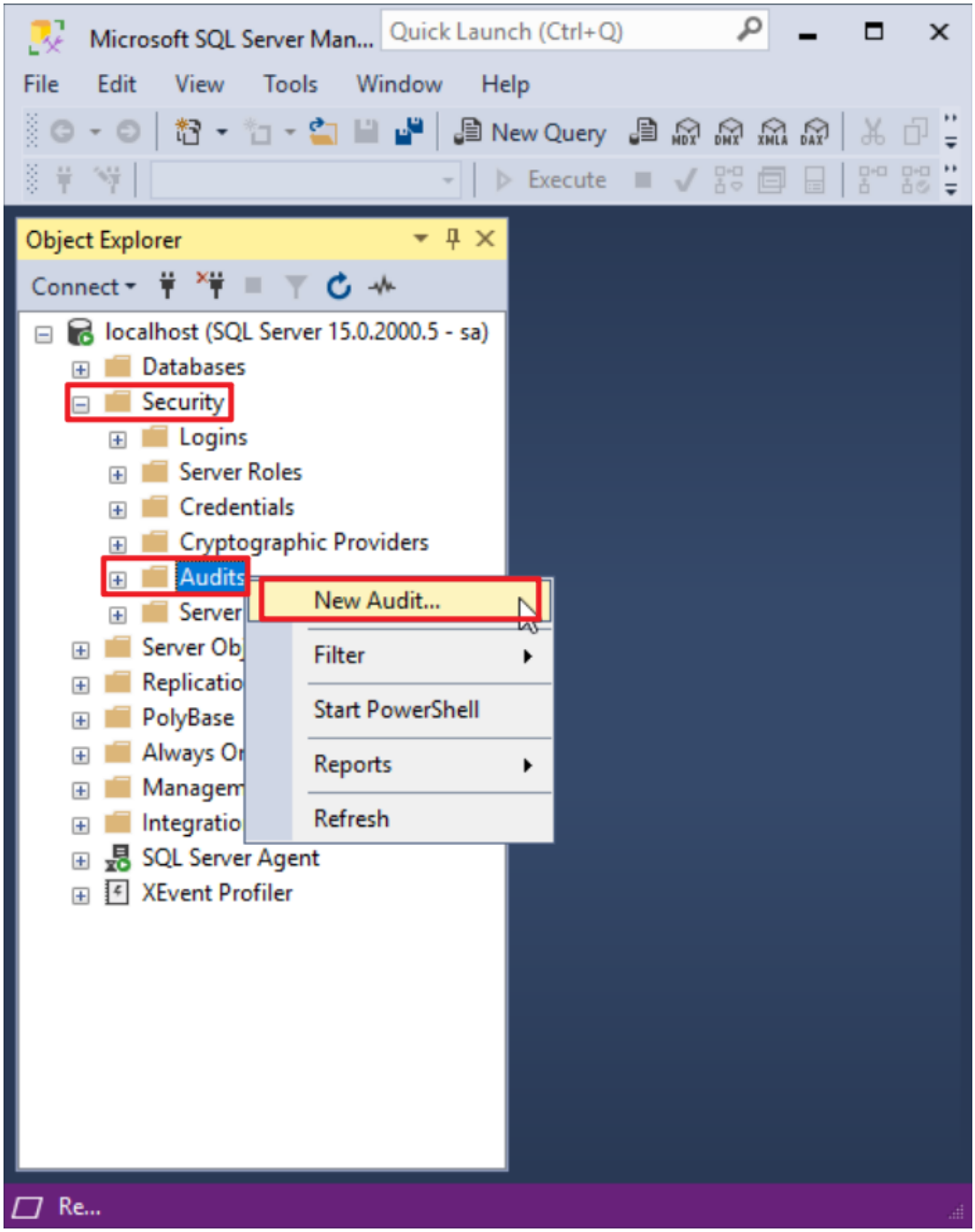
5.2.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

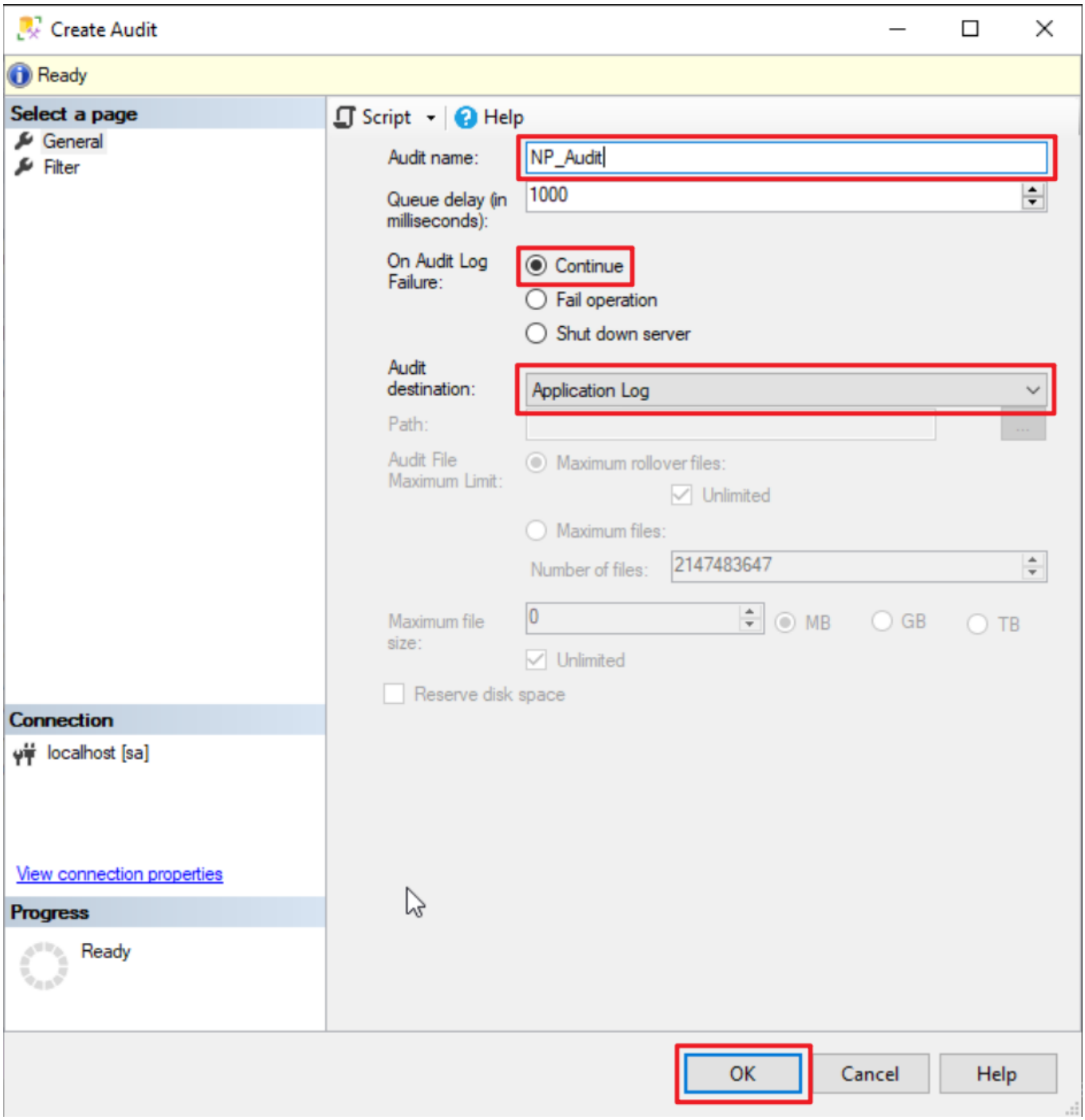
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



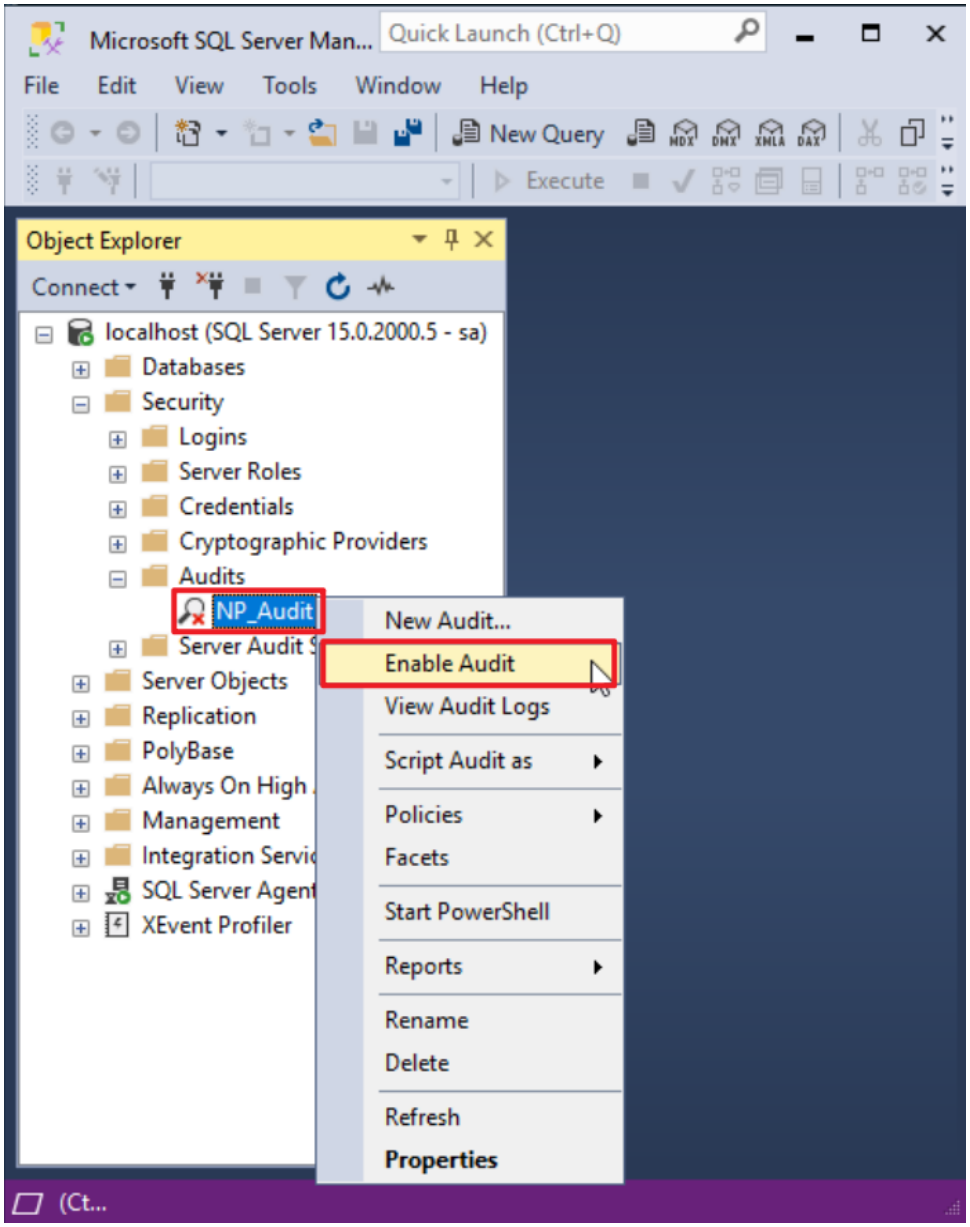
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



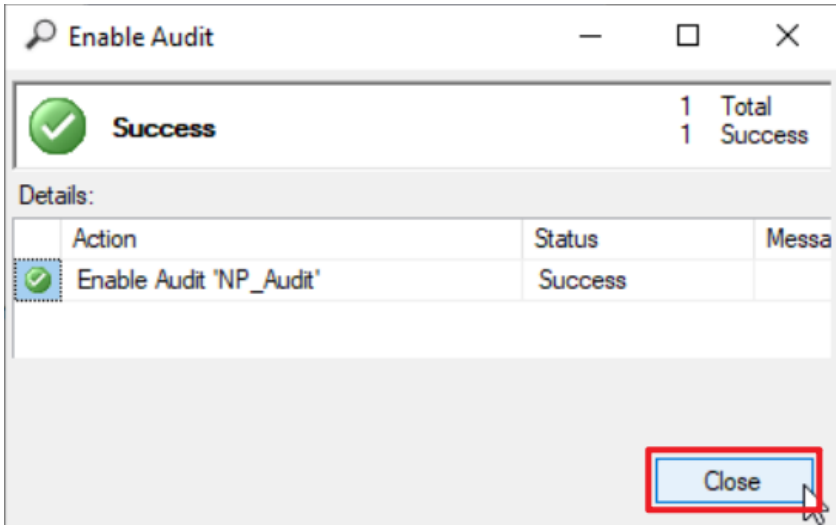
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



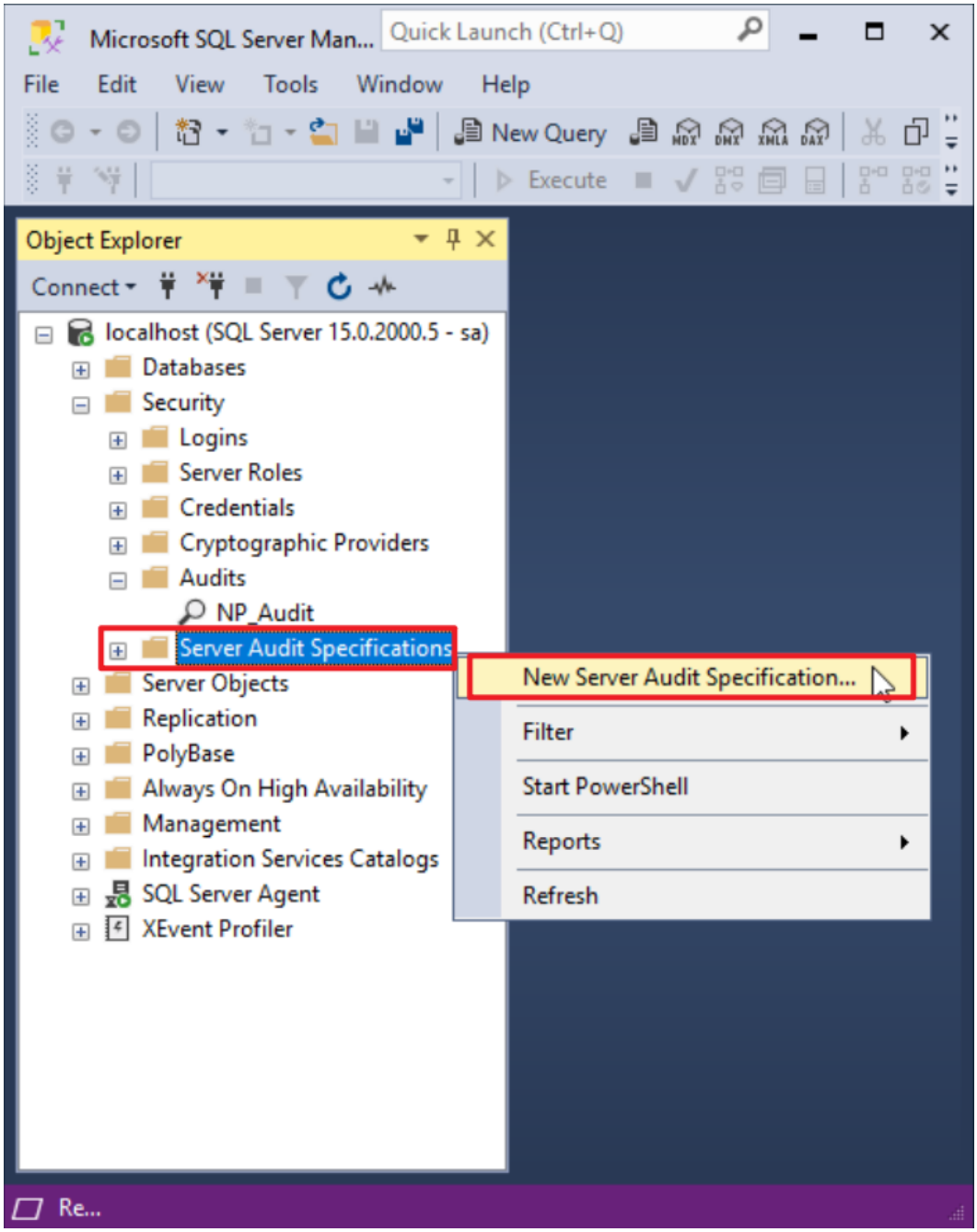
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



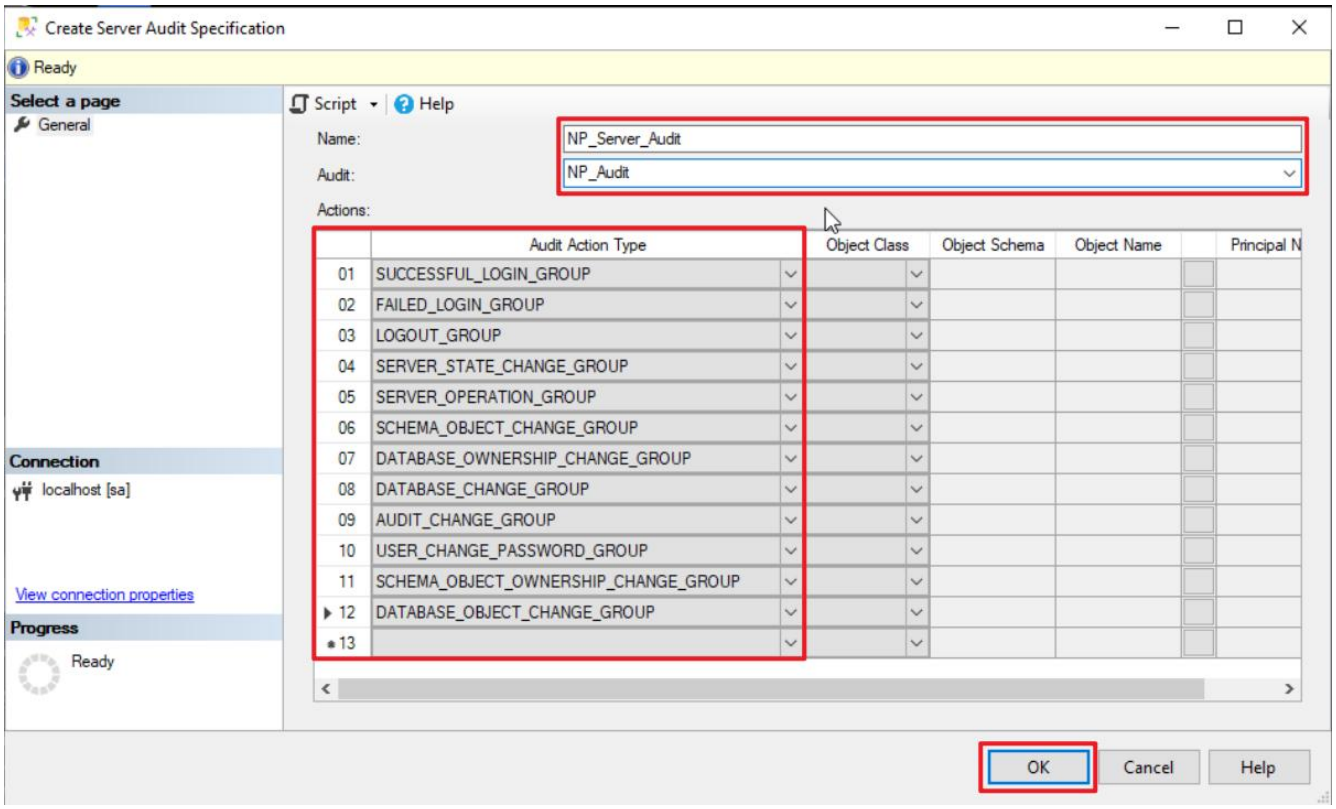
(6) Click “Close.”



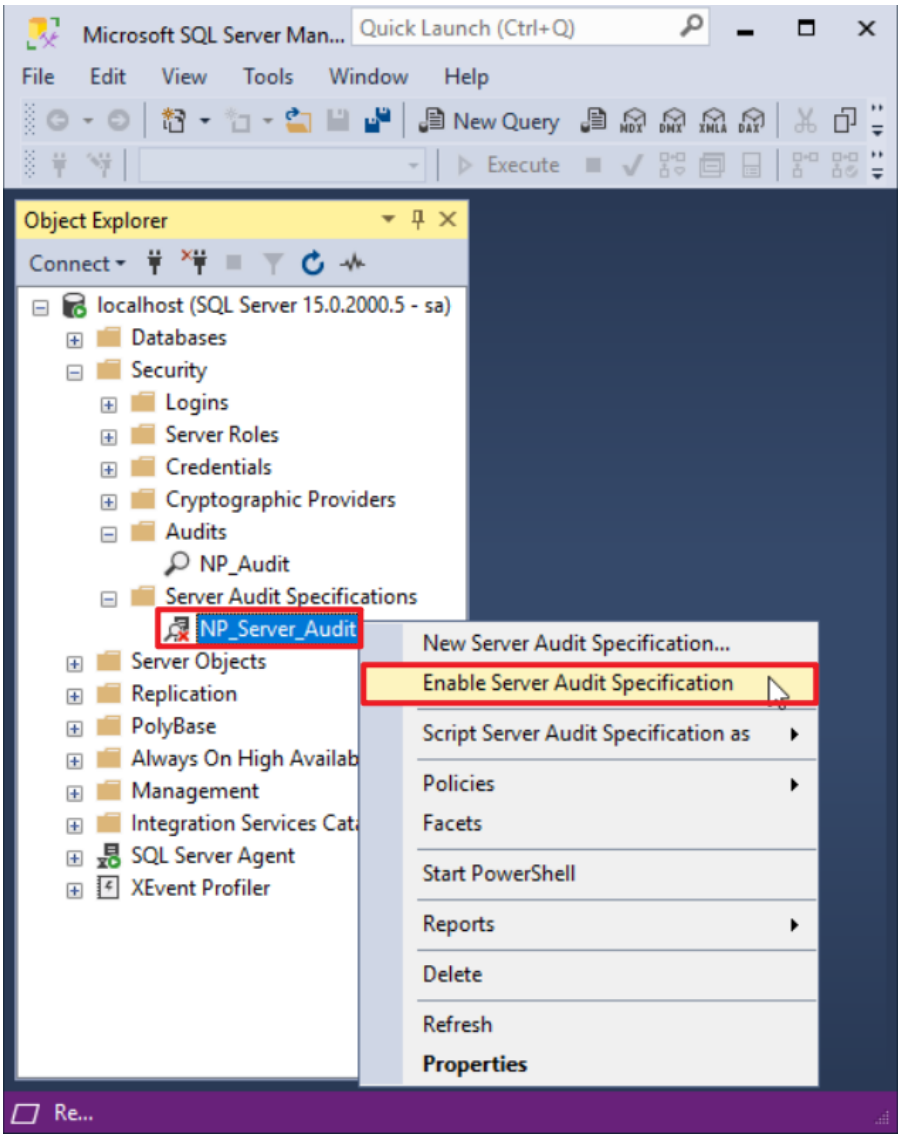
(7) Right-click “Server Audit Specifications,” → select “New Server Audit Specification...”



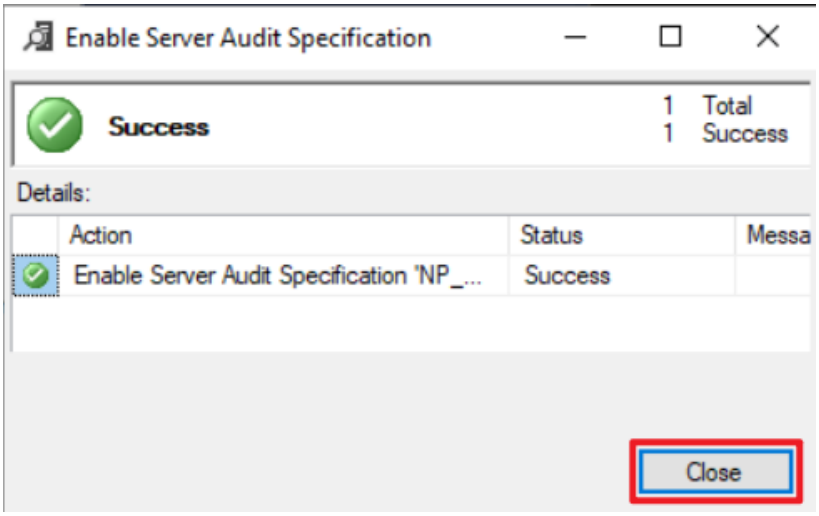
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_Server_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the server audit specification list, right-click “NP_Server_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



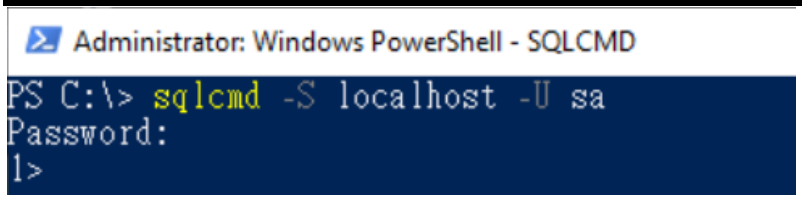
5.2.1.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

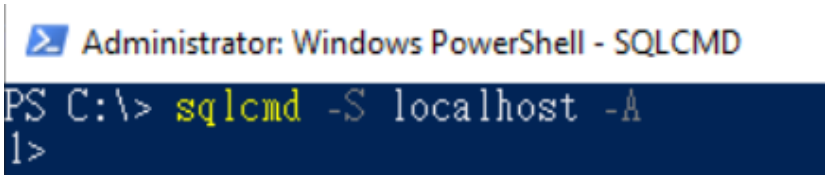
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

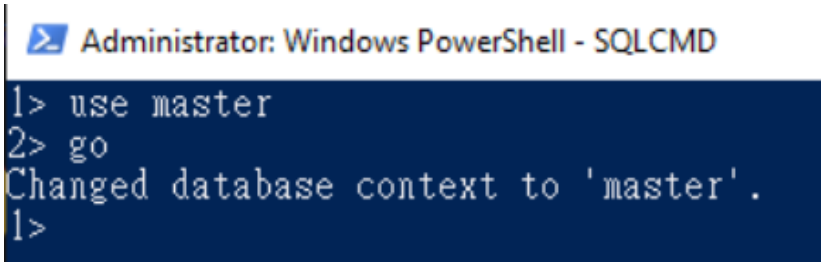
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



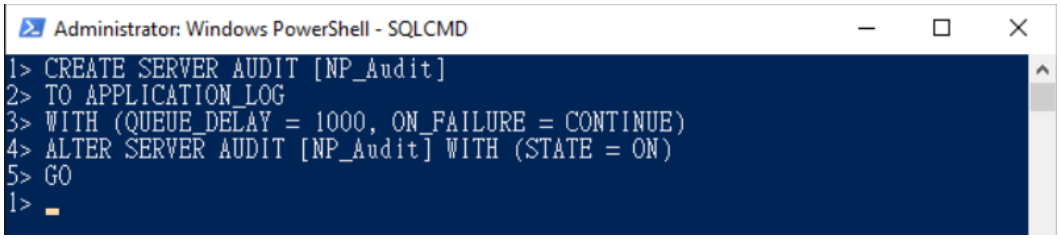
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

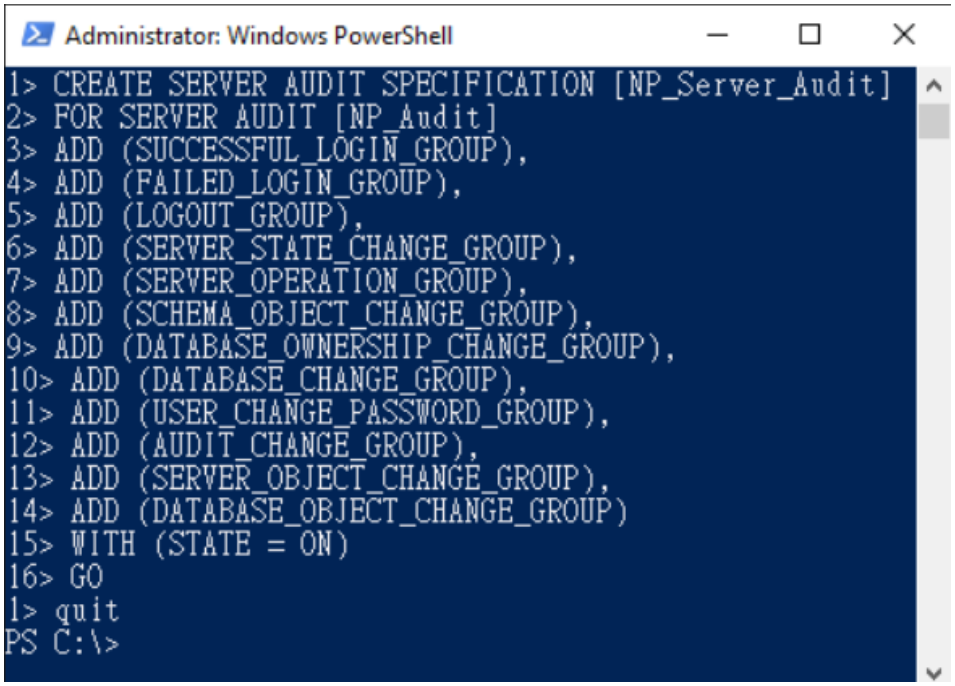
```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



(5) Enter the command below to configure the server audit and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_Server_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (SUCCESSFUL_LOGIN_GROUP),
4 > ADD (FAILED_LOGIN_GROUP),
5 > ADD (LOGOUT_GROUP),
6 > ADD (SERVER_STATE_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (SERVER_OPERATION_GROUP),
8 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
10 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
12 > ADD (SERVER_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
13 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP)
14 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
```

```
15> WITH (STATE = ON)
16 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the server audit specification name.

5.2.2 Database-Level Audit

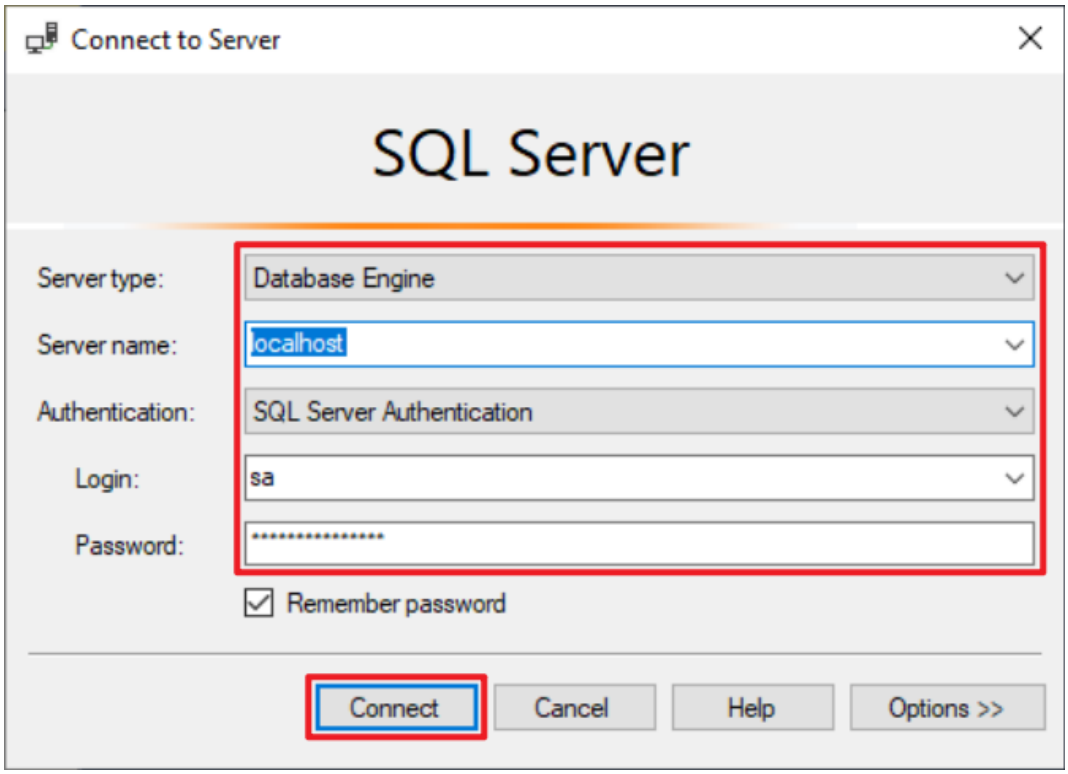
Enabling a database-level audit covers operations involving Data Manipulation Language (DML) and Data Definition Language (DDL) statements.

The following sections describe how to configure a database-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

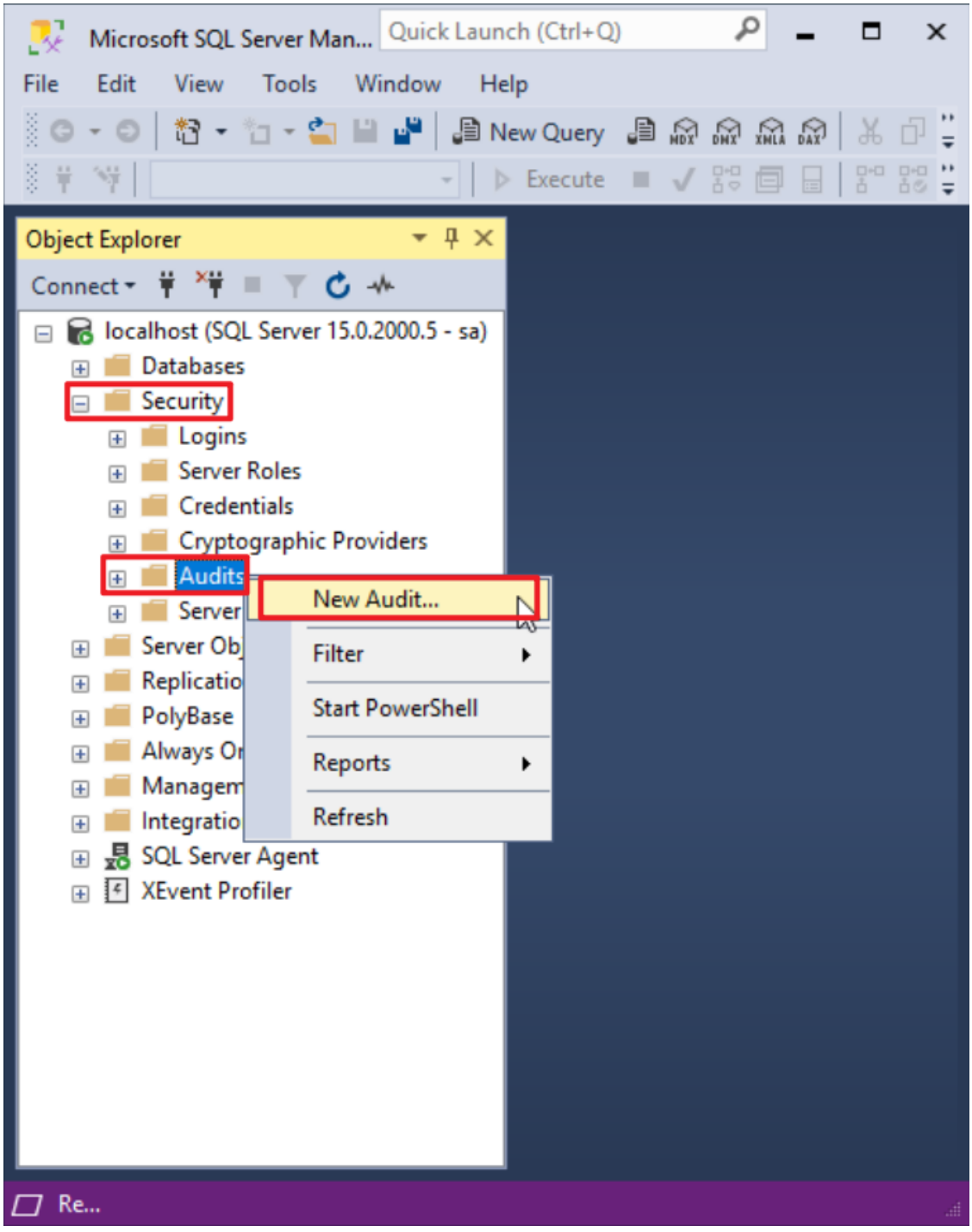
5.2.2.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

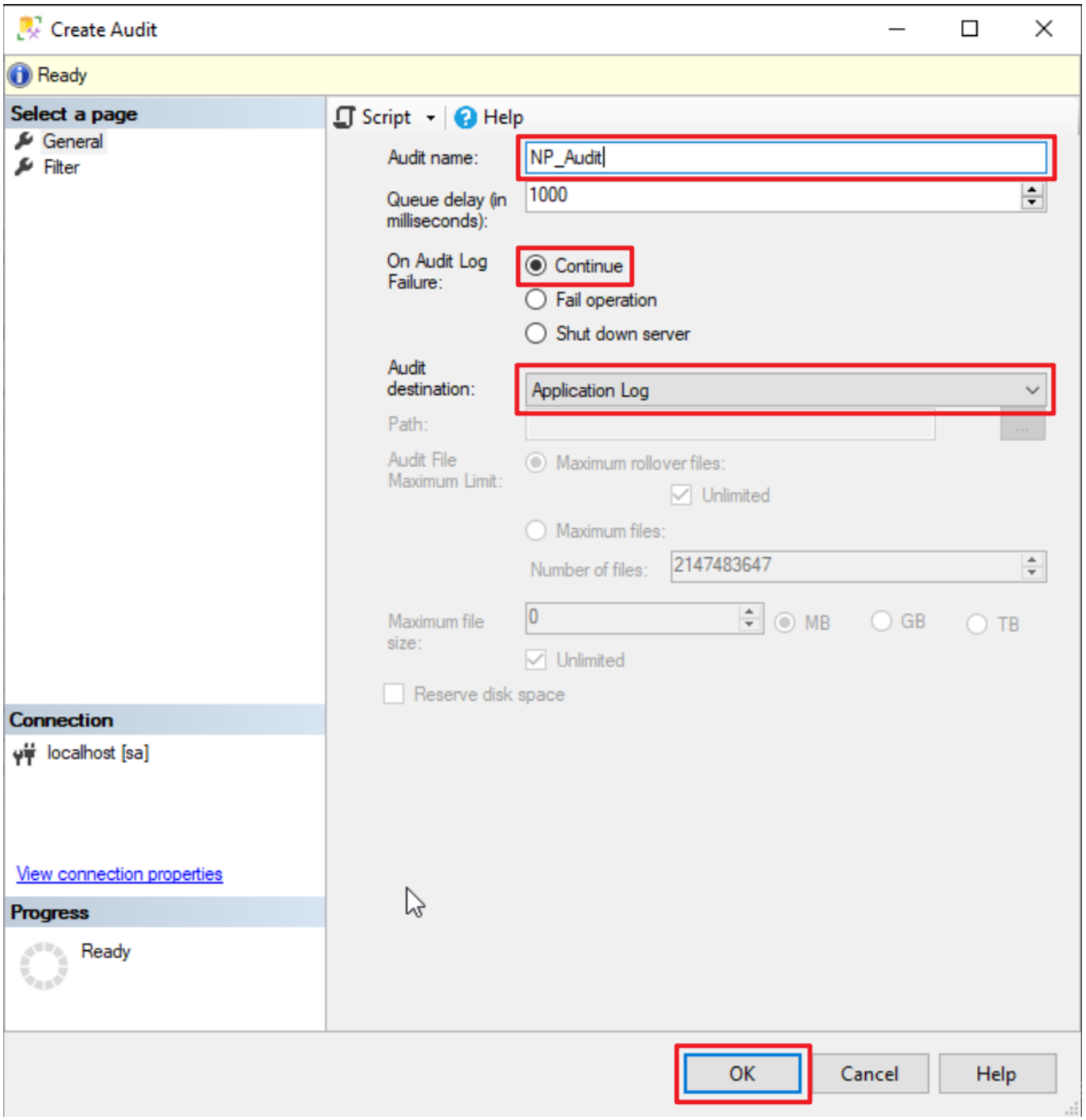
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



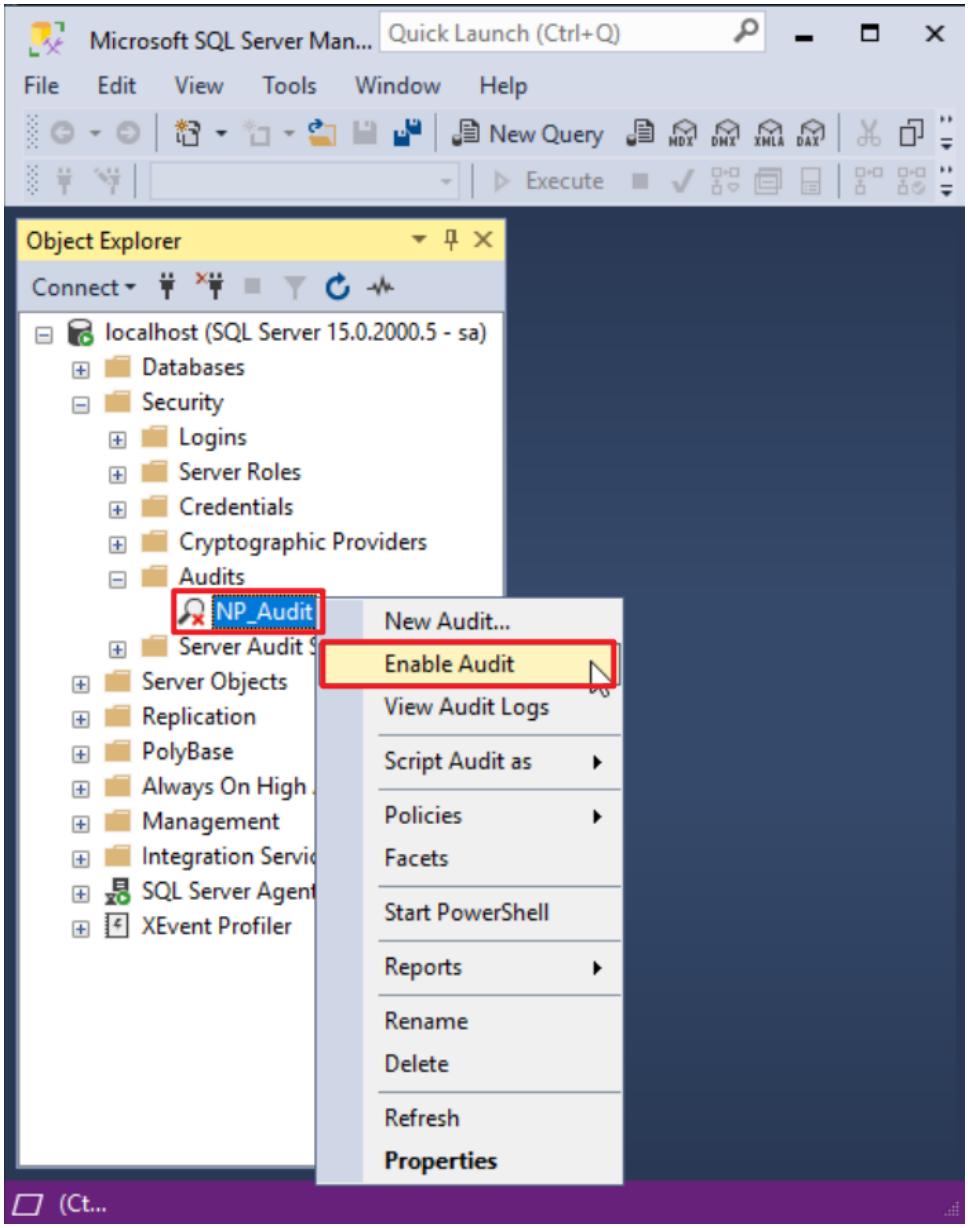
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



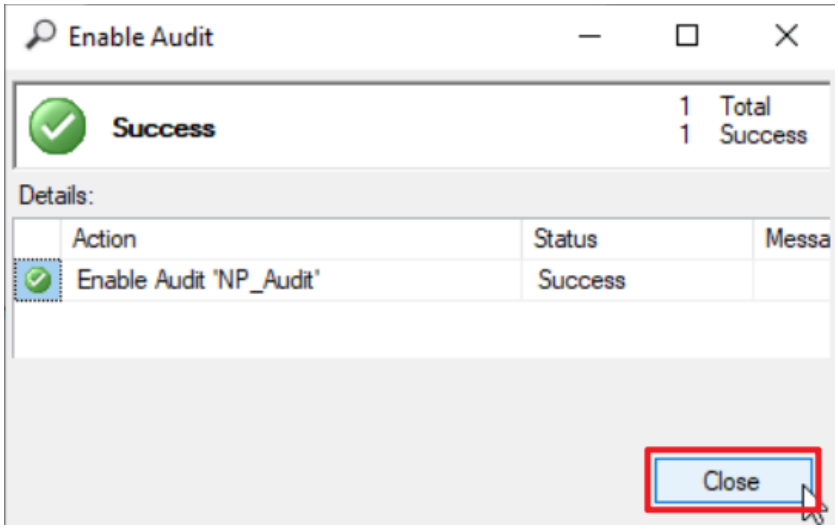
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



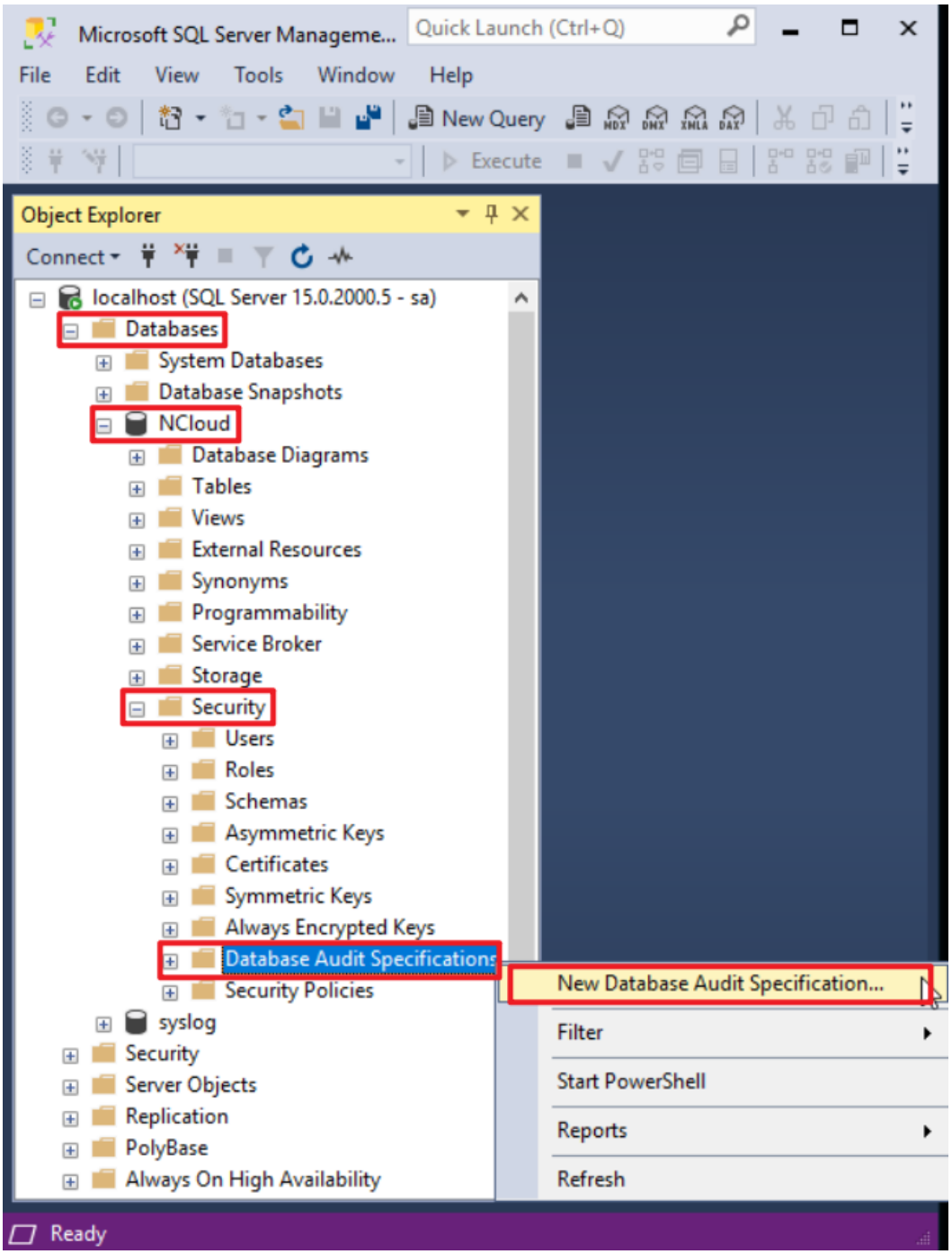
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



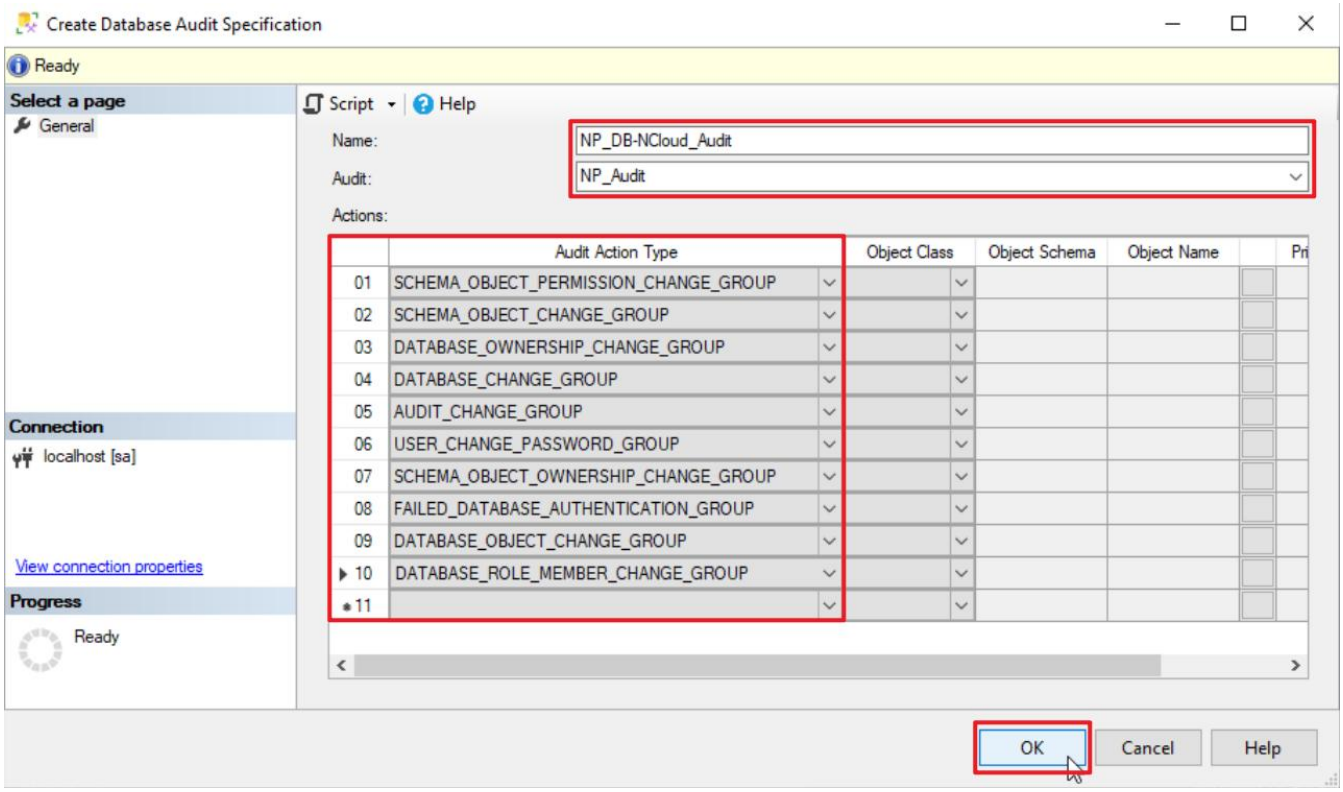
(6) Click “Close.”



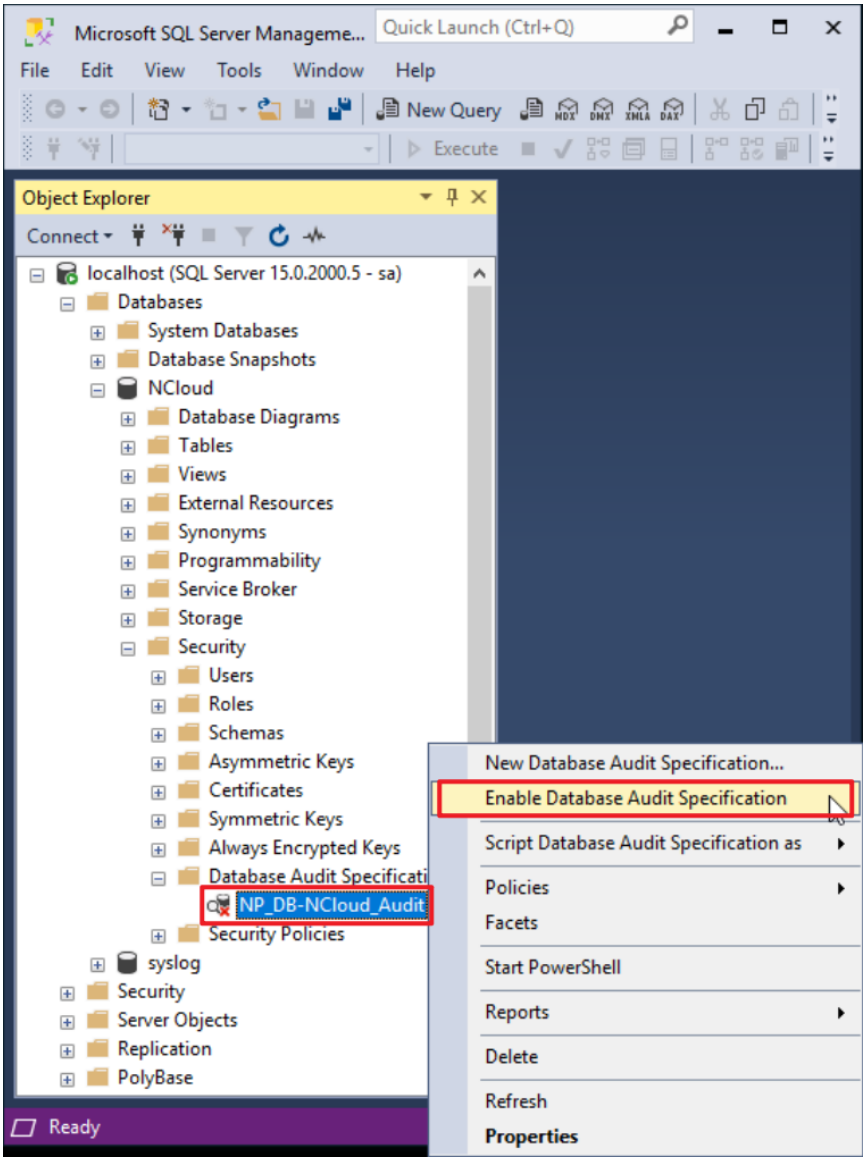
(7) In “Databases,” select the target database (the example here is : NCloud) → expand “Security” → right-click “Database Audit Specifications” → select "New Database Audit Specification...”



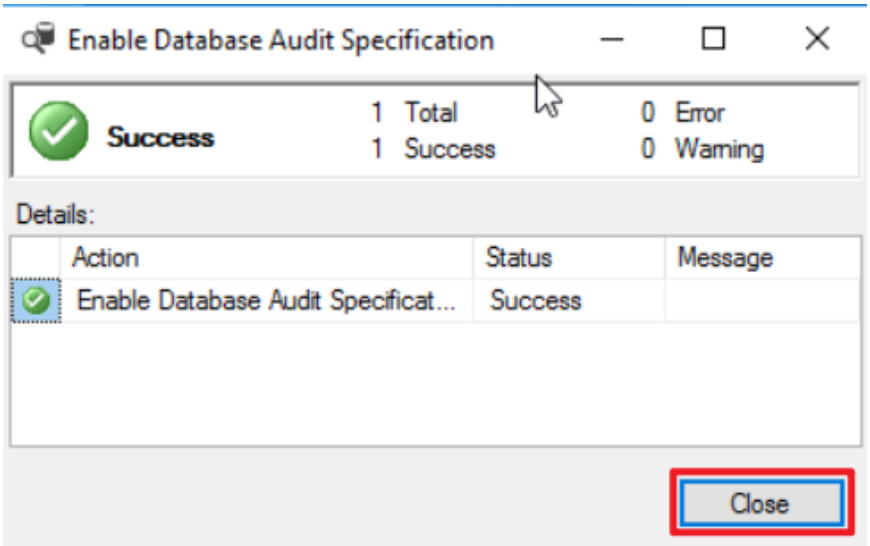
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_DB-NCloud_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit and action(s) → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the database audit specification list, right-click “NP_DB-NCloud_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



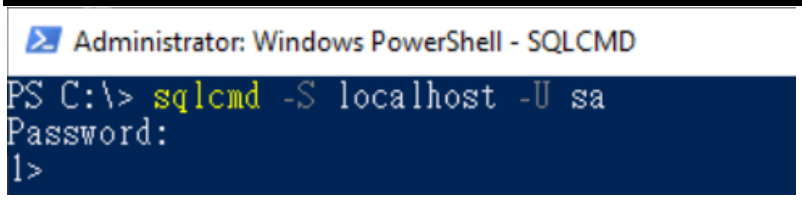
5.2.2.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

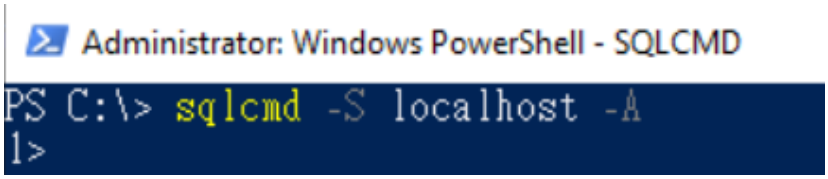
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

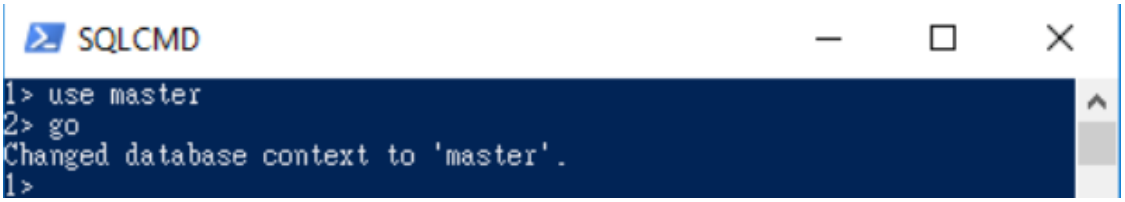
Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



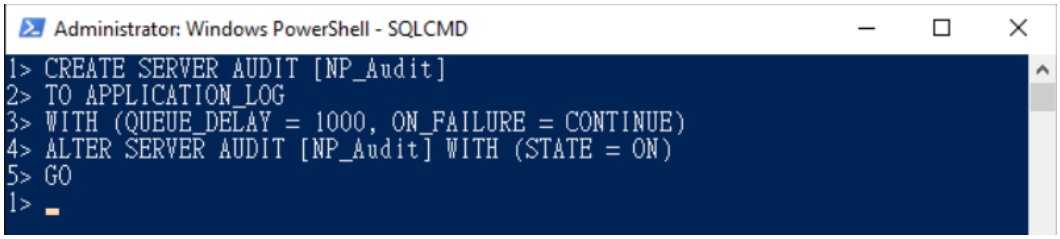
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



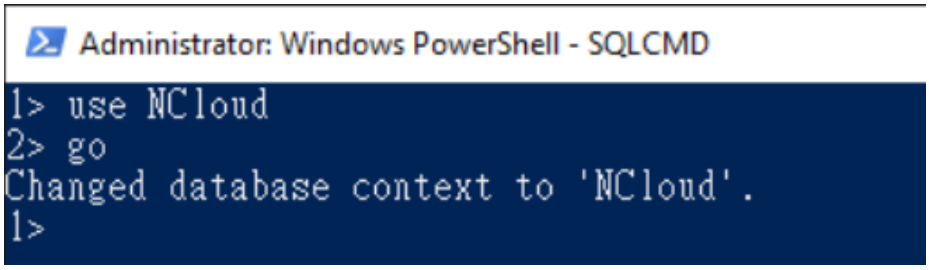
(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



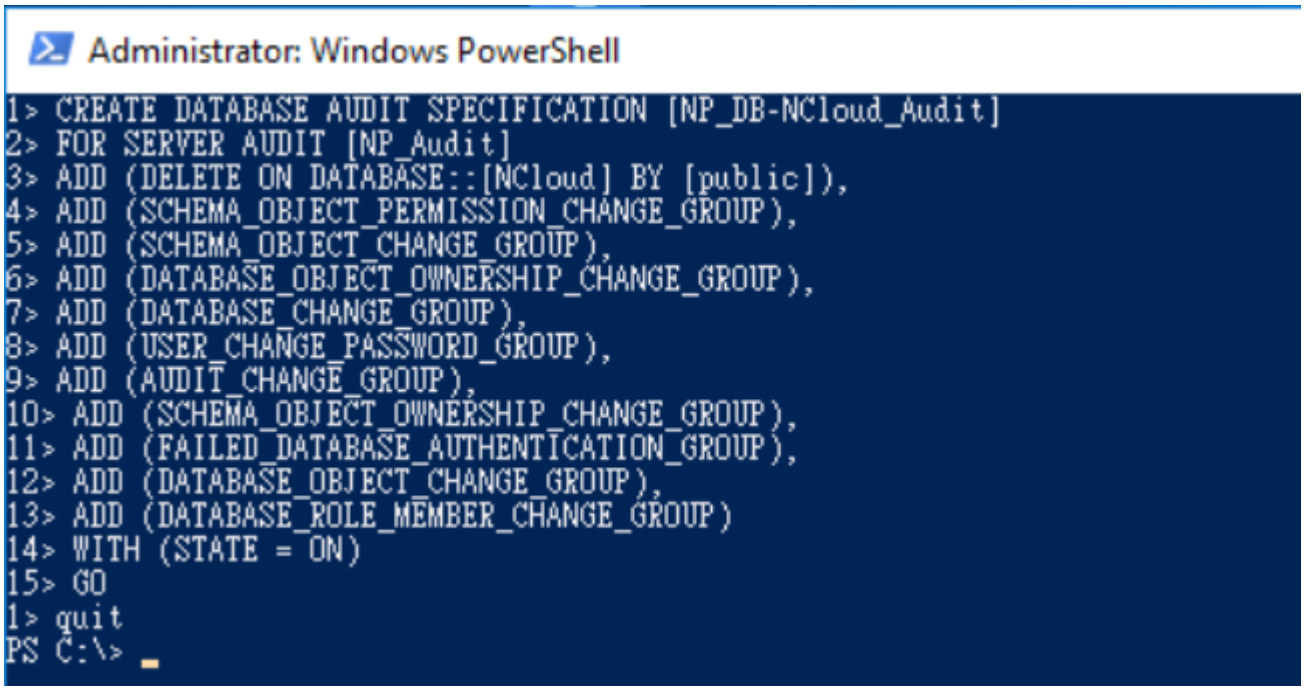
(5) Enter the command below to switch to the target audit database (the example here is: NCloud).

```
1 > use NCloud
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to configure the audit for the database and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_DB-NCloud_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[ NCloud ] BY [public]),
4 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_PERMISSION_CHANGE_GROUP),
5 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
6 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (DATABASE _CHANGE_GROUP),
8 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP),
10 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (FAILED_DATABASE_AUTHENTICATION_GROUP),
12 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
13 > ADD (DATABASE_ROLE_MEMBER_CHANGE_GROUP)
14 > WITH (STATE = ON)
15 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the database audit specification name.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [NP_DB-NCloud_Audit]
```

Replace the text shown in red with the target database name.

```
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[NCloud] BY [public])
```

5.3 Event Log Configuration

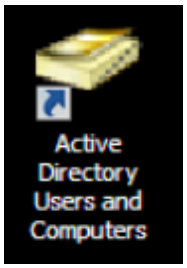
This is an optional configuration.

The following sections describe configuration methods for Domain and Workgroup environments.

5.3.1 Domain

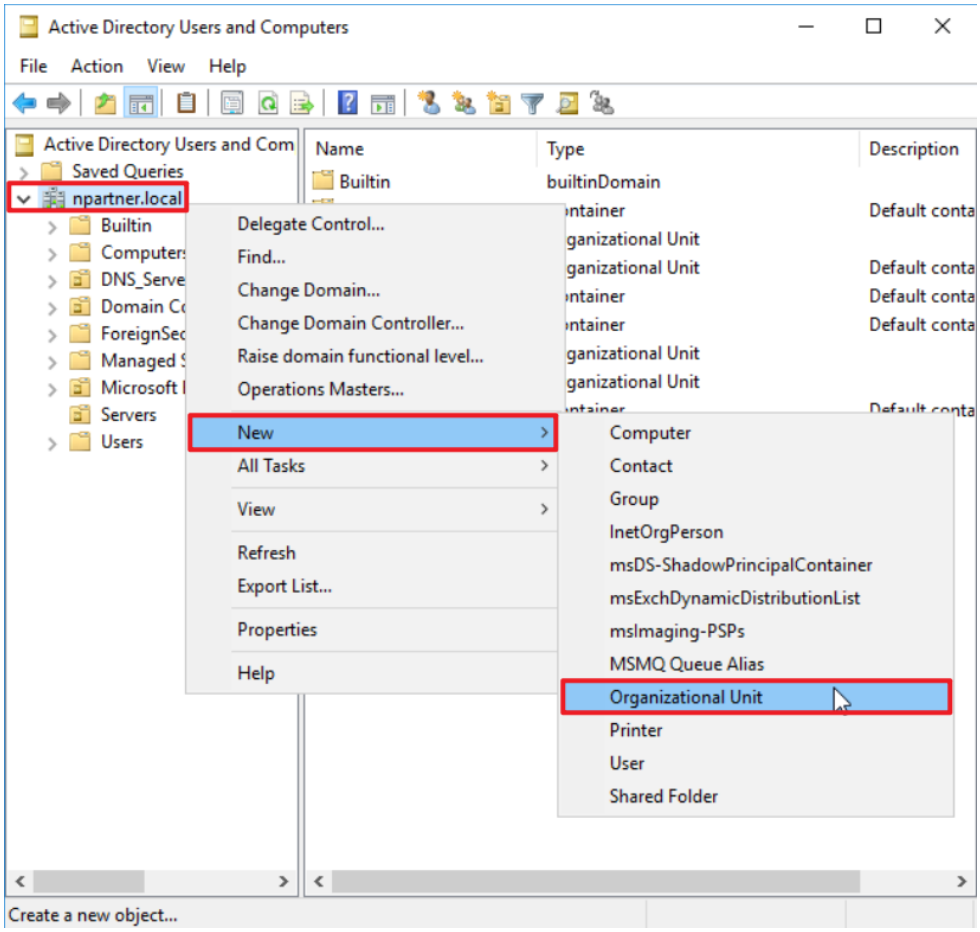
5.3.1.1 Organizational Unit (OU) Configuration

(1) Click “Active Directory Users and Computers.”



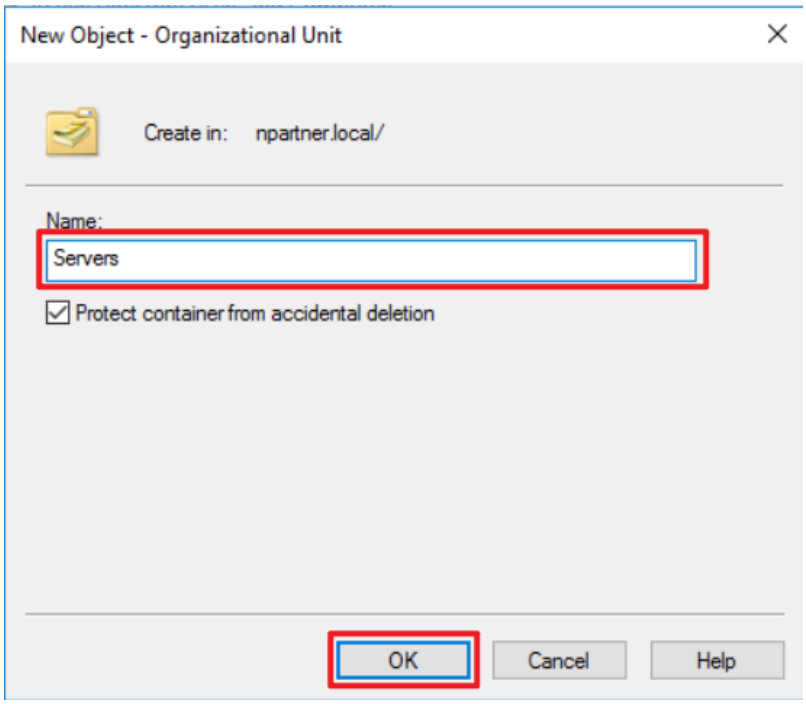
(2) Add an Organizational Unit

Right-click on “Domain Controllers, select “New,” and click “Organizational Unit.”



(3) Enter your Organizational Unit name: (in this example, it is “Servers”)

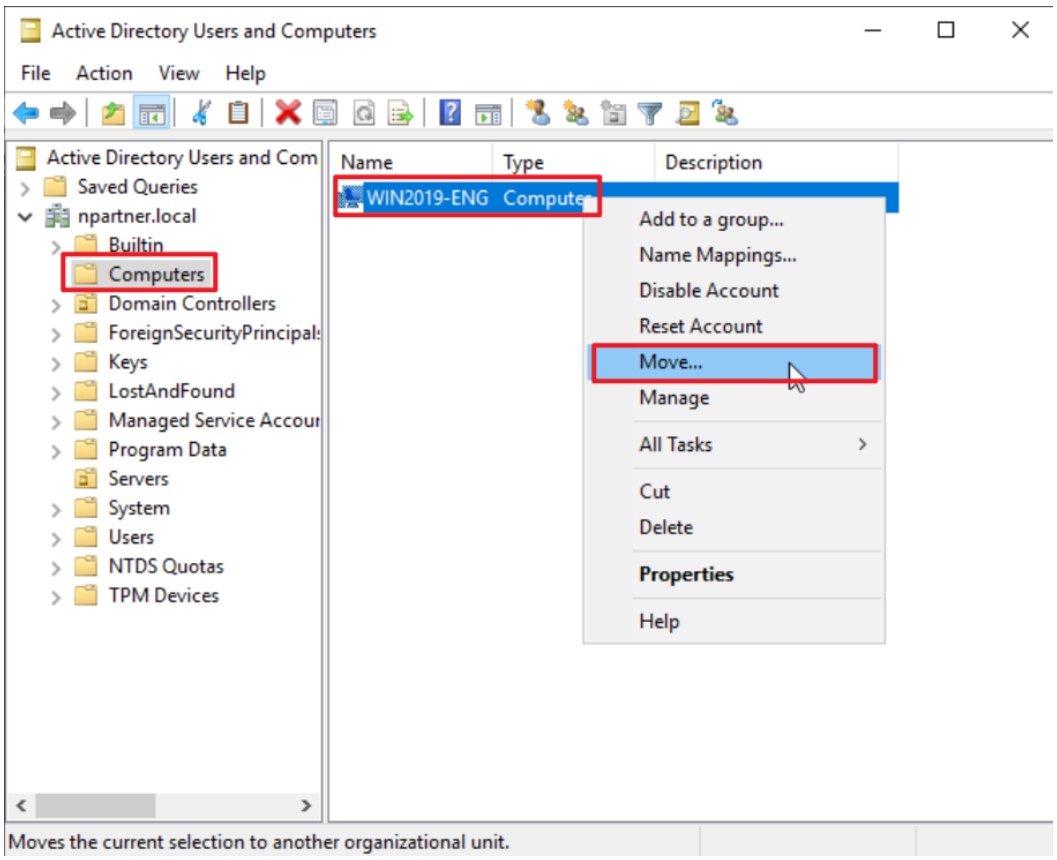
Note: Please create the organizational unit name according to the customer's environment. → click “OK.”



(4) Move the Server to your New Organizational Unit:

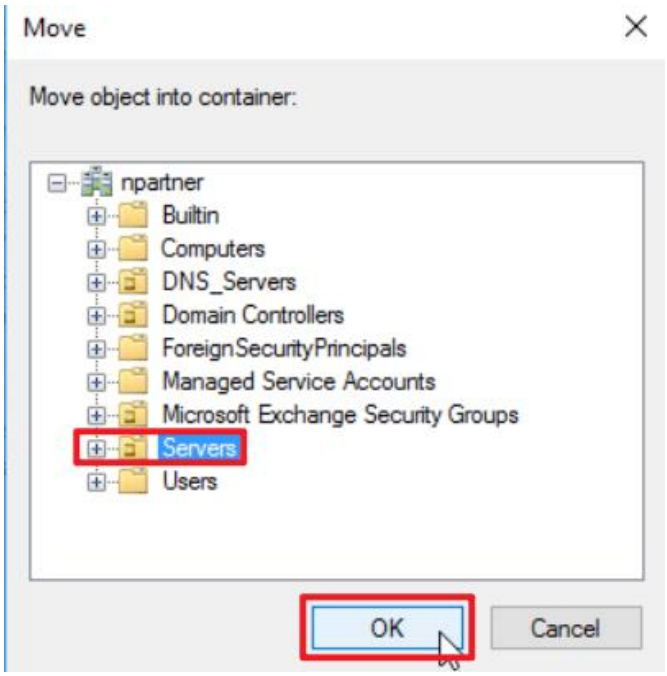
Select your organizational unit in “Domain Controllers” -> Right-click on the “WIN2019-ENG” server.

Note: Please select the MS SQL server according to the actual environment. → click “Move.”



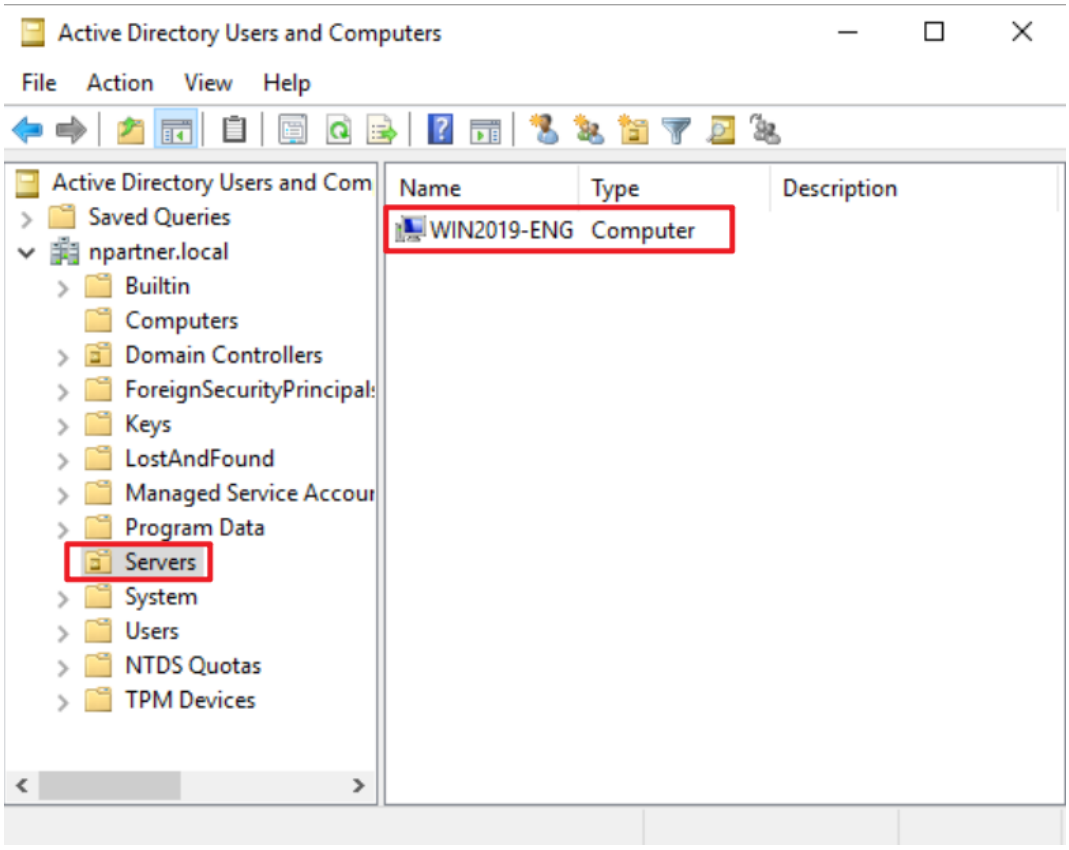
(5) Select your Organizational Unit:

Select your organizational unit (in this example, it is “Servers”) → click “OK.”



(6) Verify the Server Has Been Moved to your New Organizational Unit:

Expand your organizational unit folder (in this example, it is “Servers”) and confirm that the “WIN2019-ENG” server has been moved.

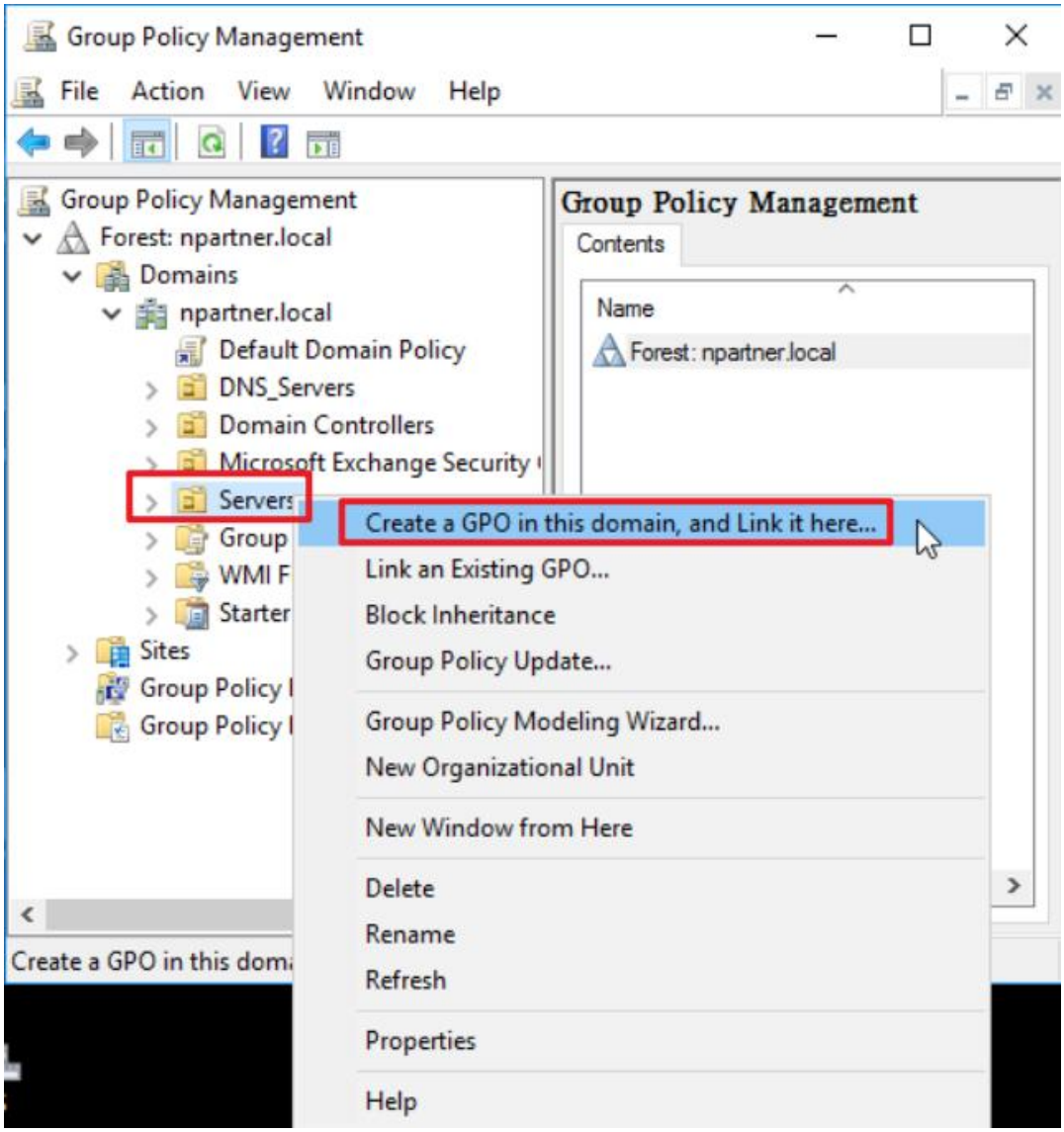


5.3.1.2 Group Policy Settings

(1) Click “Group Policy Management.”

(2) In the Servers organizational unit (OU), create a new Group Policy Object (GPO):

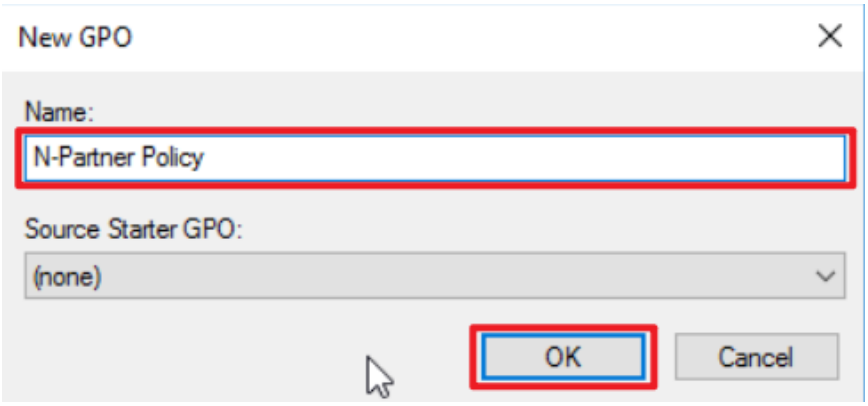
Right-click the [Servers] organizational unit → select “Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here...”



(3) Edit your Group Policy Object

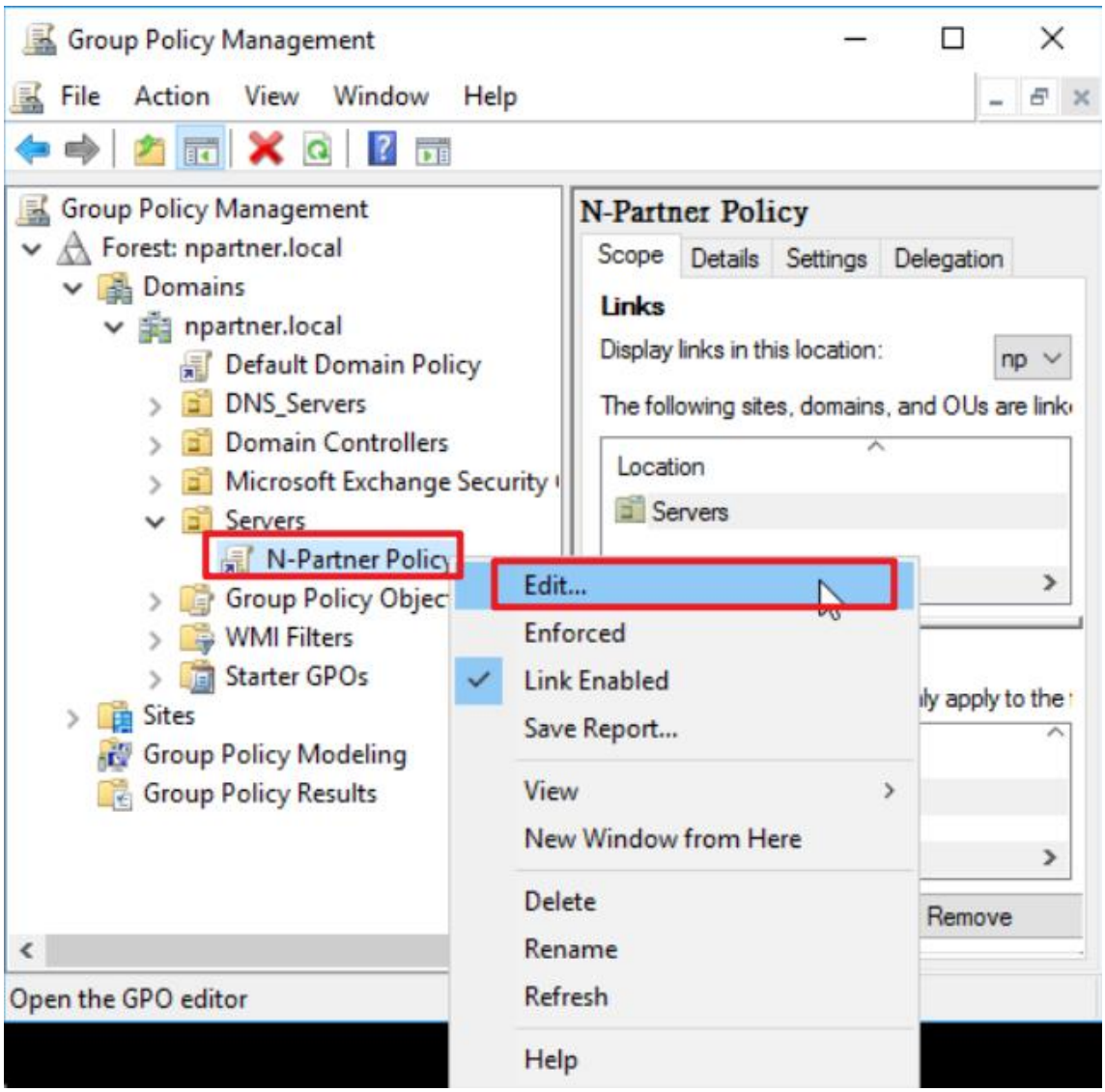
Enter your Group Policy Object name. (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")

Note: Create your GPO name according to the actual environment. Then click "Edit."



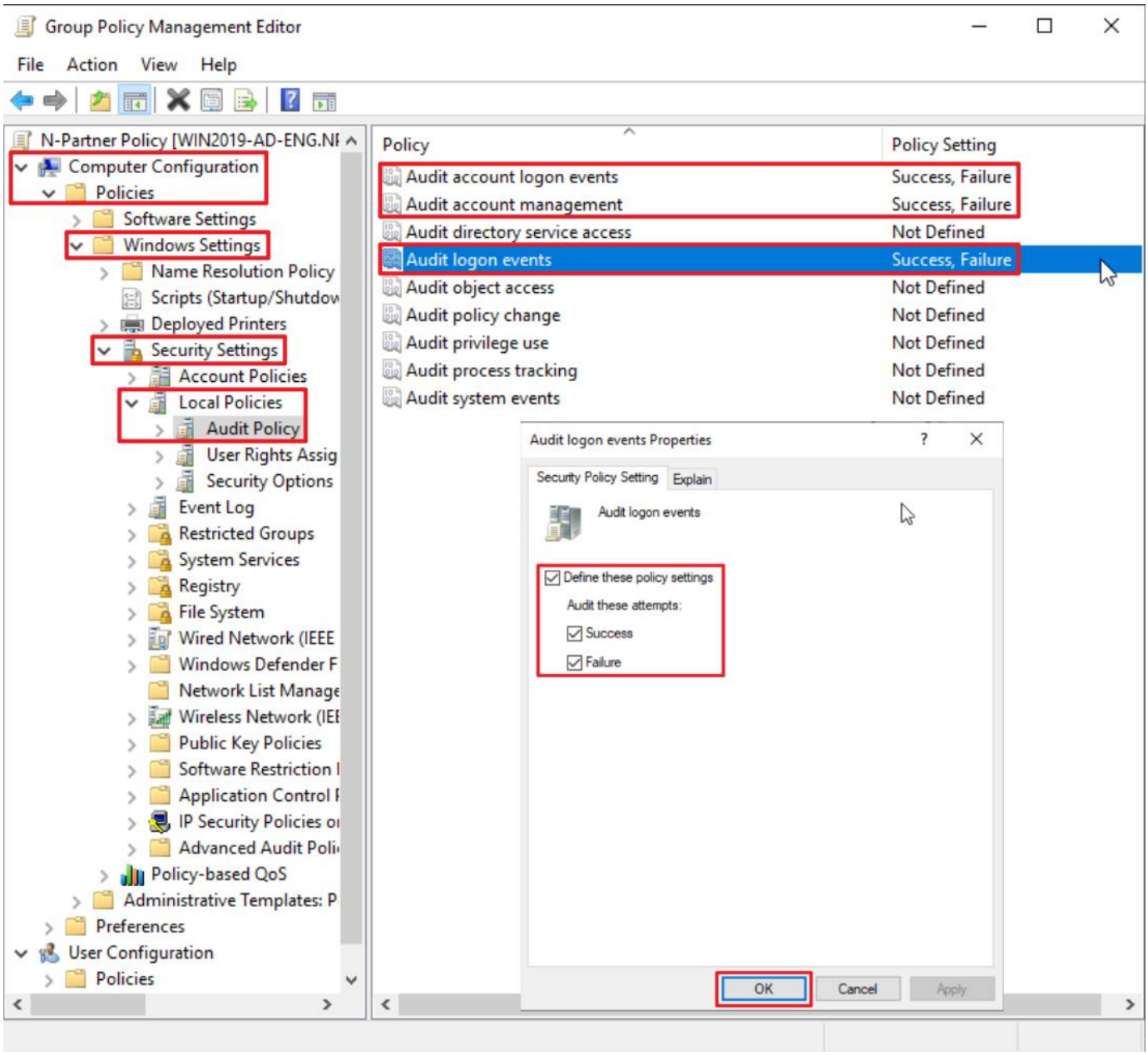
(4) Edit your Group Policy Object

In your group policy object, (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")
right-click and select "Edit."



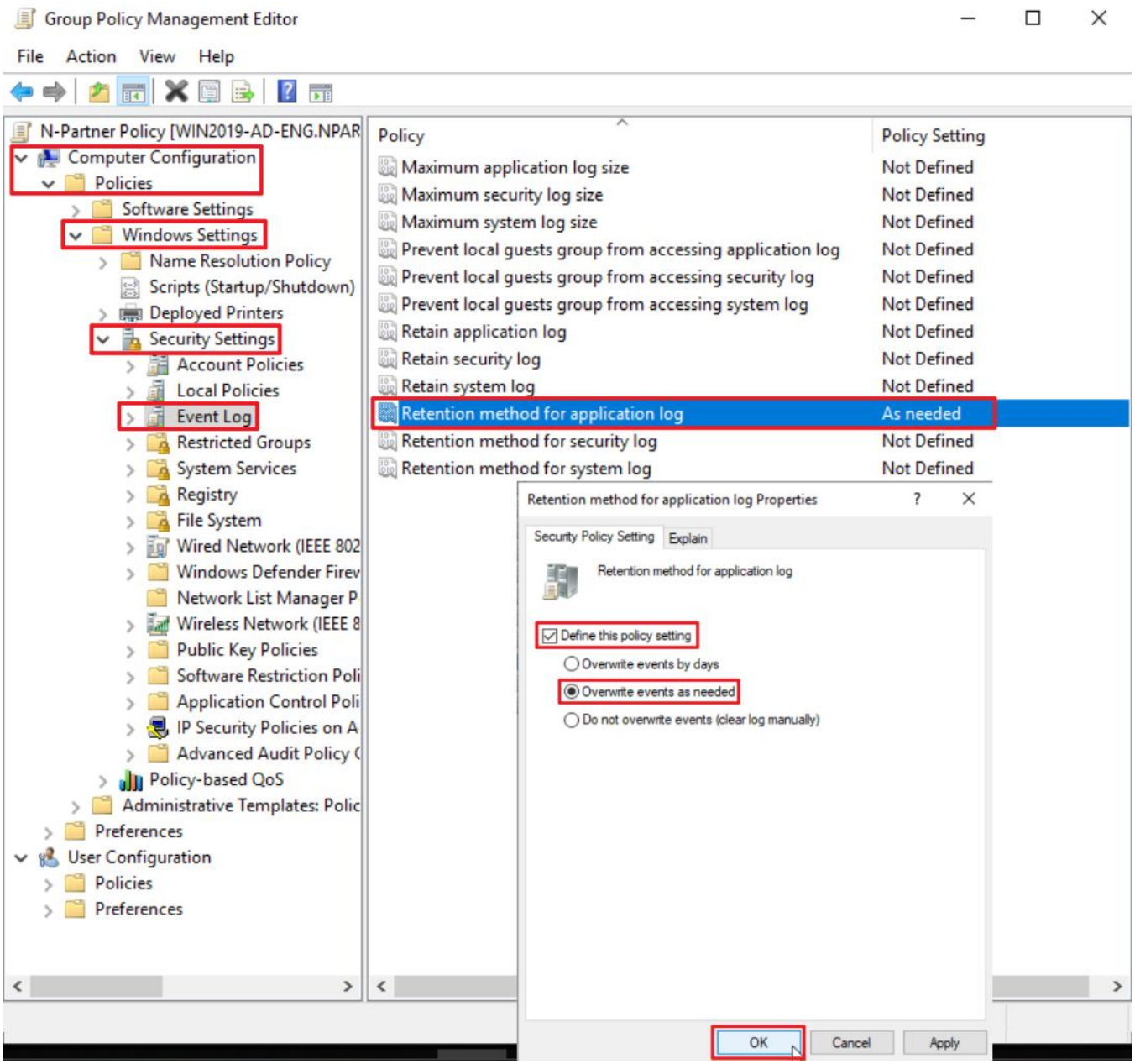
(5) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events,” → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(6) Event Log: Application Log Retention Method

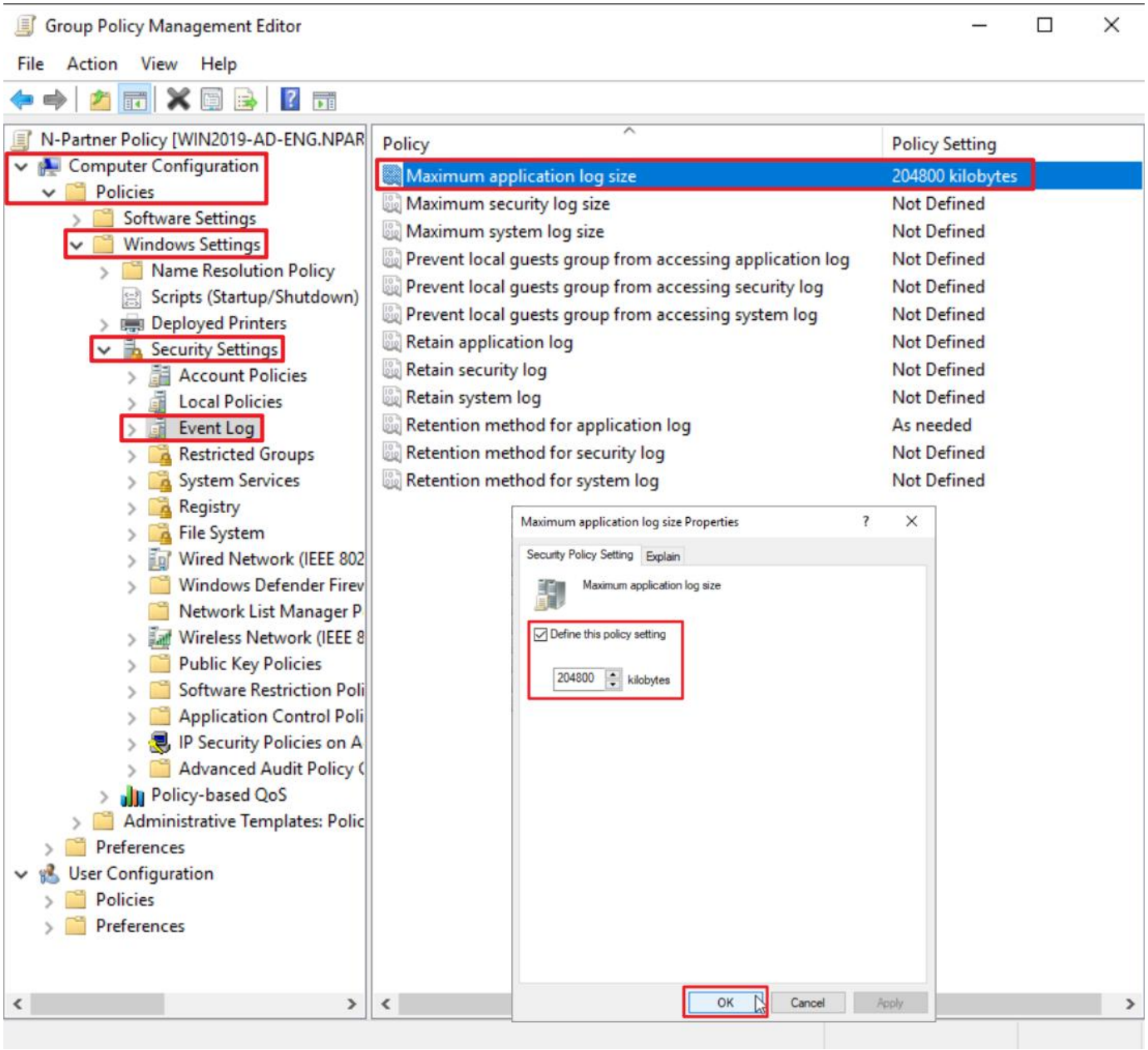
Expand “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” → select “Retention method for application log” → check “Define this policy setting” → select “Overwrite events as needed” → click “OK.”



(7) Event Logs: Maximum Size of Security Log

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” →And click on “Maximum application log size” → Check “Define this policy setting” → enter 204800 KB

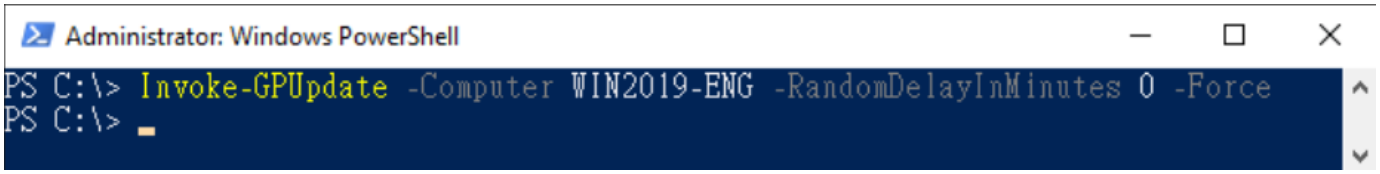
Note: Please adjust the number based on the actual environment. → click “OK.”



(8) On the AD domain server, open “Windows PowerShell.”

(9) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

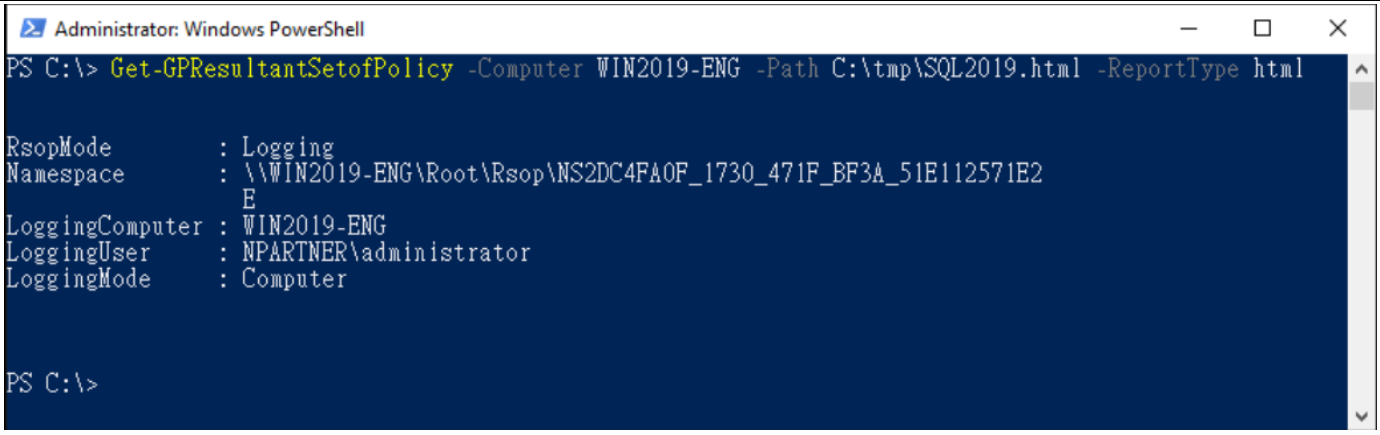
```
PS C:\> Invoke-GPUpdate -Computer WIN2019-ENG -RandomDelayInMinutes 0 -Force
```



Replace the text shown in red with the MS SQL server name.

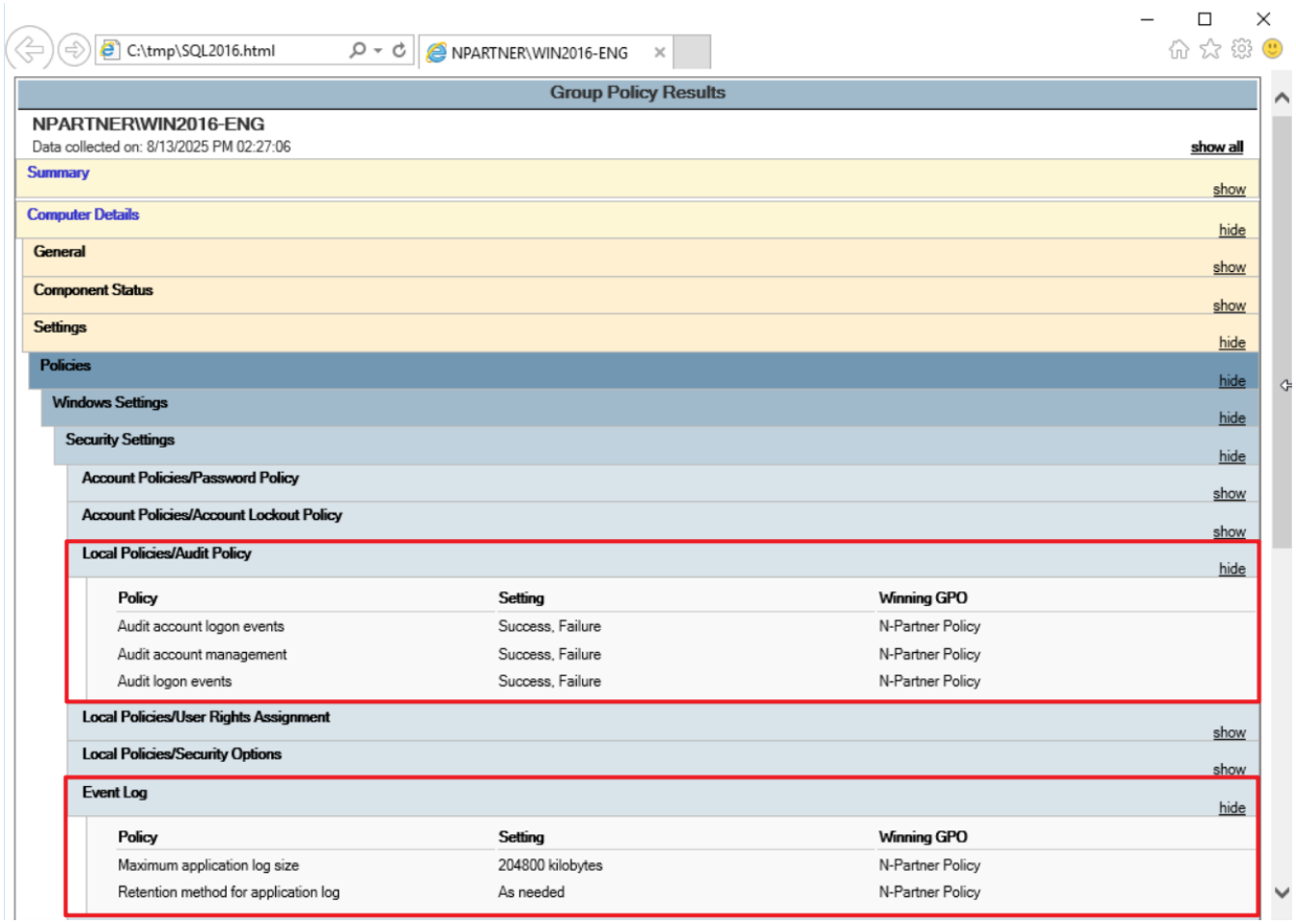
(10) Enter the command below to generate server group policy report.

```
PS C:\> Get-GPResultantSetofPolicy -Computer WIN2019-ENG -Path C:\tmp\SQL2019.htnl -ReportType.html
```



For the red text , please enter the MS SQL server name and the folder path/file name.

(11) Open the report and verify that your MS SQL server is applying the N-Partner Policy Group Policy.

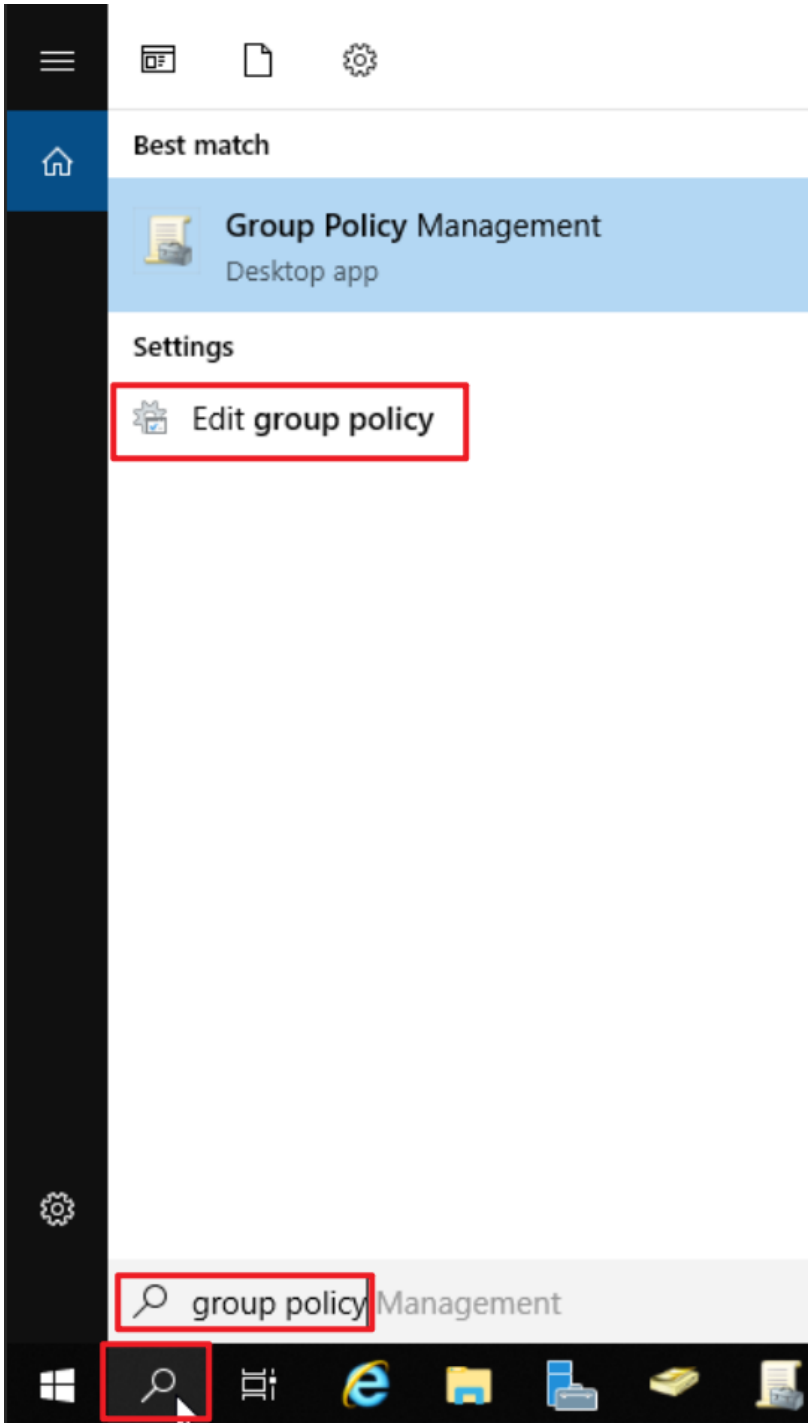


5.3.2 Workgroup

5.3.2.1 Audit Policy Configuration

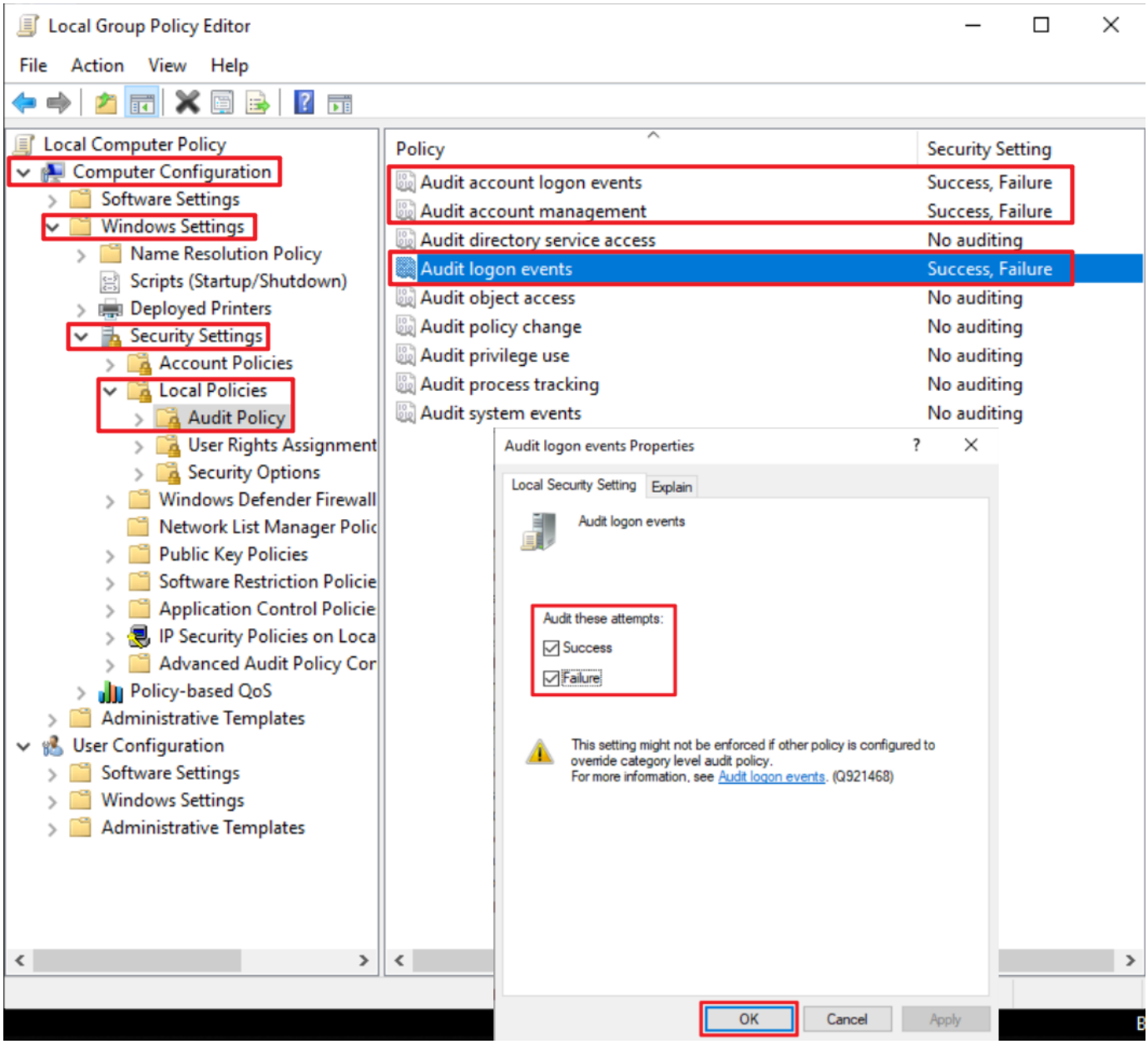
(1) Open Local Group Policy Editor

Click on “Start” → enter “group policy” to search → click on “Edit Group Policy.”



(2) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

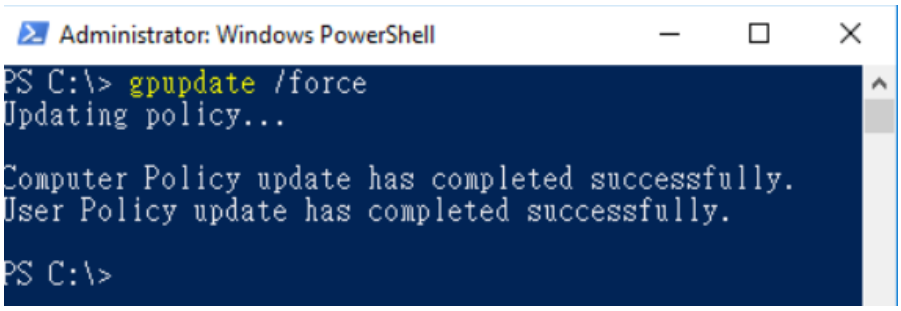
Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” -> “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events” items → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(3) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

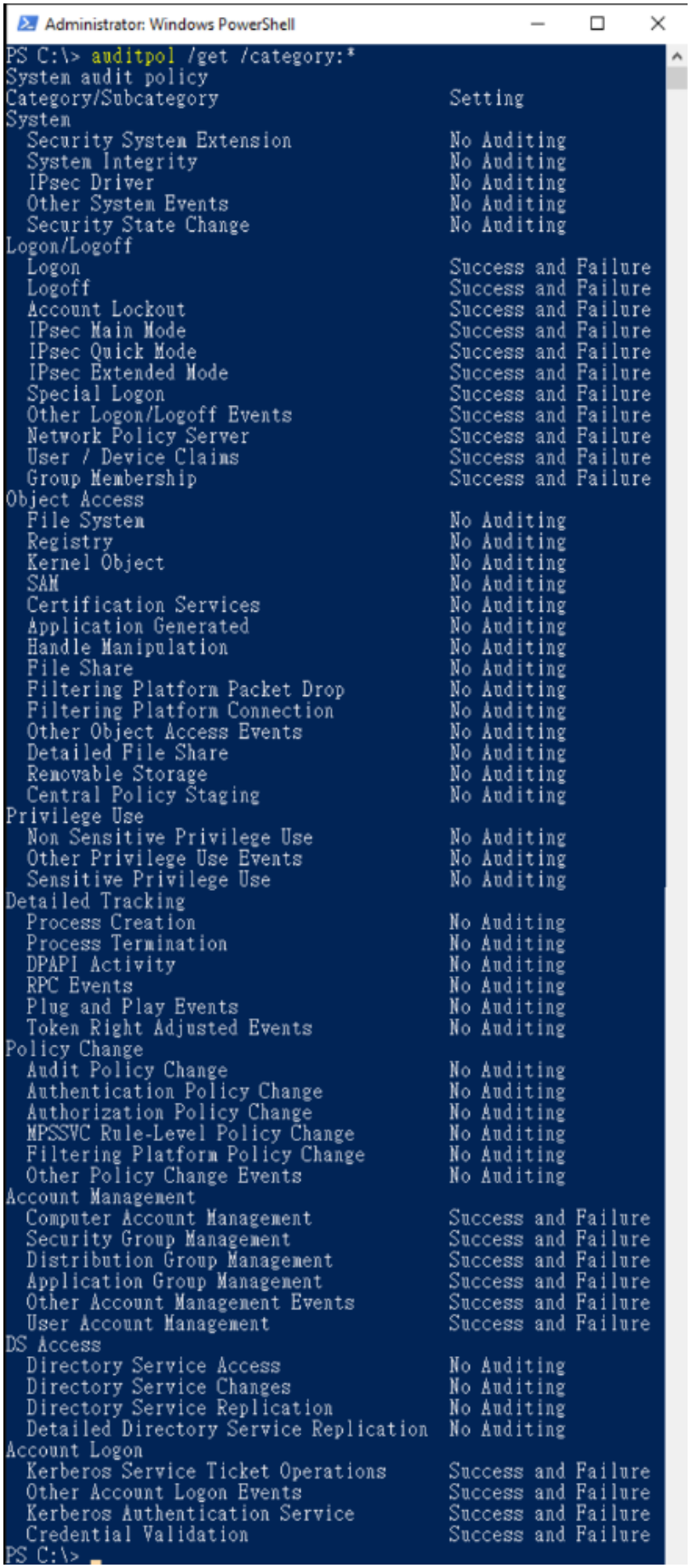
(4) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
```



(5) Enter the command below to view group policy applied status.

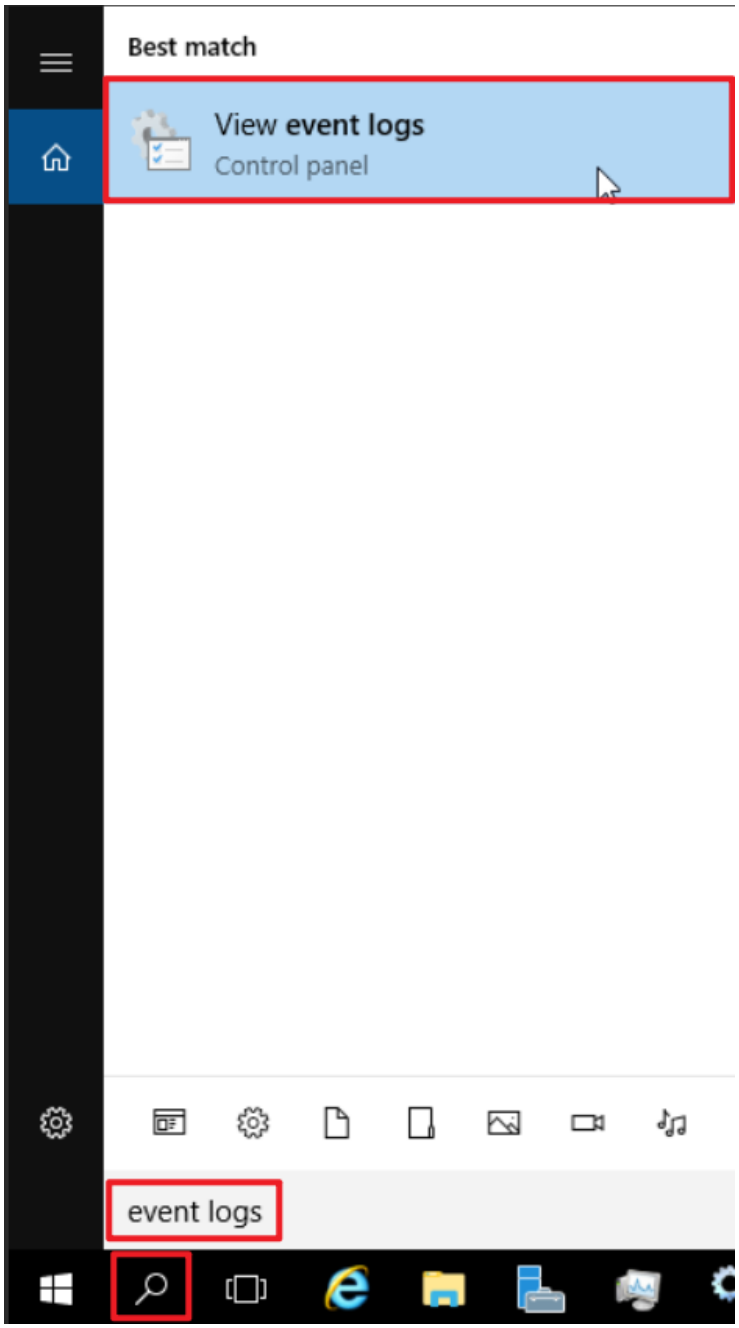
```
PS C: \> auditpol /get /category:*
```



5.3.2.2 Event Log Settings

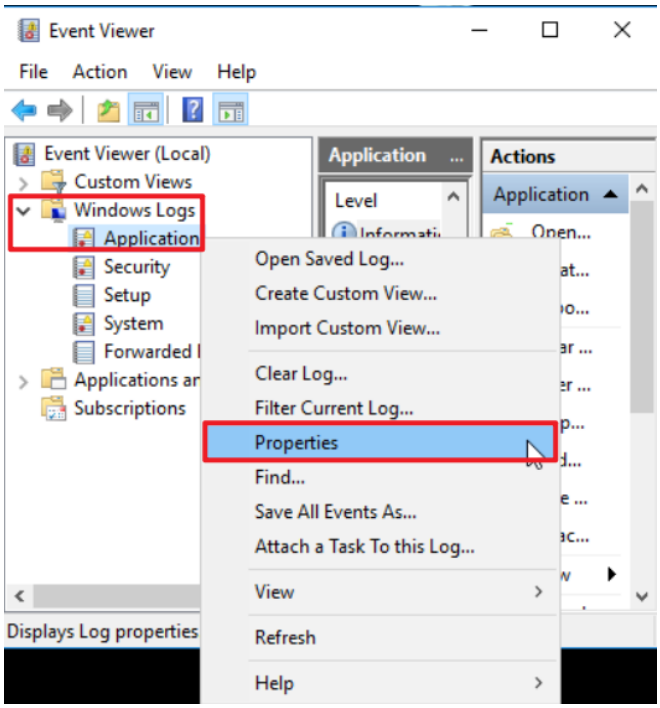
(1) Search for “Event Viewer”

Enter “Event Viewer” to search → click on “Event Viewer” in the search results.



(2) Edit Security Log

Expand folder “Windows Logs” → right-click on “Application” → And click on “Properties.”

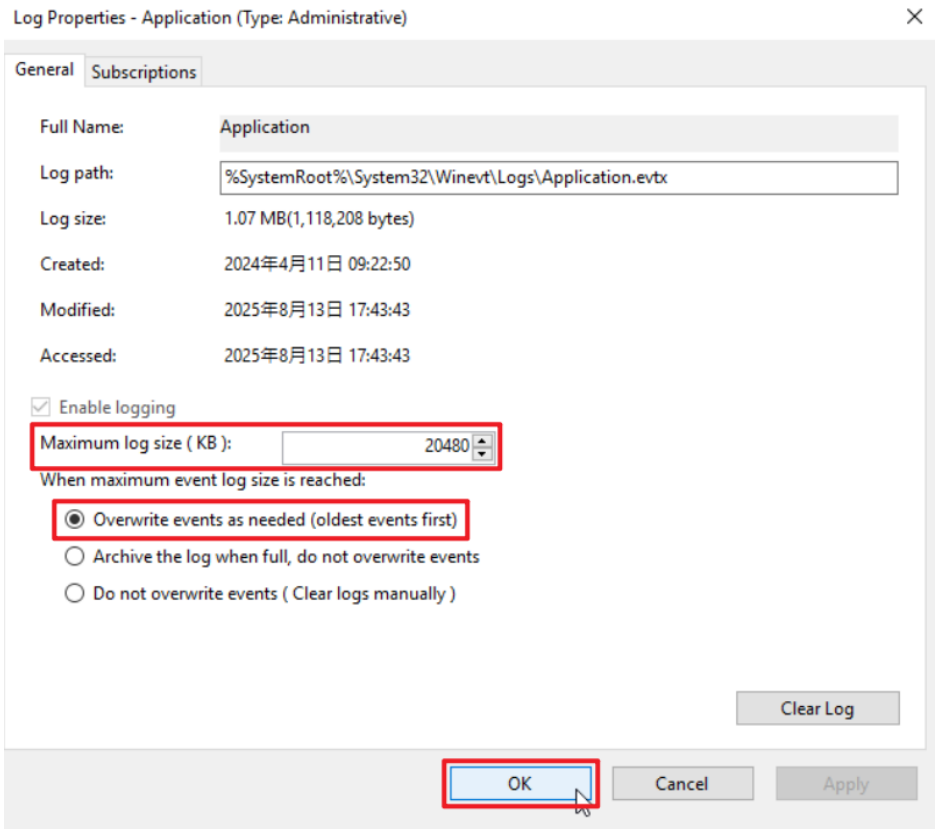


(3) Configure Security Log

Enter maximum log file size: 204800 KB

Note: Please adjust the number according to the actual environment.

→ click on “Overwrite events as needed (oldest events first)” → click “OK.”



6. SQL Server 2022

6.1 Login Auditing

Enable login auditing to monitor SQL Server Database Engine login activities.

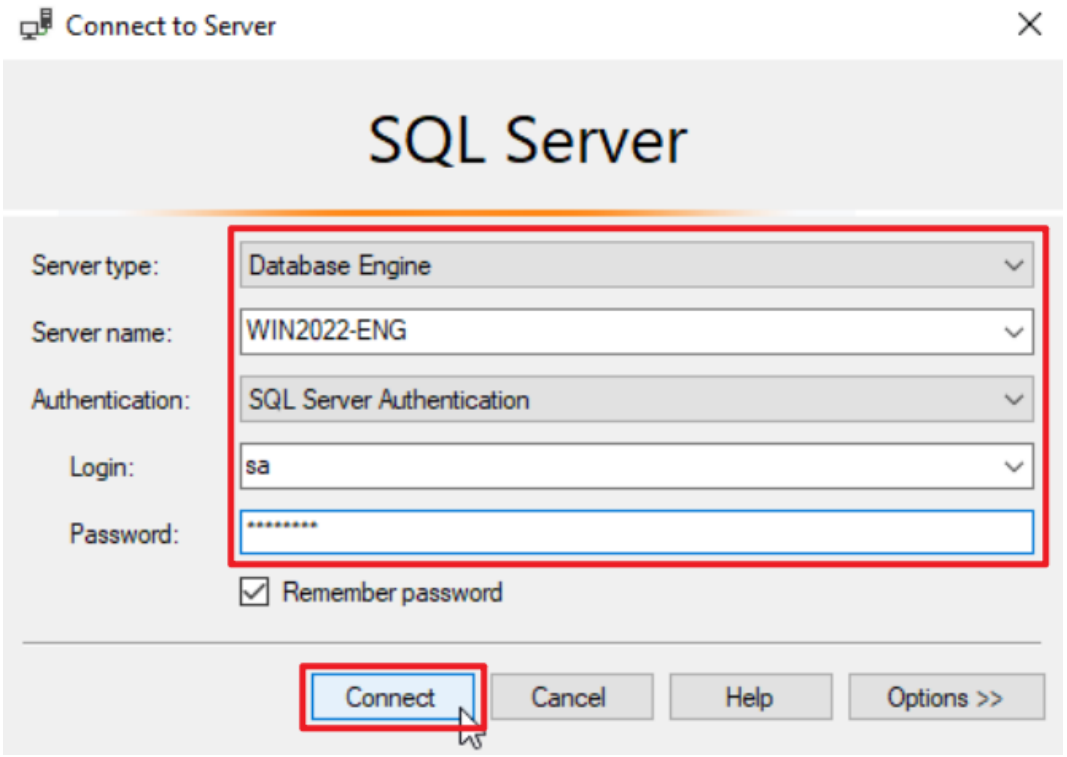
After configuration, the MS SQL Server service must be **restarted**.

The following sections describe how to configure login auditing using both the graphical user interface (GUI) and command-line interface (CLI).

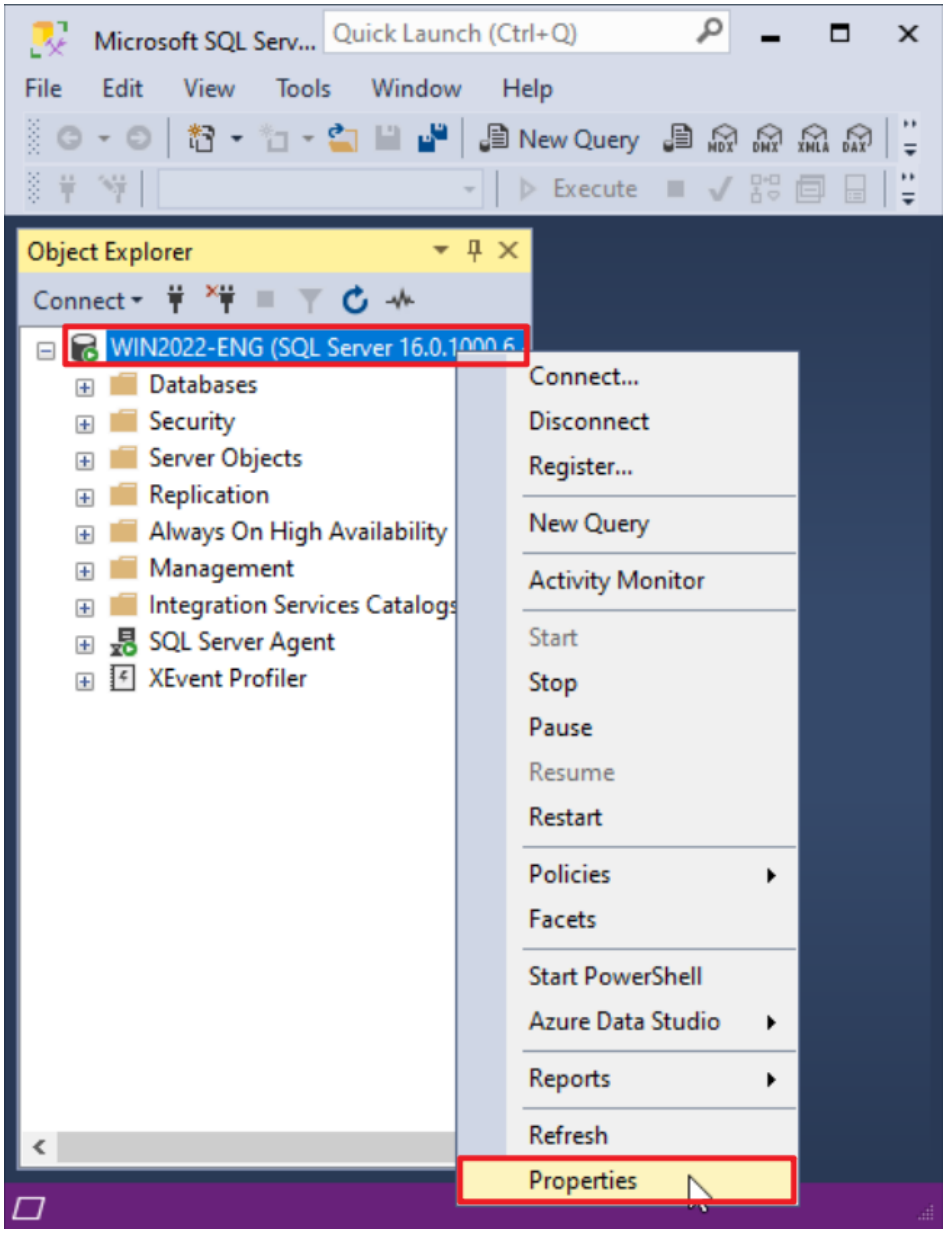
6.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

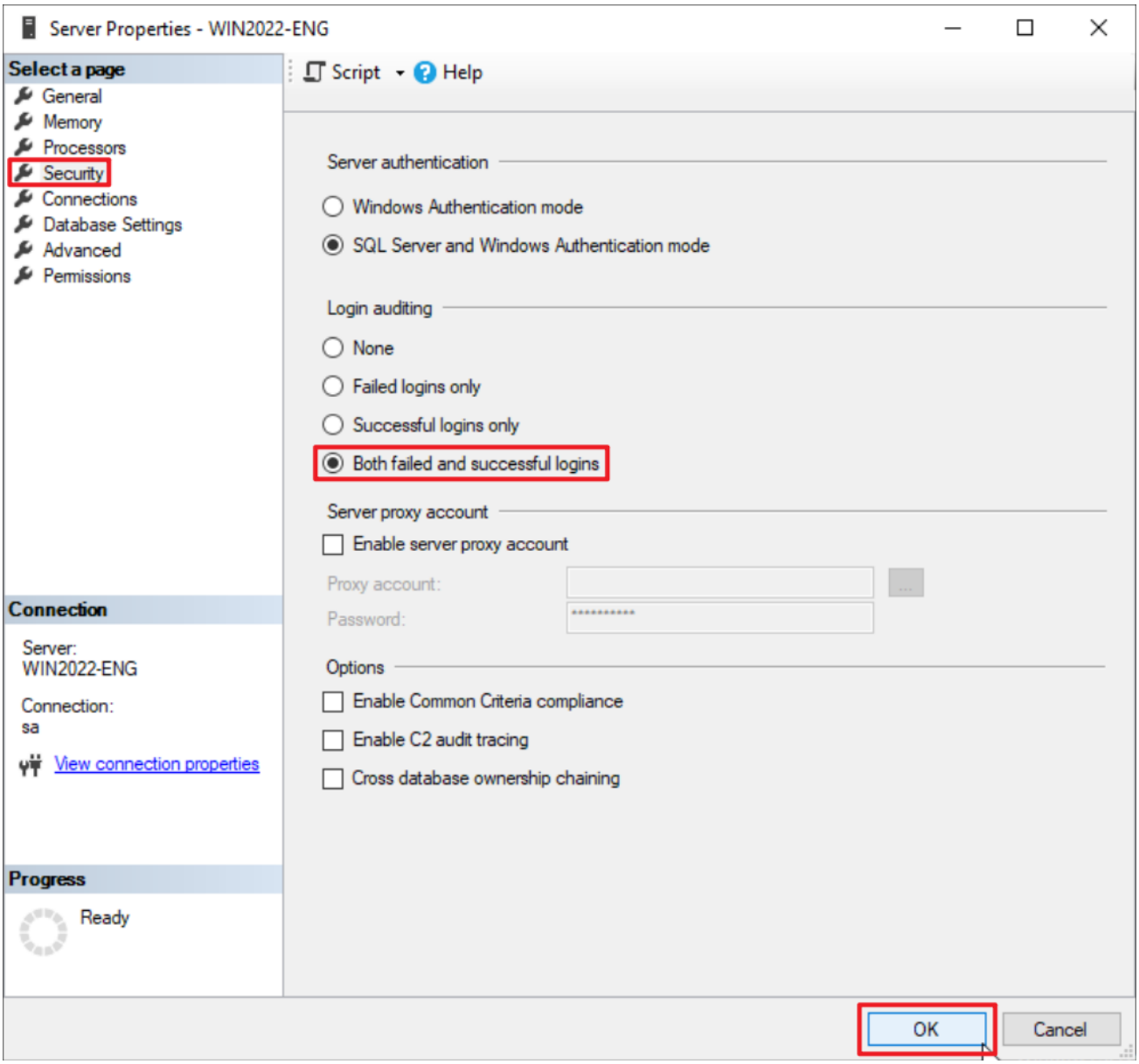
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



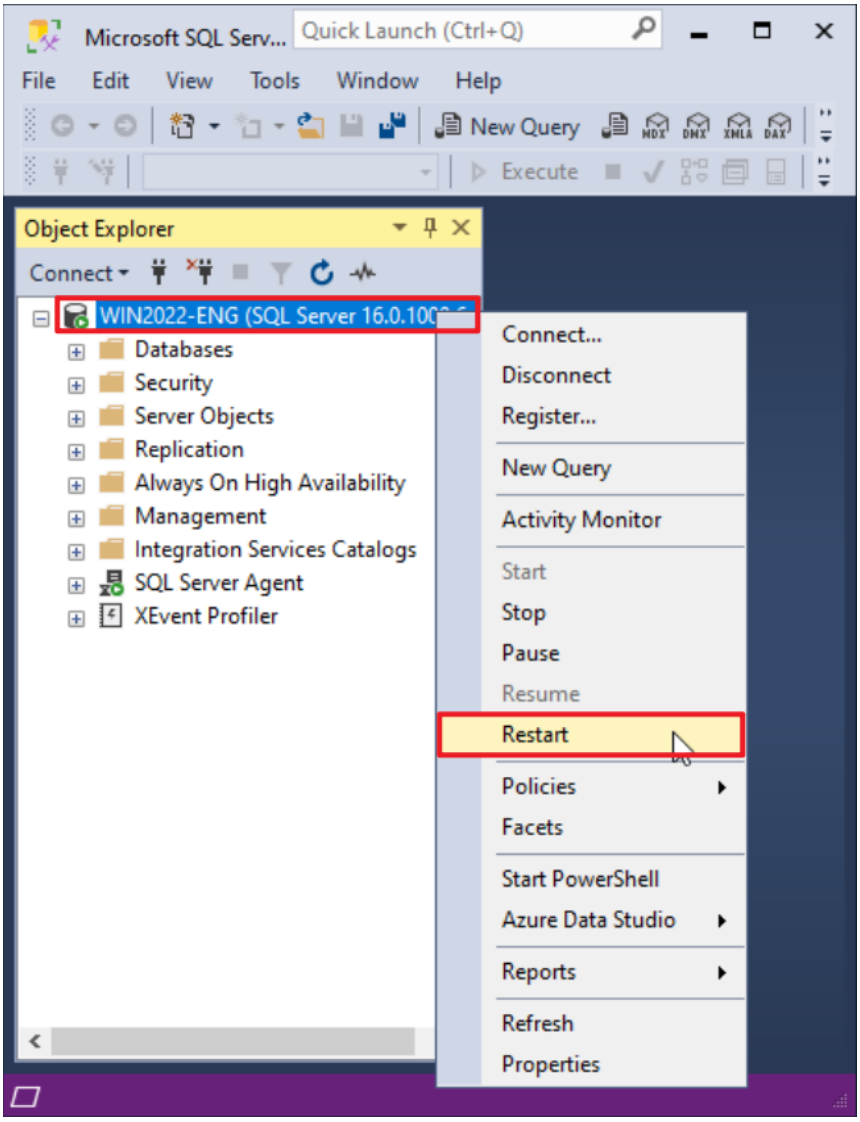
(3) In [Server Name] (the example here is WIN2022-ENG), right-click and select “Properties.”



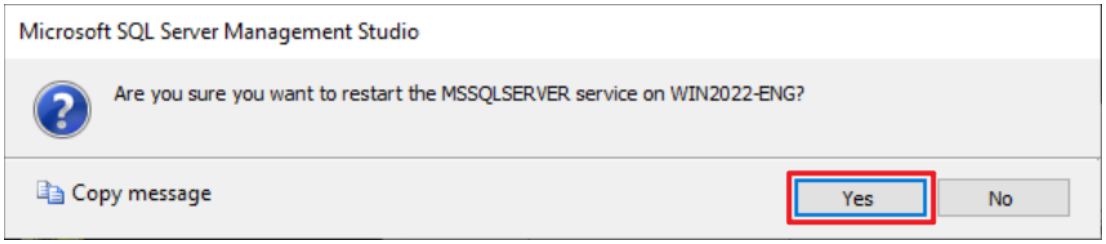
(4) On the Security page, under Login auditing, select “Both failed and successful logins” → click “OK”.



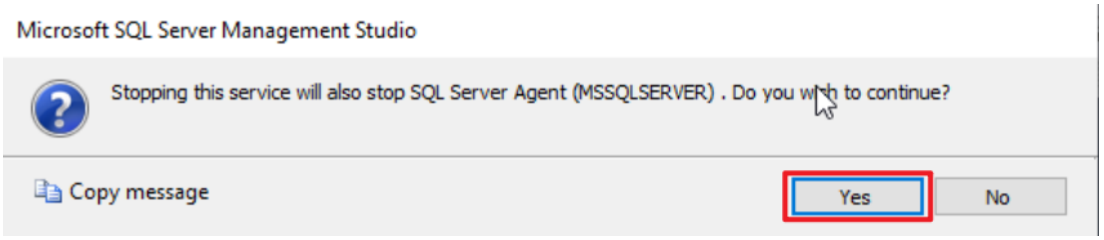
(5) Restart the MS SQL Server service: right-click [Server Name] (the example here is WIN2022-ENG) → select “Restart.”



(6) Click “Yes” to restart the MS SQL Server service.



(7) Click “Yes” again to stop the SQL Server Agent service. =.



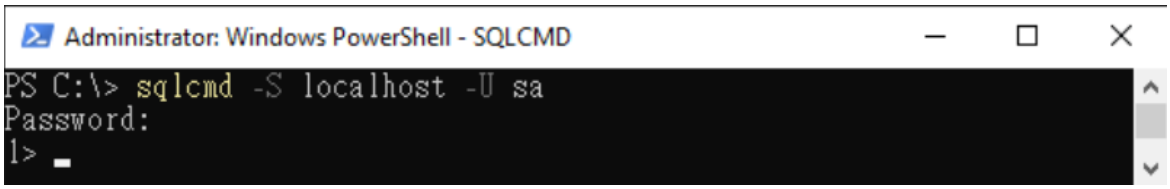
6.1.2 Configuring via Command-Line Interface (CLI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

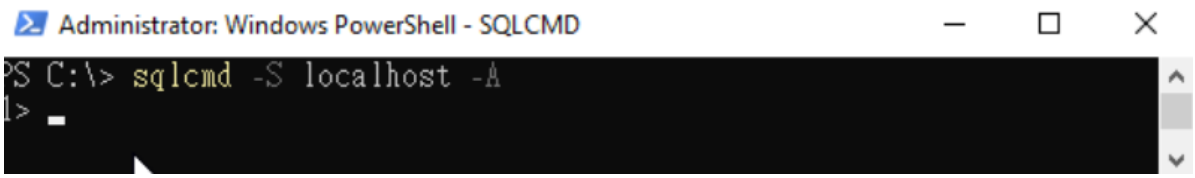
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

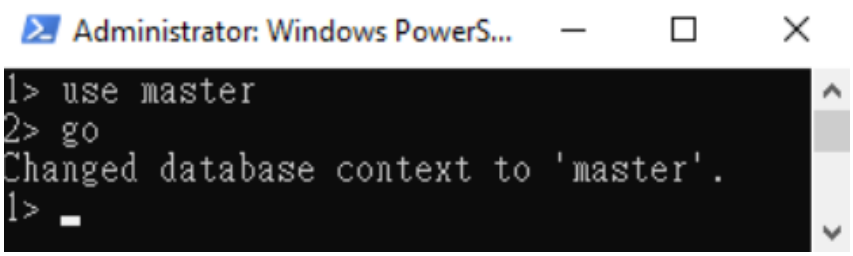
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



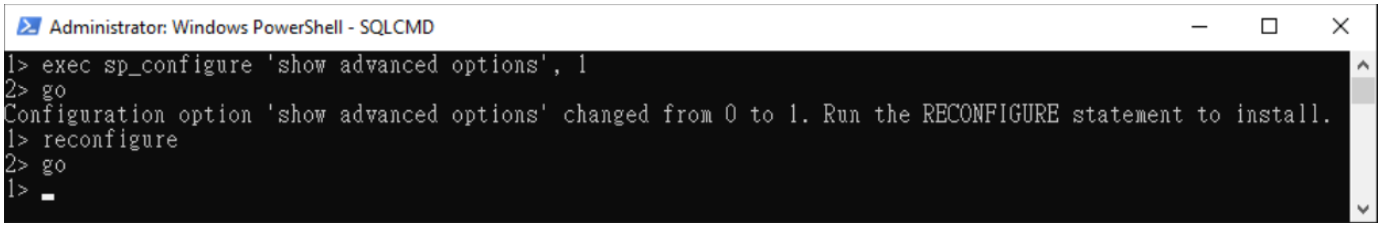
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



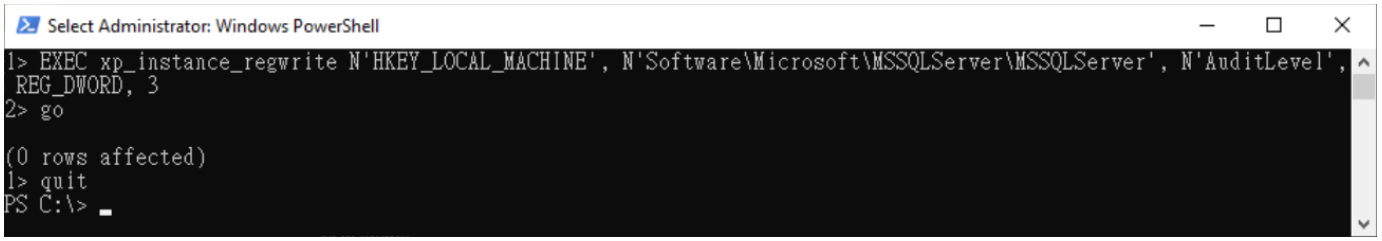
(4) Enter the command below to enable advanced options:

```
1 > exec sp_configure 'show advanced options', 1
2 > go
1 > reconfigure
2 > go
```



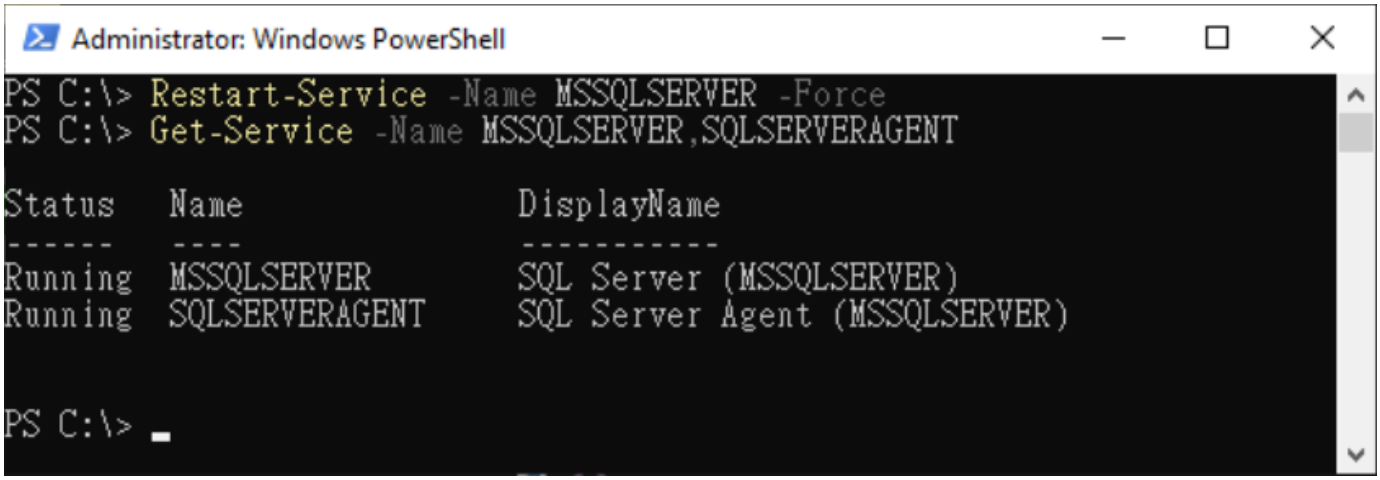
(5) Enter the command below to enable auditing for both failed and successful logins:

```
1 > EXEC xp_instance_regwrite N'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE',
N'Software\Microsoft\MSSQLServer\MSSQLServer', N'AuditLevel', REG_DWORD, 3
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to restart the MS SQL Server services:

```
PS C:\> Restart-Service -Name MSSQLSERVER -Force
PS C:\> Get-Service -Name MSSQLSERVER,SQLSERVERAGENT
```



6.2 Configuring Auditing

6.2.1 Server-Level Audit

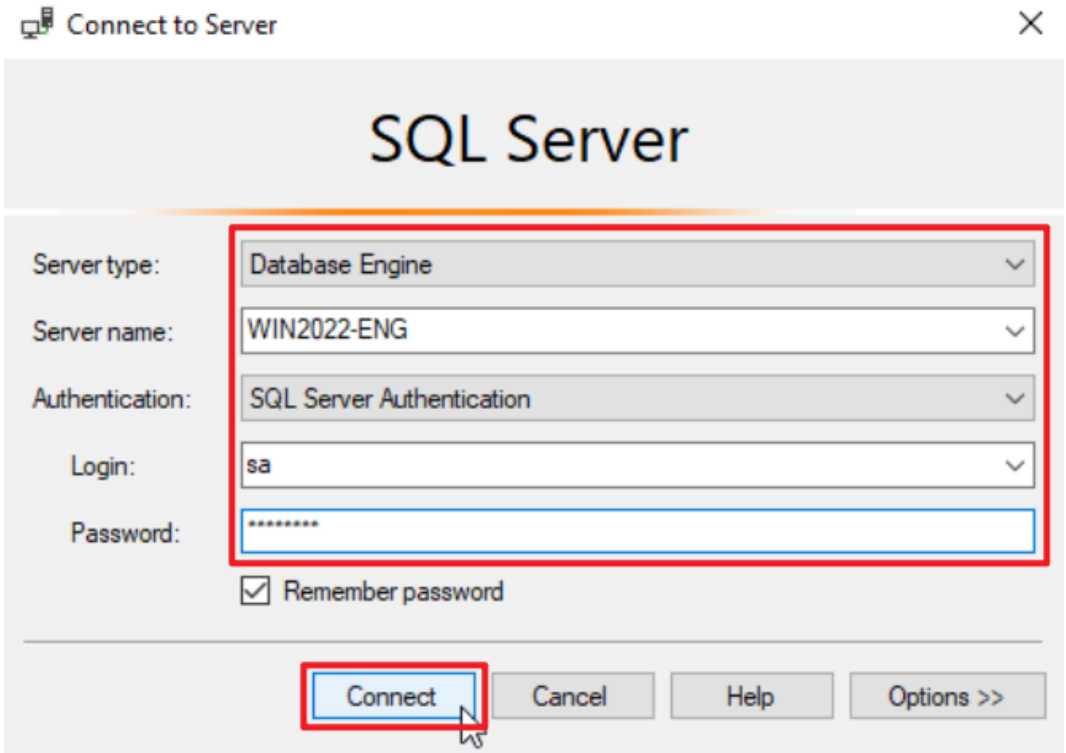
Enabling a server-level audit covers server operations such as administrative changes, login, and logout activities.

The following sections describe how to configure a server-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

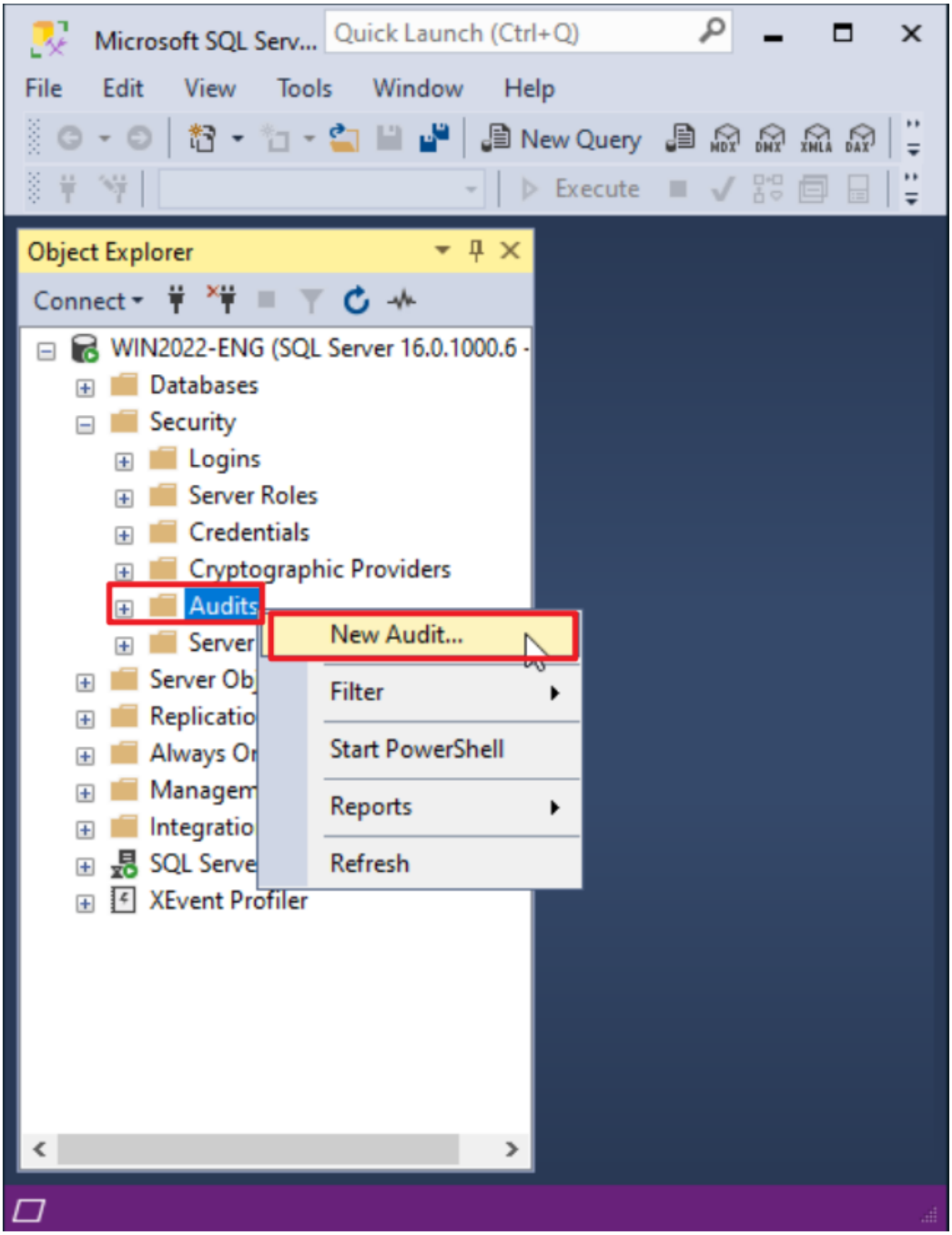
6.2.1.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

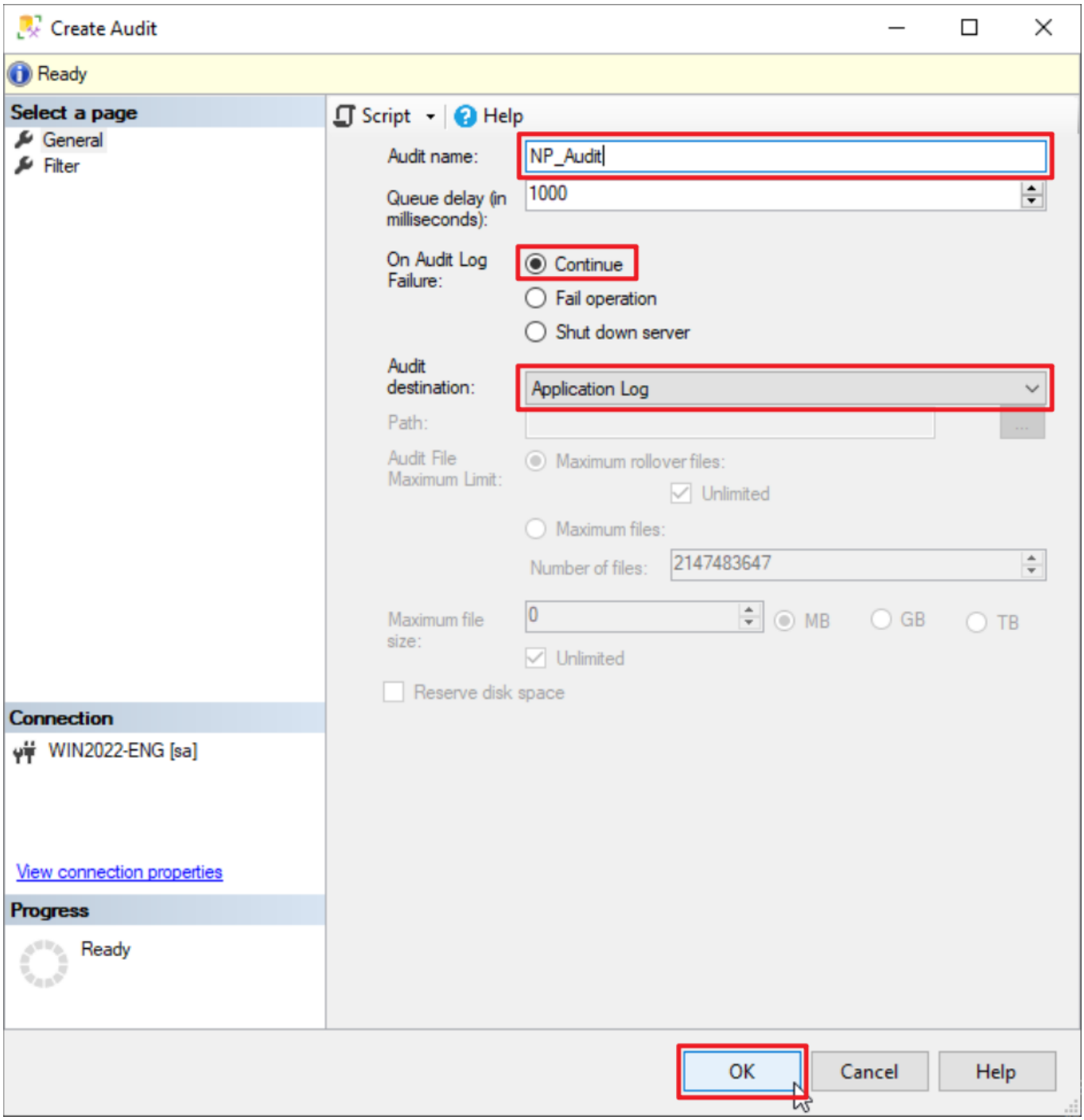
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



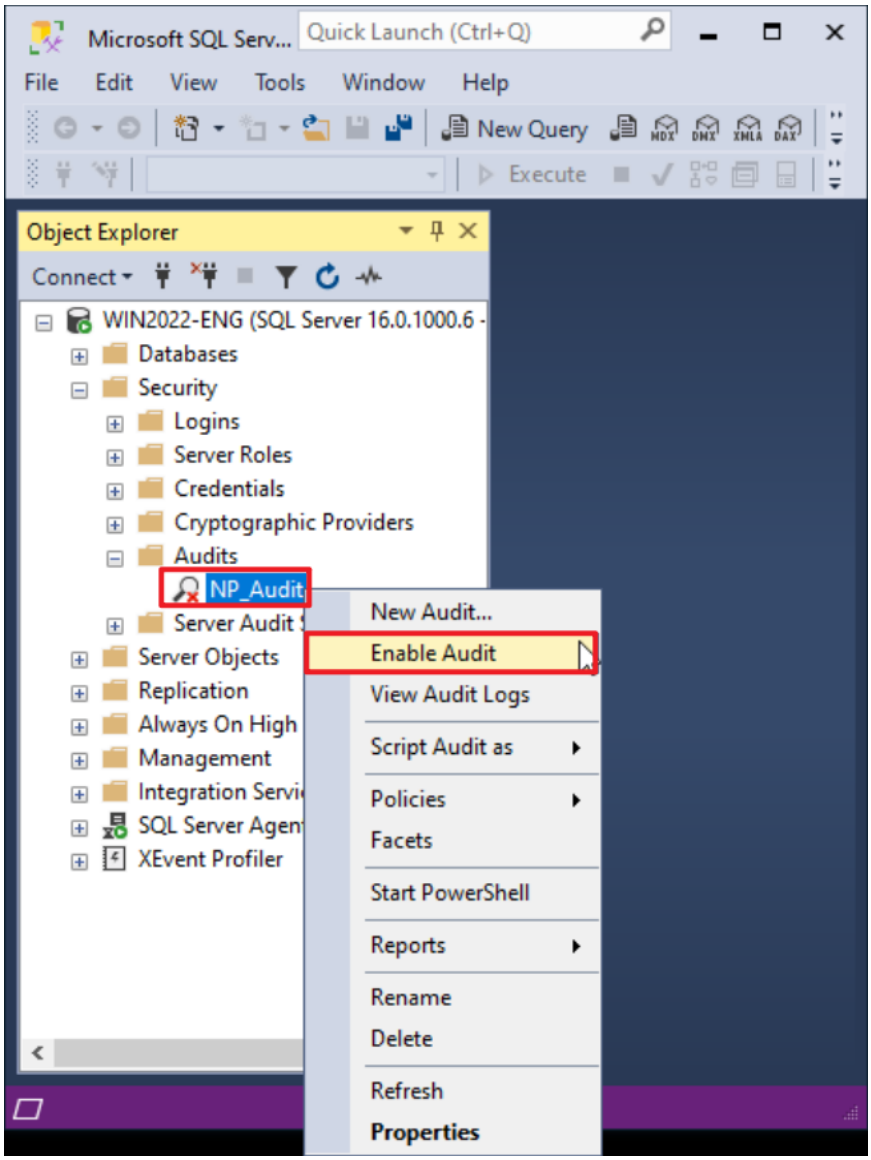
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



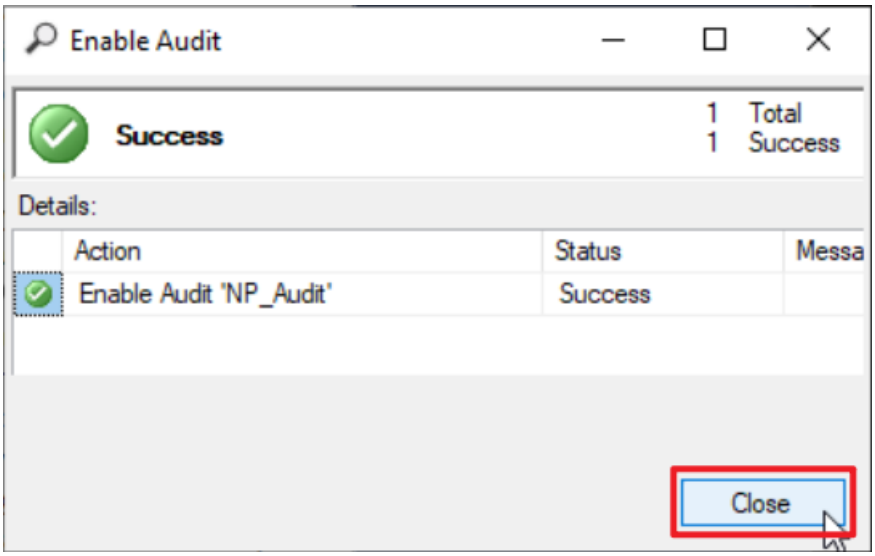
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



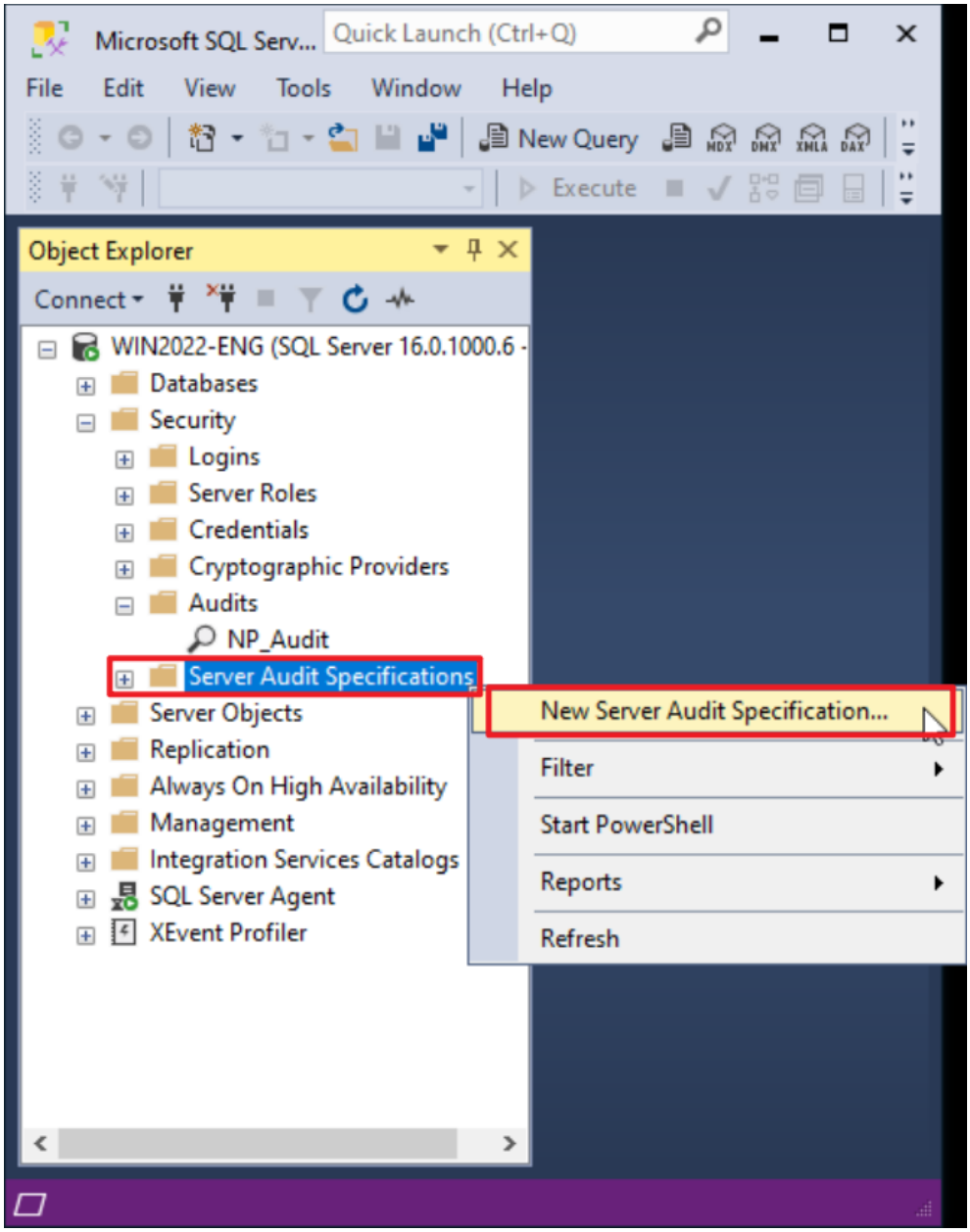
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



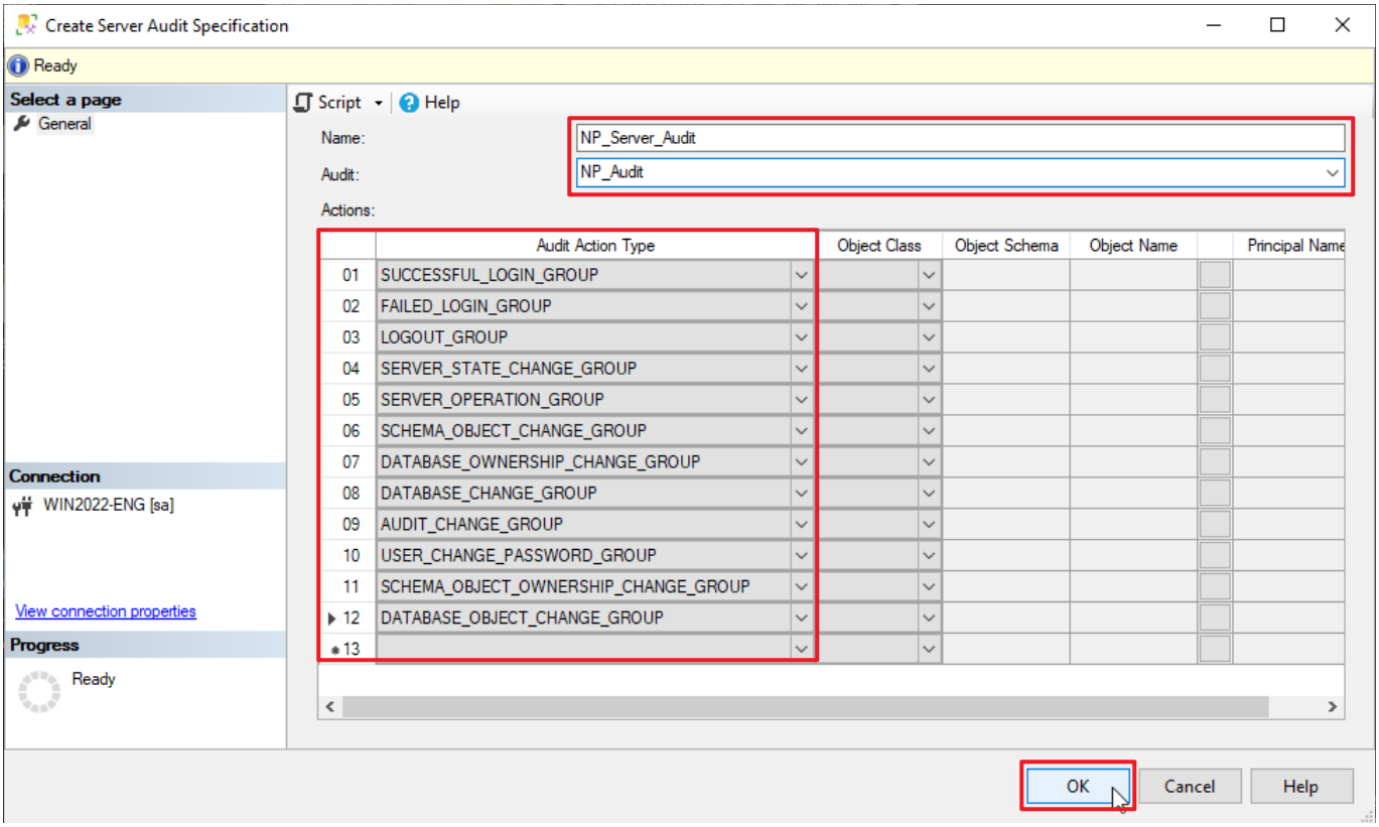
(6) Click “Close.”



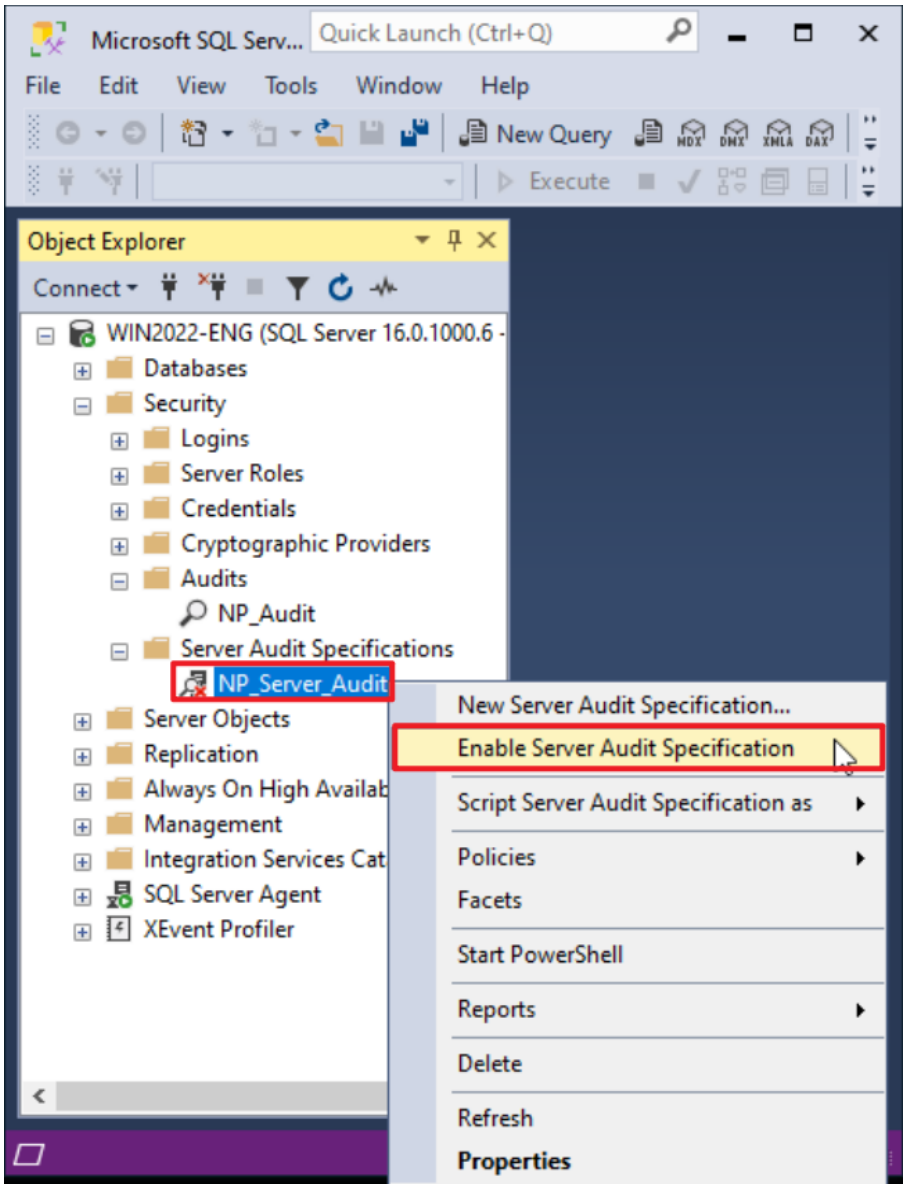
(7) Right-click “Server Audit Specifications,” → select “New Server Audit Specification...”



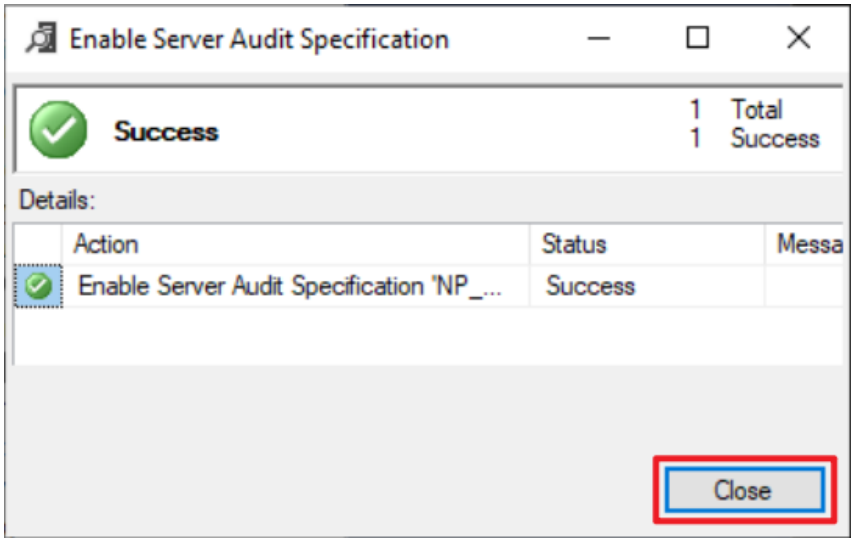
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_Server_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the server audit specification list, right-click “NP_Server_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



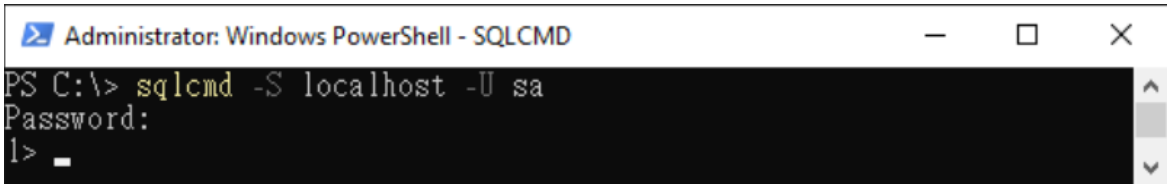
6.2.1.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

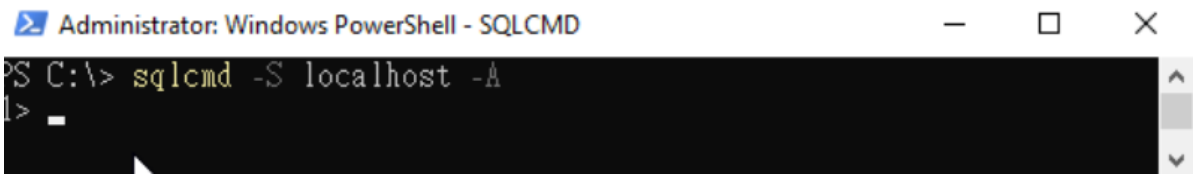
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

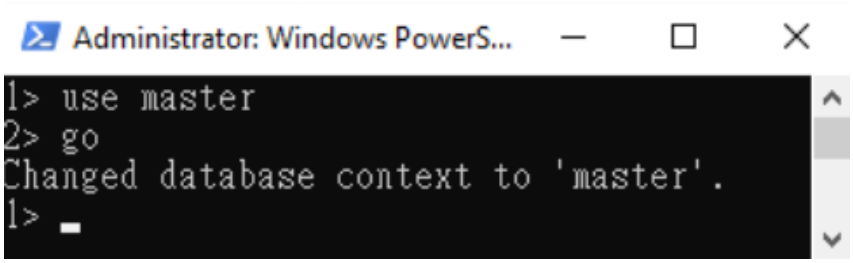
Enter the command below to log in using Windows:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



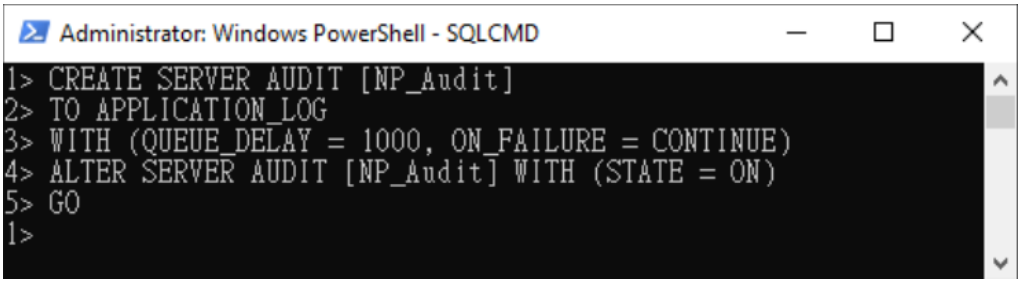
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click "OK."

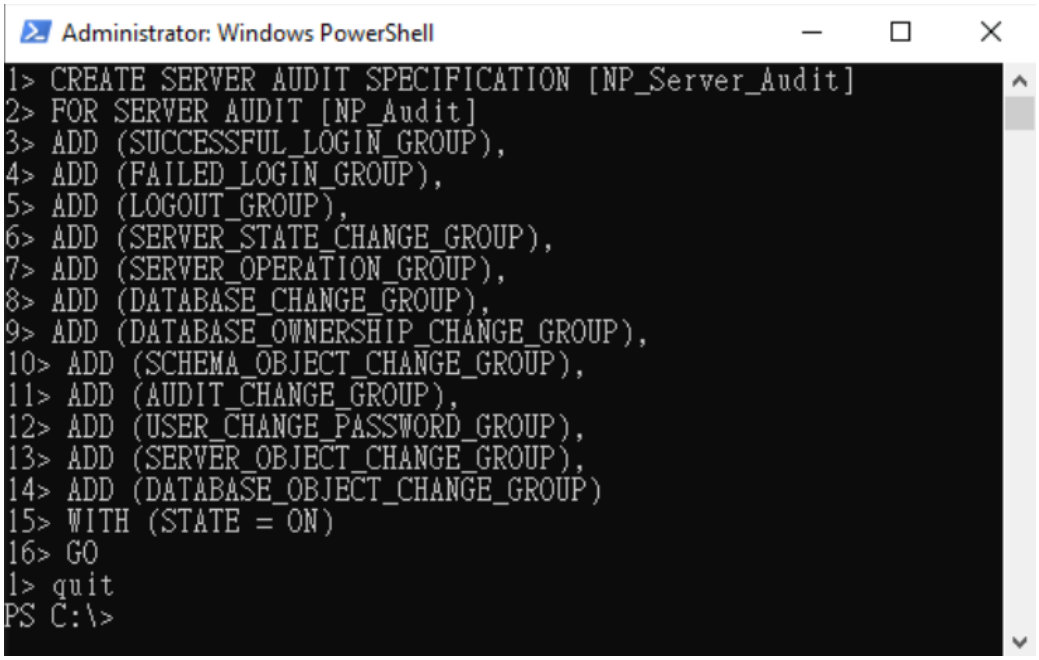
```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



(5) Enter the command below to configure the server audit and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_Server_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (SUCCESSFUL_LOGIN_GROUP),
4 > ADD (FAILED_LOGIN_GROUP),
5 > ADD (LOGOUT_GROUP),
6 > ADD (SERVER_STATE_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (SERVER_OPERATION_GROUP),
8 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
10 > ADD (DATABASE_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
12 > ADD (SERVER_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
13 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP)
```

```
14 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP)
15> WITH (STATE = ON)
16 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the server audit specification name.

6.2.2 Database-Level Audit

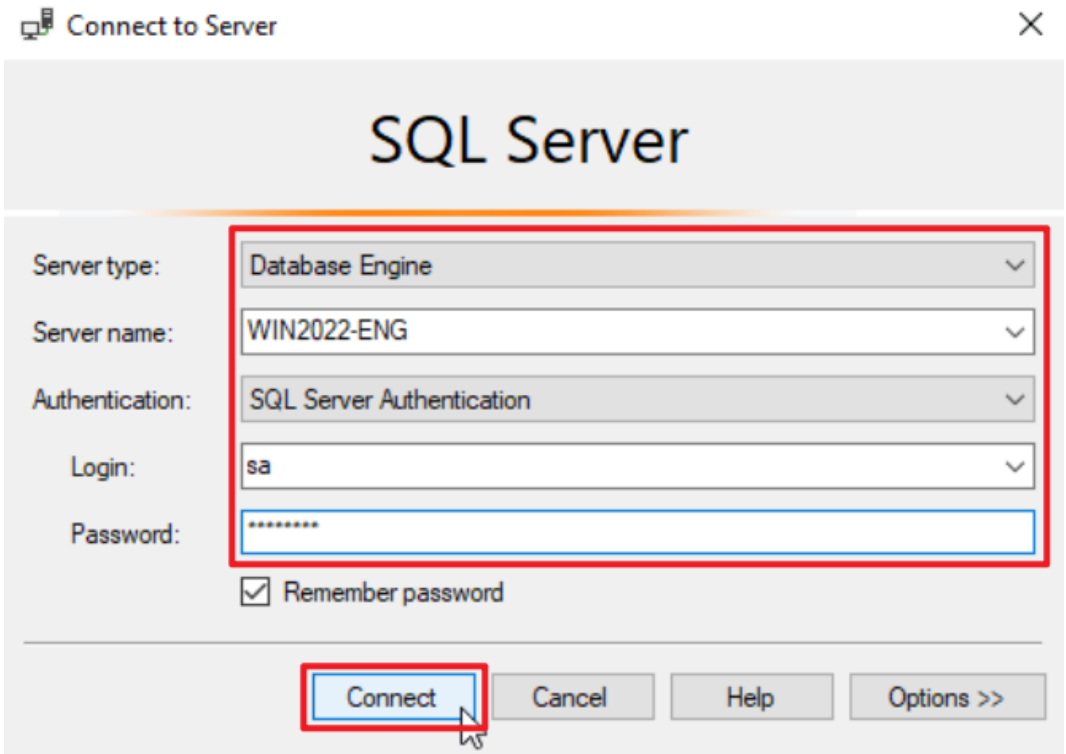
Enabling a database-level audit covers operations involving Data Manipulation Language (DML) and Data Definition Language (DDL) statements.

The following sections describe how to configure a database-level audit using the graphical user interface (GUI) and the command-line interface (CLI).

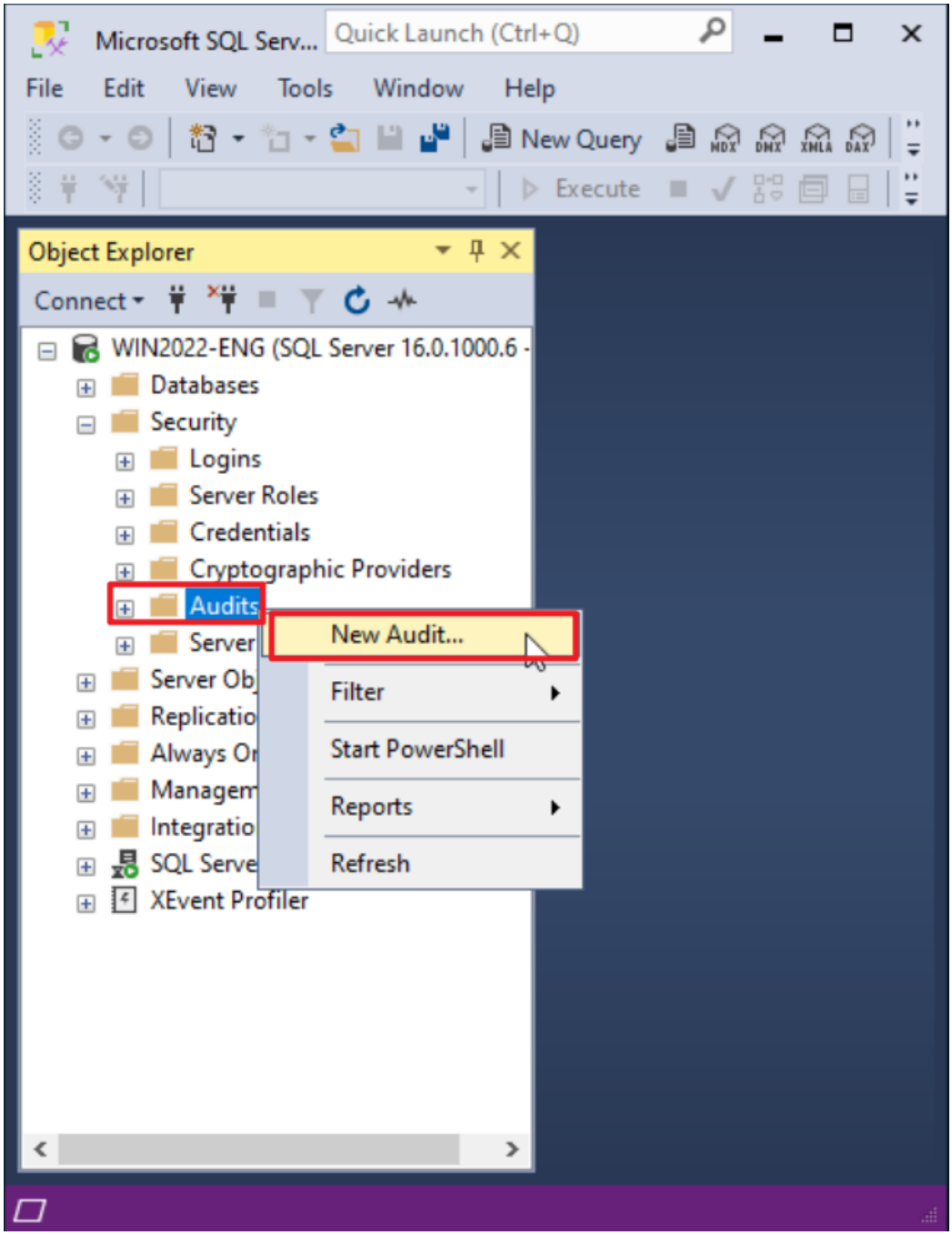
6.2.2.1 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).”

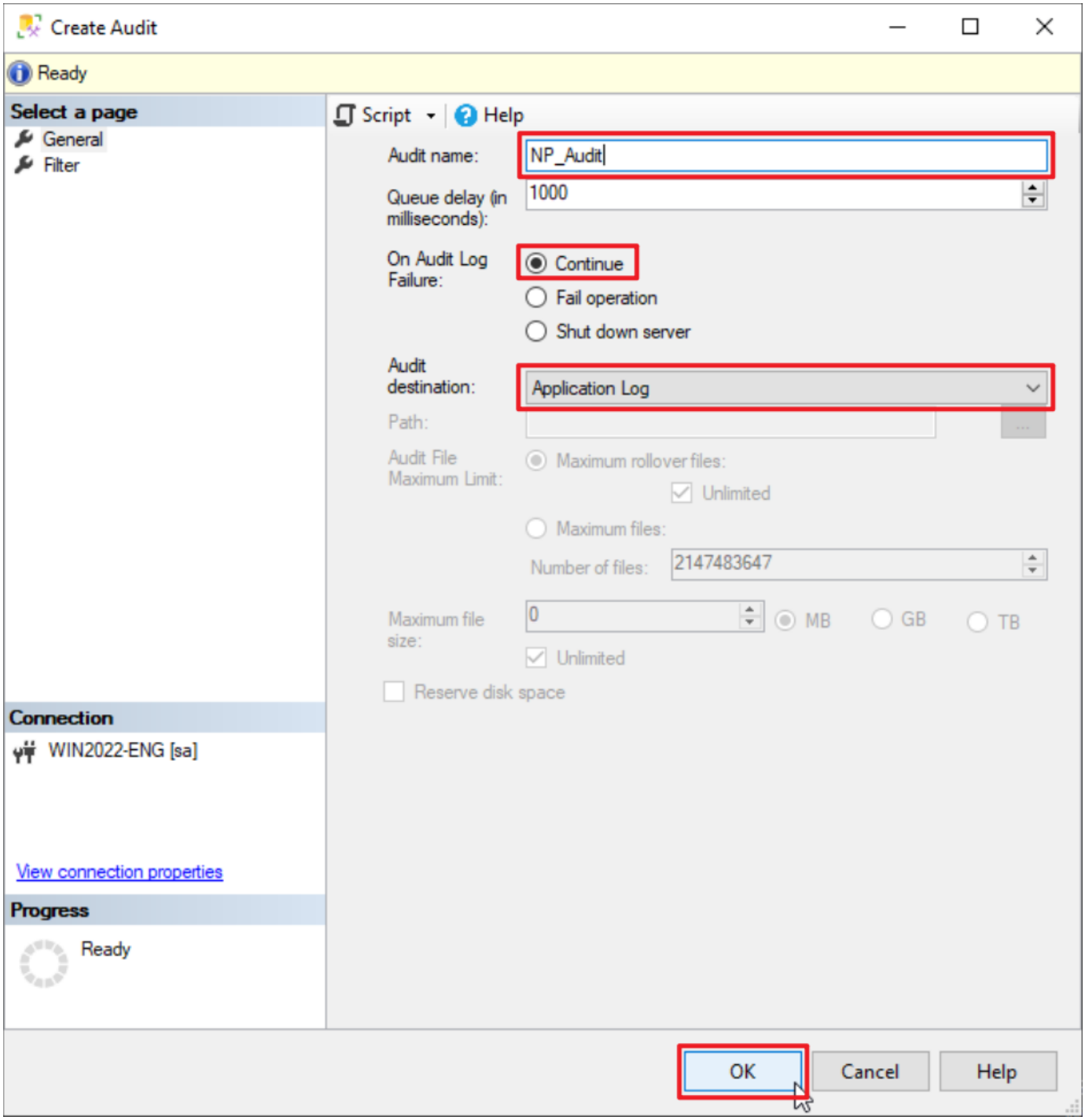
(2) Enter the server’s name → select the authentication method → click “Connect.”



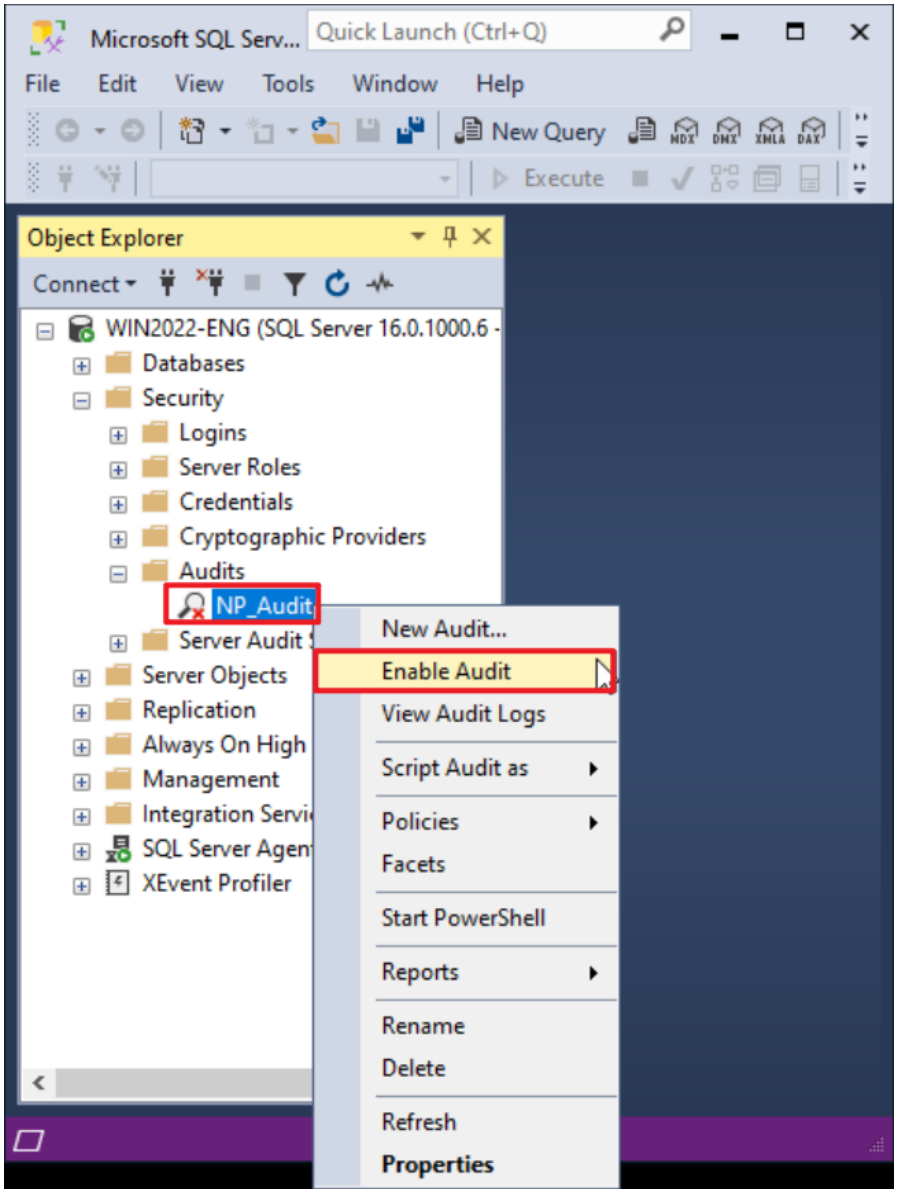
(3) Expand “Security” → right-click “Audits” → select “New Audit...”



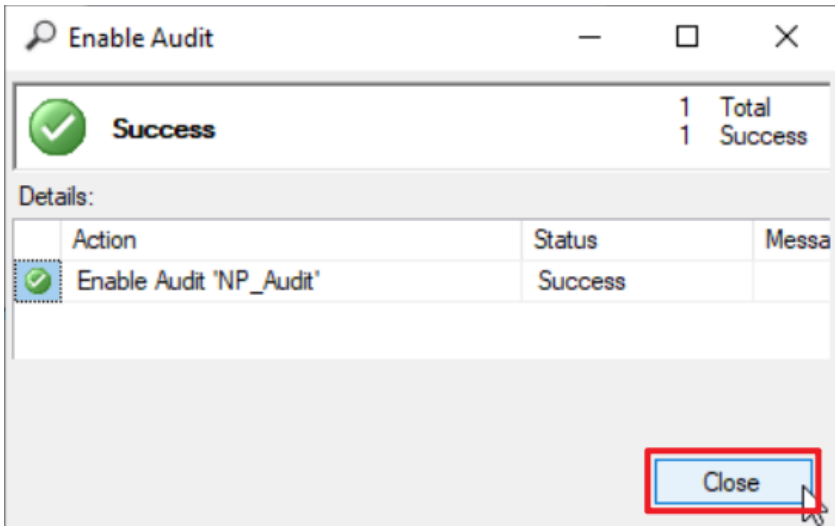
(4) Enter the audit name: (the example here is NP_Audit) → select “On audit log failure”: “Continue” → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”



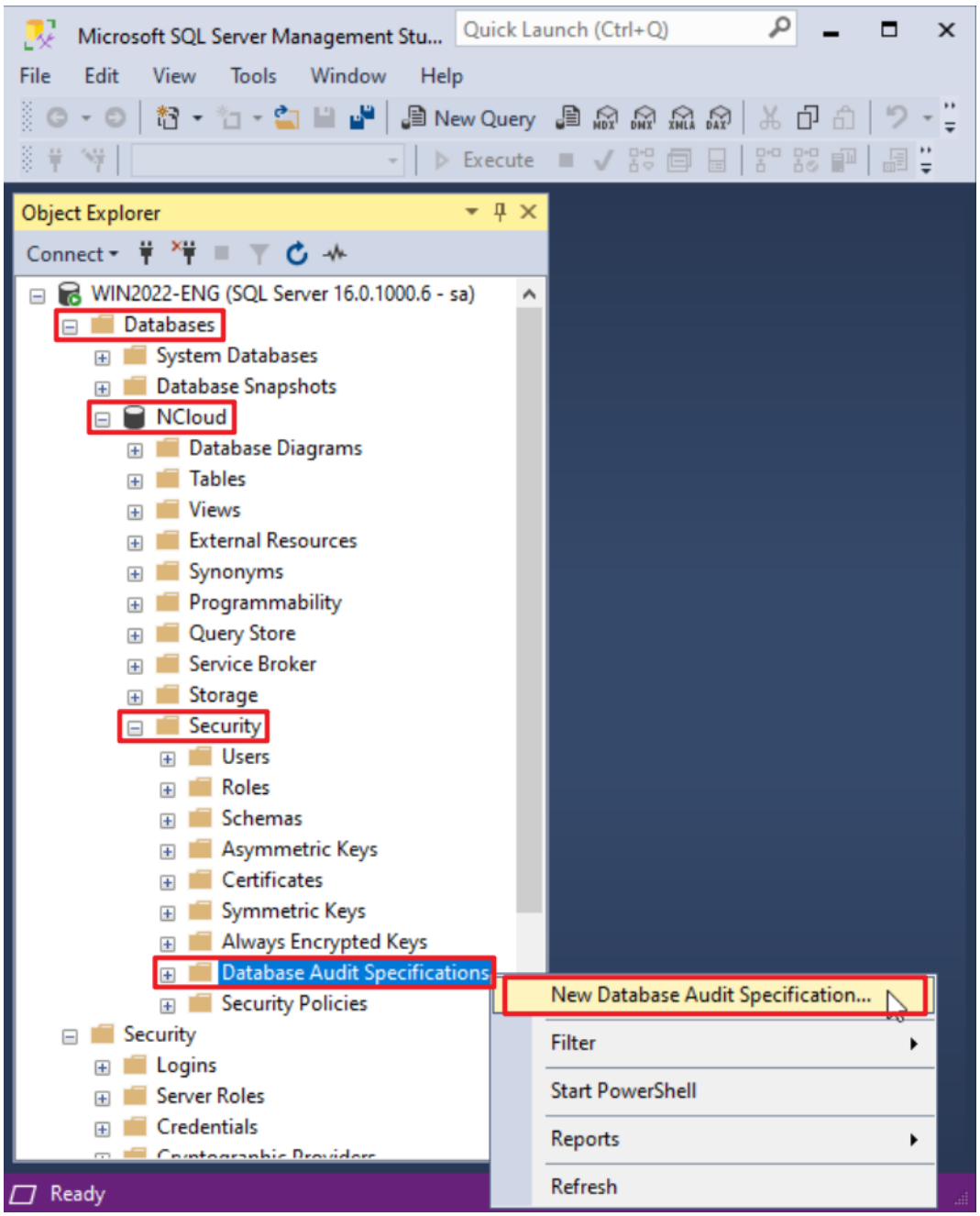
(5) In the audit list, right-click “NP_Audit” → select “Enable Audit.”



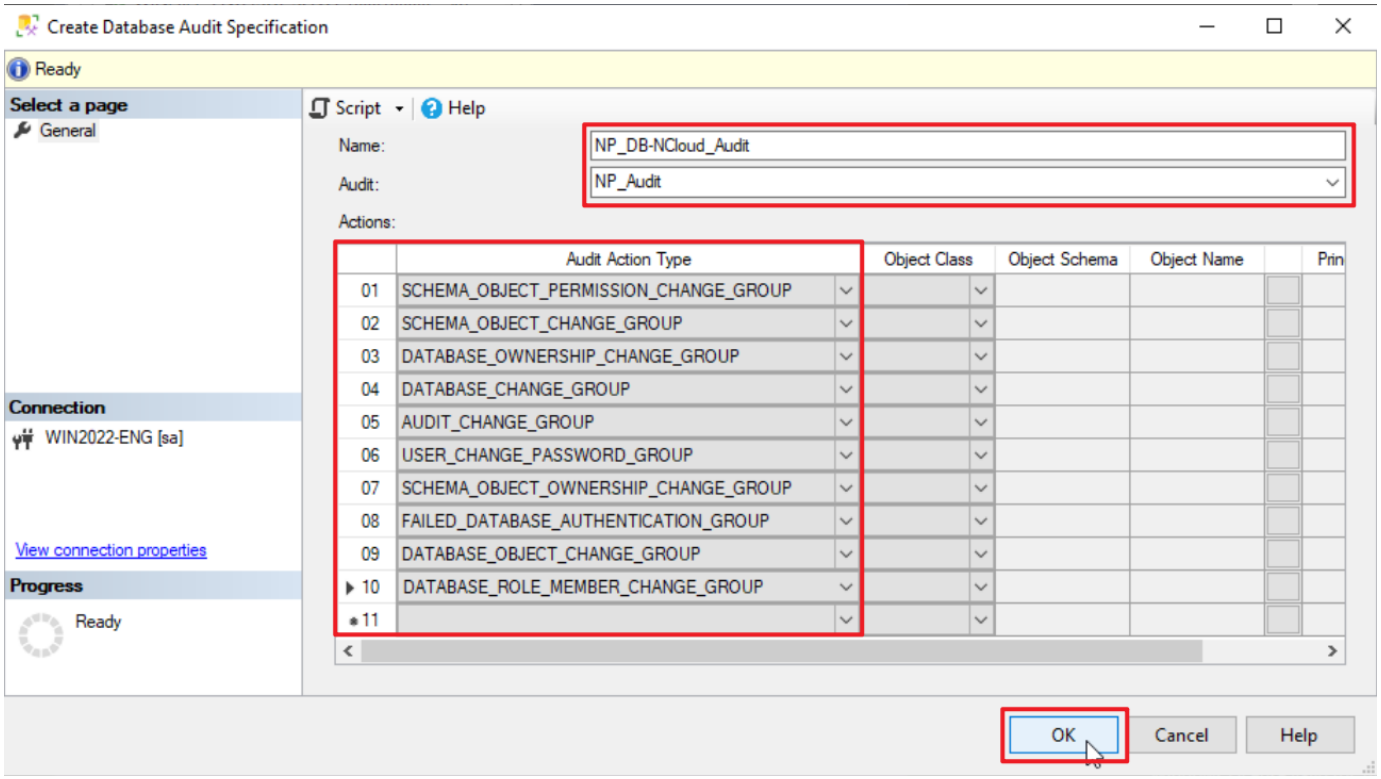
(6) Click “Close.”



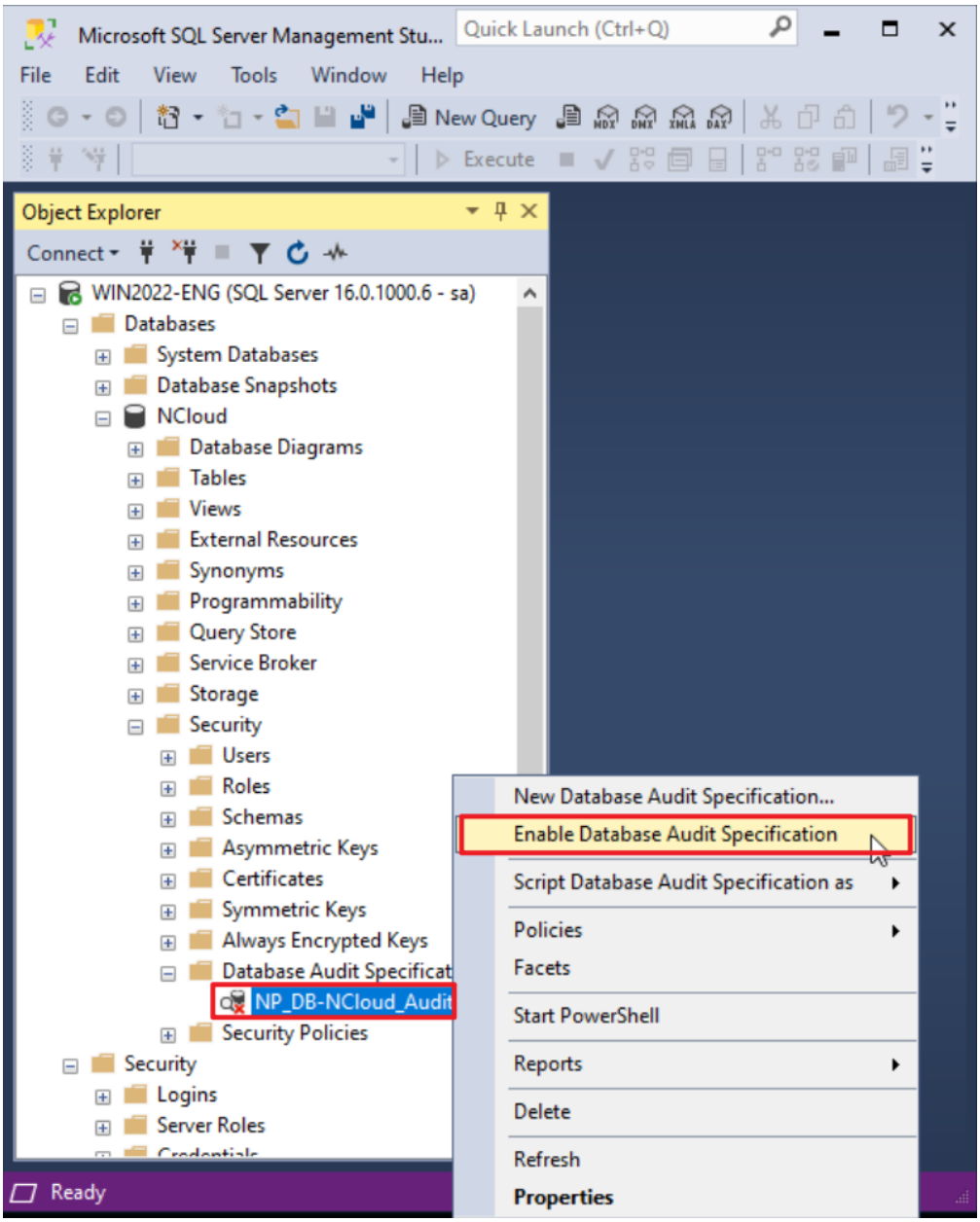
(7) In “Databases,” select the target database (the example here is : NCloud) → expand “Security” → right-click “Database Audit Specifications” → select "New Database Audit Specification...”



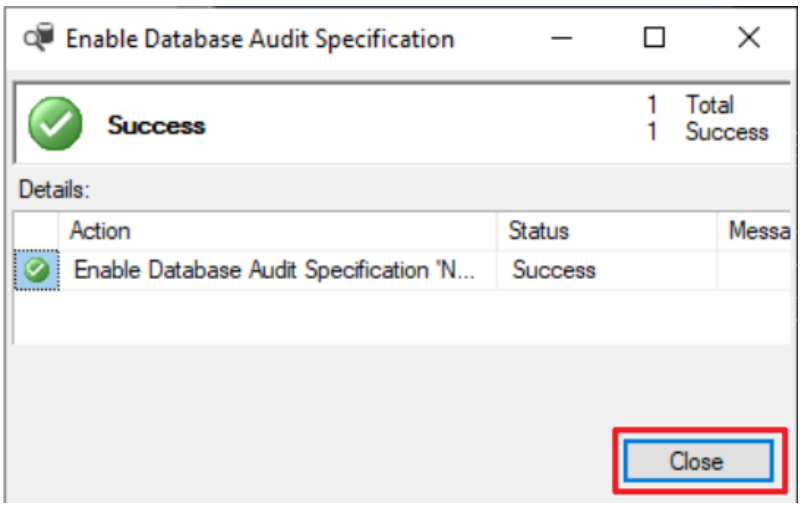
(8) Enter the specification name: (the example here is NP_DB-NCloud_Audit) → select audit: NP_Audit and action(s) → select action(s) (refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references for details) → click “OK.”



(9) In the database audit specification list, right-click “NP_DB-NCloud_Audit” → select “Enable Server Audit Specification.”



(10) Click “Close.”



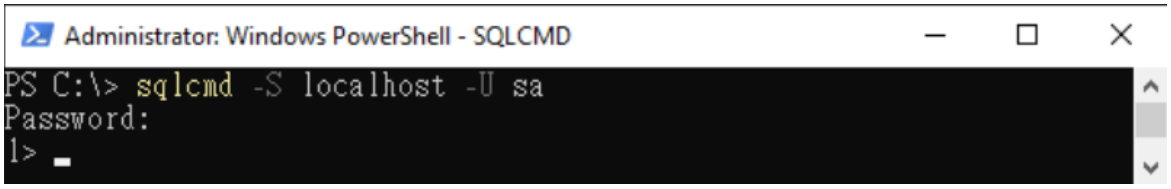
6.2.2.2 Configuring via Graphical User Interface (GUI)

(1) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

(2) Enter the command below to log in using either sa:

<2.1>Using sa account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -U sa
```



Options:

-S [protocol:]server[instance_name][,port]

-U login_id

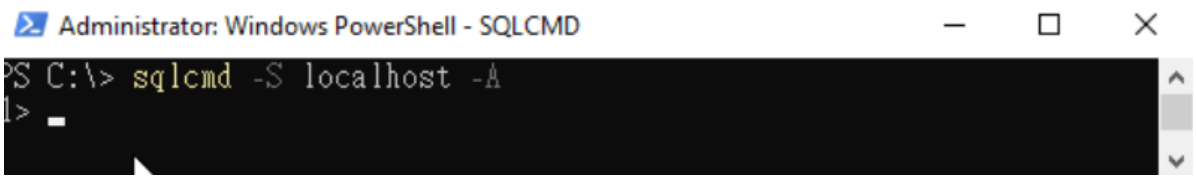
-P password

-A dedicated administrator connection

<2.2> Using Windows account:

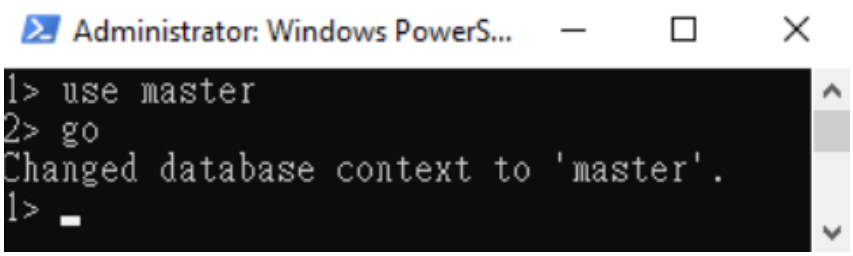
Enter the command below to log in using Windows account:

```
PS C:\> sqlcmd -S localhost -A
```



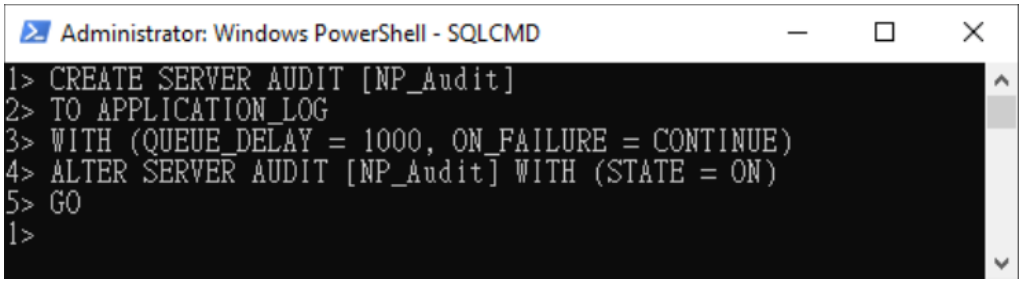
(3) Enter the command below to switch to the **master** database:

```
1 > use master
2 > go
```



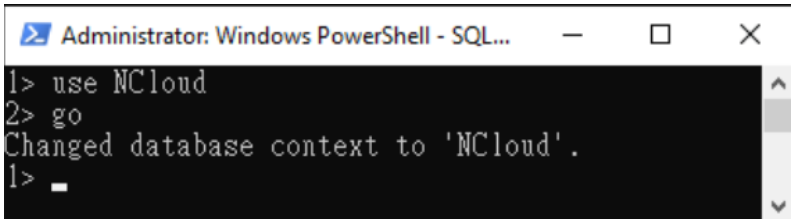
(4) Enter the audit name: NP_Audit → select audit destination: Application Log (this stores MS SQL audit logs in the Windows Event Viewer Application Log) → click “OK.”

```
1 > CREATE SERVER AUDIT [ NP_Audit ]
2 > TO APPLICATION_LOG
3 > WITH (QUEUE_DELAY = 1000, ON_FAILURE = CONTINUE)
4 > ALTER SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit] WITH (STATE = ON)
5 > GO
```



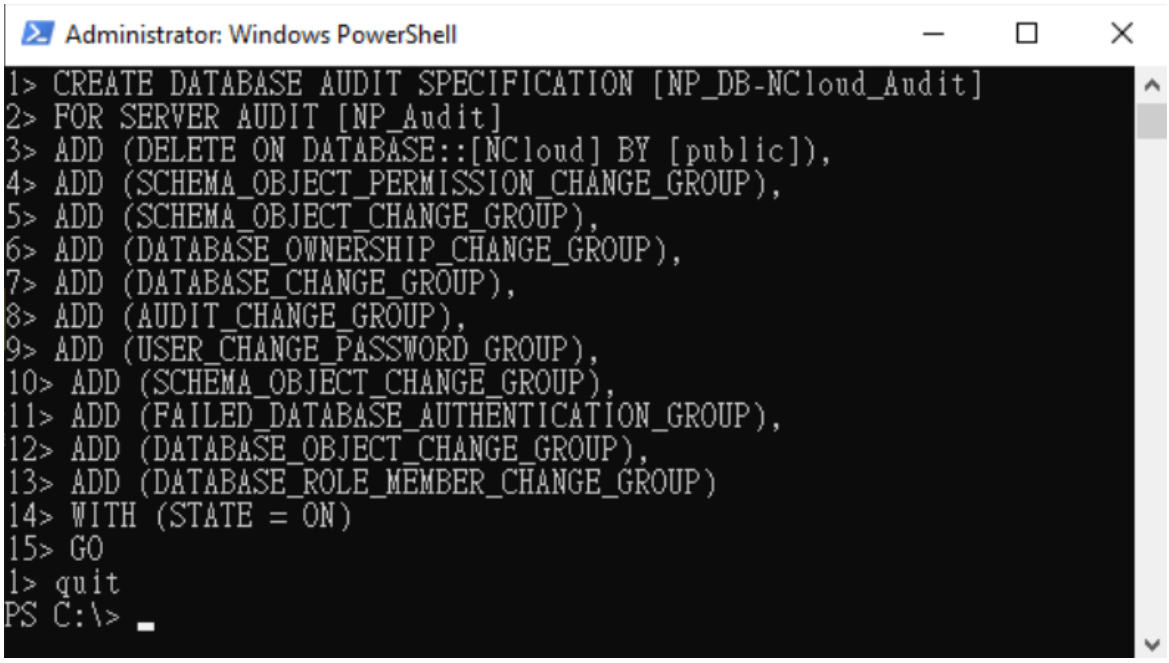
(5) Enter the command below to switch to the target audit database (the example here is: NCloud).

```
1 > use NCloud
2 > go
```



(6) Enter the command below to configure the audit for the database and add actions. For detailed information, refer to the **SQL Server Audit Action Groups and Actions** in the references.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [ NP_DB-NCloud_Audit ]
2 > FOR SERVER AUDIT [NP_Audit]
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[ NCloud ] BY [public]),
4 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_PERMISSION_CHANGE_GROUP),
5 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
6 > ADD (DATABASE_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
7 > ADD (DATABASE _CHANGE_GROUP),
8 > ADD (AUDIT_CHANGE_GROUP),
9 > ADD (USER_CHANGE_PASSWORD_GROUP),
10 > ADD (SCHEMA_OBJECT_OWNERSHIP_CHANGE_GROUP),
11 > ADD (FAILED_DATABASE_AUTHENTICATION_GROUP),
12 > ADD (DATABASE_OBJECT_CHANGE_GROUP),
13 > ADD (DATABASE_ROLE_MEMBER_CHANGE_GROUP)
14 > WITH (STATE = ON)
15 > GO
1 > quit
```



Replace the text shown in red with the database audit specification name.

```
1 > CREATE DATABASE AUDIT SPECIFICATION [NP_DB-NCloud_Audit]
```

Replace the text shown in red with the target database name.

```
3 > ADD (DELETE ON DATABASE::[NCloud] BY [public])
```

6.3 Event Log Configuration

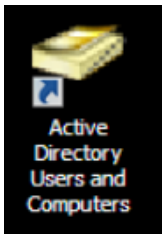
This is an optional configuration.

The following sections describe configuration methods for Domain and Workgroup environments.

6.3.1 Domain

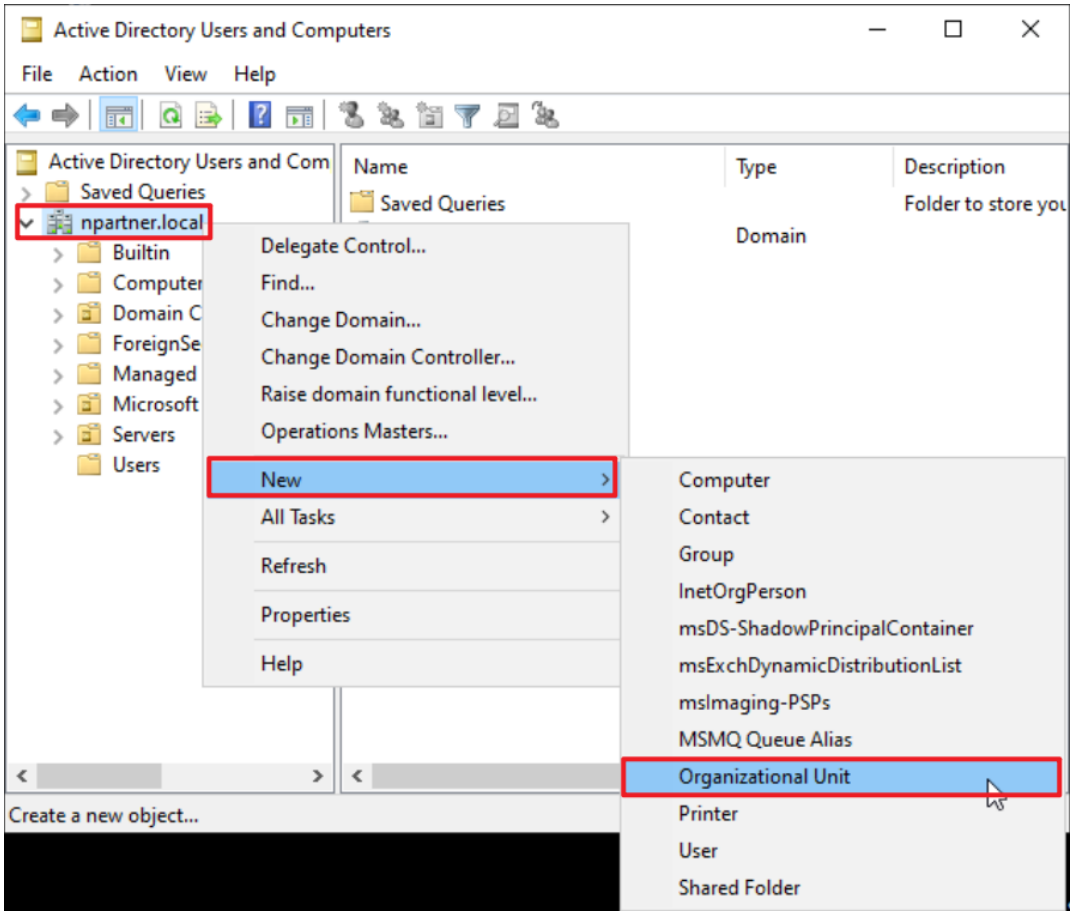
6.3.1.1 Organizational Unit (OU) Configuration

(1) Click “Active Directory Users and Computers.”



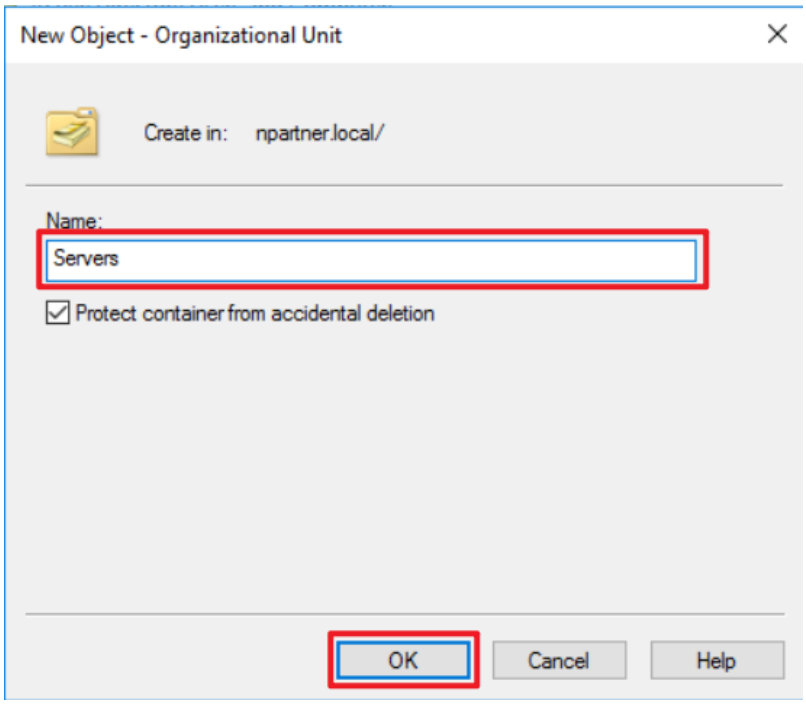
(2) Add an Organizational Unit

Right-click on “Domain Controllers, select “New,” and click “Organizational Unit.”



(3) Enter your Organizational Unit name: (in this example, it is “Servers”)

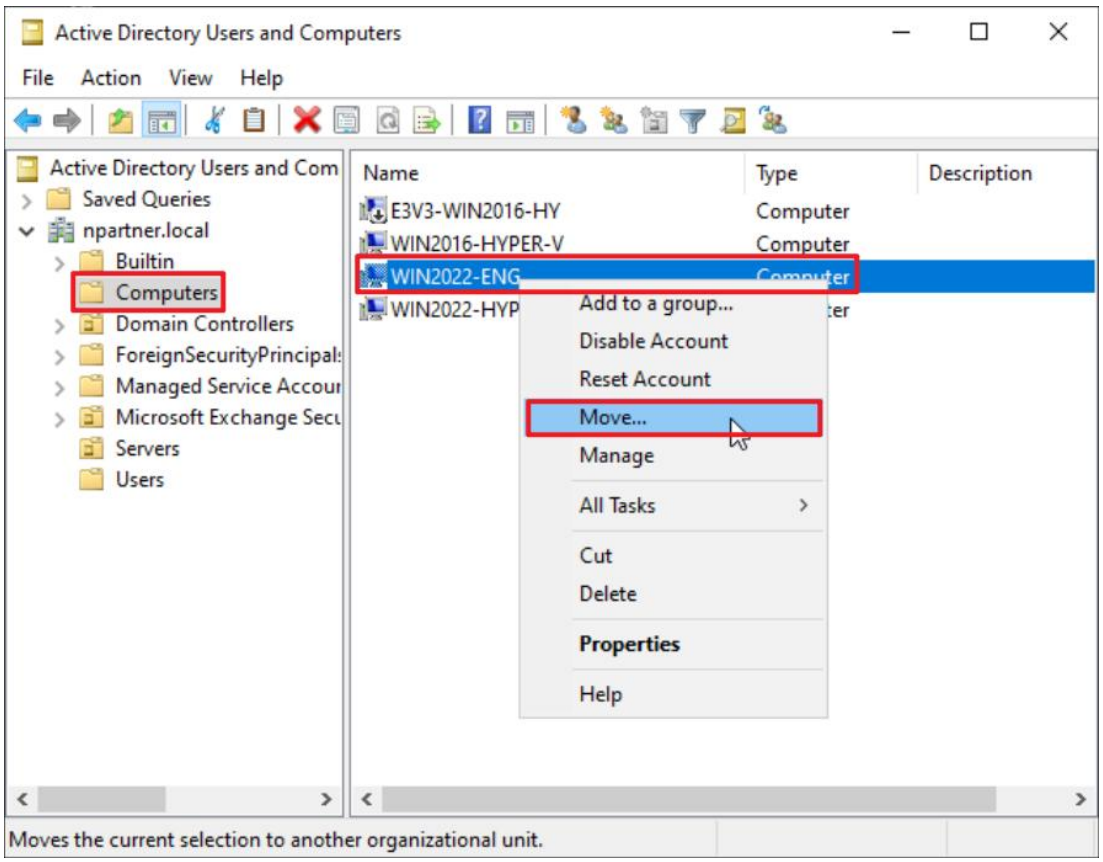
Note: Please create the organizational unit name according to the customer's environment. → click “OK.”



(4) Move the Server to your New Organizational Unit:

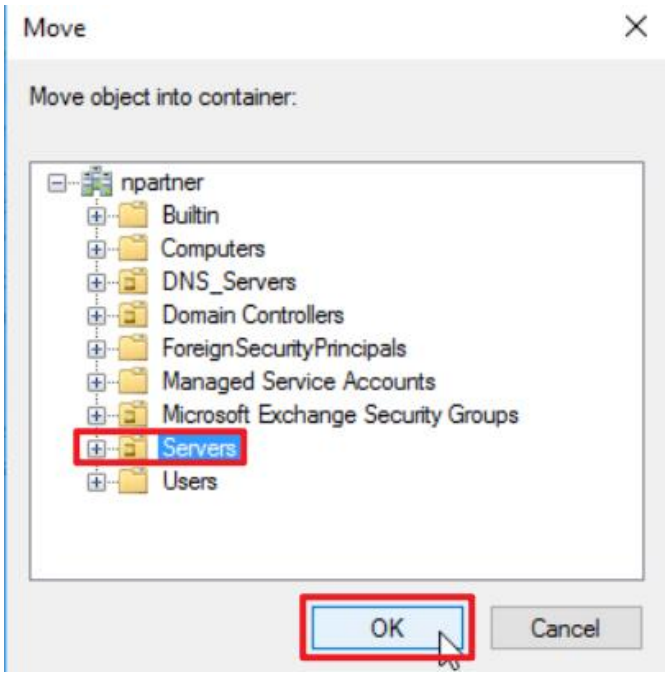
Select your organizational unit in “Domain Controllers” -> Right-click on the “WIN2022-ENG” server.

Note: Please select the MS SQL server according to the actual environment. → click “Move.”



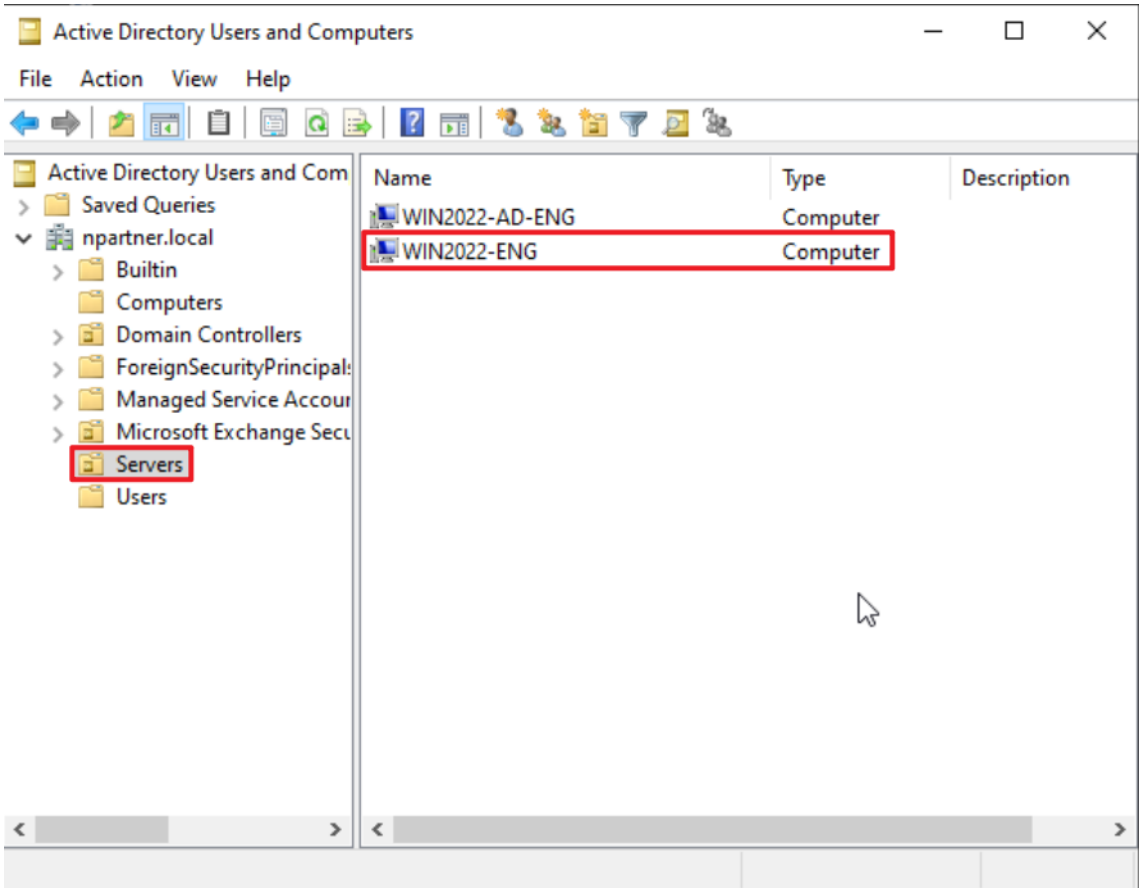
(5) Select your Organizational Unit:

Select your organizational unit (in this example, it is “Servers”) → click “OK.”



(6) Verify the Server Has Been Moved to your New Organizational Unit:

Expand your organizational unit folder (in this example, it is “Servers”) and confirm that the “WIN2022-ENG” server has been moved.

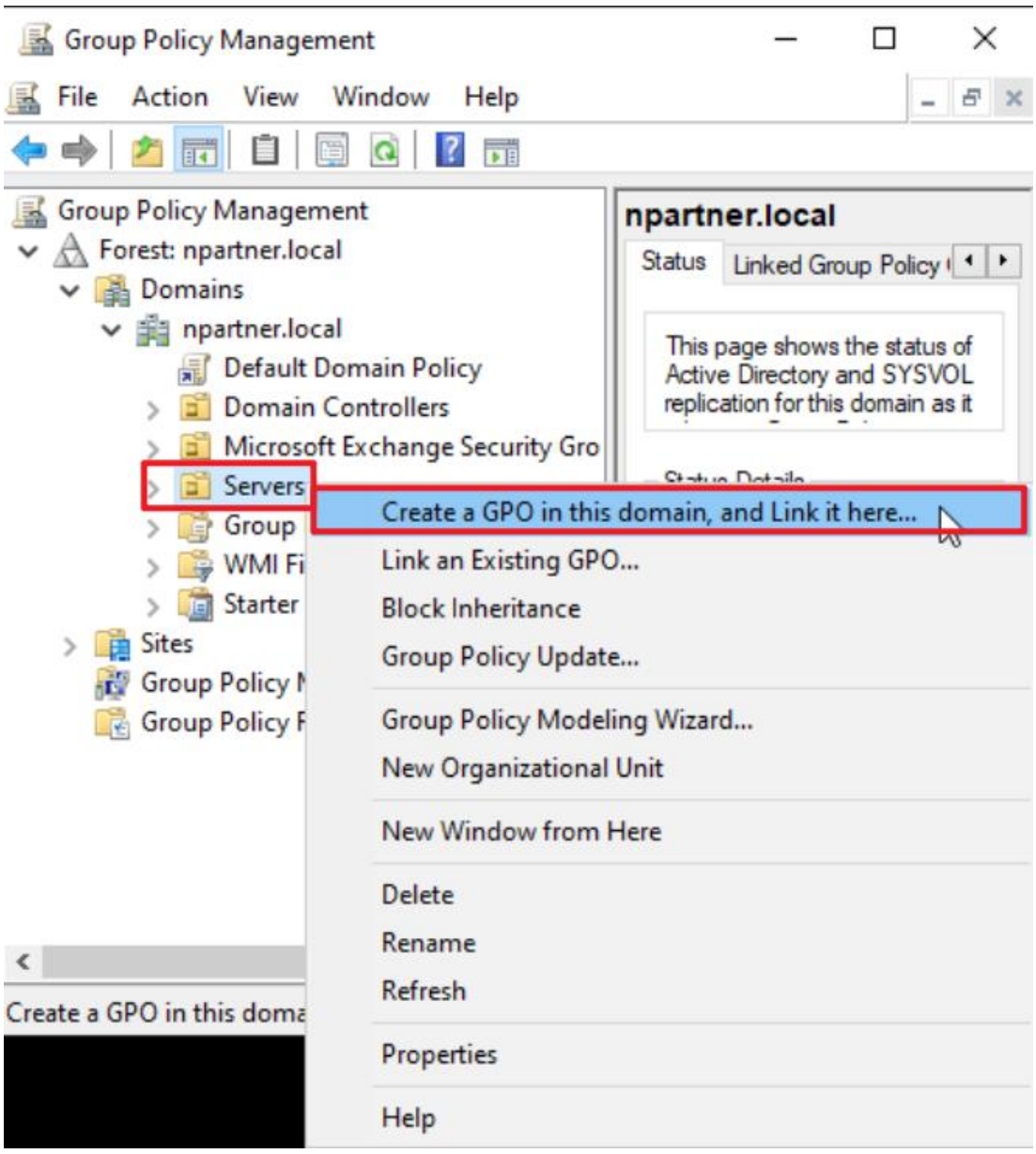


6.3.1.2 Group Policy Settings

(1) Click “Group Policy Management.”

(2) In the Servers organizational unit (OU), create a new Group Policy Object (GPO):

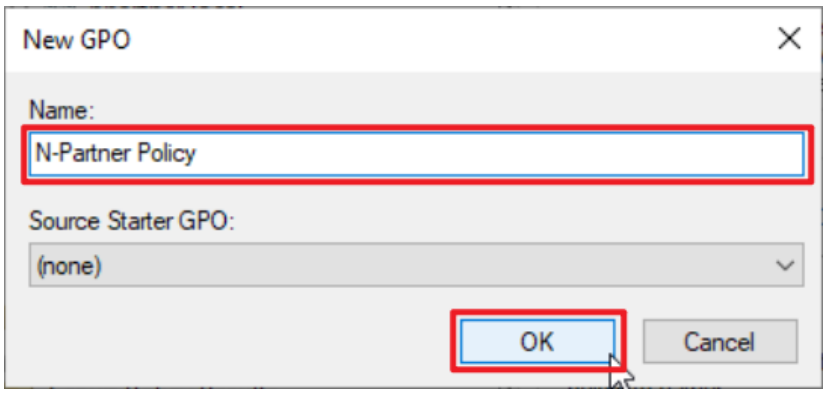
Right-click the [Servers] organizational unit → select “Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here...”



(3) Edit your Group Policy Object

Enter your Group Policy Object name. (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")

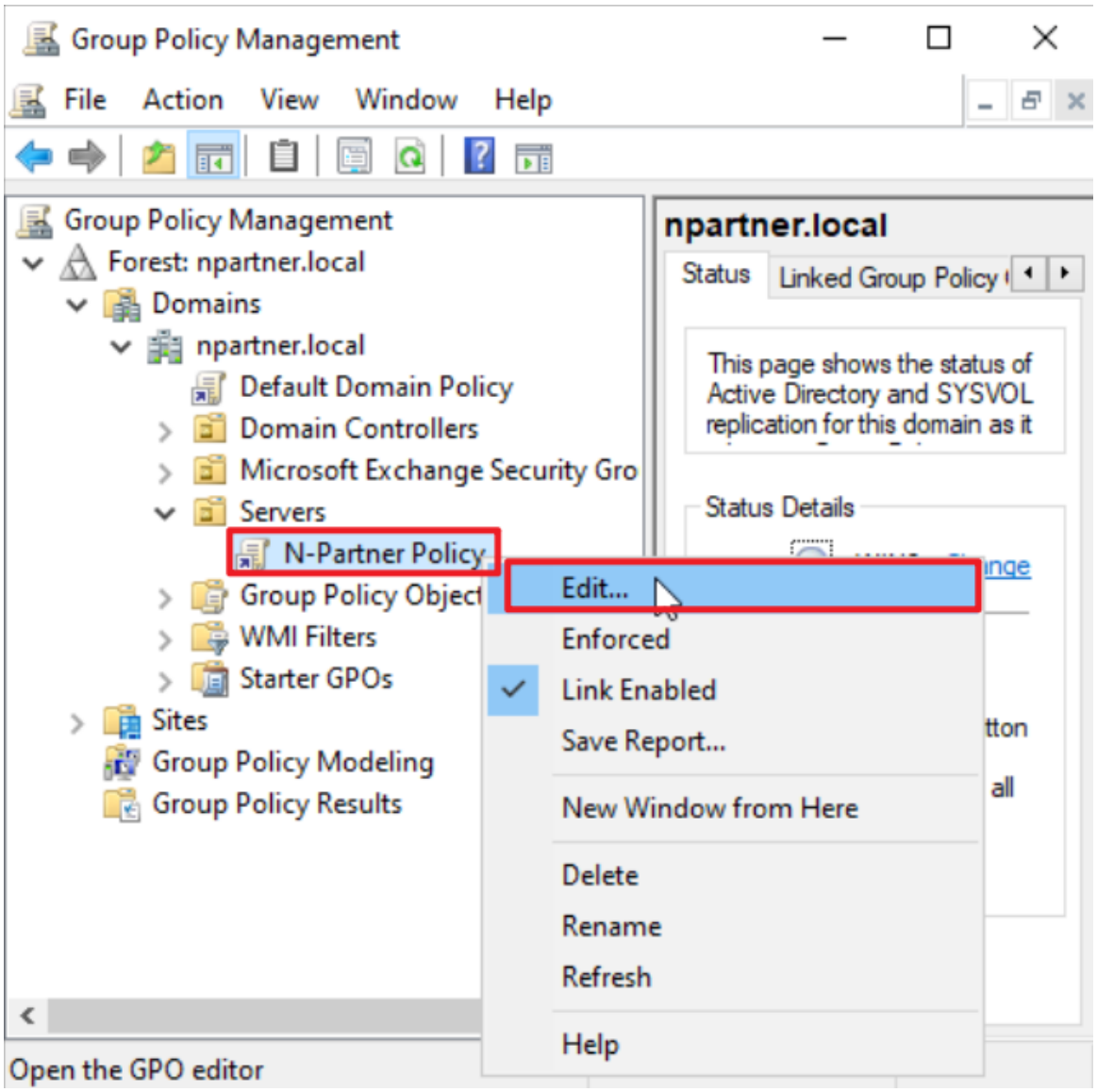
Note: Create your GPO name according to the actual environment. Then click "Edit."



(4) Edit your Group Policy Object

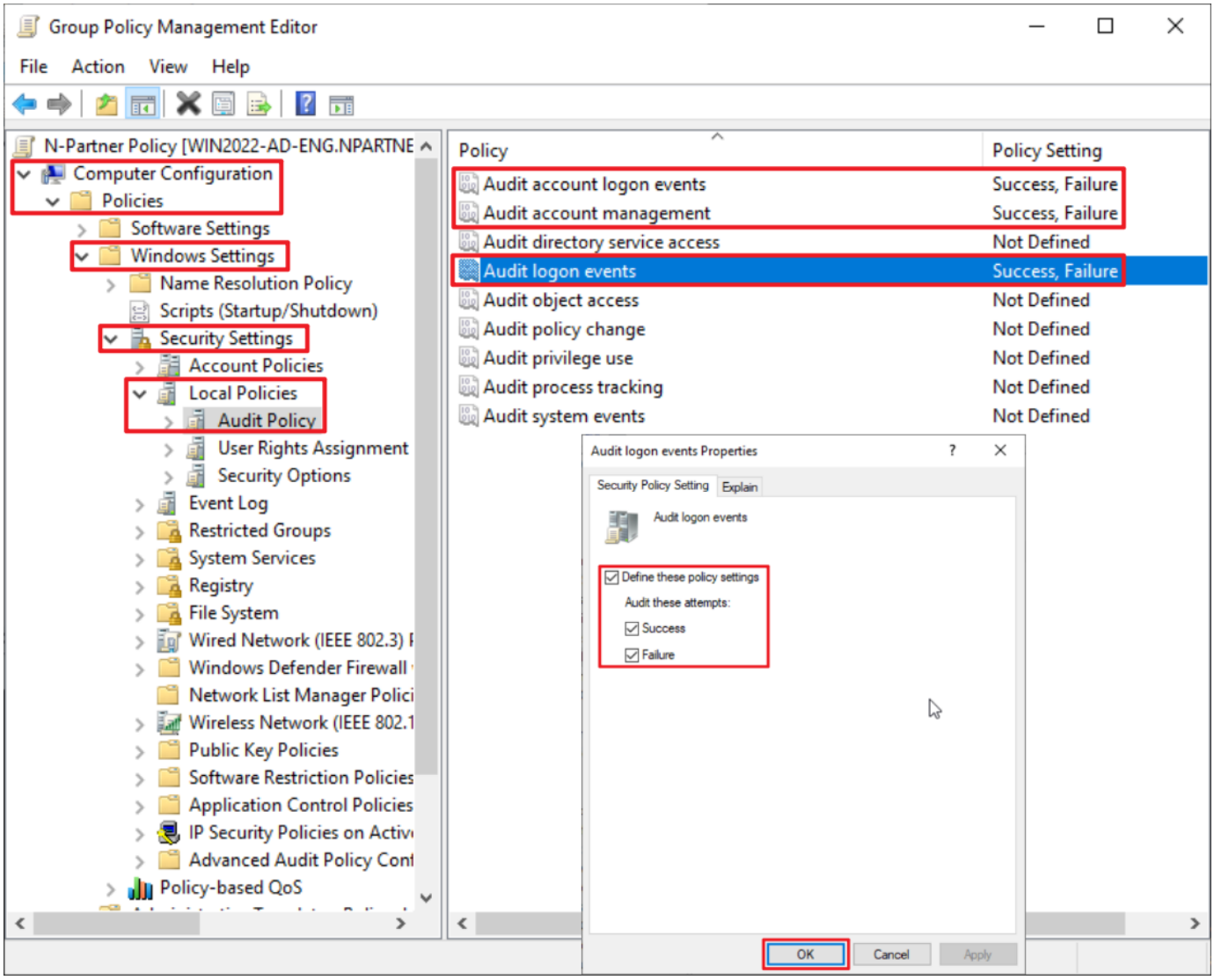
In your group policy object, (in this example, it is "N-Partner Policy")

right-click and select "Edit."



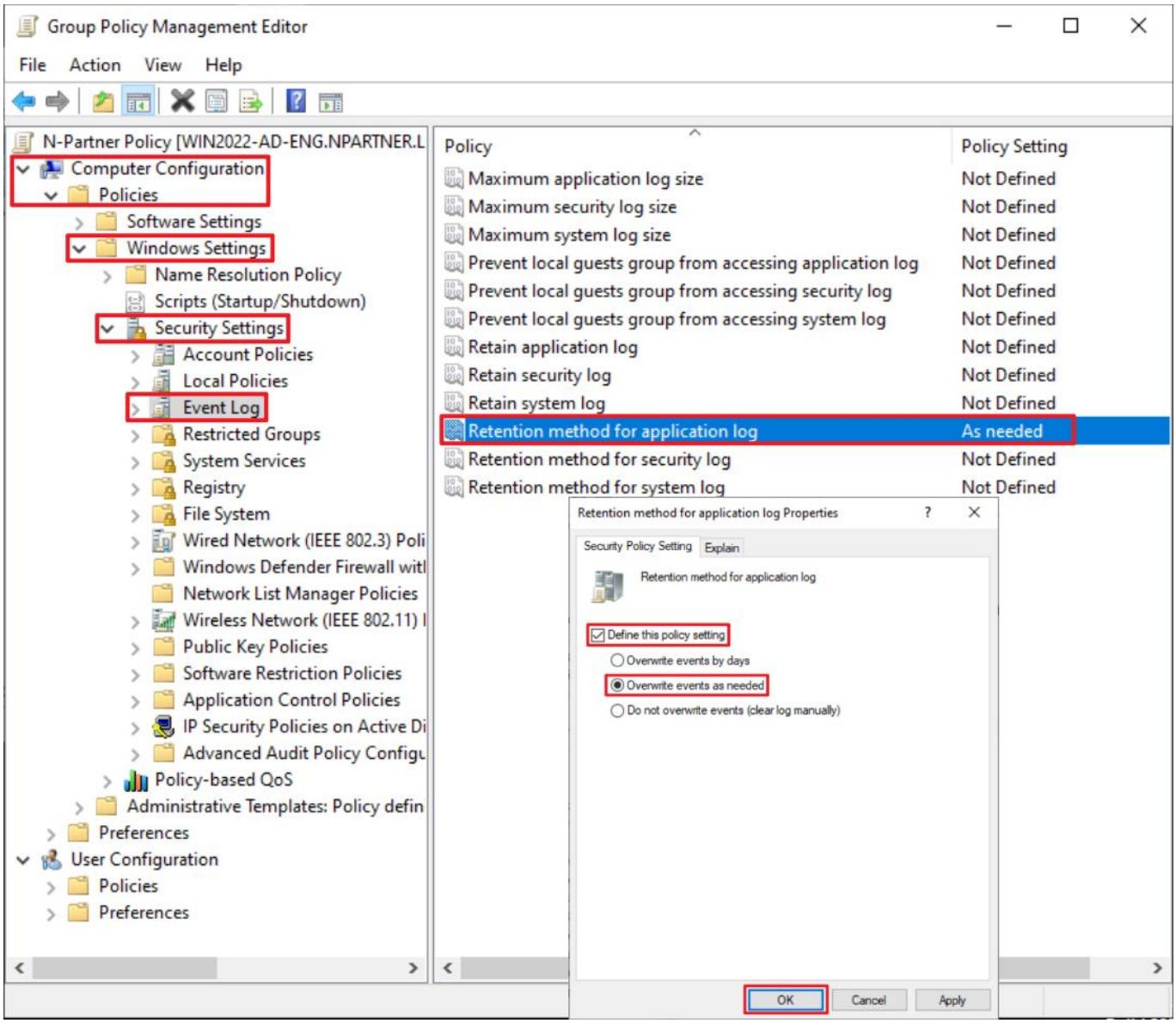
(5) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events,” → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(6) Event Log: Application Log Retention Method

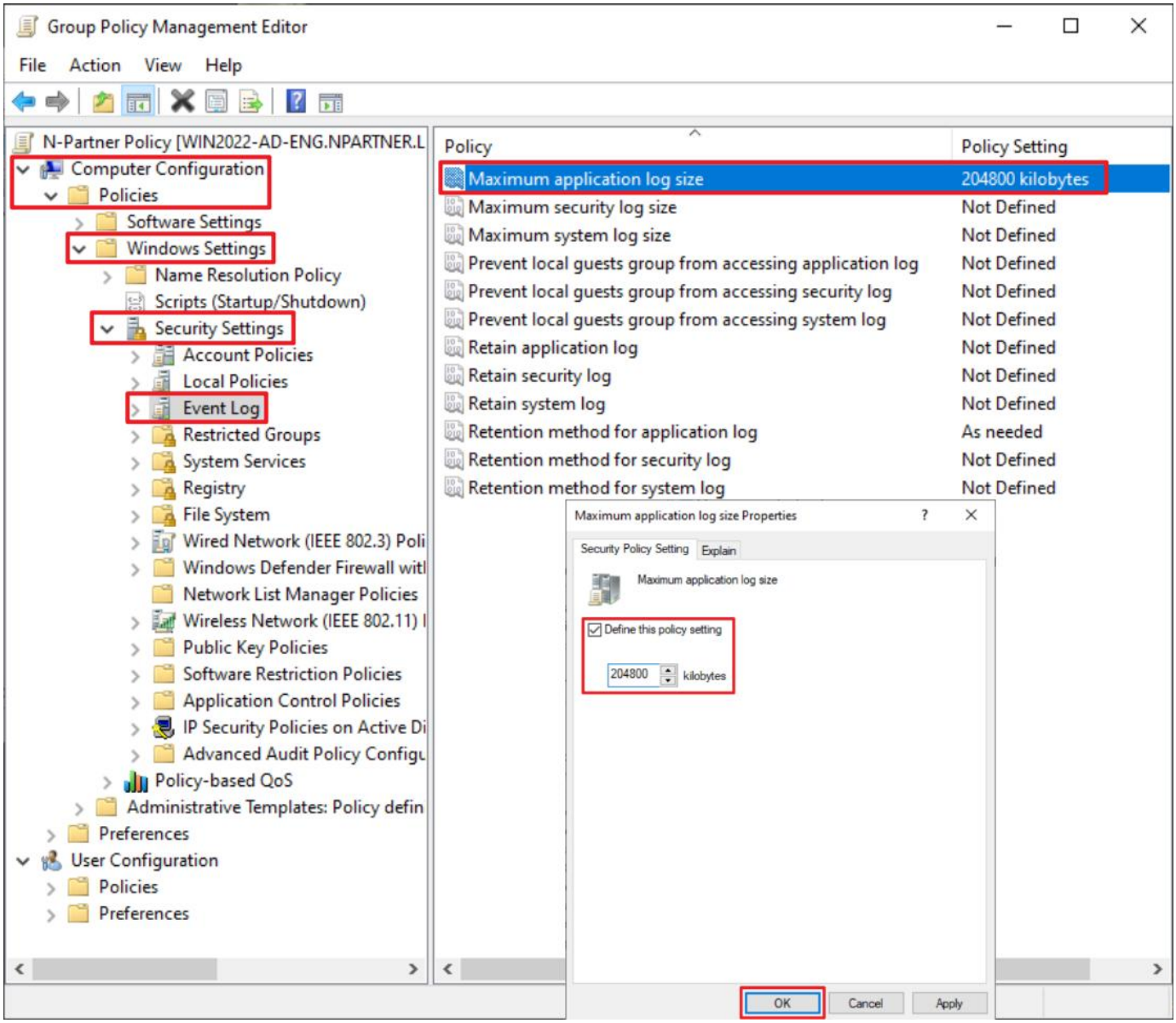
Expand “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” → select “Retention method for application log” → check “Define this policy setting” → select “Overwrite events as needed” → click “OK.”



(7) Event Logs: Maximum Size of Security Log

Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Policies” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” → “Event Log” →And click on “Maximum application log size” → Check “Define this policy setting” → enter 204800 KB

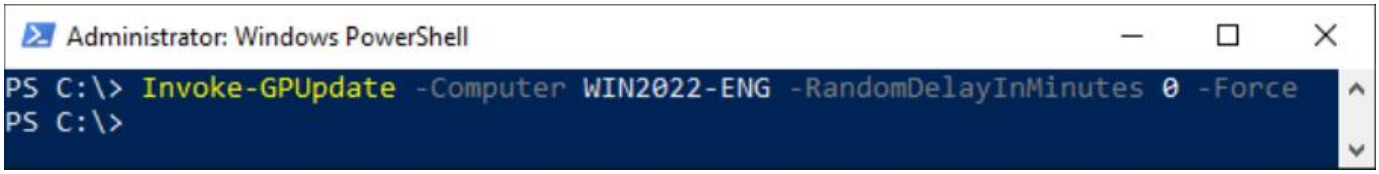
Note: Please adjust the number based on the actual environment. → click “OK.”



(8) On the AD domain server, open “Windows PowerShell.”

(9) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

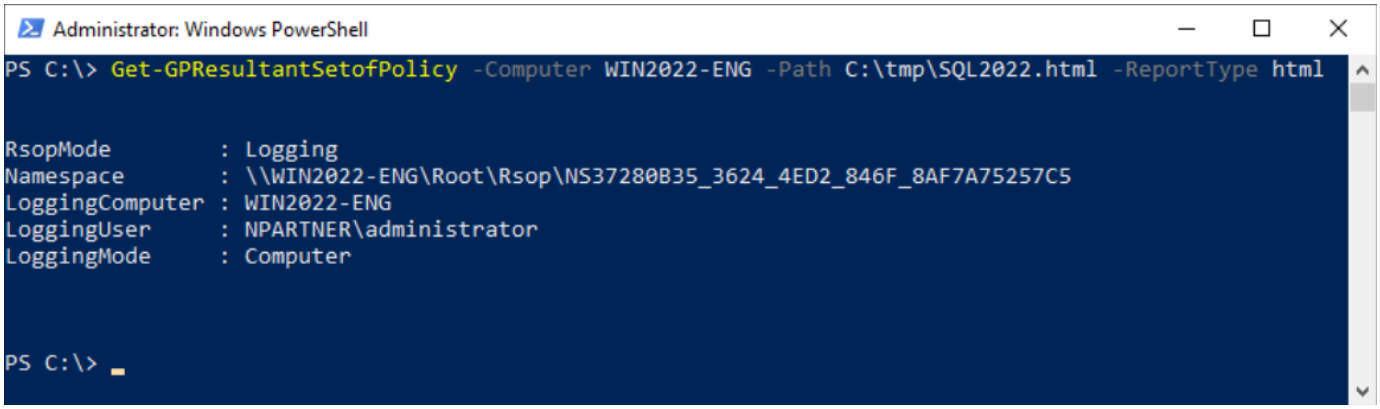
```
PS C:\> Invoke-GPUpdate -Computer WIN2022-ENG -RandomDelayInMinutes 0 -Force
```



Replace the text shown in red with the MS SQL server name.

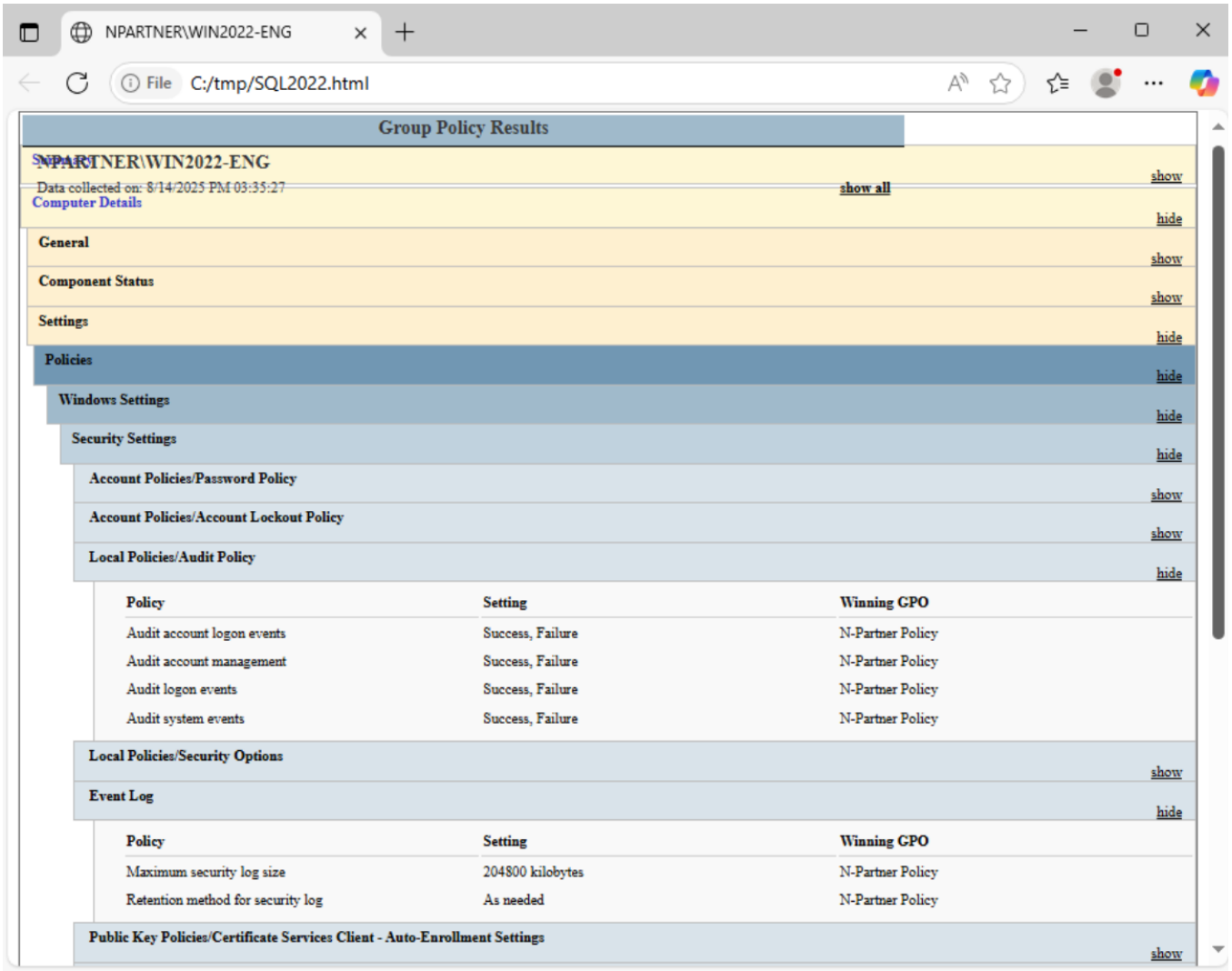
(10) Enter the command below to generate server group policy report.

```
PS C:\> Get-GPResultantSetofPolicy -Computer WIN2022-ENG -Path C:\tmp\SQL2022.html -ReportType html
```



For the red text , please enter the MS SQL server name and the folder path/file name.

(11) Open the report and verify that your MS SQL server is applying the N-Partner Policy Group Policy.

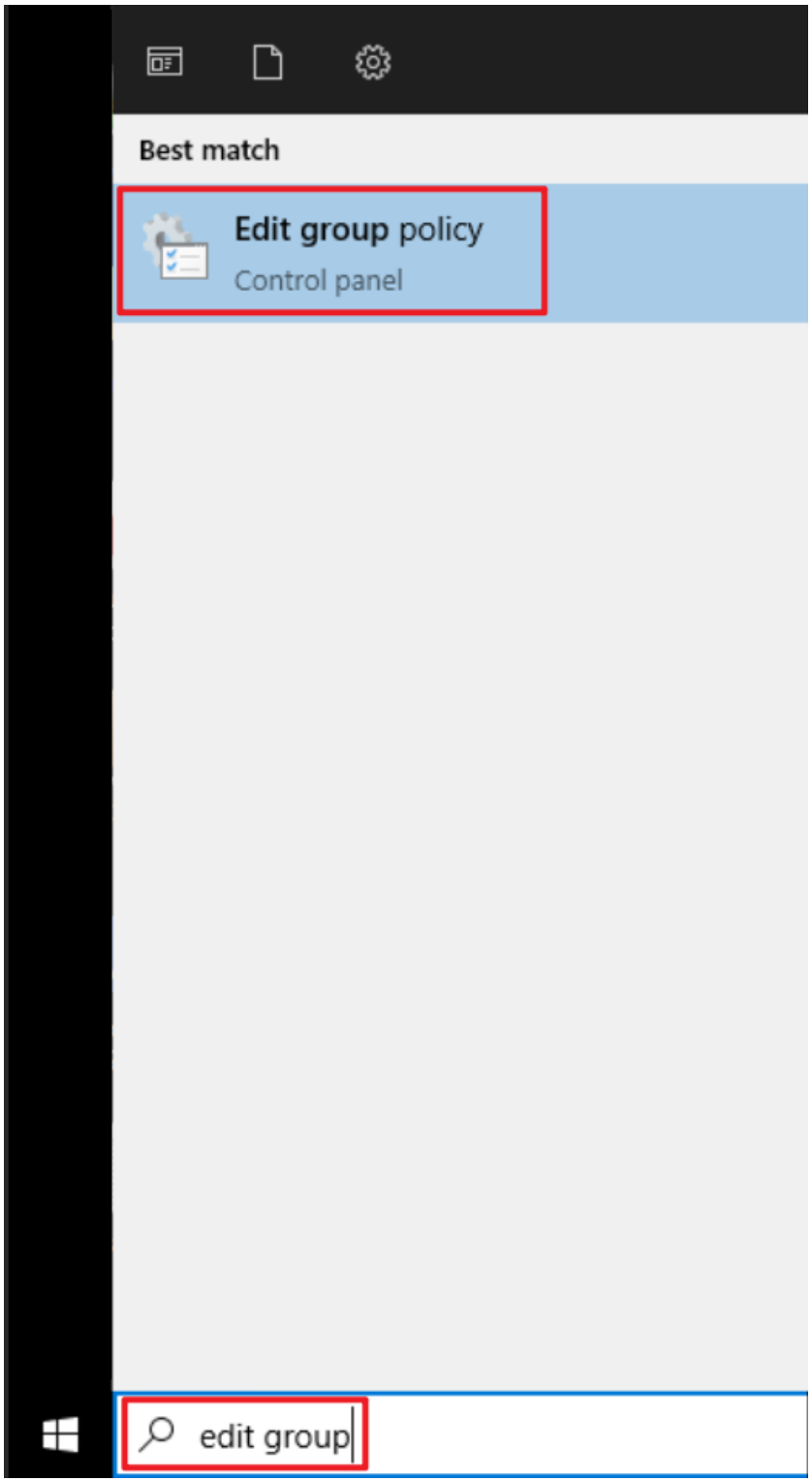


6.3.2 Workgroup

6.3.2.1 Audit Policy Configuration

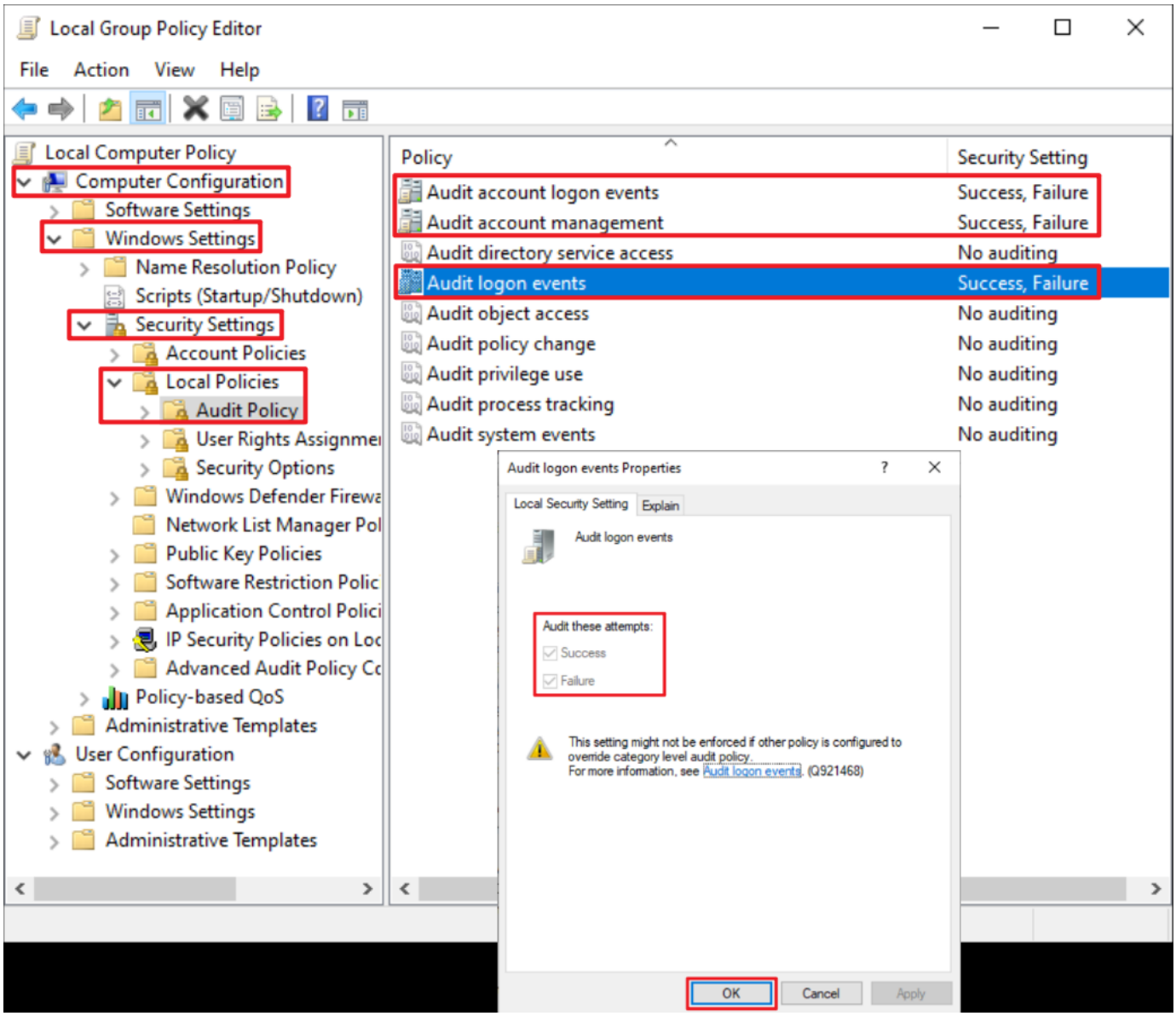
(1) Open Local Group Policy Editor

Click on “Start” → enter “group policy” to search → click on “Edit Group Policy.”



(2) Local Group Policies: Audit Policy

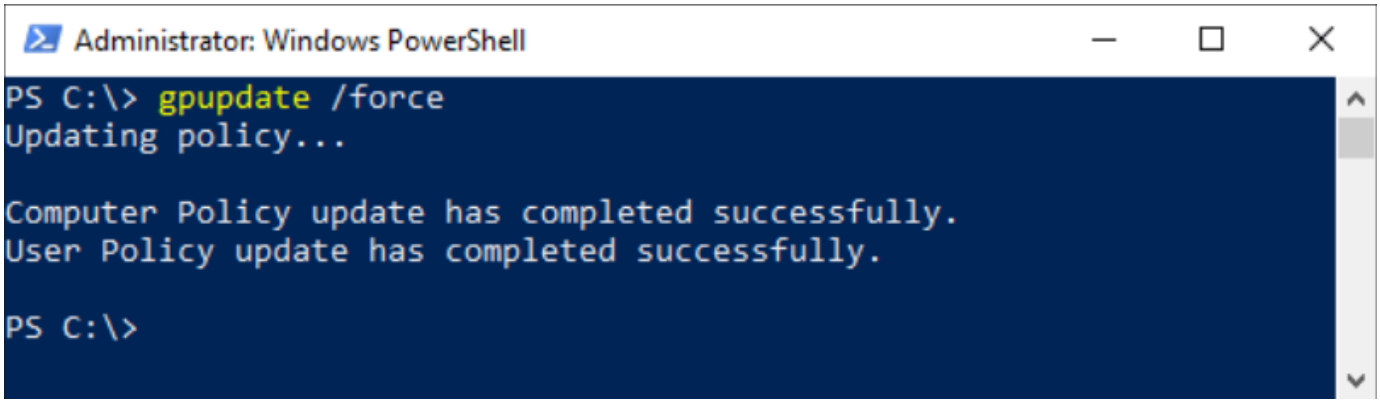
Expand folder “Computer Configuration” → “Windows Settings” → “Security Settings” -> “Local Policies” → “Audit Policy.” And click on “Audit account logon events,” “Audit account management,” and “Audit logon events” items → check “Define these policy settings”: Success, Failure. → click “OK.”



(3) Open “Windows PowerShell.”

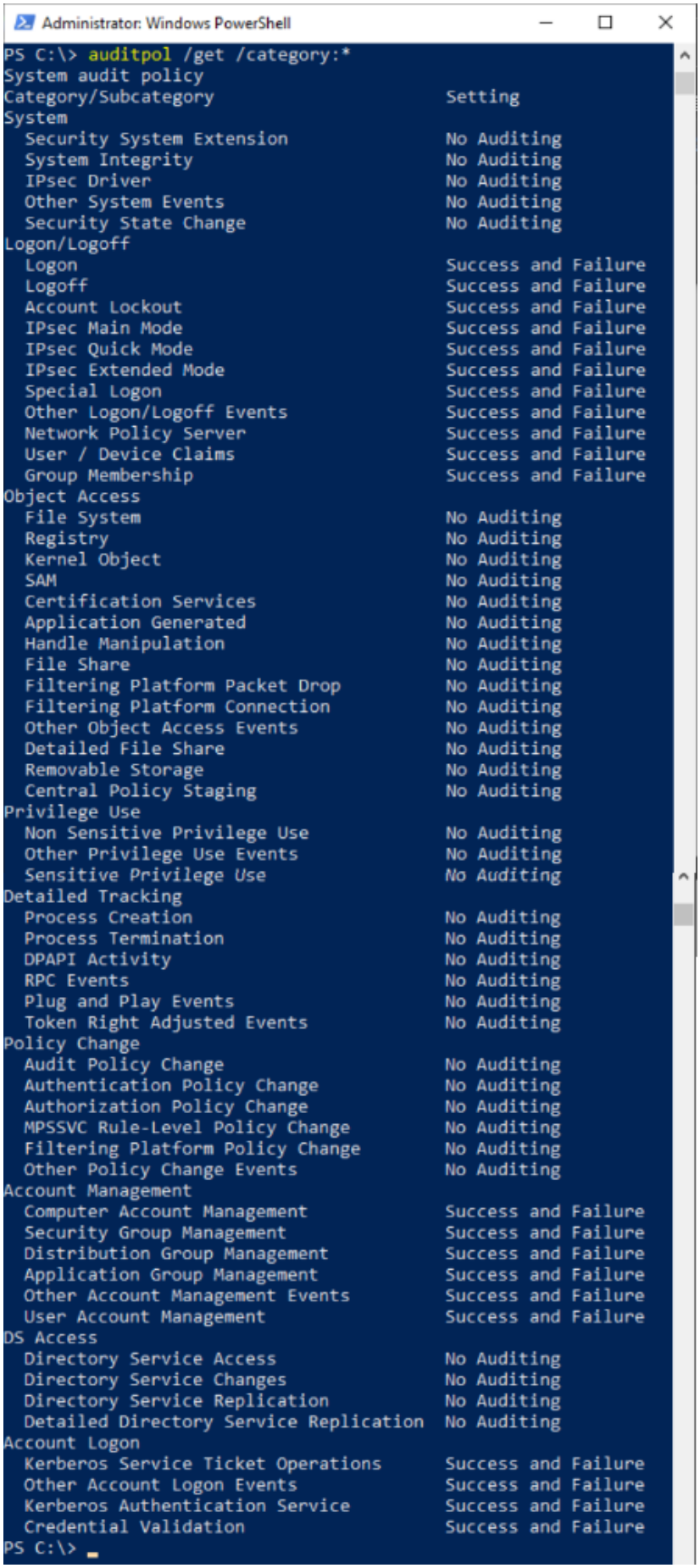
(4) Enter the command below to refresh group policy.

```
PS C:\> gpupdate /force
```



(5) Enter the command below to view group policy applied status.

```
PS C: \> auditpol /get /category:*
```



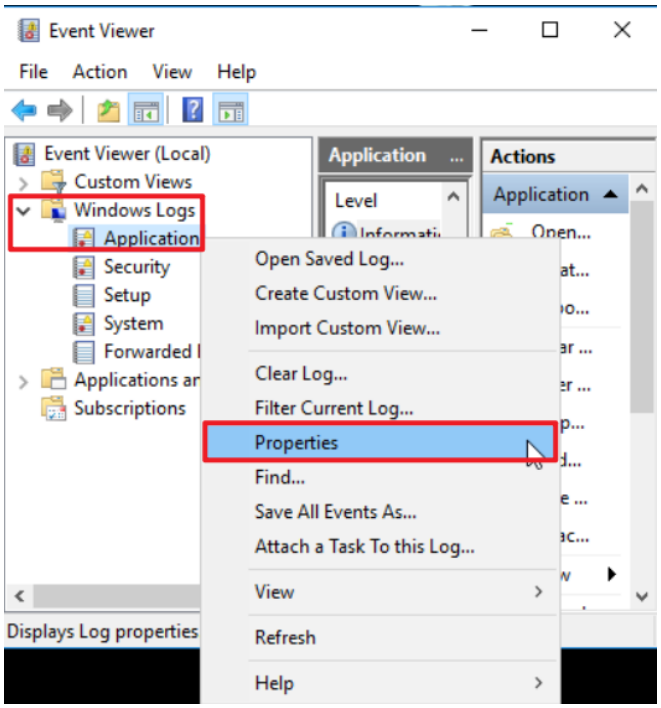
6.3.2.2 Event Log Settings

(1) Search for “Event Viewer”

Enter “Event Viewer” to search → click on “Event Viewer” in the search results.

(2) Edit Security Log

Expand folder “Windows Logs” → right-click on “Application” → And click on “Properties.”

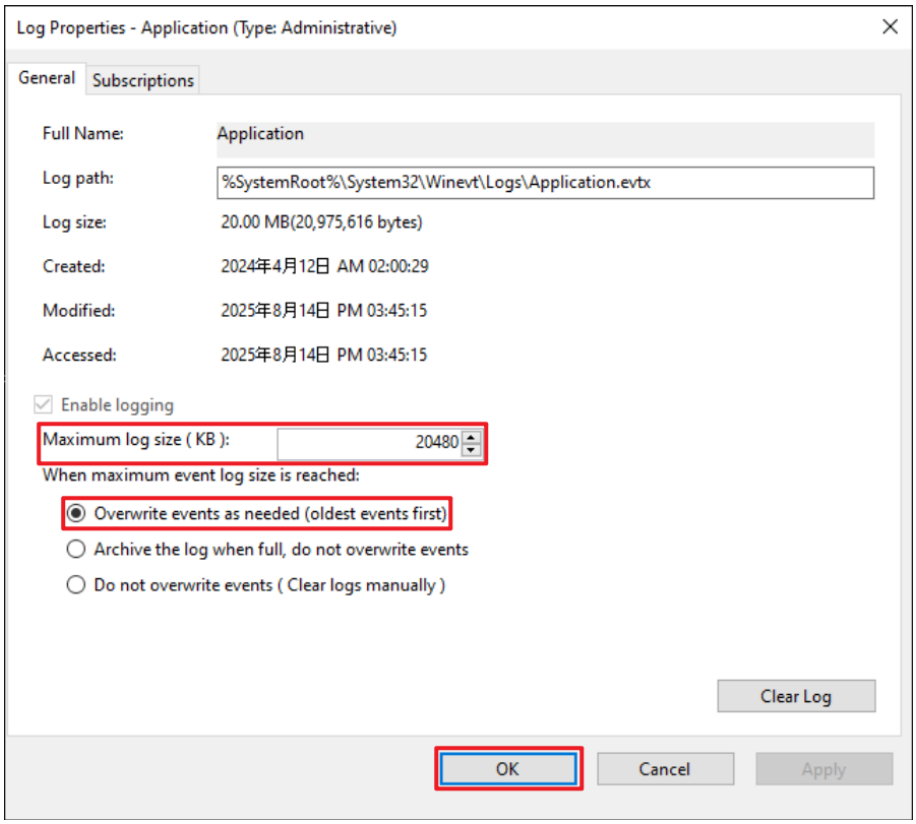


(3) Configure Security Log

Enter maximum log file size: 204800 KB

Note: Please adjust the number according to the actual environment.

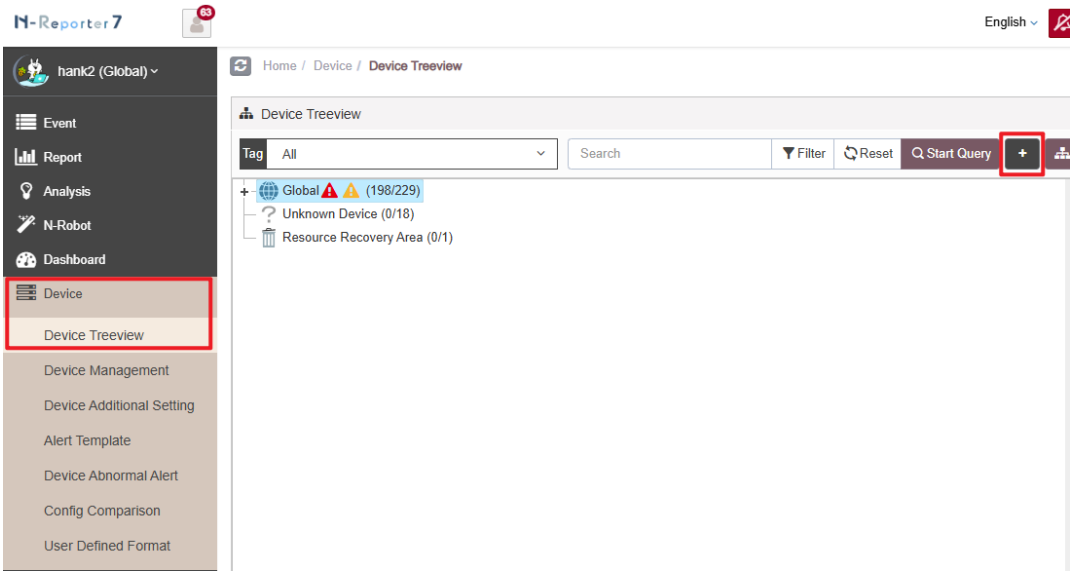
→ click on “Overwrite events as needed (oldest events first) → click “OK.”



7. N-Reporter

(1) Add a Windows MS SQL device:

Go to “Device Management” → “Device Treeview” → click “Add.”



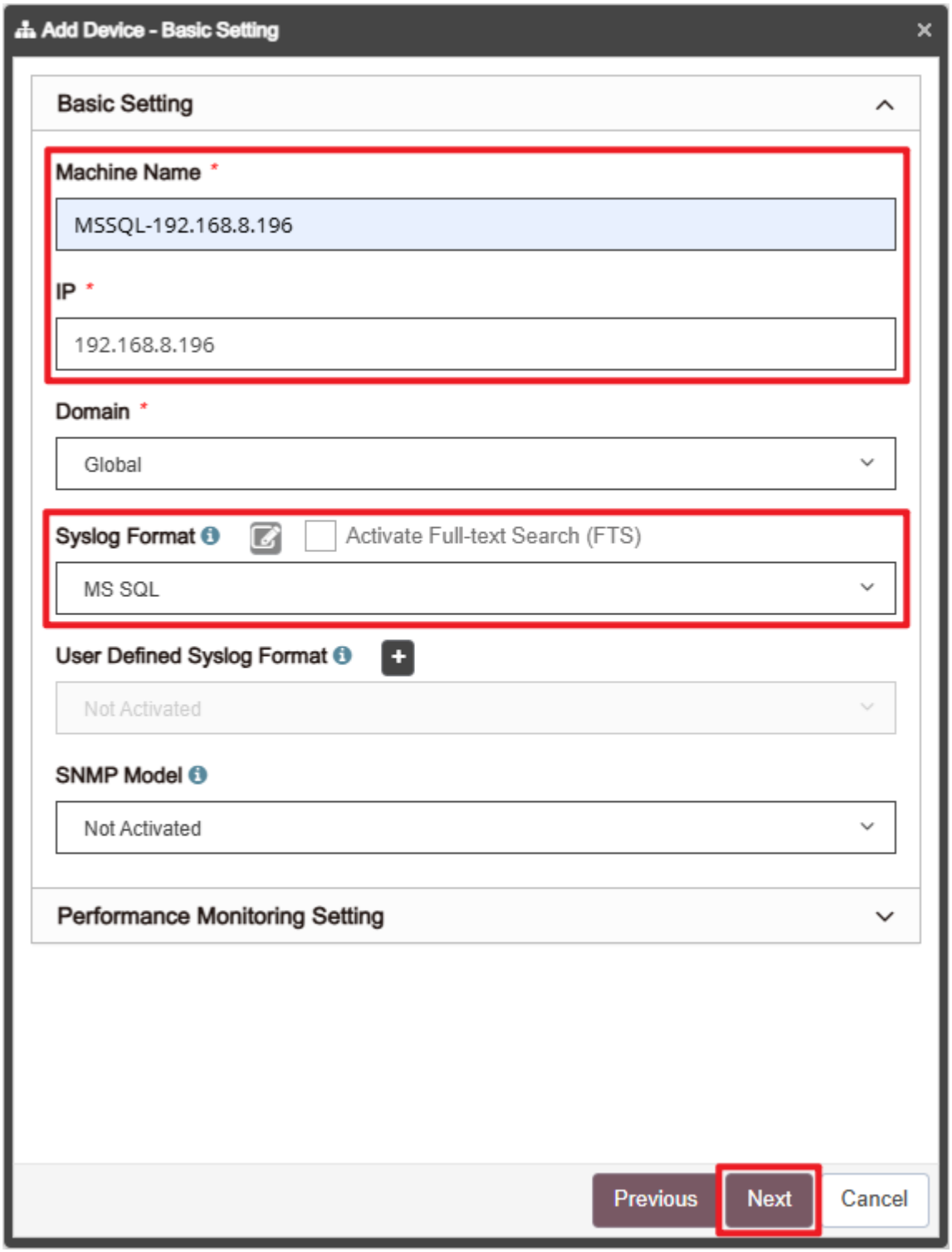
(2) Select the device type:

Choose “Application/DB/OS/Server” → click “Guided Mode.”

7.1 MS SQL Server Event Log

(1) Basic Device Settings:

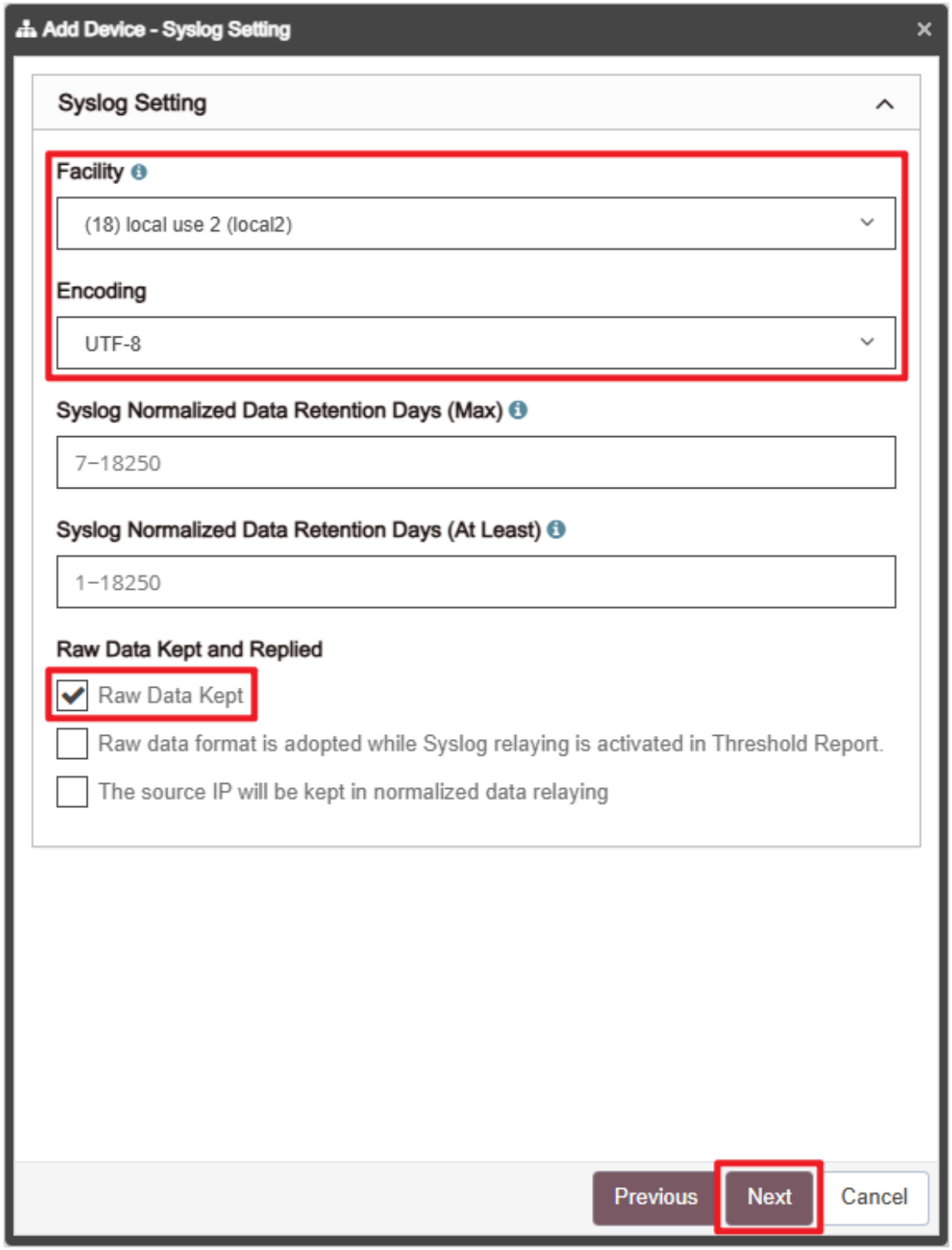
Enter the device name and IP address → For Syslog Data Format, select “MS SQL” → click “Next.”



(2) Syslog Settings

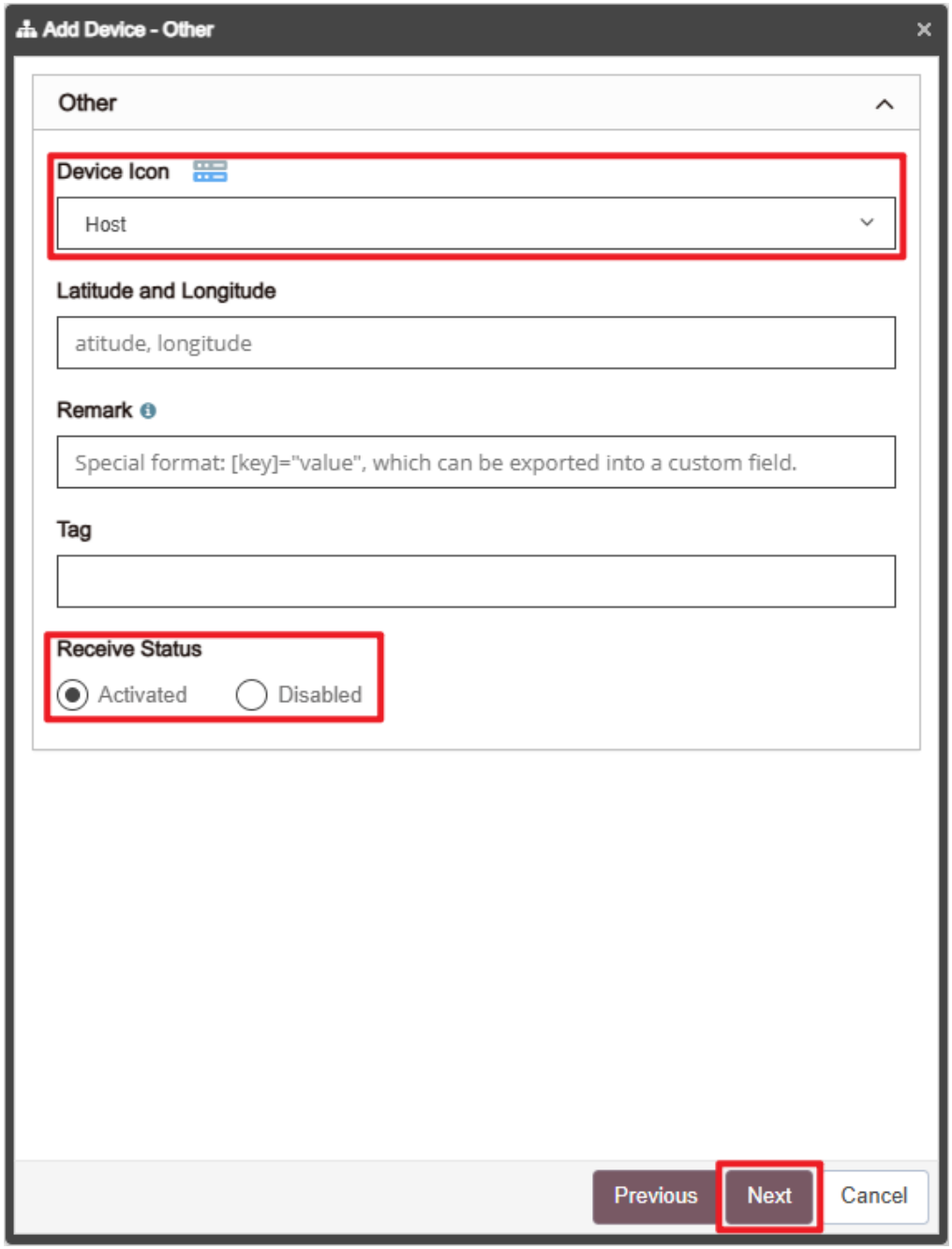
Set “Facility” to “(18) local use 2 (local2)” → click “Next.”

If “Raw Data Kept” is checked, the “Event Query” page will display raw data information.

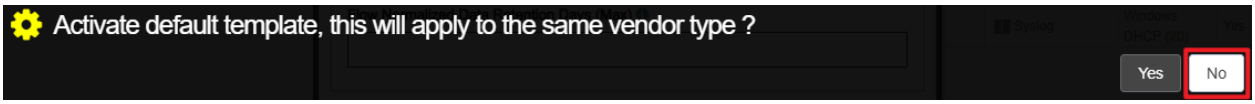


(3) Others

Set “Device Icon” to “Host” → Set “Receiving Status” to “Activated” → click “Next” → Confirm.



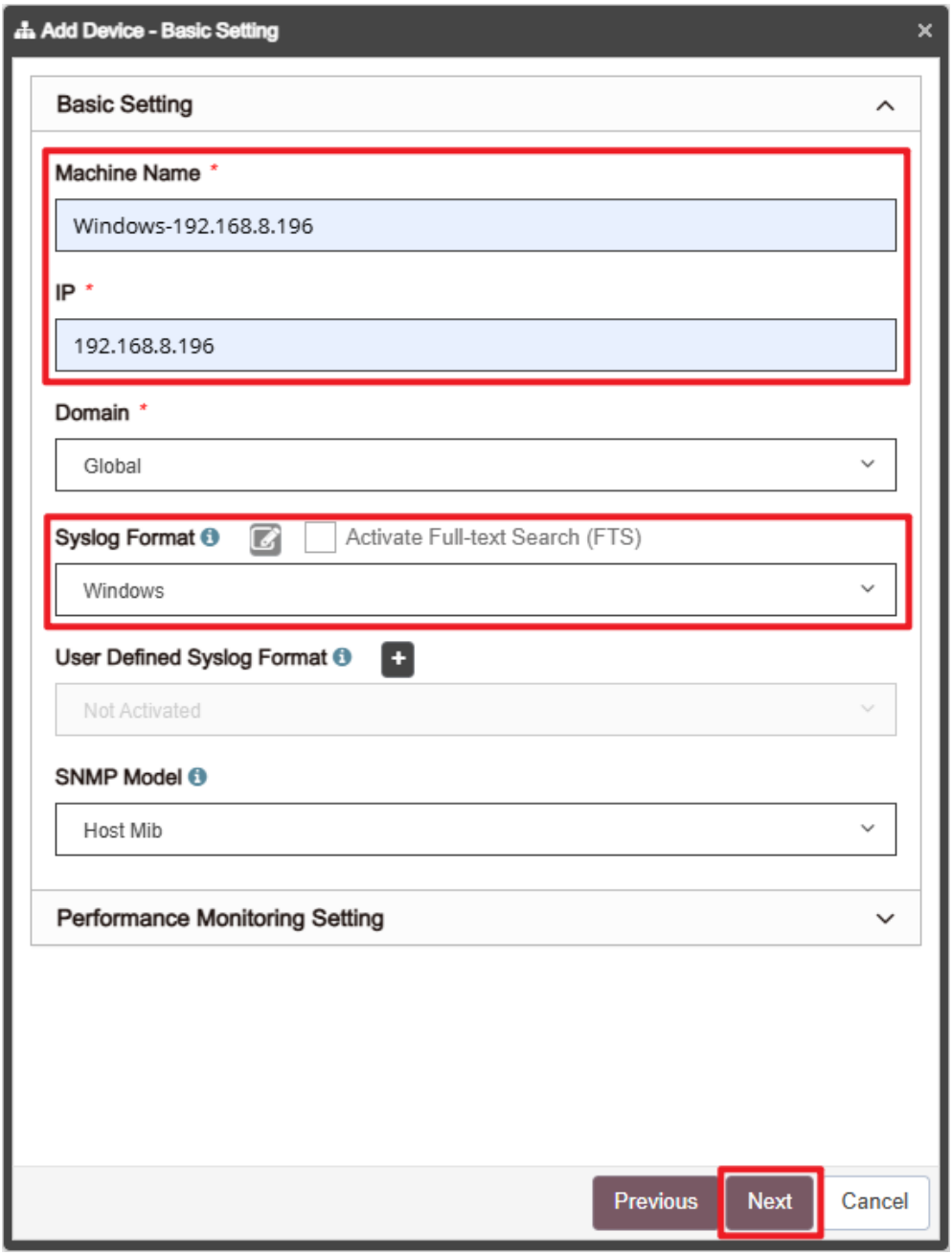
Activate default templates for devices of the same vendor type, click “No.”



7.2 Windows Event Log

(1) Device Basic Settings

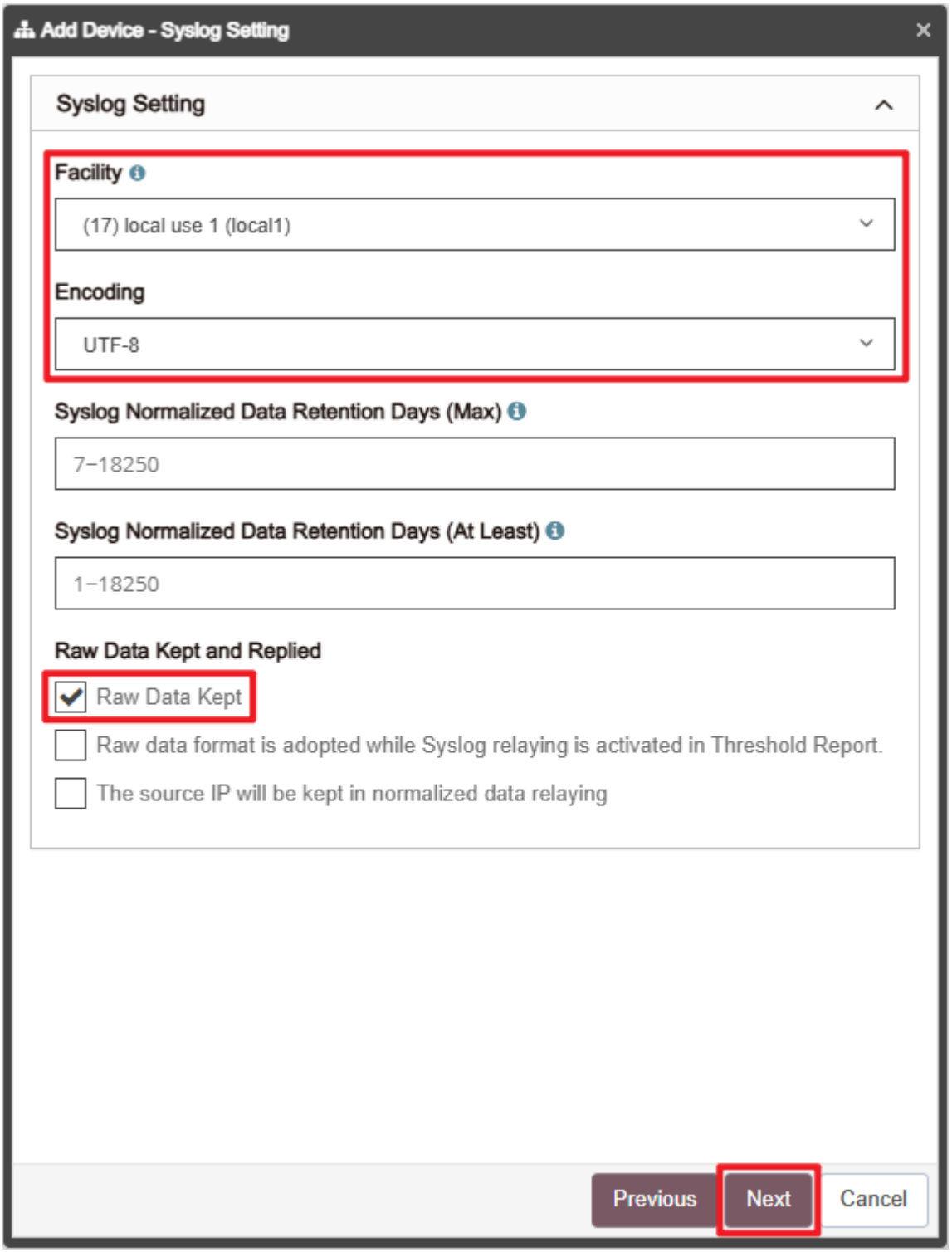
Enter the device name and IP → Select “Windows” for the Syslog data format → Click “Next.”



(2) Syslog Settings

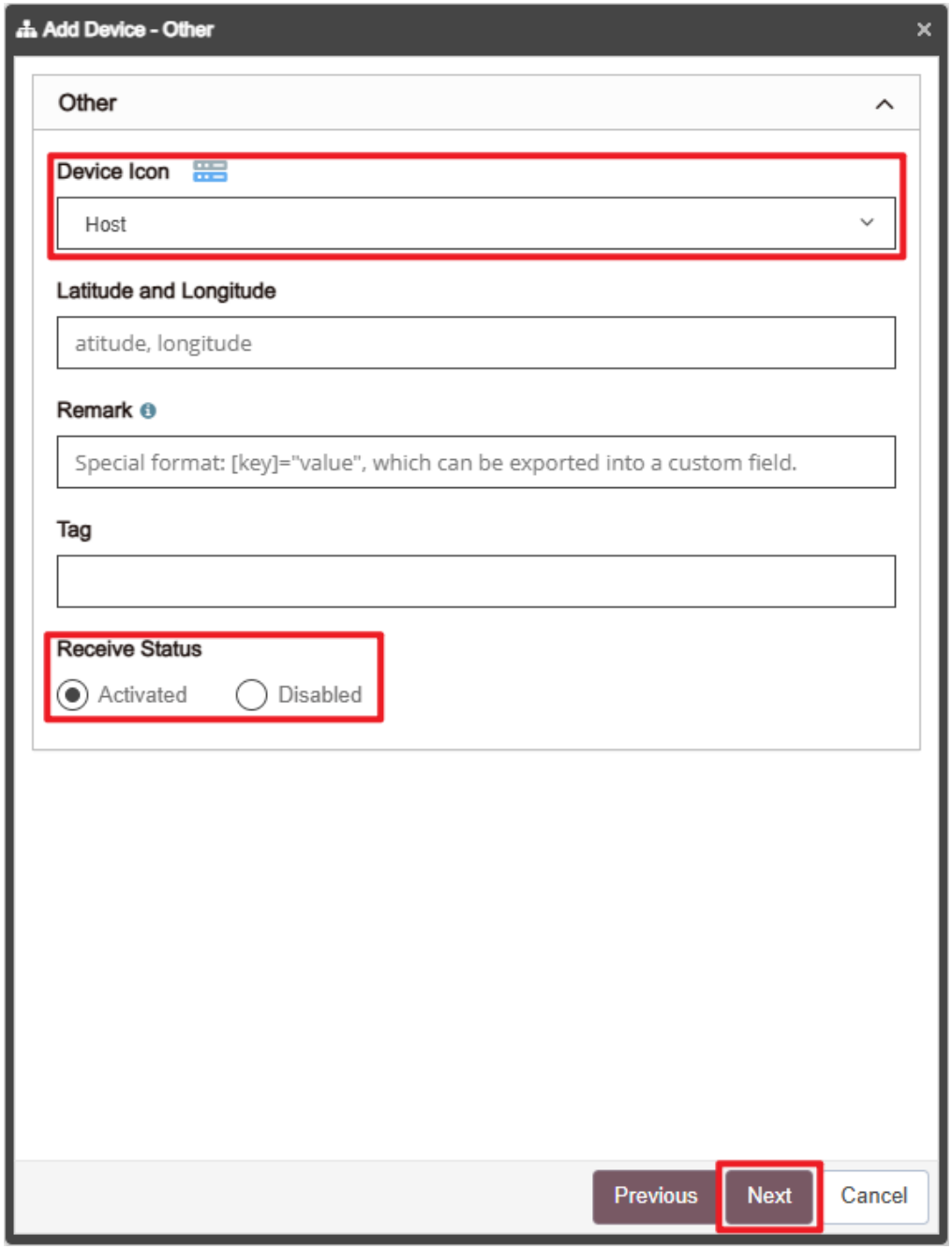
Set “Facility” to “(17) local use 1 (local1)” → click “Next.”

If “Raw Data Kept” is checked, the “Event Query” page will display raw data information.

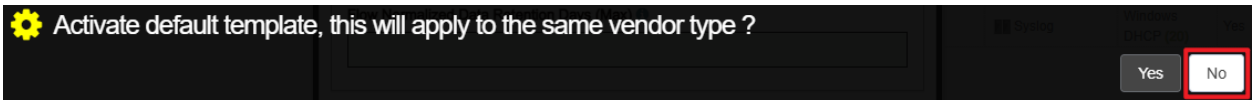


(3) Others

Set “Device Icon” to “Host” → Set “Receiving Status” to “Activated” → click “Next” → Confirm.



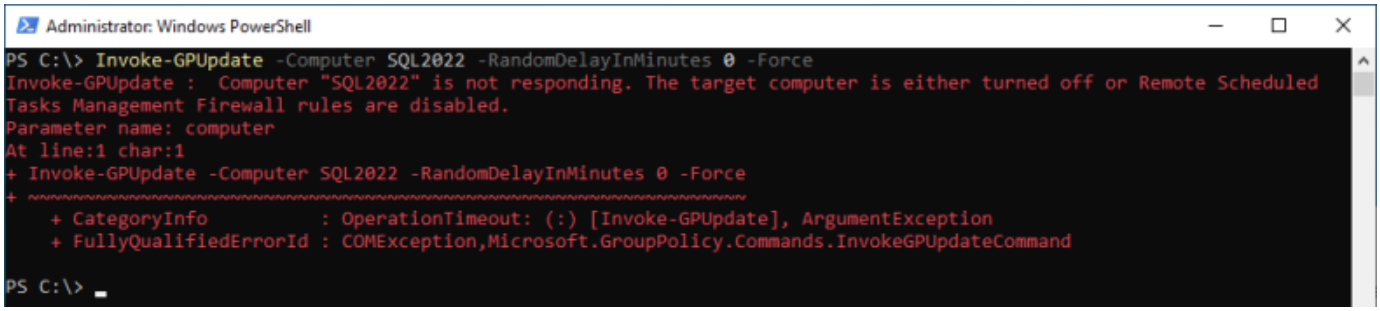
Activate default templates for devices of the same vendor type, click “No.”



8. Troubleshooting

8.1 Invoke-GPUpdate Error

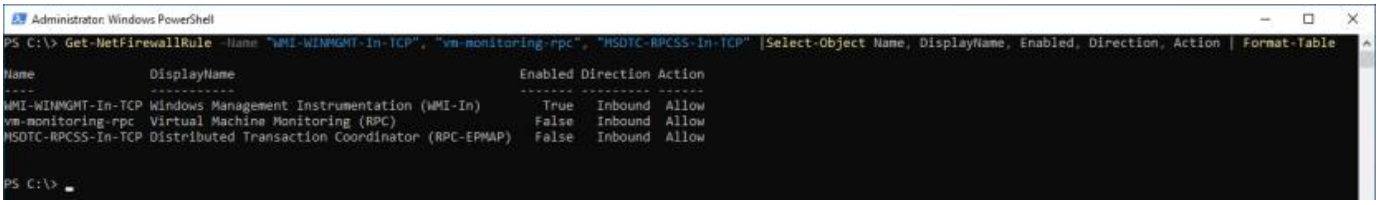
(1) On the AD domain server, run Invoke-GPUpdate to update the Windows Server Group Policy. An error message may appear.



(2) On the Windows Server, open “Windows PowerShell.”

(3) Enter the following command to check the Windows Firewall rules for **WMI-WINMGMT-In-TCP**, **vm-monitoring-rpc**, and **MSDTC-RPCSS-In-TCP**:

```
PS C:\> Get-NetFirewallRule -Name "WMI-WINMGMT-In-TCP", "vm-monitoring-rpc", "MSDTC-RPCSS-In-TCP" | Select-Object Name, DisplayName, Enabled, Direction, Action | Format-Table
```

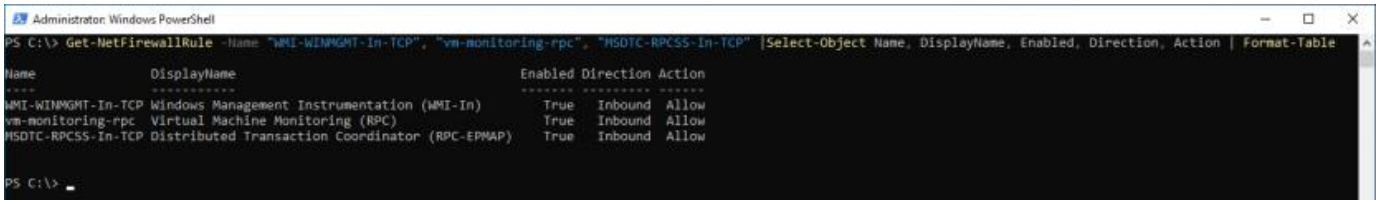


(4) Enter the following command to enable the Windows Firewall rules **WMI-WINMGMT-In-TCP**, **vm-monitoring-rpc**, and **MSDTC-RPCSS-In-TCP**:

```
PS C:\> Set-NetFirewallRule -Name "WMI-WINMGMT-In-TCP", "vm-monitoring-rpc", "MSDTC-RPCSS-In-TCP" -Enabled True
```

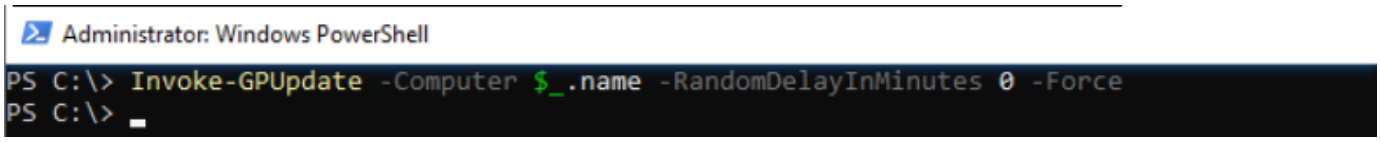
(5) Enter the following command to verify the Windows Firewall rules **WMI-WINMGMT-In-TCP, vm-monitoring-rpc, MSDTC-RPCSS-In-TCP** again:

```
PS C:\> Get-NetFirewallRule -Name "WMI-WINMGMT-In-TCP", "vm-monitoring-rpc", "MSDTC-RPCSS-In-TCP" |
Select-Object Name, DisplayName, Enabled, Direction, Action | Format-Table
```



(6) On the **AD domain server**, enter the following command to update the Windows Server Group Policy:

```
PS C:\> Invoke-GPUpdate -Computer Win2019 -RandomDelayInMinutes 0 -Force
```



Note: Replace the text shown in red with the Windows Server name.

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