



Physical Security

IN THIS SPOTLIGHT

Physical Security covers the work of protecting election personnel, supplies, and infrastructure from physical threats. It spans chain-of-custody for equipment, secure storage and transport, threat assessments, emergency planning, and coordination with law enforcement and emergency management partners.

AWARD-WINNING PROGRAMS



Operation Ballot Box - 2025 Award Winner

• *City of Henderson, Nevada*

United the City Clerk's Office, Emergency Management, and multi-level partners through tabletop exercises and pre-election assessments to close gaps in physical security, communications, and continuity planning, producing a unified response plan and a more resilient voting environment.

WHAT TO BORROW

- ✓ Tabletop exercises surface gaps that plans might otherwise miss.
- ✓ Multi-agency participation builds the relationships needed during a real incident.
- ✓ Produces a single shared response plan instead of separate documents per agency.

Learn more: Read the full program writeup → <https://www.eac.gov/clearinghouse-awards/2025-winner-innovation-and-new-tools-election-security-and-technology-nevada>

Pima County Elections Asset Inventory Management Program - 2024 Honorable Mention

• *Pima County Elections Department, Arizona*



Implemented the Election AIM system to digitally track more than 1,300 election assets using GIS-enabled geofencing and barcode scanning. The system improved chain-of-custody procedures, equipment verification, and overall election security and efficiency.

WHAT TO BORROW

- ✓ Barcode-plus-geofence tracking gives a real-time picture of where every asset is.
- ✓ Stronger chain-of-custody documentation supports Election Day and post-election processes.
- ✓ Scalable for jurisdictions of any size.

Learn more: Read the full program writeup → <https://www.eac.gov/clearinghouse-awards/2024-honorable-mention-innovation-and-new-tools-election-security-and-1>





Election Judge Badge - 2024 Award Winner

• *Tazewell County Clerk & Recorder of Deeds, Illinois*

Replaced election judge name badges with individualized ID numbers to protect personal identity, and added emergency contact numbers on the reverse. Announced via a joint press conference with the county's presiding judge.

WHAT TO BORROW

- ✓ Protects poll workers' personal identities without compromising voter trust.
- ✓ Emergency contacts on the badge put help one glance away during an incident.
- ✓ Low-cost change – mainly a redesign of an item the office already issues.

Learn more: Read the full program writeup → <https://www.eac.gov/clearinghouse-awards/2024-winner-innovation-and-new-tools-election-security-and-technology-illinois>

CONTINUE EXPLORING

Browse every Clearinghouse Award-winning program by topic.

The full Index collects honoree programs from across the country and groups them by the work they address – from poll workers to security to accessibility and more – so you can find ideas already proven in the field.

See the full index:

[eac.gov/
clearinghouse-awards-index](https://www.eac.gov/clearinghouse-awards-index)

ABOUT THE CLEARINGHOUSE AWARDS

The EAC's annual Clearinghouse Awards – the "Clearies" – recognize outstanding work by election officials across the country, including innovations in areas like voter list maintenance, poll worker recruitment, accessibility, and communications.

ABOUT THIS SPOTLIGHT

Each spotlight focuses on a single area of election administration and surfaces programs that other offices can borrow from. Use this document as a quick reference, share it with peers, or pin it as a starting point for your next initiative.

