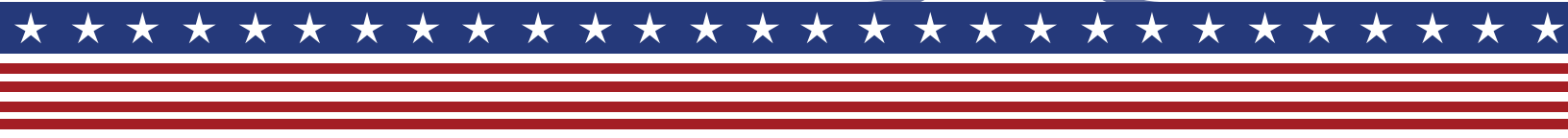


# SERVING AMERICA'S ELECTION OFFICIALS AND VOTERS

2019 EAC ANNUAL REPORT



U.S. ELECTION  
ASSISTANCE COMMISSION



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## Executive Summary

Pursuant to Section 207 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), this report documents the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's (EAC) activities during 2019 and serves as the agency's Annual Report to Congress. Among other required information, the report provides a detailed description of activities conducted with respect to each program carried out under HAVA, including information on HAVA grants and payments, and information on the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG).

The EAC advanced its mission in 2019 by supporting the effective administration of HAVA funds, preparing for the distribution of newly appropriated 2020 HAVA funds, testing and certifying voting systems, advancing the modernization of the VVSG, implementing the 2018 Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) and releasing the 2018 EAVS report, and implementing other activities to help secure U.S. election infrastructure and support election officials and voters as they prepare for the 2020 elections and beyond. Key activities and developments in 2019 are detailed below.

## Our Mission: Helping America Vote






In November 2017, the EAC adopted the following mission and vision statements for the agency.

**Mission Statement:** The U.S. Election Assistance Commission helps election officials improve the administration of elections and helps Americans participate in the voting process.

**Vision Statement:** A trusted, proactive, and responsive federal agency that helps election officials administer and voters participate in elections.

## 2018 HAVA Funds: Spending through FY2019

States reported spending roughly 24 percent of the 2018 HAVA funds through September 2019. The EAC projects that 75 percent of the funds will be expended by the November 2020 elections. By category, states reported spending these funds on:

	cybersecurity - 53.2 percent
	voting equipment 28.0 percent
	voter registration systems 10.8 percent
	post election auditing - 0.8 percent
	communications 0.5 percent
	other 6.7 percent

## Distributing and Administering HAVA Funds

- The EAC supported the effective administration of the \$380 million in 2018 HAVA funds throughout 2019. States reported using these funds in FY2019 to replace voting equipment, secure and modernize voter registration databases, conduct cybersecurity vulnerability assessments, implement cybersecurity best practices, and pilot and conduct post-election audits, among others uses.
- On December 20, 2019, President Donald J. Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, which includes \$425 million in new HAVA funds that will be distributed to state election offices by the EAC. Building on the EAC's rapid disbursement of 2018 HAVA funds in 2018, in late 2019 the EAC began preparations to distribute the 2020 HAVA funds to states as expeditiously as possible in early 2020.
- In April 2019, the EAC released a report on the impact of HAVA funding on the 2018 elections. The report, *The Impact of HAVA Funding on the 2018 Elections: A Summary of State Investments Made to Improve the Administration of Elections and Help Americans Vote*, summarized the states' plans for how the funds would be used and highlighted state-level case studies.
- Throughout 2019, the EAC concluded HAVA funds "close-out" processes with 46 states regarding their previously awarded HAVA Section 101 and/or 251 funds. Closing out previously expended funds eases the record-keeping burden on states, shortening the period during which they are required to maintain grant files.
- In November 2019, the EAC's Office of the Inspector General launched audits of six states (Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, and West Virginia) regarding their use of the 2018 HAVA funds. The EAC has offered technical assistance to the states for resolution of audit findings following the audits, which will continue into 2020.

## The Election Infrastructure Subsector Government Coordinating Council

Following the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) designation of election infrastructure as critical infrastructure in January 2017, the EAC played a key role in helping establish the the Government Coordinating Council (GCC) for the elections subsector. The GCC enables local, state, and federal governments to share information and collaborate on best practices to mitigate and counter threats to election infrastructure. As outlined in the GCC's October 2017 charter, the EAC Chair serves on the GCC's executive committee, the Vice Chair serves as a voting member, and the remaining two commissioners serve as ex officio, non voting members. In addition, six voting members of the GCC are drawn from the EAC's three advisory boards.



*Chairwoman McCormick at the public hearing on VVSG 2.0 in Salt Lake City, Utah*

## Advancing VVSG 2.0, Voting System Testing and Certification

- The EAC completed testing and certification of ten voting systems from five vendors in 2019. Test campaigns for three additional voting systems from two vendors were ongoing at the end of 2019.
- The EAC took a number of steps in 2019 to advance the next generation of voluntary voting system guidelines, known as VVSG 2.0, a process that began in earnest following the reestablishment of a quorum of EAC commissioners in December 2014 and the adoption of VVSG 1.1 in March 2015. These steps included:
  - » soliciting public comments on the proposed VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines for a 90-day period from February 28 to May 29, 2019 (later extended to June 7);
  - » hosting three public hearings on the record, including hearings in Memphis, Tennessee and Salt Lake City, Utah in April 2019, and one in Silver Spring, Maryland in May 2019;
  - » facilitating the ongoing development of the VVSG 2.0 Technical Requirements by the Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), supported by the National Institute of Standards (NIST), at the seven meetings of the TGDC, including six conference calls from April to December 2019 and the committee's annual meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland in September 2019;
  - » facilitating discussion on VVSG 2.0 Technical Requirements among the EAC Standards Board at its annual meeting in April 2019; and
  - » facilitating discussion on VVSG 2.0 Technical Requirements among the EAC Board of Advisors at its annual meeting in April 2019.

- In August 2019, the EAC hosted a forum on election security and voting system certification in Silver Spring, Maryland. The forum convened state election officials, voting system manufacturers, and representatives from the DHS, NIST, and EAC-accredited voting system test laboratories to discuss identifying and addressing software vulnerabilities in voting systems and related topics.
- In November 2019, the EAC issued a Notice of Clarification for software *de minimis* changes. The *de minimis* change process is used by the EAC to allow minor modifications to a certified voting system. The program was clarified to allow minor testing as well as new software versions and builds in addition to clarifying the types of changes the EAC might consider *de minimis*.

## Leveraging Election Research and Data, Conducting the 2018 EAVS

- The EAC completed administration of the 2018 Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) in May 2019 and released the 2018 EAVS Comprehensive Report and dataset in June 2019. The report's chapter on voter registration served as the agency's mandated report to Congress on the impact of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). The survey's section on military and overseas voters collects data that states are required to report to the EAC under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).
- The 2018 EAVS was accompanied by a state-level survey called the Election Administration Policy Survey (Policy Survey), which collects information on the legal and administrative framework for election administration and voting in each state to provide important contextual information for the jurisdiction-level data collected via the EAVS.

## 2018 EAVS: Key Findings

- nearly all states and territories saw increases in turnout from 2014 to 2018, ranging from 2 to 28 percent;
- the percentage of the electorate who voted early in-person increased from 2014 to 2018, rising from 11 to 17 percent;
- by-mail voting was used by roughly one in four voters in 2018;
- motor vehicle licensing agencies remained the most common source of voter registration applications in the two-year period prior to the 2018 midterms, receiving nearly 45 percent of all applications in that period;
- online voter registration was the source of 16 percent of voter registration applications in the two years prior to 2018, up from 9 percent in the two year period prior to 2014;
- the usage of electronic poll books increased by 48 percent between 2014 and 2018; and
- 816 jurisdictions in 14 states used paperless Direct Recording Electronic voting equipment in 2018.

- In June 2019, the EAC hosted an Election Data Summit on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, coinciding with the release of the 2018 EAVS report and its submission to Congress. Held in the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration hearing room, the all-day event convened state and local election officials, their federal partners, and other key election stakeholders to discuss EAVS findings and leveraging data-driven practices to improve election administration.
- For the first time in the history of the survey, respondents to the 2018 EAVS had the option of completing the EAVS online, along with the traditional EAVS data collection template. Jurisdictions from 15 states choose the online option for the 2018 EAVS. As more and more respondents complete the survey online, the EAC plans to transition to a fully online survey experience in the coming years.
- In September 2019, the EAC released individualized 2018 EAVS Data Briefs for each state and territory. The briefs are one-page snapshots of key EAVS and Policy Survey data points.
- In December 2019, the EAC released the 2018 EAVS Data Interactive, an online tool that allows visitors to explore, visualize, and compare election jurisdictions' EAVS responses.
- In October 2019, the EAC published the draft survey instruments for the 2020 EAVS and Policy Survey, and solicited feedback through a 60-day public comment period from October to December. Proposed changes to the instruments seek to collect greater and more detailed information about elections infrastructure, voter registration and list maintenance, election technology, and voting by mail, among other issues. The EAC expects to finalize the instruments in early 2020 following a second public comment period.

## Serving Election Officials and Voters

- Led by the EAC Chair on the GCC Executive Committee, the EAC actively participated in and supported the work of the GCC to share information and strengthen election infrastructure throughout 2019.
- Engaging with state and local election officials, voters, and other election stakeholders, EAC commissioners traveled to 56 cities in 28 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in 2019. EAC staff conducted stakeholder engagement visits to 21 cities in 13 states and the District of Columbia.
- Key stakeholder engagements included EAC staff providing “Election Official as Information Technology Manager” training to election officials in California, Nevada, and Ohio, as well as post-election auditing technical assistance to local election offices in Colorado, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.
- In July 2019, the EAC adopted a resolution recognizing the fourth Tuesday of each September as National Voter Registration Day and committing to joining national efforts to support voter registration and participation in elections. The EAC engaged in promotional activities on its website and social media platforms to support voter registration in the weeks leading up to National Voter Registration Day on September 24, 2019.
- Throughout 2019, the EAC processed requests from 11 states to update their state-specific instructions to the National Mail Voter Registration Application Form, which the EAC makes available to the public on its website.

- In April 2019, the EAC released five new translations of National Mail Voter Registration Application Form, reflecting the five most populous language communities in the U.S., among those with limited English proficiency and for whom the form was not previously translated. In addition to English, the form is now available in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.
- In April 2019, the EAC released an issue brief on language accessibility in elections. The brief aims to aggregate existing resources on the topic, help election officials understand language assistance requirements under the Voting Rights Act, and share information on how election jurisdictions have approached serving voters with language needs.
- From September to November 2019, the EAC sought submissions for its annual Clearinghouse Awards, known as the Clearies. There were 17 winners across the 4 categories: improving accessibility for voters with disabilities; outstanding innovations in elections; best practices in recruiting, retaining, and training poll workers; and most creative and original “I Voted” stickers.



*Louisiana’s 2019 Clearie-winning “I Voted” sticker*

## Operations and Finance

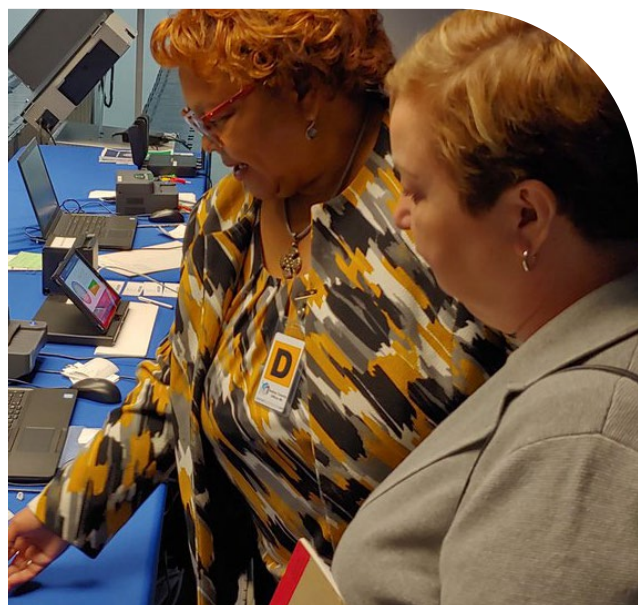
- Along with many other federal government agencies, the EAC ceased most of its operations during the lapse in appropriations from December 22, 2018 to January 25, 2019. While most agency activities were halted, the EAC was able to continue data collection for the 2018 EAVS during this time.
- On January 2, 2019, the Senate confirmed Benjamin Hovland and Donald Palmer as EAC commissioners. These confirmations restored the Commission’s quorum, which had been absent since March 24, 2018. The confirmation marked the first time in nearly a decade that the Commission had a full set of four commissioners. The two new commissioners were sworn in on February 4, 2019.
- On February 15, 2019, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019, which provided the EAC with \$9.2 million for FY2019, including a \$1.25 million transfer to NIST. This reflected a \$900,000 decrease from the agency’s FY2018 appropriation level of \$10.1 million, which included a \$1.5 million transfer to NIST.
- On February 22, 2019, in accordance with HAVA Section 203(c), the Commission voted to appoint Commissioner Christy McCormick as EAC Chairwoman and Commissioner Benjamin Hovland as the Vice Chairman. During the preceding year, Commissioner Thomas Hicks had served as Chairman and Commissioner McCormick had served as Vice Chairwoman.



- EAC commissioners testified before Congress on five occasions in 2019, including:
  - » Commissioner Hicks, U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security, hearing on election security on February 13;
  - » all commissioners, U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, EAC oversight hearing on May 15;
  - » all commissioners, U.S. House Committee on House Administration, EAC oversight hearing on May 21;
  - » Chairwoman McCormick, U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform, hearing on election security on May 22; and
  - » Vice Chair Hovland, U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, hearing on election security on October 22.
- In September 2019, the Commission voted on whether to retain then Executive Director Brian Newby and General Counsel Cliff Tatum, whose four-year terms were set to expire on October 22, 2019. The vote failed to receive the three votes necessary for retention. In accordance with the EAC's succession plan, Chief Information and Security Officer Mona Harrington assumed the role of Acting Executive Director on October 23, and the Commission immediately began recruitment efforts to identify a new Executive Director and General Counsel. As outlined in HAVA Section 204(a)(3)(A), the EAC engaged the search committees of the Board of Advisors and Standards Board to recommend nominees for the position of Executive Director.
- The EAC replaced legacy information technology systems and implemented a modern and secure information technology infrastructure in 2019. The modernization resulted in a more scalable, robust, secure, and efficient network for the agency.
- On December 20, 2019, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, which provided the EAC with \$15.171 million for FY2020, including a \$1.5 million transfer to NIST and \$2.4 million for relocation expenses.
- With targeted appropriations secured in December 2019, the EAC resumed preparations to relocate its office in late 2019.



*Vice Chair Hovland testifying before the U.S. Committee on House Administration*



*Chairwoman McCormick views election technology with Elections Administrator Toni Pippins-Poole in Dallas County, Texas*



## CHAIRWOMAN'S MESSAGE

For many voters 2019 was an off year and voting was not on their minds, but as election officials well know, there is no such thing as an off year in election administration. The work of running elections and making sure those elections are secure is an ongoing task, and we applaud the job officials do year in and year out. In 2018, election officials helped bolstered confidence in the election process by managing threats and increasing security of election systems. Those efforts continued and evolved in 2019 with the busy presidential election year on the horizon.

We at the EAC work to provide state and local election officials with access to valuable resources and to ensure these resources are shaped by, and responsive to, election officials' needs. Just like election officials, EAC commissioners and staff did not have an off year, and we were working hard to provide assistance and share information to support preparations for 2020.

2019 was an eventful year for the EAC, bookended by developments we believe will prove critical to the success of the agency. At the beginning of the year, on January 2, the Senate confirmed Benjamin Hovland and Donald Palmer to serve as EAC commissioners. Their appointment resulted in the agency having a full slate of four commissioners for the first time in nearly a decade. Commissioners Hovland and Palmer have added to the variety of backgrounds represented by the commissioners and enabled us to make decisions to improve the agency and better serve America's election officials and voters.

The year ended on another high note, as President Trump and Congressional leaders reached a deal to provide an additional \$425 million in HAVA funds for the EAC to distribute to the states. Supplementing the \$380 million in HAVA funds distributed in 2018, this new infusion of funds will enable election officials to expand their efforts to strengthen U.S. elections infrastructure, protect against cybersecurity threats, and bolster public confidence in the election process. Signed into law on December 20, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 also included an increased funding level for the EAC, which the agency will use to advance our mission to serve election officials and voters in 2020 and beyond.

Throughout the year, the agency implemented core activities and convened election officials and key stakeholders to discuss issues of importance to the election community. In 2019 we advanced our mission by supporting the effective administration of HAVA funds, preparing for the distribution of newly appropriated 2020 HAVA funds, testing and certifying voting systems, advancing the modernization of the VVSG, conducting the 2018 EAVS, and implementing other activities to help secure U.S. election infrastructure and serve election officials and voters. To facilitate discussion and information sharing among election officials, federal partners, and other key stakeholders, the EAC organized multiple events in 2019, including an Election Security Summit, three public hearings on VVSG

2.0, an Election Data Summit, and the annual meetings of our three advisory boards.

2019 also represented a year of transition for the EAC, as Executive Director Brian Newby and General Counsel Cliff Tatum's four-year terms ended in October. On behalf of my fellow commissioners, let me extend a note of appreciation to Brian and Cliff for their years of service to the agency and elections community.

With the expectation of high turnout, continued focus on election security, and the guarantee of unforeseen developments impacting the election process, election officials will surely face critical tests in 2020. But we know election officials are up to the task -- and we at the EAC stand ready to assist them. We are doing everything in our power to make the new HAVA funds available to states as quickly as possible in early 2020, and remain committed to providing meaningful assistance to the election officials and voters we serve.

– **CHRISTY McCORMICK**  
CHAIRWOMAN,  
ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION



## MEET THE COMMISSIONERS

As outlined in Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the Commission is comprised of four members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Commission selects a chair and vice chair from among its members, representing different political parties, for a 1-year term. Commissioner Christy McCormick assumed the position of chair on

February 24, 2019, replacing Commissioner Thomas Hicks who had served in that role during the preceding year. Commissioner Hovland assumed the position of vice chair on the same date, replacing Commission McCormick. Any action which the Commission is authorized to carry out under HAVA may be carried out only with the approval of at least three of its members.



*EAC Commissioners at the public hearing on VVSG 2.0 in Silver Spring, Maryland.*



## Christy McCormick

### CHAIRWOMAN

Christy McCormick was nominated by President Barack H. Obama and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on December 16, 2014 to serve on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). She is currently serving her second term as Chairwoman of the Commission.

Prior to her appointment with the EAC, Commissioner McCormick served as a Senior Trial Attorney in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ), a position she held from 2006 until joining the Commission. Ms. McCormick was detailed by the Deputy Attorney General to be Senior Attorney Advisor and Acting Deputy Rule of Law Coordinator in the Office of the Rule of Law Coordinator at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq from 2009 to 2010, where she worked as the U.S. elections expert overseeing the Iraq national elections (including an extensive election re-count), as well as on numerous U.S. and coalition Rule of Law efforts.

Prior to joining the USDOJ, Ms. McCormick served as a Judicial Clerk to the Honorable Elizabeth A. McClanahan in the Court of Appeals of Virginia from 2003 to 2006. Ms. McCormick was an Assistant Attorney General and Assistant to the Solicitor General in the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia from 2001 to 2003. She was a member of the U.S. Supreme Court legal teams for *Black v. Virginia* (defending the Commonwealth's criminal statute against cross-burning) and *Hicks v. Virginia* (defending a 1st amendment challenge to a state trespassing policy), as well as in cases on appeal to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. She was a Judicial Law Clerk in Virginia's Seventh Judicial Circuit Court from 1999 to 2001.

Ms. McCormick received her B.A. from the University of Buffalo, a J.D. with honors from the George Mason University School of Law (now Antonin Scalia Law School), and also attended the William & Mary School of Law.



## Benjamin Hovland

### VICE CHAIR

Benjamin Hovland was nominated by President Donald J. Trump and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on January 2, 2019 to serve as an EAC Commissioner. Commissioner Hovland serves as the Designated Federal Officer for the Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC).

Mr. Hovland's 20-year career in elections has been shaped by his commitment to improving election administration and removing barriers to voting. Most recently, he served as Acting Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, where he was a driving force behind Congress appropriating \$380 million in Help America Vote Act funds to enhance election security to the states in 2018. While at the Senate, he focused on the federal government's role in election administration and campaign finance regulation. He organized several hearings on election security preparations and improving election administration. He was integral to restoring a quorum at the EAC in 2015. Earlier in his career, as the Deputy General Counsel for the Missouri Secretary of State's office, he focused on legal issues related to the administration of state and federal elections, including recounts, poll worker training, voter registration list maintenance, statewide database matching, voter education resources and ballot initiative litigation.



## Donald Palmer

### COMMISSIONER

Donald Palmer was nominated by President Donald J. Trump and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on January 2, 2019 to serve as an EAC Commissioner.

Commissioner Palmer is a former Bipartisan Policy Center Fellow where he advanced the recommendations of the Presidential Commission on Election Administration. Mr. Palmer is a former Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections and served as the commonwealth's Chief Election Official from 2011-2014. During his tenure, he implemented an online voter registration system and joined Virginia as a founding member of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a non-profit organization with the sole mission of assisting states to improve the accuracy of America's voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. He also served as Florida's Director of Elections where he successfully transitioned the state from electronic voting machines to paper-based digital voting machines prior to the 2008 Presidential Election and expanded the Florida voting system state certification program. Prior to his work in election administration, he served as a trial attorney with the Voting Section in the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, where he enforced the nation's federal voting laws. Palmer is a military veteran, retiring from the U.S. Navy after two decades as an intelligence officer and judge advocate general.

Mr. Palmer earned his J.D. at the Stetson University College of Law and his master's degree at George Washington University.



## Thomas Hicks

### COMMISSIONER

Thomas Hicks has served as EAC Chairman for two terms and as Vice Chairman for an additional two terms. During his time with the Commission, Mr. Hicks has focused his efforts on voting accessibility, including developing a guide to voters rights for voters with disabilities and creating a help desk to address ballot delivery issues for overseas voters. Prior to his appointment with EAC, Mr. Hicks served as a senior elections counsel and minority elections counsel on the US House of Representatives Committee on House Administration, a senior lobbyist and policy analyst for Common Cause, and as a special assistant and legislative assistant in the Office of Congressional Relations for the Office of Personnel Management during the Clinton administration.

Mr. Hicks received his J.D. from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law and his B.A. in Government from Clark University (Worcester, MA). He also studied at the University of London (London, England) and law at the University of Adelaide (Adelaide, Australia).





# Distributing and Administering HAVA Funds

Since the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) was established, the agency has distributed and supported the effective administration of more than \$3.68 billion in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds. The newly appropriated 2020 HAVA funds will bring that total higher than \$4 billion. In general, EAC-distributed HAVA funds have included Section 251 grants used by states to meet HAVA requirements, Section 101 grants used to improve the administration of elections for federal office, and other discretionary grants, such as the 2004-2010 HAVA College Program to help college students serve as poll workers and the 2008 Election Data Collection Grant Program.

## 2018 HAVA Election Security Grants

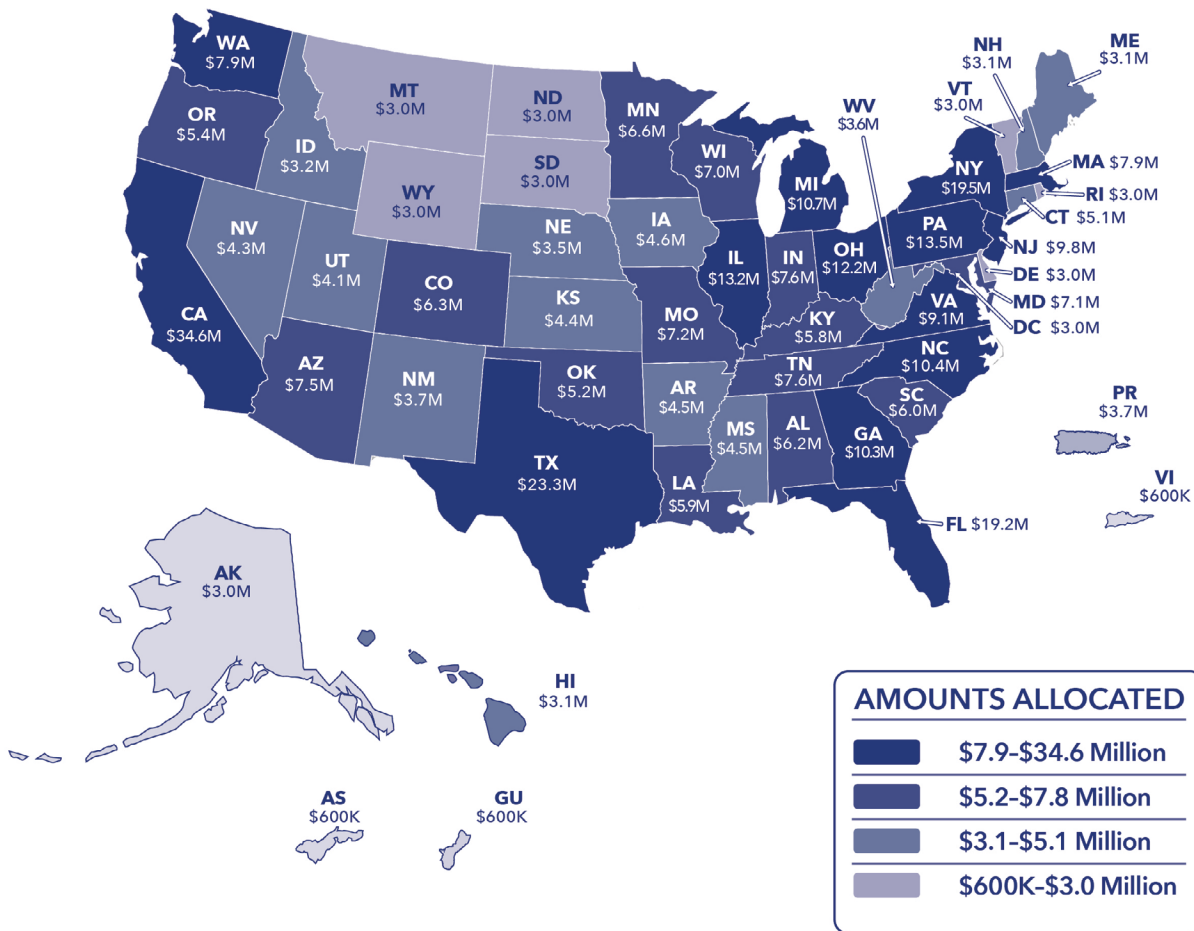
The EAC supported the effective administration of the \$380 million in 2018 HAVA election security grants throughout 2019. In their federal financial reports submitted in December 2019, states reported using these funds in FY2019 to replace voting equipment, secure and modernize voter registration databases, conduct cybersecurity vulnerability assessments, implement cybersecurity best practices, and pilot and conduct post-election audits, among others uses.

*"Nationally, secretaries of states are focused on protecting and securing the integrity of our elections. The 2018 HAVA funding appropriated by Congress has been helpful in this critical work. Certainly, the most recently appropriated [2020 HAVA election security grants] will further allow states to make important decisions in investments in our election infrastructure."*

**Jim Condos**

**Vermont Secretary of State, EAC 2020 Elections Summit**

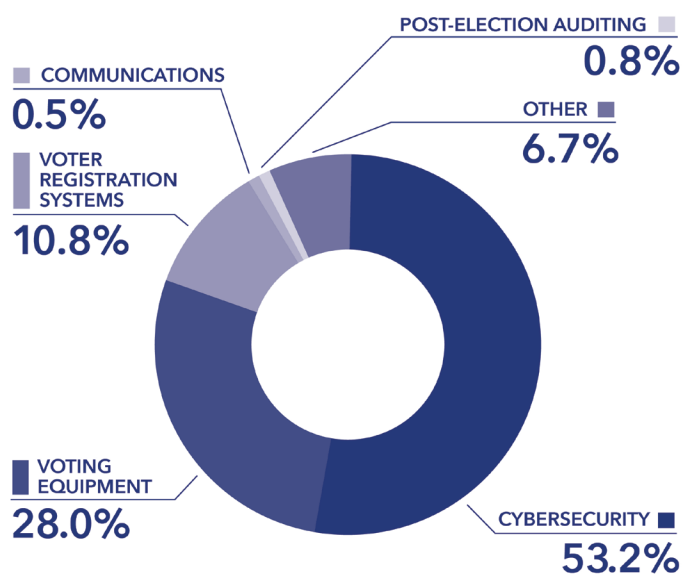
## 2018 HAVA Funds: State Allocations



The states have until March 2023 to fully expend their 2018 HAVA funds. Through September 2019, the states collectively reported spending roughly 24 percent of the \$380 million distributed. Four states reported expending more than 90 percent of their 2018 HAVA funds, including Arkansas, Delaware, Indiana and West Virginia. The EAC projects that 75 percent of the funds will be expended by the

November 2020 elections. By category, states reported spending these funds on: cybersecurity (53.2 percent); voting equipment (28.0 percent); voter registration systems (10.8 percent); post-election auditing (0.8 percent); communications (.5 percent); and other (6.7 percent).

### 2018 HAVA Funds: State Spending Through FY19



*Commissioner Hicks at Fortinet Event in Washington, DC in December 2019*

## Use of 2018 HAVA Election Security Grants in 2019

Illustrative examples of how states spent their 2018 election security grants in 2019 are below.

To support the **Pennsylvania** Department of State's directives that all new voting systems in the commonwealth must have a voter verifiable paper record and be in place by the April 2020 presidential primaries, Pennsylvania has committed to using all of its 2018 HAVA grant funds to reimburse counties for the purchase of compliant voting systems. By August 2019, a total of 51 counties had procured new voting systems. The remaining 16 counties planned to procure new voting systems prior to the end of 2019. By September 2019, Pennsylvania had distributed grant funds to 37 counties to reimburse the purchase of new voting system.

In September 2019, **New Jersey** reported using grant funds to partner with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and organize an Election Security Tabletop Exercise (TTX). The TTX was an all-day scenario-based training exercise attended by more than 400 participants, including local election officials and IT staff from all 21 counties in New Jersey, local law enforcement and emergency management officials, federal partners from the EAC, DHS, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and election officials from 14 other states.

**Wisconsin** reported using grant funds in 2019 to complete implementation of multi-factor authentication for its statewide voter registration database and election management system. By September 2019, the Wisconsin Election Commission had completed full fielding of multi-factor authentication statewide to all users of this system in the states' 72 counties and 1,850 municipalities.

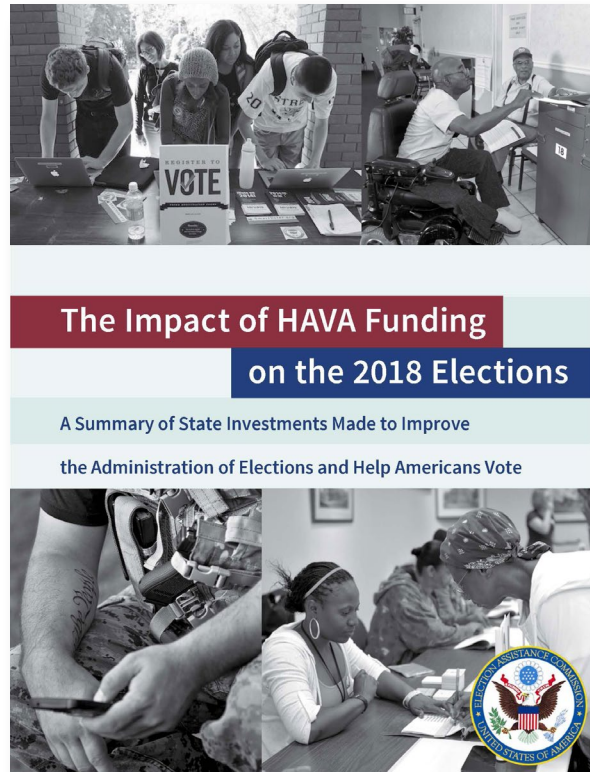
**Rhode Island** reported using grant funds to continue efforts to modernize and secure its statewide voter registration database prior to the 2020 elections, replacing a legacy system that had been in place for 14 years. The new system enhances the security of voter registration data and streamlines election processes for the Department of State, Board of Elections, and Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns.



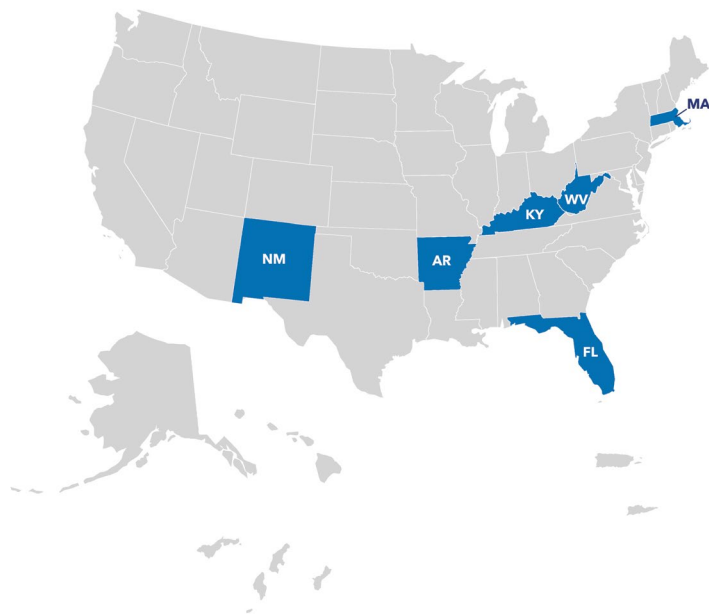
*Chairwoman McCormick and former Executive Director Brian Newby with West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner at New Jersey's statewide table top exercise on election security in Princeton, New Jersey.*

In April 2019, the EAC released a report on the impact of HAVA funding on the 2018 elections. The report, *The Impact of HAVA Funding on the 2018 Elections: A Summary of State Investments Made to Improve the Administration of Elections and Help Americans Vote*, summarized the states' plans for how the funds would be used and highlighted state-level case studies.

In November 2019, the EAC's Office of the Inspector General launched audits of six states regarding their use of the 2018 HAVA funds. The EAC has offered technical assistance to the states for resolution of audit findings following the audits, which will continue into 2020.



## Ongoing OIG Audits of 2018 HAVA Funds



## 2020 HAVA Election Security Grants

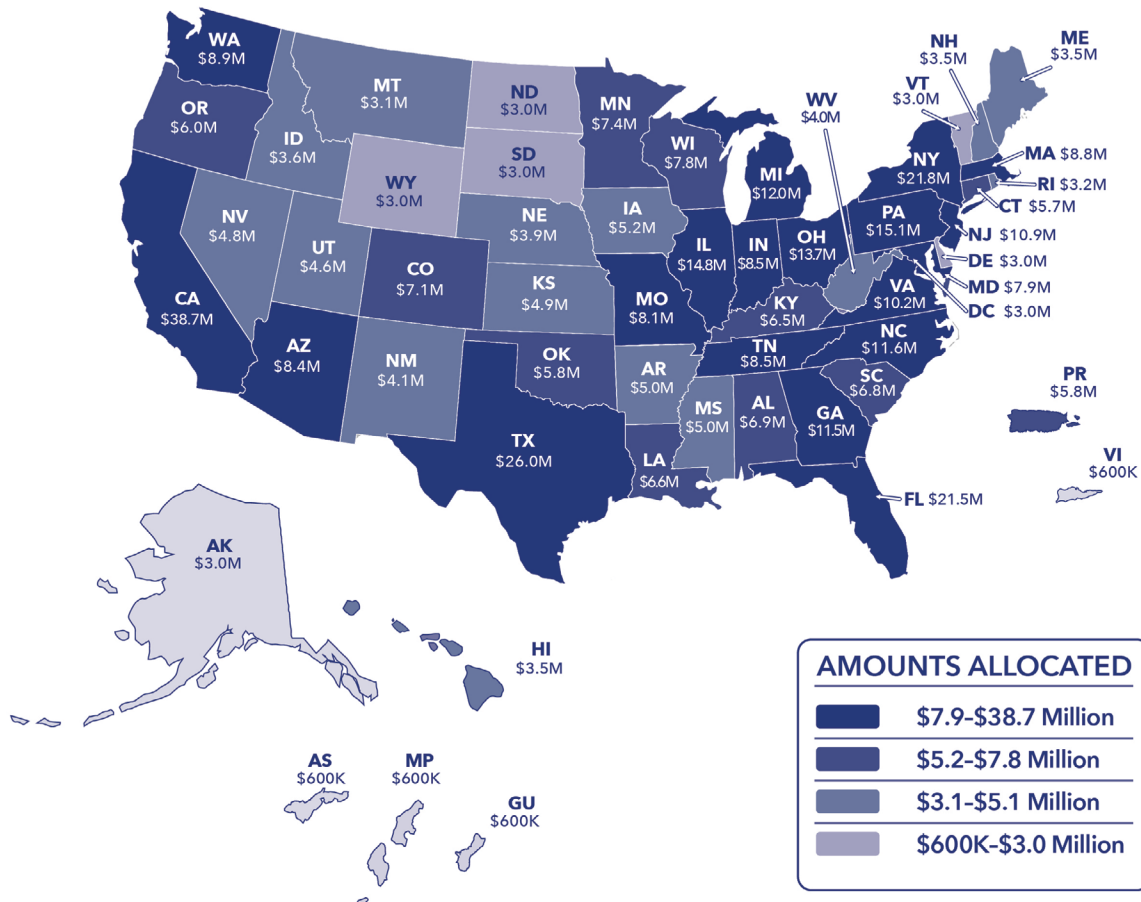
On December 20, 2019, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, which includes \$425 million in new HAVA election security grants that will be distributed to state election offices by the EAC. Building on the EAC's rapid disbursement of 2018 HAVA funds in 2018, in late 2019 the EAC began preparations to distribute the 2020 HAVA funds to states as expeditiously as possible in early 2020.

*"Election officials and their federal partners are working tirelessly to strengthen U.S. elections infrastructure, protect election systems from cybersecurity threats, and bolster public confidence in the election process. We at the EAC are proud to support these efforts and are heartened by the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, which includes \$425 million in new HAVA funds for the states. The EAC is doing everything in its power to make this funding available to states as quickly as possible, just as we did with the \$380 million in HAVA funds appropriated in 2018."*

**Christy McCormick**  
EAC Chairwoman



## 2020 HAVA Funds: State Allocations





## Northern Mariana Islands

The 2020 HAVA election security grants represent the first time HAVA funds will be awarded to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Northern Mariana Islands have held federal elections since 2008, when the position of Delegate to the House of Representatives from the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands was created by the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. As HAVA was enacted in 2002, the Northern Mariana Islands were not listed as a territory eligible to receive HAVA funds. This was remedied by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020.

## Previously Awarded HAVA Funds (Section 101 and 251)

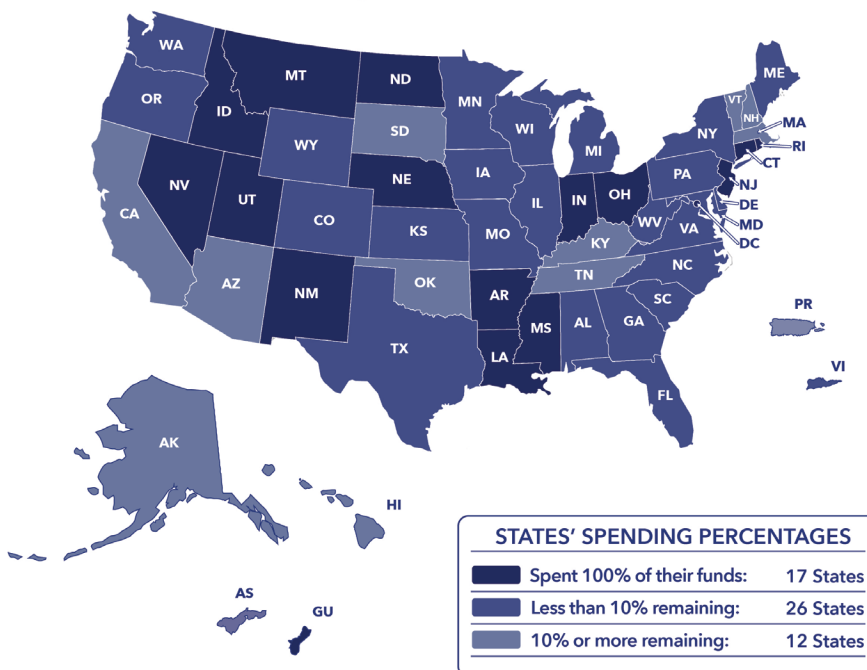
The EAC continued to support states' expenditure of previously awarded HAVA Section 101 and 251 grants in 2019. By September 2019, 17 states had expended 100 percent of these funds, 26 states had expended more than 90 percent, and 5 states had expended more than 80 percent. The remaining 8 states had expended between 52 and 74 percent of these funds.

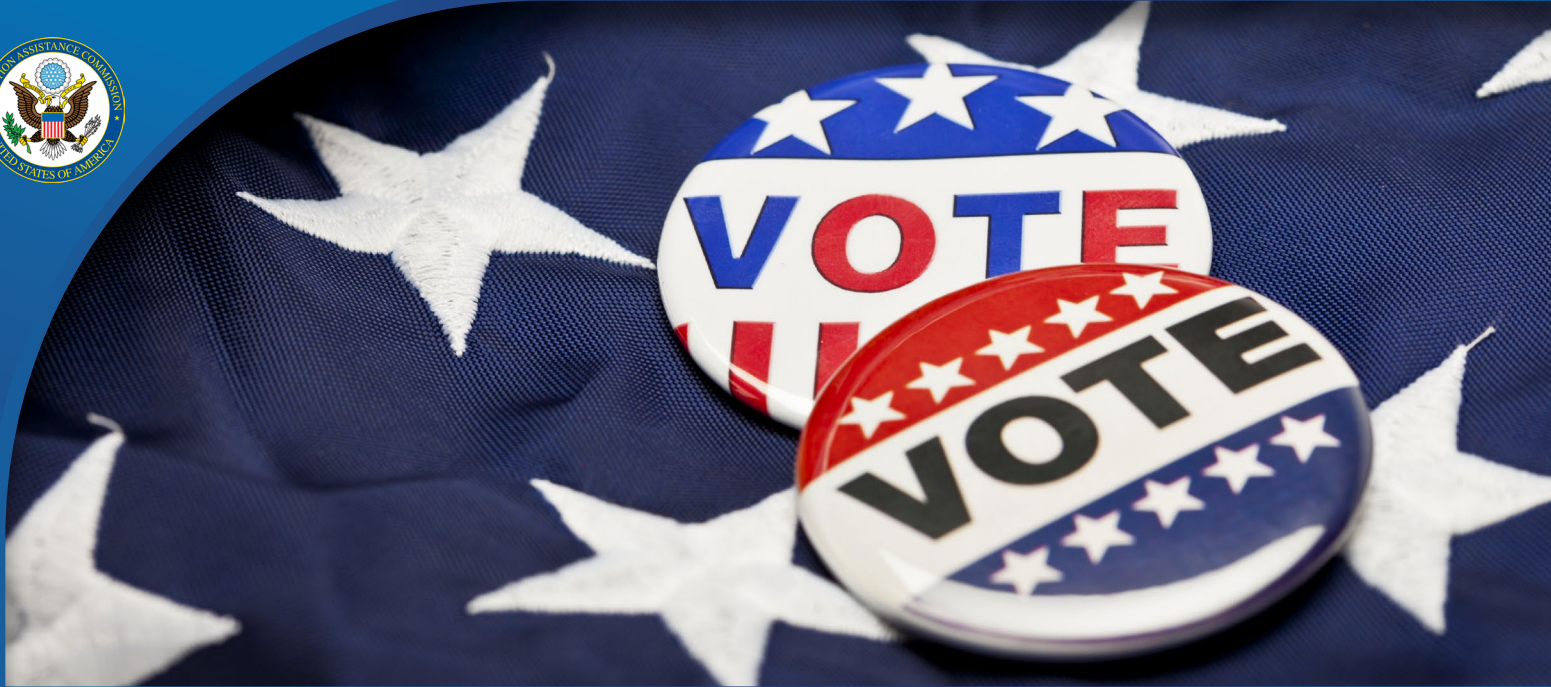
Throughout 2019, the EAC concluded HAVA funds "close-out" processes with 46 states regarding their previously awarded HAVA Section 101 and/or 251 funds. Closing out previously expended funds eases the record-keeping burden on states, shortening the period during which they are required to maintain grant files.

*"We are very grateful to Congress for the first \$5.8 million that we received two years ago, and now the \$6.6 million [in 2020 HAVA funds]. All of those dollars are dedicated to upgrading our election infrastructure and bringing in new voting machines for our state."*

**Kyle Ardoin**  
Louisiana Secretary of State, EAC 2020 Elections Summit

## Initial HAVA Funds: Remaining 101 and 251 Funds





# Advancing VVSG 2.0, Voting System Testing and Certification

As outlined in the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), core functions of the EAC include adopting and modifying the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG), testing and certifying voting systems against these voluntary guidelines, and accrediting Voting System Test Laboratories (VSTLs). The EAC adopted the first iteration of the VVSG, 1.0, in 2005, adopted VVSG 1.1 in 2015, and is currently advancing the next generation of guidelines known as VVSG 2.0. At present, there are 62 EAC-certified voting system configurations from 7 manufacturers. The EAC currently works with two accredited VSTLs.

## Ongoing Voting System Testing and Certification

The EAC completed testing and certification of ten voting systems from five manufacturers in 2019. Test campaigns for three additional voting systems from two manufacturers were ongoing at the end of 2019.



## 2019 CERTIFIED VOTING SYSTEMS

MANUFACTURER	VOTING SYSTEM	DATE CERTIFIED
Clear Ballot Group	ClearVote 1.5	03-19-2019
Clear Ballot Group	ClearVote 2.0	10-21-2019
Dominion Voting Systems	Democracy Suite 5.5A	01-30-2019
Dominion Voting Systems	Democracy Suite 5.5B	09-10-2019
Election Systems & Software	6.0.4.0	05-03-2019
Election Systems & Software	6.1.0.0	09-24-2019
Unisyn Voting Solutions	OpenElect 2.1	05-05-2019
Hart InterCivic	Verity Voting 2.3	03-15-2019
Hart InterCivic	Verity Voting 2.3.3	05-03-2019
Hart InterCivic	Verity Voting 2.3.4	05-29-2019

## 2019 VOTING SYSTEMS UNDER TESTING

MANUFACTURER	VOTING SYSTEM	DATE CERTIFIED
MicroVote General Corp	MicroVote EMS 4.3-A	09-19-2019
MicroVote General Corp	MicroVote EMS 4.4	11-14-2019
Hart InterCivic	Verity Voting 2.4	08-15-2019



Public hearing on VVSG 2.0 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

In November 2019, the EAC issued a Notice of Clarification for software *de minimis* changes. The *de minimis* change process is used by the EAC to allow minor modifications to a certified voting system. In the past, this had been applied primarily to hardware changes as software changes often required a new version and build. The EAC determined that allowing software *de minimis* changes was necessary to

confront a rapidly evolving cybersecurity threat environment as well as allowing manufacturers to quickly respond to changing jurisdictional requirements, where those requirements can be addressed with minor changes. The program was clarified to allow minor testing as well as new software versions and builds in addition to clarifying the types of changes the EAC might consider *de minimis*.

## Advancing VVSG 2.0

HAVA mandates that the EAC develop the VVSG together with the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) and the EAC's Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), an EAC advisory board comprised of election officials, technical experts, and accessibility specialists.

Following the restoration of a quorum of EAC commissioners in December 2014 and the adoption of VVSG 1.1 in March 2015, the EAC initiated a multi-year process to develop the next generation of voting system guidelines known as VVSG 2.0. The new guidelines under development seek to enhance the security and accessibility of voting systems, strengthen interoperability among system components, encourage innovation in the voting system marketplace, and ultimately create a more nimble set of standards that are responsive to the evolving needs of the elections community.

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*"While the Voluntary Voting Systems Guidelines are just that, voluntary, we know that the majority of the states rely on our guidelines or our Testing and Certification program in some measure to assure that America is voting on systems that are reliable, secure, and accessible. It is important that we have a federal standard as a foundation for the operation of our voting systems in our country. It's also important that we hear from the public [and] stakeholders in the election community. [...] We need to do our best to get this right, and we'll strive to do so with your help."*

**Christy McCormick**

**EAC Chairwoman, VVSG 2.0 Public Hearing, Memphis, Tennessee,**

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The EAC took a number of steps in 2019 to advance VVSG 2.0. First, as required by HAVA Section 222(a), the EAC solicited public comments on the proposed VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines. The 90-day public comment period began on February 28. Originally envisioned to close on May 29, the deadline was extended to June 7 to ensure the public had sufficient time to submit comments following complications with the agency's public comment solicitation process.

HAVA Section 222(a) also requires that the EAC provide an opportunity for a public hearing on the record. The EAC held three public hearings on the VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines, including hearings in Memphis, Tennessee and Salt Lake City, Utah in April 2019, and one in Silver Spring, Maryland in May 2019. Testimony was provided at the three hearings by staff from the EAC and NIST, state and local election officials, voting system manufacturers, representatives of the EAC Standards Board and Board of Advisors, and others members of the elections community.



*Vice Chair Hovland with former Director of Testing and Certification Brian Hancock as he retires from the EAC*

The EAC also continued facilitating the development of the VVSG 2.0 Technical Requirements by the TGDC, supported by NIST. This included seven meetings of the TGDC, including six conference calls from April to December 2019 and the committee's annual meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland in September 2019. Parallel to these efforts,

the EAC also facilitated discussion on VVSG 2.0 Technical Requirements among the EAC Standards Board and Board of Advisors at their annual meetings in April 2019. The TGDC's work to finalize its recommendations for the VVSG 2.0 Technical Requirements will continue into 2020.



TGDC annual meeting in Silver Spring, MD

*"It's not lost on anyone in this room, I'm sure, that a paradigm shift occurred in election security in 2016 when widely reported attempts were made to disrupt elections in the United States. In addition, there's been a great deal of attention on issues related to ballot integrity, secure voting systems, and vulnerabilities as they exist in today's election landscape. [...] Having the flexibility in the system to adapt to the ever-changing threat landscape is more important than ever. This is not the only example but a clear example of why new standards are needed."*

**Neal Kelley**

**Registrar of Voters , Orange County, California, TGDC member, VVSG 2.0 Public Hearing, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 23, 2019**

## Election Security Forum

In August 2019, the EAC hosted a forum on election security and voting system certification in Silver Spring, Maryland. The forum convened state election officials, voting system manufacturers, and representatives from the Department of Homeland Security, NIST, and EAC-accredited VSTLs to discuss identifying and addressing software vulnerabilities in voting systems and related topics. An

important issue arose during the discussion regarding the ability for voting system manufacturers to quickly update or patch their systems in the EAC's Testing and certification program. This feedback informed the EAC's decision to issue the Notice of Clarification mentioned above.



# LEVERAGING ELECTION RESEARCH AND DATA, CONDUCTING THE 2018 EAVS

As mandated by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) serves as a national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information and review of procedures with respect to the administration of federal elections. In service of this clearinghouse function, HAVA requires the EAC to conduct studies to promote the effective administration of federal elections.

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*"When election officials go before their state legislatures or local budget authorities to push for additional resources or inform discussions on proposed election policy changes, we want them to be armed with the best data possible about how elections are administered across the country."*

**Christy McCormick**  
EAC Chairwoman, 2019 EAC  
Election Data Summit

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Conducted every two years following each federal general election since 2004, the Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) is the agency's flagship research initiative. The biennial EAVS collects nationwide data on election administration from nearly 6,500 local election jurisdictions across all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. The EAVS collects state-by-state, jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction data on a wide variety of election administration topics, including voter registration, military and overseas voting, domestic civilian by-mail voting, polling operations, provisional ballots, voter participation, and election technology. The EAC partners with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) data on military and overseas voters through the EAVS.

The EAVS is accompanied by a state-level survey that collects information on the legal and administrative framework for election administration and voting in each state to provide important contextual information for the jurisdiction-level data collected via the EAVS. Recast in 2018 as the Election

Administration Policy Survey (Policy Survey), this survey was previously known as the Statutory Overview from 2008 to 2016.

The data collected through the EAVS provides a detailed snapshot of how general elections are administered in the U.S. every two years, and countless election stakeholders utilize the data. Members of Congress, legislative staff, and federal officials consume EAVS data to assess the impact of federal election laws. Journalists, academics, advocates, and others also regularly use EAVS data to better understand and inform the public about key aspects of elections. EAVS data is also used by election officials themselves, informing their data-driven practices and helping with comparative analysis among other election jurisdictions.

In today's environment of heightened concerns regarding cybersecurity in elections, there are a number of new consumers of EAVS data as well. This includes intelligence analysts, members of the national security community, and other stakeholders who are working to secure U.S. election infrastructure.



*Keith Ingram, Director of Elections, Texas presents on election security at the 2019 Election Data Summit*



*Commissioner Palmer at the Election Data Summit*



*The 2018 Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) Report is here!  
– June 2019 –*

## The 2018 EAVS and Policy Survey

The EAC completed administration of the 2018 EAVS in May 2019 and released the 2018 EAVS Comprehensive Report and dataset in June 2019. The report's chapter on voter registration served as the agency's mandated report to Congress on the impact of the NVRA. The survey's section on military and overseas voters collects data that states are required to report to the EAC under UOCAVA.

Key findings from the 2018 EAVS included:

- nearly all states and territories saw increases in turnout from 2014 to 2018, ranging from 2 to 28 percent;
- the percentage of the electorate who voted early in-person increased from 2014 to 2018, rising from 11 to 17 percent;
- by-mail voting was used by roughly one in four voters in 2018;
- motor vehicle licensing agencies remained the most common source of voter registration applications in the two-year period prior to the 2018 midterms, receiving nearly 45 percent of all applications in that period;
- online voter registration was the source of 16 percent of voter registration applications in the two years prior to 2018, up from 9 percent in the two year period prior to 2014;
- the usage of electronic poll books increased by 48 percent between 2014 and 2018; and
- 816 jurisdictions in 14 states used paperless Direct Recording Electronic voting equipment in 2018.



EAC initiatives to improve the EAVS have focused on three interrelated goals: to reduce response burden; to strengthen data quality and completeness; and to make the data more accessible and useful, particularly for election officials. For the first time in the history of the survey, respondents to the 2018 EAVS had the option of completing the EAVS online, along with the traditional EAVS data collection template. Jurisdictions from 15 states choose the online option for the 2018 EAVS. As more and more respondents complete the survey online, the EAC plans to transition to a fully online survey experience in the coming years.

As part of the agency's efforts to make EAVS data more accessible and useful, the EAC released individualized 2018 EAVS Data Briefs for each state and territory in September 2019. The briefs are one-page snapshots of key EAVS and Policy Survey data points. Complementing these efforts, in December 2019 the EAC released the 2018 EAVS Data Interactive. The EAVS Data Interactive is an online tool that allows visitors to explore, visualize, and compare election jurisdictions' EAVS responses.



**2018 EAVS Data Brief: Colorado** EAVS Jurisdictions: 64

**+ Voter Registration**

Total Registered Voters, Nov. 2018<sup>1</sup>: 3,953,613

Registration Forms Received, E-Day 2016 - E-Day 2018<sup>2</sup>: 1,434,349

New Voters Registered, E-Day 2016 - E-Day 2018<sup>3</sup>: 378,688

Mail/Fax/Email	101,488	Disability Office	181
In-Person	33,453	Military Recruitment Office	28
Online	351,629	Other Non-NVRA Office	0
Motor Vehicle Office	782,426	Registration Drives	89,963
Public Assistance Office	31,576	Other Sources or Not Categorized	43,605

**+ Voter Turnout**

Voters Participating by Mode<sup>5</sup>

By Mail	2,449,409	98%
In-Person Early	89,355	3%
In-Person E-Day	31,628	1%
Other Mode	16,040	1%

Total Turnout<sup>6</sup>: 2,586,432  
 Provisional Voters<sup>7</sup>: 467  
 UOCAVA Voters<sup>8</sup>: 15,573

**+ Election Technology**

Technology Used by Jurisdictions<sup>9</sup>

DRE w/o DRE with WPAT	4
DRE with WPAT	60
Ballot Marking Device	62
Scanner	2
Hand Count	2
Electronic Poll Book	64

**+ Election Policies**

- Has online voter registration<sup>10</sup>
- Has a form of same-day voter registration (SDR)<sup>11</sup>
- Has all-mail elections statewide<sup>12</sup>
- Has all-mail elections in certain jurisdictions<sup>13</sup>
- Allows voters to register as permanent absentee voters<sup>14</sup>
- Requires excuse for by-mail voting<sup>15</sup>
- Requires excuse for in-person early or in-person absentee voting<sup>16</sup>
- Uses vote centers<sup>17</sup>

Notes: EAVS data and reports may be downloaded at [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov). Responses of "Does not apply" and "Data not available" are shown as zeroes.

<sup>10</sup> F1a of EAVS  
<sup>11</sup> F3a of EAVS  
<sup>12</sup> F3a of EAVS  
<sup>13</sup> F3a of EAVS  
<sup>14</sup> A4e of EAVS  
<sup>15</sup> In-person Election Day voters is F1b. By-mail voters is F1c. In-person early voters is F1f. Other mode is F1o+F1e+F1h.  
<sup>16</sup> F1a of EAVS  
<sup>17</sup> F1a of EAVS

<sup>1</sup> F1a of EAVS  
<sup>2</sup> F3a-d, F5a, F5b, and F11a of EAVS  
<sup>3</sup> Q6 of Policy Survey  
<sup>4</sup> Q7 of Policy Survey  
<sup>5</sup> Q8e of Policy Survey  
<sup>6</sup> Q10 of Policy Survey  
<sup>7</sup> Q9 of Policy Survey  
<sup>8</sup> Q12a of Policy Survey  
<sup>9</sup> Q13 of Policy Survey

**2018 EAVS DATA INTERACTIVE**

**ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AND VOTING SURVEY 2018 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT**  
 A Report to the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress

Contents of Election Administration and Voting Survey

Executive Summary

Executive Order on Election Administration and Voting Act

U.S. ELECTION ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

## Election Data Summit

In June 2019, the EAC hosted an Election Data Summit on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, coinciding with the release of the 2018 EAVS Comprehensive Report and its submission to Congress. Held in the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration hearing room, the all-day event convened state and local election officials, their federal partners, and other key election stakeholders to discuss EAVS findings and leveraging data-driven practices to improve election administration. Summit panels focused on the 2018 elections, voter registration, election security, voter registration database modernization, and military and overseas voters.



*Charles Stewart III from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology gives keynote remarks at the Election Data Summit*

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*"The post 2000 election world has seen a transformation in the availability of administrative election data and its use to manage elections [...] The most visible manifestation of this transformation has been the EAVS [...] It just has to be said and reiterated that the EAVS is the most important data project in election administration in half a century [...] [The EAVS] is one of the three indispensable pillars of election administration research, both for academic work and policymaking."*

**Charles Stewart III, Kenan Sahin Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2019 EAC Election Data Summit**

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*EAC Director of Research Dr. Nichelle Williams speaks at the Election Data Summit*



## The 2020 EAVS and Policy Survey and Beyond

In October 2019, the EAC published the draft survey instruments for the 2020 EAVS and Policy Survey, and solicited feedback through a 60-day public comment period from October to December. Proposed changes to the instruments seek to collect greater and more detailed information about elections infrastructure, voter registration and list maintenance, election technology, and voting by mail, among other issues. The EAC expects to finalize the instruments in early 2020 following a second public comment period.

## EAVS Section A Working Group

In April 2019, the EAC created a working group to focus on improving Section A of the EAVS, the section of the survey that collects information on voter registration and list maintenance. The group is comprised of election officials with years of experience of running elections, who have a deep understanding of the voter registration process and the related data it generates, and who know the EAVS well. Using the external expertise of election officials to come to a consensus on changes to Section A should lead to better data going into the survey, better analysis on the back end, and a better user experience for those charged with completing the survey. The group draws on the experience of the Section B working group, led by the Council of State Governments and FVAP, which focused on military and overseas voting data, and made specific recommendations for changes that were implemented in the 2016 EAVS. This process clarified certain questions, eliminated duplicate or unnecessary questions, and simplified the survey for respondents. The Section A Working Group met for the first time in April 2019 in Memphis, Tennessee on the sidelines of the EAC Standards Board annual meeting.



*EAC Senior Advisor David Kuennen presents at the Election Data Summit*

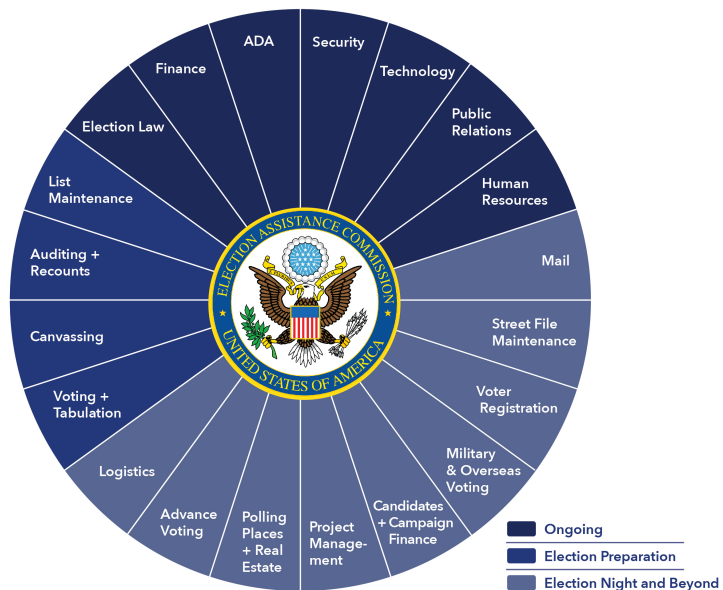


*Fors Marsh Group Researcher Lindsay Nielson presents 2018 EAVS findings at the Election Data Summit*



# SERVING ELECTION OFFICIALS AND VOTERS

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) supported election officials and voters through many additional activities in 2019. This included coordination and information sharing on election security with election officials and federal partners, engaging with election stakeholders across the country, supporting voter registration, and developing and sharing resources on important election administration topics, such as election security, post-election audits, disaster preparedness and recovery, voting accessibility, and poll worker recruitment and training.



*Election officials need to have expertise in many areas, including “nuts and bolts” election administration issues like voter registration, voting by mail, polling place operations, and results management, as well as emerging issues such as cybersecurity and combatting disinformation.*

## Election Infrastructure Subsector Government Coordinating Council

Following the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) designation of election infrastructure as critical infrastructure in January 2017, the EAC played a key role in helping establish the Government Coordinating Council (GCC) for the elections subsector. The GCC enables local, state, and federal governments to share information and collaborate on best practices to mitigate and counter threats to election infrastructure. As

outlined in the GCC's October 2017 charter, the EAC Chair serves on the GCC's executive committee, the Vice Chair serves as a voting member, and the remaining two commissioners serve as ex officio, non-voting members. In addition, six voting members of the GCC are drawn from the EAC's three advisory boards.

Led by the EAC Chair on the GCC executive committee, the EAC actively participated in and supported the work of the GCC to share information and strengthen election infrastructure throughout 2019. As of December 2019, EAC-affiliated members of the GCC are listed in the table below.

GCC MEMBERS FROM THE EAC AND EAC ADVISORY BOARDS		
CHRISTY McCORMICK	EAC Chairwoman	Member, Executive Committee Representative
BENJAMIN HOVLAND	EAC Vice Chair	Member
JUDD CHOATE	Director, Division of Elections, Colorado; selected by EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee	Member
NEAL KELLEY	Registrar of Voters, Orange County, California; selected by EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee	Member
SARAH BALL JOHNSON	City Clerk, Colorado Springs, Colorado; selected by EAC Board of Advisors	Member
LINDA LAMONE	Administrator of Elections, Maryland State Board of Elections; selected by EAC Board of Advisors	Member
MARK GOINS	Coordinator of Elections, Tennessee; selected by EAC Standards Board	Member
VACANT	Local government election official; selected by EAC Standards Board	Member
DONALD PALMER	EAC Commissioner	Member (ex officio)
THOMAS HICKS	EAC Commissioner	Member (ex officio)

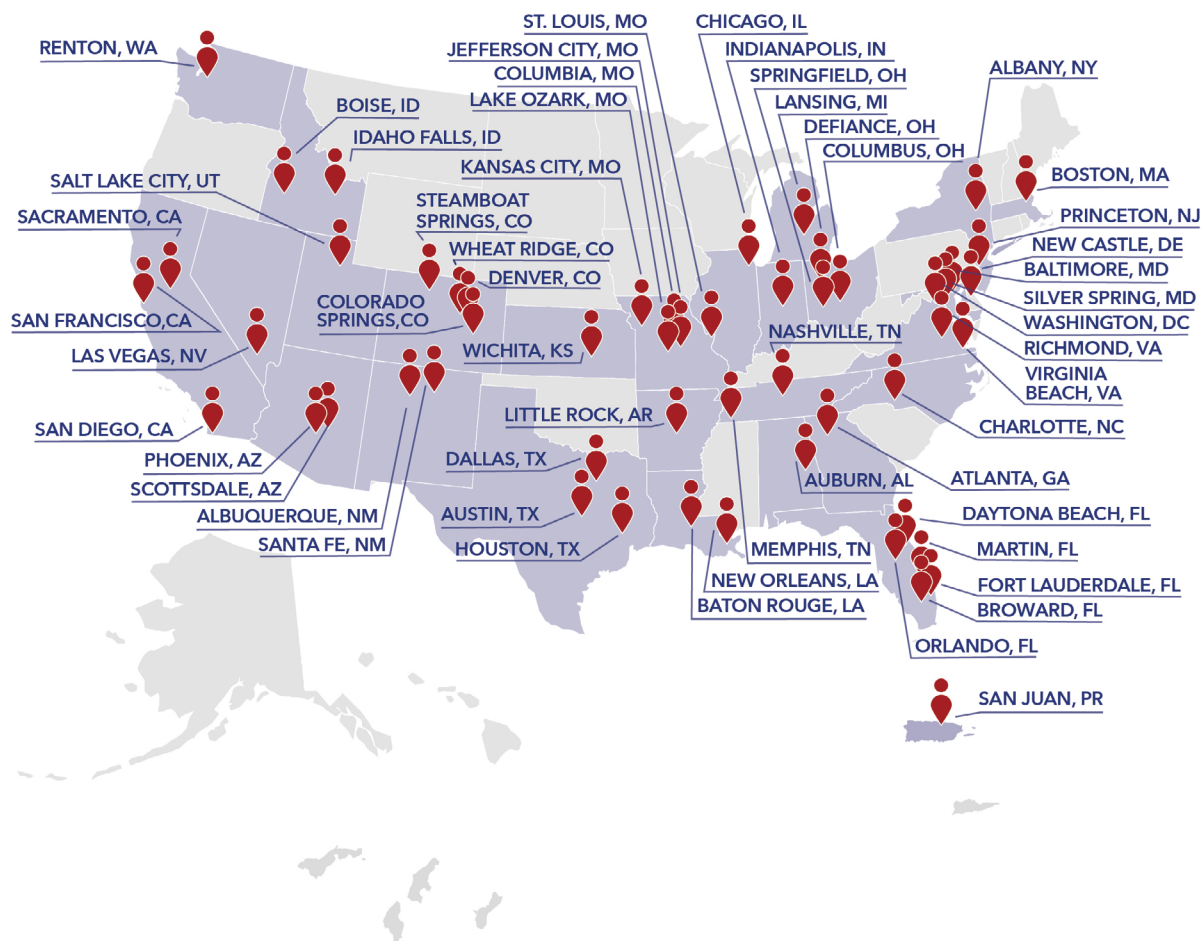
## Engaging the Elections Community

When invited by state and local election offices, associations of election officials, and other organizations in the elections community, EAC commissioners and staff regularly engage with election stakeholders across the country. These engagements include giving presentations on EAC activities, providing trainings and technical assistance on select topics, observing electoral processes, and participating in training exercises and other events focused on election administration. Engaging with state and local election officials, voters, and other election stakeholders, EAC commissioners travelled to 56 cities in 28 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in 2019.



*Commissioner Palmer with Supervisor of Elections Peter Antonacci in Broward County, Florida*

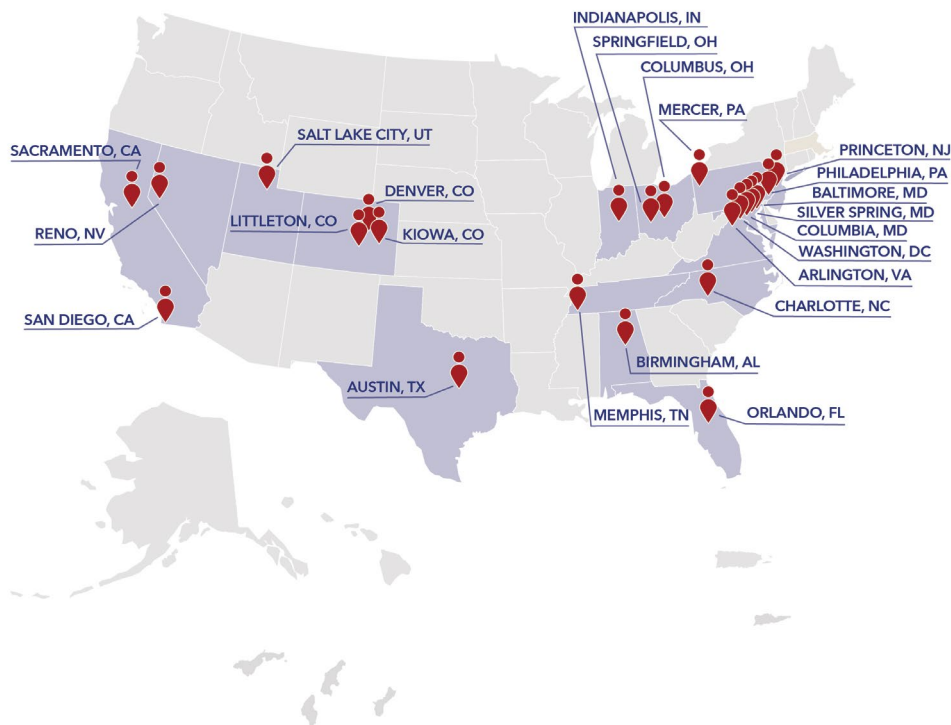
## Stakeholder Engagement: EAC Commissioners



Complementing the work of the commissioners, EAC staff conducted stakeholder engagement visits to 21 cities in 13 states and the District of Columbia. Key stakeholder engagements included EAC staff providing “Election Officials as Information Technology Managers” training to election officials in California, Nevada, and Ohio, as well as post-election auditing technical

assistance to local election offices in Colorado, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EAC technical assistance on post-election auditing leverages the agency’s in-house expertise on risk-limiting audits and EAC resources on the topic, including its 2018 white paper *Risk-Limiting Audits: Practical Application*.

## Stakeholder Engagement: EAC Staff



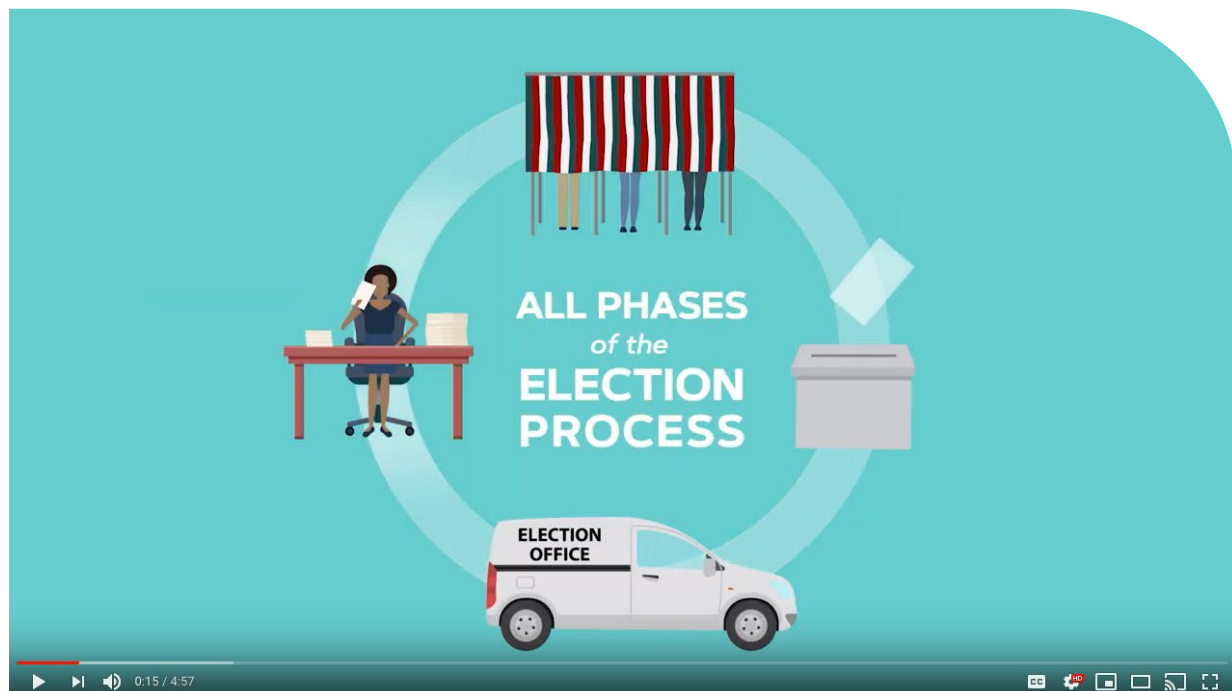
*EAC Director of Testing and Certification Jerome Lovato and Senior Election Technology Specialist Jessica Bowers observe a risk-limiting audit in Elbert County, Colorado*

## Election Security Video and Pamphlet

In 2018, the EAC released a video and accompanying pamphlet to inform voters about how election administrators secure the elections process. The election security video and pamphlet examine the role registration, physical security, poll workers, and voting equipment play in ensuring safe, accurate, fair, and accessible elections. The resources discuss the security measures in place for mail ballots, election-night reporting, and voting technology overall, as well as ballot handling measures,

post-election audits used to further validate results, and the planning most jurisdictions do to ensure election continuity in the face of unexpected events or natural disasters.

To support state efforts to engage with voters on election security, the EAC authorized its vendor to accommodate state requests to customize the election security video. Since the video was released in 2018, the EAC has worked with five states to customize the video to their state-specific processes, including Wisconsin in 2019.



## Supporting Voter Registration

In July 2019, the EAC adopted a resolution recognizing the fourth Tuesday of each September as National Voter Registration Day and committing to joining national efforts to support voter registration and participation in elections. The EAC engaged in promotional activities on its website and social media platforms to support voter registration in the weeks leading up to National Voter Registration Day on September 24, 2019.

As required by HAVA, the EAC maintains the National Mail Voter Registration Application Form, also known as the NVRA form, which is made available to the public on the EAC website. The NVRA form is used by millions of people each election cycle, including through prominent third-party online platforms that support voter registration. Throughout 2019, the EAC processed requests from 11 states to update their state-specific instructions to the NVRA form.

The NVRA form is also made available to voters on [vote.gov](http://vote.gov), a federal government website administered by the General Services Administration (GSA). In December 2019, the EAC entered into a memorandum of understanding with GSA to deepen the agencies' collaboration regarding the use of the NVRA form and information provided to the public on [vote.gov](http://vote.gov).

## Ensuring Accessibility in Elections

In April 2019, the EAC released an issue brief on language accessibility in elections. The brief aggregates existing resources on the topic, helps election officials understand language assistance requirements under the Voting Rights Act, and shares information on how election jurisdictions have approached serving voters with limited English proficiency.

In April 2019, the EAC released five new translations of National Mail Voter Registration Application Form, reflecting the five most populous language communities in the U.S., among those with limited English proficiency and for whom the form was not previously translated. In addition to English, the form is now available in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.



Vice Chair Hovland joins EAC Senior Advisor Pat Leahy and his service dog Hogan at the National Federation of the Blind's event on ballot marking systems

CLEARINGHOUSE BRIEF • SEPTEMBER 2018

# LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) fulfills its role as a national clearinghouse for information on election administration in many ways, including by developing resources for election stakeholders. Clearinghouse Briefs aim to aggregate existing resources and provide a concise summary of an issue in the field of election administration.

This brief discusses language accessibility and serving language minority voters, including those with limited English proficiency (LEP). It aims to help election officials and other election stakeholders understand language assistance requirements that are mandated by the federal Voting Rights Act (VRA) and learn how other jurisdictions have approached language assistance.

### BY THE NUMBERS

- 25.9 million** people in the U.S. with limited English proficiency in 2016.<sup>1</sup>
- 66.6 million** people in the U.S. speak a language other than English at home.<sup>2</sup>
- 263** jurisdictions and **3** states in the U.S. were covered by Section 203 in 2016. **53** jurisdictions were newly covered in 2016.<sup>3</sup>
- 51** cases initiated by the Department of Justice (DOJ) raising claims under VRA language provisions.<sup>4</sup>

Sources:

- <sup>1</sup> 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?\\_af=ACS\\_16\\_VR\\_3801&\\_lang=en](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?_af=ACS_16_VR_3801&_lang=en)
- <sup>2</sup> [https://www.census.gov/data/voting\\_rights\\_determination\\_file.html](https://www.census.gov/data/voting_rights_determination_file.html)
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/crt/voting-section-litigation/sec203cases>

### LANGUAGE PROVISIONS IN THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

The VRA outlaws literacy- and language-based voting qualifications or prerequisites.

Section 203 recognizes widespread voting discrimination against Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian, and Hispanic language minority citizens and seeks to eliminate it by requiring the provision of minority language materials and assistance related to the electoral process—oral and/or written—to language minority groups.

Other VRA sections including 4(e) and 208, are also relevant to language access.

The most recent reauthorization of the VRA in 2006 extended Section 203 through 2032, and determinations were adjusted to occur every 5 years instead of 10.

The next round of determinations is expected in 2021.

U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION • LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY



The EAC also continued its efforts in 2019 to support accessibility in elections for voters with disabilities. This included sharing thousands of copies of the EAC's disability voting rights pamphlet, which uses plain language to spell out federal voting rights for persons with disabilities in large print and Braille.

EAC commissioners and staff also participated at key stakeholder events focused on voting for persons with disabilities, including a May 2019 convening of the National Federation of the Blind on ballot marking systems and the July 2019 National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) Conference.



*Chairwoman McCormick speaks with a participant at the National Council on Independent Living annual conference*

## Supporting Disaster Preparedness and Recovery

In April 2019, the EAC convened a group of election officials at the annual Standards Board meeting in Memphis, Tennessee to discuss issues related to disaster preparedness and recovery. The group consisted of officials with experience administering elections in the aftermath of catastrophic natural and man-

made disasters, including those affected by the hurricanes Katrina, Maria, and Michael, the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and the Camp Fire, among other disasters. Following the convening, the EAC released a series of interviews filmed by the EAC while touring election offices in Puerto Rico and Bay County, Florida to learn about their disaster recovery efforts.



*Bay County Supervisor of Elections Mark Andersen and Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections Paul Lux in the EAC's Disaster Recovery and Preparedness video series*



*Bay County, Florida in the EAC's Disaster Recovery and Preparedness video series*



## 2019 Clearinghouse Awards

From September to November 2019, the EAC sought submissions for its fourth annual Clearinghouse Awards, known as the Clearies. There were 17 winners across the 4 Clearies categories: improving accessibility for voters

with disabilities; outstanding innovations in elections; best practices in recruiting, retaining, and training poll workers; and most creative and original "I Voted" stickers.



*Chairwoman McCormick and Commissioner Palmer visited the Supervisor of Elections office in Martin County, Florida. Martin County won EAC Clearinghouse Awards in both 2018 and 2019.*

## 2019 Clearinghouse Awards: Improving Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities



**Merced County Registrar of Voters Office, CA**  
Multilingual Virtual Poll Worker Program for Deaf Voters

During the 2019 elections, Merced County utilized their new Multilingual Virtual Poll Worker Program (MVP) to assist voters who are deaf by providing a direct iPad-based connection to American Sign Language interpreters. In an effort to make the voting process accessible and inclusive to all county voters, a planning and research effort resulted in the adoption of the new county-wide system. The convenience of using an app-based program on user-friendly iPads made the integration of the new service seamless at polling places. The MVP may also be used to provide interpreters for dozens of languages.



### **National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)**

#### **Achieving Accessibility for Election Websites and Sample Ballots Toolkit**

Over the past two years, NCIL has worked to promote their toolkit for election officials and voters with disabilities. The “Achieving Accessibility for Election Websites and Sample Ballots” toolkit provides information for election workers and disability advocates on resources to improve the online accessibility of election offices and sample ballots. Through a clearly constructed web-based presentation, the comprehensive guide seeks to help individuals and organizations understand the importance of accessibility and ballot access. The toolkit’s five chapters work to empower advocates and election officials by discussing topics such as website access barriers, accessibility evaluation tools, and ways local disability advocates can work with election officials to improve accessibility on the frontline of democracy.



### **Board of Elections, Washington DC**

#### **Overall Commitment to Assisting Voters with Disabilities Throughout the Voting Process**

The DC BOE works diligently to ensure the accessibility of the voting process for voters with disabilities. This award recognizes the BOE’s overall commitment to accessibility. The elections office has worked to implement new voting machines, an electronic absentee ballot marking system, polling place ADA surveys, and poll worker training, all focused on helping voters with access needs. Other accomplishments include eliminating barriers to voting such as inaccessible polling sites, curbside voting, and no excuse absentee voting. In 2018, an independent organization surveyed all DC polling places and found 98% offering outstanding physical access for voters with disabilities.



## **2019 Clearinghouse Awards: Outstanding Innovations in Election Administration**



### **Ann Arbor City Clerk’s Office, MI**

#### **The Line Tracking Project**

The Line Tracking Project is the culmination of several years of extensive research studying voter wait times. The project features a new public website allowing voters to check wait times at their local polling place and access additional tools to facilitate the voting process. The website and tools were introduced in 2018 and improved upon during the 2019 elections. As home to the University of Michigan, many Ann Arbor polling places previously experienced long wait times. In partnership with the University, the project team continues to evaluate how line counts, website data, electronic poll book numbers, and ballots casts can be harnessed to improve the voter experience.



**Coconino County Elections Office, AZ**  
Native American Elections Outreach Program

Started in the late 1970's, Coconino County leads an extensive Native American Outreach Program. The program has emerged as a hub to coordinate the unique elections needs of communication, registration, and polling in tribal lands. Outreach activities include: the coordination of reservation polling places and vote centers, election worker recruitment and training, a customized handbook to assist Navajo poll workers, and other initiatives. All of these efforts have allowed the county to develop a successful outreach program that continues to evolve and improve.



**Maricopa County Recorder's Office, AZ**  
County-wide Roundtable Outreach Project

In 2019, the county conducted an extensive Roundtable Project engaging underrepresented and historically disenfranchised communities in the elections process. Through this initiative, the county collaborated with a community host to identify topics for discussion and foster community involvement in addressing elections issues. Each roundtable consisted of a presentation from the county and a guided discussion with attendees. The programs led to outstanding results in increasing voter engagement while allowing the county to receive direct feedback about community-specific access needs.



**Salt Lake County Election Division, UT**  
"Innovating and Accountability" Initiative

Leading up to the 2019 elections, Salt Lake County focused on "Innovating and Accountability," a comprehensive effort to improve election services through enhanced poll worker training and the use of new technologies. From open-source election Worker Directory management software, to a QR code voter outreach survey, to creative uses of GIS programs, the county produced several cost-effective, sustainable, and innovative solutions that will benefit voters for years to come. Poll worker and voter feedback surveys documented the benefits of their efforts and will allow the county to evaluate future endeavors.



**Office of the Secretary of State, WA**  
VoteWA Project

With planning commencing in 2014, the VoteWA Project sought to create a secure and modern Elections Management System and statewide voter registration database. The Secretary of State's Office cultivated buy-in from the 39 county auditors across the state to achieve several goals. As a result, VoteWA was effectively used as the statewide voter registration and election management system in the 2019 August Primary and General Elections. The VoteWa project provides a secure environment for the state's voter data and other elections information. It will also save taxpayer dollars, reduce data management time for local election officials, increase confidence in election security, and enable a number of process efficiencies.



### **Yolo County Elections Office, CA**

Harnessing Technology to Improve Polling Place Resources and Response Time, Strengthen Voter Communications, and Increase Future Turnout

In 2018, the county harnessed GIS Systems and Mapping, along with a new poll worker app, to streamline election night reporting and improve voter participation. The Elections Office partnered with the county's Information Technology division of the General Services Department to attain several innovative successes. The effort resulted in improved resource allocation, greater response time to polling places, strengthened communication of election results to citizens, and the likelihood of increasing future turnout through targeted outreach and education.



### **2019 Clearinghouse Awards: Best Practices in Recruiting, Retaining, and Training Poll Workers**



#### **El Paso County Clerk and Recorder's Office, CO** Election Judge Video Training Program

The Clerk and Recorder's Office collaborated with the county's Public Information Office to create a video classroom training module consisting of twelve "chapters" illustrating each of the duties required of an election judge. The videos will be used to prepare potential applicants for the requirements of their position, thereby reducing turnover and helping the county maintain capable election workers.



### **Martin County Elections Office, FL**

Work the Polls Program for Recruiting High School and College Students

Recognizing that most poll workers were 65 years of age or older, Martin County developed a Work the Polls campaign to recruit high school and college students for poll worker positions. Interns created a video to be posted on the website while staff reached out through meetings and presentations on campuses throughout Martin County. This outreach led to a more representative demographic for poll workers while increasing community involvement in the elections process.



### **Wake County Board of Elections, NC**

Vote to Volunteer Program

The elections office designed "buck slips" to recruit poll workers and increase interest in the election worker process. The slips were included in county-wide elections and tax revenue mailings already set in place. These advertisements led to a substantial increase in applications for election worker positions, allowing staff to streamline the recruitment process and focus on other needs. The increase has not only prepared for attrition in existing poll worker pools but has allowed the county to create a STAR Team of poll workers on stand-by for any needed last-minute substitutions.

## 2019 Clearinghouse Awards: Most Creative and Original "I Voted" Stickers



### Clark County, Nevada

The colorful Clark County, Nevada, "I Voted" sticker was designed to reflect civic pride and encourage voting through a unique sticker that incorporates iconic elements of Las Vegas in a patriotic motif. Designed in the shape of the famous "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign, the sticker portrays the Las Vegas Strip skyline in red, white, and blue colors alongside the Statue of Liberty. In use since 2016, it coordinates with the graphics and materials used for the elections division's outreach slogan of "Don't Lose Your Voice, Vote."



### Louisiana

Louisiana is unique in many ways. From its 64 parishes to its melting pot of cultures, the Bayou State is set apart from its counterparts. In 2018, Louisiana's Secretary of State chose a local artist to create the art for the fall election cycle's sticker. The result, "In Love with Louisiana," features an artistic rendition of the state's bird, the brown pelican, and the seal.



### Alaska

In 2017, an elections official discovered a creative “I voted” sticker featuring a bear at a local store. Inspired, the elections office worked with an Alaskan artist to produce stickers for the 2018 elections with various Alaskan animals. Stickers included the moose, walrus, raven, Dungeness crab, king crab, eagle, caribou, and beaver. The stickers were enthusiastically received: voters across the state picked their favorites and started social media campaigns around the initiative. The stickers were also produced in Alaska’s Native Language.



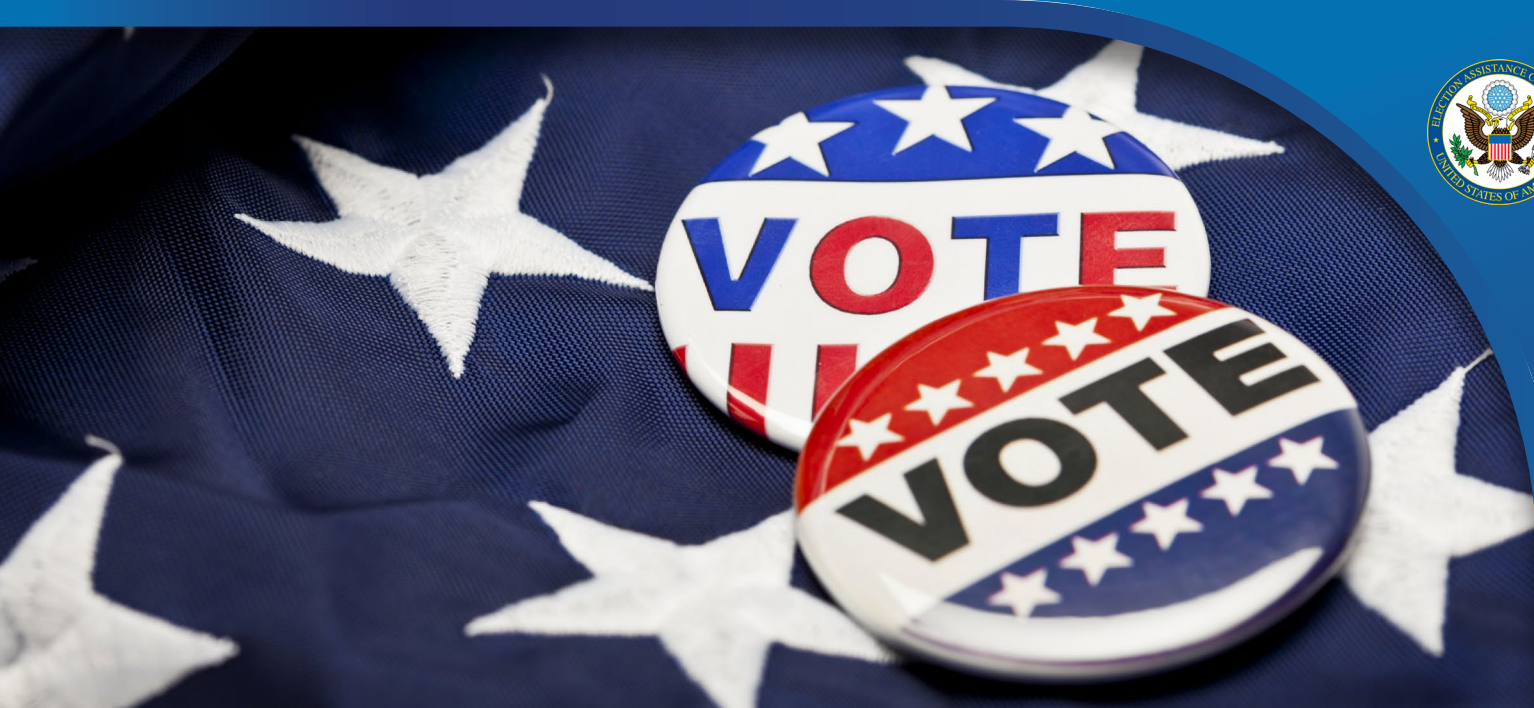
### Washoe County, Nevada

In 2018, in conjunction with the introduction of new county-wide election machinery, Washoe County updated their “I Voted” sticker. The elections office wanted a new original sticker to go with the fresh look of the new voting machines and operations. The sticker features the Sierra mountains in the background and the city skyline to celebrate civic pride and the county’s picturesque landscape.



### Douglas County, Nevada

In the fall of 2019, the County collaborated with the Nevada’s Office of the Secretary of State and a local artist to create an accessible braille “I voted” sticker for use in the 2020 elections. As noted in their competition submission, “we are very hopeful that this campaign will catch on. And with so many visually impaired and blind people across our country, it’s innovative design should help draw many people with or without disabilities to the polls.” Along with the stickers colorful artistry and rich local design, the “white dots” indicate the Braille and will be raised by a die impression at the printers. In Braille it says, “I Voted Today!”



# OPERATIONS AND FINANCE

## Government Shutdown

Along with many other federal government agencies, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) ceased most of its operations during the lapse in appropriations from December 22, 2018 to January 25, 2019. While most agency activities were halted, the EAC was able to continue data collection for the 2018 EAVS during this time.

## EAC Quorum Reestablished

On January 2, 2019, the Senate confirmed Benjamin Hovland and Donald Palmer as EAC commissioners. These confirmations restored the Commission's quorum, which had been absent since March 24, 2018. The confirmation marked the first time in a decade that the Commission had a full set of four commissioners. The two new commissioners were sworn in on February 4, 2019.



*Commissioner Palmer and his wife at his swearing in ceremony*

## Chairperson and Vice Chair Appointments

On February 22, 2019, in accordance with Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Section 203(c), the Commission voted to appoint Commissioner

Christy McCormick as EAC Chairwoman and Commissioner Benjamin Hovland as the Vice Chairman. During the preceding year, Commissioner Thomas Hicks had served as Chairman and Commissioner McCormick had served as Vice Chairwoman.



*Vice Chair Hovland and his family at his swearing-in ceremony*

## EAC Staff Leadership Transition

On September 5, 2019, the Commission voted on whether to retain then Executive Director Brian Newby and General Counsel Cliff Tatum, whose four-year terms were set to expire on October 22, 2019. The vote failed to receive the three votes necessary for retention.

In accordance with the EAC's succession plan, Chief Information and Security Officer Mona Harrington assumed the role of Acting Executive Director on October 23, and the Commission immediately began recruitment efforts to identify candidates for Executive Director and General Counsel. As outlined in HAVA Section 204(a)(3)(A), the EAC engaged the search committees of the Board of Advisors and Standards Board to recommend nominees for the position of Executive Director.



## EAC STANDARDS BOARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

ROB ROCK, CHAIR	Director of Elections, Rhode Island
DANA CORSON	Director of Elections and Voter Services, Montana Secretary of State
CARRI CRUM	Auditor, Clay County, South Dakota
JOE P. GLORIA	Registrar of Voters, Clark County, Nevada
MARK GOINS	Coordinator of Elections, Tennessee
BRAD KING	Director, Election Division, Indiana
JUSTIN ROEBUCK	Clerk/Register of Deeds, Ottawa County, Michigan
MICHELLE TASSINARI	Director/Legal Counsel, Elections Division, Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth

## EAC BOARD OF ADVISORS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

DANIEL IVEY-SOTO, CHAIR	State Senator, New Mexico
SARAH BALL JOHNSON, VICE CHAIR	City Clerk, Colorado Springs, Colorado
JIM CONDOS	Vermont Secretary of State
MARC GUTHRIE	Public Member, U.S. Access Board
RICKEY HATCH	Clerk/Auditor, Weber County, Utah
LINDA LAMONE	Administrator of Elections, Maryland State Board of Elections
MICHAEL YAKI	Commissioner, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

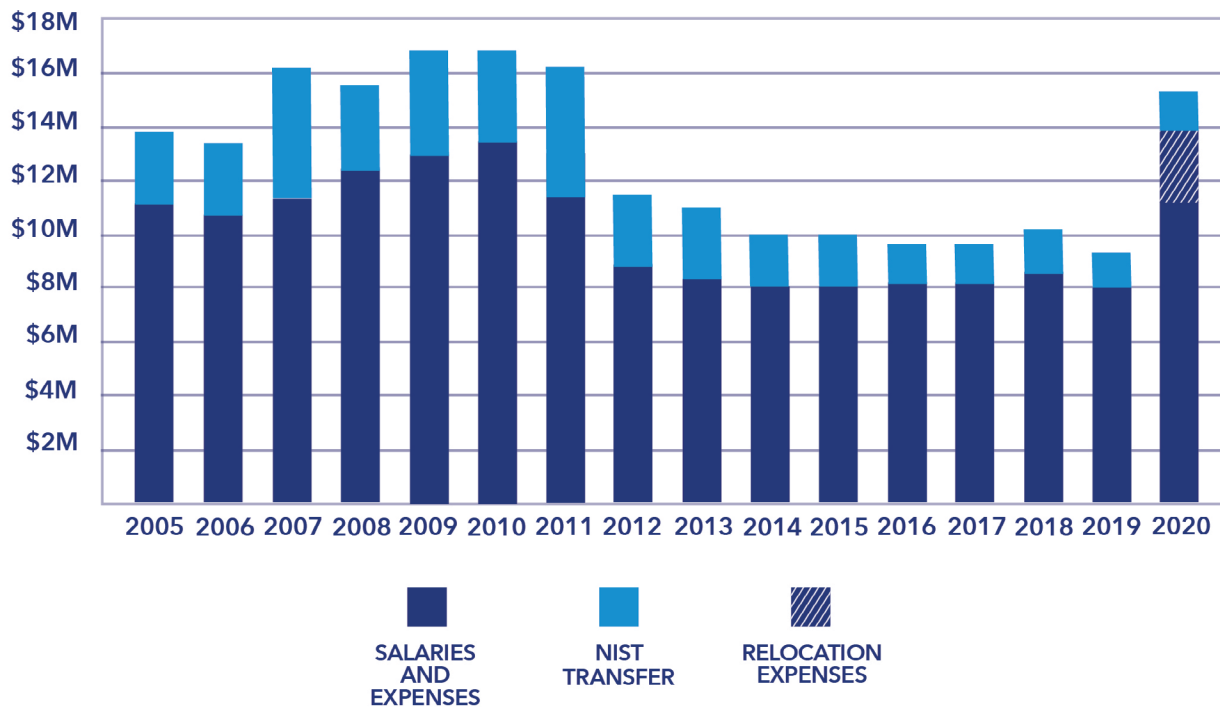
## EAC Appropriations

On February 15, 2019, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019, which provided the EAC with \$9.2 million for FY2019, including a \$1.25 million transfer to NIST. This reflected a \$900,000 decrease from the agency's FY2018 appropriation level of \$10.1 million, which included a \$1.5 million transfer to NIST. Excluding the NIST transfers, this reflected a \$650,000 decrease in appropriations for EAC expenses from FY2018.

On December 20, 2019, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, which provided the EAC with \$15.171 million for FY2020, including a \$1.5 million transfer to NIST and \$2.4 million for relocation expenses. Excluding the NIST transfers and appropriations slated for relocation, this reflected a \$3.321 million increase in appropriations for EAC expenses from FY2019.

With targeted appropriations secured in December 2019, the EAC resumed preparations to relocate its office from its current location in Silver Spring, Maryland. The agency previously relocated from Washington, DC to Silver Spring in 2013.

## EAC Appropriations Since FY2005



## Congressional Testimony

EAC commissioners testified before Congress on five occasions in 2019, including:

- Commissioner Hicks, U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security, hearing on election security on February 13;
- all commissioners, U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, EAC oversight hearing on May 15;
- all commissioners, U.S. House Committee on House Administration, EAC oversight hearing on May 21;
- Chairwoman McCormick, U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform, hearing on election security on May 22; and
- Vice Chair Hovland, U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, hearing on election security on October 22.



*Commissioner Hicks testifying before the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security*

## Information Technology Modernization

The EAC continued to implement its multi-year technology upgrade plan to secure and modernize its information technology systems in 2019. The EAC replaced its legacy WAN network architecture with a modernized SD-WAN, or software-defined wide-area network, which provides the EAC with increased visibility into the network and improves the agency's security posture. In accordance with Executive Order 13800 released in 2017, the EAC also implemented Cloud First Technology by migrating file services to a FedRAMP compliant secure Cloud. The agency further implemented numerous real-time threat protection tools with enhanced traffic visibility (hardware and software) to mitigate risk to the EAC network. These efforts have resulted in a more scalable, cost effective, robust, secure, and efficient network for the agency.



*Commissioner Palmer testifying before the U.S. Committee on House Administration*



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As election officials and voters prepare for the 2020 elections and the EAC continues its staff leadership transition, I am humbled by the opportunity to serve as the agency's Acting Executive Director, and fully aware of the heavy responsibilities placed on my shoulders. Having assumed this role on October 23, I want to use this opportunity to reflect on my first few months in the position, and briefly lay out my priorities during this period of transition.

First and foremost, I have prioritized supporting the commissioners to recruit and appoint an Executive Director and General Counsel. At the end of 2019, the commissioners were in receipt of

all applications for the General Counsel position, and the HAVA-required process by which advisory board search committees recommend nominees for the Executive Director position was near completion.

Secondly, based on my belief that distributing HAVA funds is the most tangible and highest impact activity of the agency, I have prioritized preparing the agency for expeditious disbursement of new appropriations of HAVA funds. Preparations for this in the fall of 2019 are now paying dividends as the agency works to quickly distribute the newly appropriated \$425 million in 2020 HAVA election security grants.

In addition, I am committed to doing my part to advance VVSG 2.0 toward adoption. While final adoption of the voluntary guidelines is ultimately a matter for the Commission, EAC staff plays a critical role in facilitating the process by which NIST and the TGDC develop recommended guidelines. The Executive Director is also responsible for submitting proposed guidelines to the Standards Board, and Board of Advisors for review and further recommendations.

I am also working to ensure the agency maintains strong relationships and open lines of communication with our federal partners, Congress, and key stakeholder groups in the elections community. The EAC is small, but mighty. Yet this does not mean we can do this work alone. The pressures facing election officials in the post-2016 environment are immense, and we will only be able to meet this moment with strong partnerships and a real commitment to working together.

As the commissioners and staff navigate this transition and look to strengthen existing programs and launch new initiatives, recruitment of new staff and talent management are also high priorities for me. The level of appropriations provided to the EAC in December will help the agency retain high performing staff as well as deepen our bench by recruiting new talent who can help us advance our mission at this critical time.

As 2020 begins, the security of elections and the confidence in the voting process is on the minds of all our staff and the election officials we serve. As I manage the responsibilities of Acting Executive Director and Chief Information and Security Officer, I remain focused on these priorities so that the agency can continue making meaningful contributions to elections that are secure, accurate, and accessible to all eligible voters.

– **MONA HARRINGTON**  
EAC ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AND CHIEF INFORMATION AND  
SECURITY OFFICER





## ADVISORY COMMITTEES

As outlined in the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) is advised by three federal advisory committees: the Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), the Standards Board, and the Board of Advisors. With technical support from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the TGDC assists the EAC Executive Director in the development of the voluntary voting system guidelines. The Standards Board and the Board of Advisors each review the Voluntary Voting

System Guidelines prior to adoption, as well as other voluntary guidance under HAVA Title III. Additionally, EAC studies and other activities to promote effective administration of federal elections must be carried out in consultation with the Standards Board and the Board of Advisors. Finally, the EAC Executive Director and staff must consult with the Standards Board and Board of Advisors in preparing the program goals, long-term plans, mission statements, and related matters for the Commission.

## Technical Guidelines Development Committee

Chaired by the director of the NIST, the TGDC is comprised of 14 other members appointed jointly by the EAC and the director of NIST. On February 22, 2019, the Commission appointed EAC Vice Chair Benjamin Hovland to serve as

the Designated Federal Officer for the TGDC. The EAC organized the TGDC's annual meeting from September 19 to 20, 2019 in Silver Spring, Maryland. The TGDC was comprised of the following members at the end of 2019.

LORI AUGINO	National Association of State Election Directors
JUDD CHOATE	National Association of State Election Directors
WALTER COPAN	National Institute of Standards and Technology
MCDERMOT COUTTS	Technical Expert
ROBERT GILES	EAC Standards Board
DIANE GOLDEN	Technical Expert
MARC GUTHRIE	Access Board
GEOFF HALE	Technical Expert
NEAL KELLEY	EAC Board of Advisors
LINDA LAMONE	EAC Board of Advisors
PAUL LUX	EAC Standards Board
SACHIN PAVITHRAN	Access Board
MARY SAUNDERS	American National Standards Institute
DAVID WAGNER	Technical Expert



*Vice Chair Hovland with NIST Director and TGDC Chair Walter G. Copan*



*EAC Director of Testing and Certification Jerome Lovato presents at the TGDC annual meeting*

## Standards Board

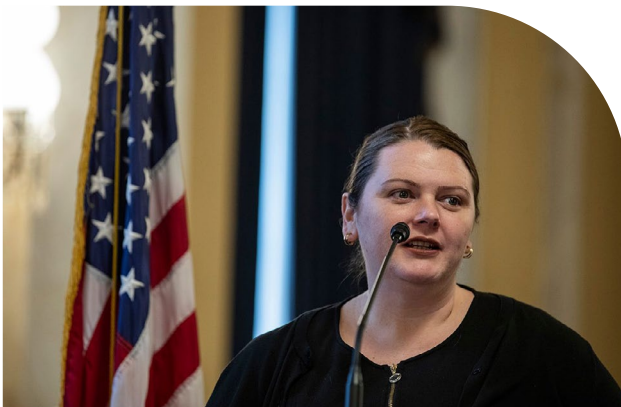
The Standards Board is a 110-member board comprised of 55 state and local election officials selected by their respective chief state election official with a defined process to ensure input from the state's association of local election officials. HAVA prohibits any two members representing the same state to be members of the same political party. The board selects nine members to serve as an executive board, of which not more than five are state election officials not more than five are local election

officials and not more than five are members of the same political party.

On February 22, 2019, the Commission appointed EAC Commissioner Donald Palmer to serve as the Designated Federal Officer for the Standards Board. The EAC organized the Standards Board's annual meeting from April 11 to 12, 2019 in Memphis, Tennessee. The Standards Board was comprised of the following members at the end of 2019.



*EAC Standards Board members*



*Former EAC Director of Communications and Public Affairs Brenda Bowser Soder*



*Commissioner Palmer addresses Standards Board members during training at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee*





*Former EAC General Counsel Cliff Tatum*



*EAC Commissioners at the Standards Board annual meeting*



*Former Standards Board Chair Greg Riddlemoser addresses the Standards Board annual meeting*



*Standards Board Chair Brad King speaks with the EAC Commissioners at the Standards Board annual meeting*

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
ALABAMA	The Honorable John H. Merrill Alabama Secretary of State	James Tatum Probate Judge Bullock County, Alabama
ALASKA	Gail Fenumiai Director Alaska Division of Elections	Carol Thompson Absentee and Petition Manager Alaska Division of Elections
AMERICAN SAMOA	Uiagalelei Lealofi Commissioner of Elections American Samoa Election Office	Fiti Tavai Division Head IT/Data Systems & UOCAVA Division, American Samoa Election Office

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
ARIZONA	Janine Petty Assistant Director of Elections Services Office of the Arizona Secretary of State	Reynaldo Valenzuela Jr. Assistant Director of Elections Maricopa County, Arizona
ARKANSAS	Leslie Bellamy Director of Elections Office of the Arkansas Secretary of State	Melanie Clark County Clerk Jackson County, Arkansas
CALIFORNIA	Susan Lapsley Deputy Secretary of State, California	Neal Kelley Registrar of Voters Orange County, California
COLORADO	Dwight K. Shellman III County Support Manager Colorado Department of State Elections Division	Rene Loy Chief Deputy Clerk Delta County, Colorado
CONNECTICUT	Peggy Reeves Director of Elections Office of the Secretary of State of Connecticut	Lisbeth Becker Registrar of Voters Town of Glastonbury, Connecticut
DELAWARE	Anthony Albence State Election Commissioner, Delaware	Howard G. Sholl, Jr. Deputy Director Department of Elections for New Castle County, Delaware
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Alice P. Miller, Esq. Executive Director District of Columbia Board of Elections	Michael D. Gill, Esq. Board Member District of Columbia Board of Elections
FLORIDA	Maria Matthews Division Director Florida Division of Elections	Paul Lux Supervisor of Elections Okaloosa County, Florida
GEORGIA	The Honorable Bradford Raffensperger Georgia Secretary of State	Nancy Boren Director of Elections and Voter Registration Columbus, Georgia
GUAM	Maria I.D. Pangelinan Executive Director Guam Election Commission	Joseph P. Iseke Election Program Coordinator Guam Election Commission

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
HAWAII	Kristen Uyeda Section Head, Ballot Operations Hawaii Office of Elections	Shirley Magarifuji Election Administrator County of Maui, Hawaii
IDAHO	Lisa Powers Idaho State Elections Director	Patty Weeks County Clerk Nez Perce County, Idaho
ILLINOIS	Bernadette Matthews Assistant Executive Director Illinois State Board of Elections	Lance Gough Executive Director Chicago Board of Election Commissioners
INDIANA	J. Bradley King Director Indiana Election Division	Myla Eldridge Circuit Court Clerk Marion County, Indiana
IOWA	Christy Wilson Iowa Deputy Commissioner of Elections	Dennis Parrott Auditor Jasper County, Iowa
KANSAS	Bryan A. Caskey Kansas Director of Elections	Lori Augustine County Clerk Trego County, Kansas
KENTUCKY	Erica Galyon Kentucky Assistant Secretary of State	Kenny Barger County Clerk Madison County, Kentucky
LOUISIANA	Allison Clarke Louisiana Deputy Secretary of State	H. Lynn Jones Clerk of Court Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana
MAINE	Julie L. Flynn Maine Deputy Secretary of State	Katherine L. Jones Clerk Portland City, Maine
MARYLAND	Nikki Baines Charlson Deputy Administrator Maryland State Board of Elections	Guy Mickley Election Director Howard County Board of Elections, Maryland

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
MASSACHUSETTS	Michelle K. Tassinari Director/Legal Counsel Massachusetts Office of Secretary of the Commonwealth, Election Division	Andrew Dowd Town Clerk Northborough, Massachusetts
MICHIGAN	The Honorable Jocelyn Benson Michigan Secretary of State	Justin Roebuck County Clerk/Register of Deeds Ottawa County, Michigan
MINNESOTA	David Maeda Director of Elections Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State	Debby Erickson Administrative Services Director Crow Wing County, Minnesota
MISSISSIPPI	Hawley Robertson Senior Attorney Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State, Elections Division	Baretta Mosley Circuit Clerk Lafayette County, Mississippi
MISSOURI	The Honorable Jay Ashcroft Missouri Secretary of State	Batina Dodge County Clerk Scotland County, Missouri
MONTANA	Dana Corson Director of Elections and Voter Services Montana Secretary of State	Rina Fontana Moore County Clerk and Recorder Cascade County, Montana
NEBRASKA	Heather Doxon Election Coordinator Nebraska Secretary of State	David Shively Election Commissioner Lancaster County, Nebraska
NEVADA	Justus Wendland HAVA Administrator Nevada Secretary of State	Joseph P. Gloria Registrar of Voters Clark County, Nevada
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Anthony Stevens New Hampshire Assistant Secretary of State	Robert Dezmelyk Moderator Town of Newton, New Hampshire
NEW JERSEY	Robert Giles Director New Jersey Division of Elections	Linda Von Nessi Clerk of Elections Essex County, New Jersey

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
NEW MEXICO	Mandy Vigil Elections Director New Mexico Secretary of State	David Kunko County Clerk Chaves County, New Mexico
NEW YORK	Douglas A. Kellner Commissioner, Co-Chair New York State Board of Elections	Rachel L. Bledi Commissioner Albany County Board of Elections, New York
NORTH CAROLINA	Veronica Degraffenreid Director of Election Operations North Carolina State Board of Elections	Michael Dickerson Director of Elections Mecklenburg County, North Carolina
NORTH DAKOTA	John Arnold State Election Director North Dakota Secretary of State	DeAnn Buckhouse Election Coordinator Cass County, North Dakota
OHIO	Amanda Grandjean Director of Elections Ohio Secretary of State	Steve Harsman Deputy Director Montgomery County Board of Elections, Ohio
OKLAHOMA	Carol Morris Assistant Director of Support Services Oklahoma State Election Board	Jana Maddux Secretary Rogers County Election Board, Oklahoma
OREGON	Stephen N. Trout Director of Elections Oregon Secretary of State	Derrin (Dag) Robinson County Clerk Harney County, Oregon
PENNSYLVANIA	Jessica Myers Director of Policy Pennsylvania Department of State	Randall O. Wenger Chief Clerk/Chief Registrar Board of Elections and Registration Commission, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
PUERTO RICO	Ramón Allende Santos Ayudante del Comisionado, Puerto Rico	Walter Vélez Martínez Secretario Puerto Rico
RHODE ISLAND	Rob Rock Director of Elections Rhode Island Secretary of State	Louise Phaneuf Town Clerk Town of Burrillville, Rhode Island

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
SOUTH CAROLINA	Marci Andino Executive Director South Carolina State Election Commission	David Alford Director Board of Voter Registration and Elections, Florence County, South Carolina
SOUTH DAKOTA	Rachel Soulek HAVA Coordinator South Dakota Secretary of State	Carri Crum County Auditor Clay County, South Dakota
TENNESSEE	Mark Goins Coordinator of Elections Tennessee Secretary of State	Carolyn Peebles Election Commissioner Rutherford County, Tennessee
TEXAS	Keith Ingram Director Texas Secretary of State, Elections Division	Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk Travis County, Texas
UTAH	Justin Lee Director of Elections Lieutenant Governor of the State of Utah	Sherrie Swensen County Clerk Salt Lake County, Utah
VERMONT	William Senning Director of Elections and Campaign Finance Vermont Secretary of State	Sandra "Sandy" Pinsonault, MMC Town Clerk, Vermont
VIRGIN ISLANDS	Lisa Harris Moorhead Member Virgin Islands Board of Elections	Kevermay Douglas Deputy Supervisor of Elections? Virgin Islands
VIRGINIA	Christopher E. "Chris" Piper Commissioner Virginia Department of Elections	Greg S. Riddlemoser General Registrar Stafford County, Virginia
WASHINGTON	Stuart Holmes Election Information Services Supervisor Washington Secretary of State's Office	Jerry Pettit County Auditor Kittitas County, Washington
WEST VIRGINIA	Brittany Westfall SVRS Coordinator of Elections West Virginia Secretary of State	Brian Wood County Clerk Putnam County, West Virginia

STATE OR TERRITORY	STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL	LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL
WISCONSIN	Meagan Wolfe Administrator Wisconsin Elections Commission	Barbara K.D. Goeckner Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/ Administrator Village of Cambridge, Wisconsin
WYOMING	Kai Schon Wyoming State Election Director	Jackie R. Gonzales County Clerk Albany County, Wyoming

## Board of Advisors

The Board of Advisors is a 35-member board composed of representatives from the National Governors Association; National Conference of State Legislatures; National Association of Secretaries of State; National Association of State Election Directors; National Association of Counties; the International Association of Government Officials (created from the merger of the National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerks, and the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers); Election Center; U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; and the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board. Other members include representatives from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Integrity and the Civil Rights Division; the director of the U.S. Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program; four professionals from the field of science and technology, one appointed by each the Speaker and Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Speaker and Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. The chairs and ranking minority members of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration and the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration each appoint two members representing voter interests.

On February 22, 2019, the Commission appointed EAC Commissioner Thomas Hicks to serve as the Designated Federal Officer for the Board of Advisors. The EAC organized the Board of Advisors' annual meeting from April 24 to 25, 2019 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Board of Advisors was comprised of the following members at the end of 2019.



2019 U.S. Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors



Former Board of Advisors Chair Michael Winn and current Chair Michael Yaki at the Board of Advisors annual meeting

MEMBER	POSITION	APPOINTING ENTITY
JEFFREY MCLEOD	Director Center for Best Practice's Homeland Security and Public Safety Division	National Governors Association
SHAUN RAHMEYER	Administrator Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination	National Governors Association
SENATOR KATHY BERNIER	Senator Wisconsin State Legislature	National Conference of State Legislatures
SENATOR DANIEL IVEY-SOTO	Senator New Mexico State Legislature	National Conference of State Legislatures
THE HONORABLE PAUL PATE	Iowa Secretary of State NASS President	National Association of Secretaries of State
THE HONORABLE JIM CONDOS	Vermont Secretary of State	National Association of Secretaries of State
MICHELLE TASSINARI	Director/Legal Counsel Massachusetts Office of Secretary of the Commonwealth Election Division	National Association of State Election Directors
LINDA LAMONE	Administrator of Elections Maryland State Board of Elections	National Association of State Election Directors
RICKY HATCH	Clerk/Auditor Weber County, Utah	National Association of Counties
ALYSOUN MCLAUGHLIN	Deputy Election Director Montgomery County Board of Elections, Maryland	National Association of Counties
TINA BARTON	City Clerk City of Rochester Hills, Michigan	U.S. Conference of Mayors
TIM MATTICE	Executive Director The Election Center	The Election Center



MEMBER	POSITION	APPOINTING ENTITY
DEAN LOGAN	Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Los Angeles County, California	The Election Center
MICHAEL WINN	Director of Elections Harris County, Texas	International Association of Government Officials
NEAL KELLEY	Registrar of Voters Orange County, California	International Association of Government Officials
MICHAEL YAKI	Commissioner U.S. Commission on Civil Rights	U.S. Commission on Civil Rights
DAVID KLADNEY	Commissioner U.S. Commission on Civil Rights	U.S. Commission on Civil Rights
MARC GUTHRIE	Public Member U.S. Access Board	Architectural and Transportation Barrier Compliance Board
SACHIN PAVITHRAN	Public Board Member U.S. Access Board	Architectural and Transportation Barrier Compliance Board
RICHARD PILGER	Director Election Crimes Branch, U.S. Department of Justice	Chief, Office of Public Integrity, U.S. Department of Justice
CHRIS HERREN	Chief Civil Rights Division Voting Section, U.S. Department of Justice	Chief, Voting Section Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice
DAVID BEIRNE	Director Federal Voting Assistance Program, U.S. Department of Defense	Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program, U.S. Department of Defense
PHILIP B. STARK	Associate Dean, Professor of Statistics University of California Department of Statistics	Speaker of the House
ELLIOT BERKE	Managing Partner Berke Farah LLP	House Minority Leader

MEMBER	POSITION	APPOINTING ENTITY
SARAH BALL JOHNSON	City Clerk Colorado Springs, Colorado	Senate Majority Leader
DR. BARBARA SIMONS	Chairwoman Verified Voting Foundation	Senate Minority Leader
GREGORY MOORE	Executive Director NAACP National Voter Fund	House Committee on Administration - Chair
LAWRENCE NORDEN	Deputy Director Brennan Center for Justice Democracy Program	House Committee on Administration - Chair
JOHN FOGARTY	Senior Counsel Government and Regulatory Affairs Practice Group, Clark Hill PLC	House Committee on Administration - Ranking Member
DON GRAY	County Clerk Sangamon County	House Committee on Administration - Ranking Member
JAMES DICKSON	Co-Chair Voting Rights Task Force, National Council on Independent Living	Senate Committee on Rules and Administration - Chair
MARK RITCHIE	President Minnesota World's Fair Bid Committee	Senate Committee on Rules and Administration - Chair
LINDA NIENDICK	County Clerk Lafayette County, Missouri	Senate Committee on Rules and Administration - Ranking Member
SHANE SCHOELLER	County Clerk Greene County, Missouri	Senate Committee on Rules and Administration - Ranking Member



# FY2019 VOTES OF THE COMMISSION

As required by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Section 207(4), the following section documents all votes taken by the Commission through September 30, 2019 for the preceding fiscal year.

TALLY VOTES	RESULT OF VOTE	DECIDED BY A VOTE OF	DATE TRANSMITTED	CERTIFIED DATE
Federal Register Publication of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines Version 2.0	Adopted	4-0	2/14/19	2/15/19
Appointment of Christy McCormick as the Chairwoman and Benjamin Hovland as the Vice Chairman of the EAC	Adopted	4-0	2/20/19	2/22/19

TALLY VOTES	RESULT OF VOTE	DECIDED BY A VOTE OF	DATE TRANSMITTED	CERTIFIED DATE
Appointment of Designated Federal Officers (DFO) to the EAC's Advisory Boards (Donald Palmer as DFO to the Standards Board, Thomas Hicks as DFO to the Board of Advisors, and Benjamin Hovland as DFO to the Technical Guidelines Development Committee)	Adopted	4-0	2/20/19	2/22/19
Approval of the Resolution to Continue the EAC Standards Board and Board of Advisors	Adopted	4-0	3/22/19	3/25/19
Approval of the Resolution to Continue the EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee	Adopted	4-0	3/22/19	3/25/19
Approval for the Renewal of the Charter for the EAC Board of Advisors	Adopted	4-0	4/4/19	4/4/19
Approval for the Renewal of the Charter for the EAC Standards Board	Adopted	4-0	4/4/19	4/4/19
Approval for the Renewal of the Charter for the EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee	Adopted	4-0	4/4/19	4/4/19
Adoption of the 2018 EAC Election Administration and Voting Survey Comprehensive Report	Adopted	4-0	6/25/19	6/25/19
Reappointment of both Brian Newby as EAC Executive Director and Clifford Tatum as EAC General Counsel for a term of four years effective October 23, 2019	Failed	2-2	9/3/19	9/5/19

