

# 2018 Annual Report



## U.S. Election Assistance Commission

**Security | Efficiency | Accessibility | Integrity**

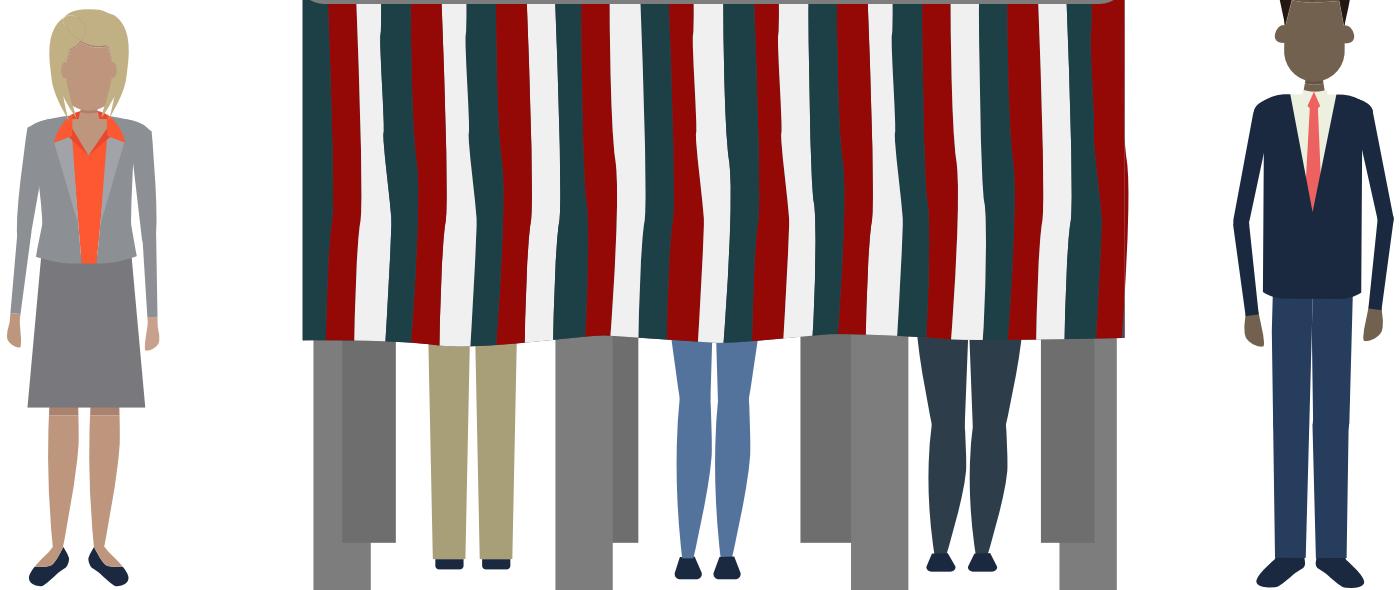
---

## Table of Contents

Our Mission: Help America Vote	page 2
Chairman's Message	page 3
Meet the Commissioners	page 5
Distributing HAVA Funds	page 14
The 2018 Election	page 22
Enhancing Security	page 29
Securing Systems	page 35
Leveraging Data	page 39
Providing Assistance	page 45
Convening Election Leaders	page 52
Highlighting Best Practices	page 54
Financial Focus	page 60
Executive Director's Note	page 63
EAC Advisory & Oversight Boards	page 66

## Our Mission

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





## Chairman's Message

Since 2016, much of the public discourse around Federal Elections has focused on security – and for good reason. Election security is not new to election officials or the tens of thousands of election administration staff members and election workers who support that work. However, 2016 changed the threat environment by pitting state and local officials against nation-state actors who scanned for vulnerabilities and were successful in accessing at least one state's voter rolls, though there is no evidence that any data was changed or votes affected. These same actors made additional attempts to infiltrate election systems ahead of the 2018 midterms and, by all accounts, will be back again in 2020.

Election officials proved themselves more than capable of managing these threats in the lead up to, and during, the

2018 midterm elections by increasing the security and resiliency of their systems and forming national and regional partnerships to improve information sharing and cyber protections. Election officials also increased voter outreach efforts in order to combat the biggest threat to election integrity: decreased voter confidence. Most importantly, election officials served voters and, by all accounts, carried out a successful 2018 Federal Election.

While the work to secure elections may be capturing news headlines and sparking conversation across the nation, it's only part of what election officials do each and every day. From poll worker recruitment and polling place management to post-election audits and election night reporting, election officials have a broad spectrum of responsibilities. The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)

was proud to stand with election officials this year and assist in every aspect of their work to administer accurate, secure, accessible and fair elections.

We began the year with an all-day summit highlighting a range of issues state and local election officials would face in the lead up to the 2018 Federal Elections, such as election security, voting accessibility, and how to use election data to improve the voter experience. The EAC continued hosting summits throughout the year, including a Language Access Summit, an Election Data Summit and an Election Readiness Summit. We convened hundreds of election officials, data experts, activists and other election stakeholders, all with the goal of getting ready for the upcoming elections. The Commission's year-long #Countdown18 campaign provided resources to help election officials prepare for the midterm elections, and educate voters about the process and encourage them to get involved.

When Congress appropriated \$380 million in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funding to improve the administration of federal elections, the EAC set about distributing funds to states as efficiently as possible to ensure these funds could have a tangible impact on the 2018 midterm elections. By August 21, 2018, just five months after the appropriation, all 55 states and territories eligible to receive funds had requested them. Just one month later, on September 20, 2018, all states and territories had received 100 percent of their funds. That is a remarkable rate of distributing federal funds that is both

efficient and responsible.

With these funds, states were able to make significant improvements to election systems that otherwise may not have occurred. While simultaneously focusing on the thousands of logistical details needed to administer elections, states proposed plans to put these funds to good use, making significant upgrades to cybersecurity, voting equipment and voter registration systems, and increasing communications efforts and post-election auditing.

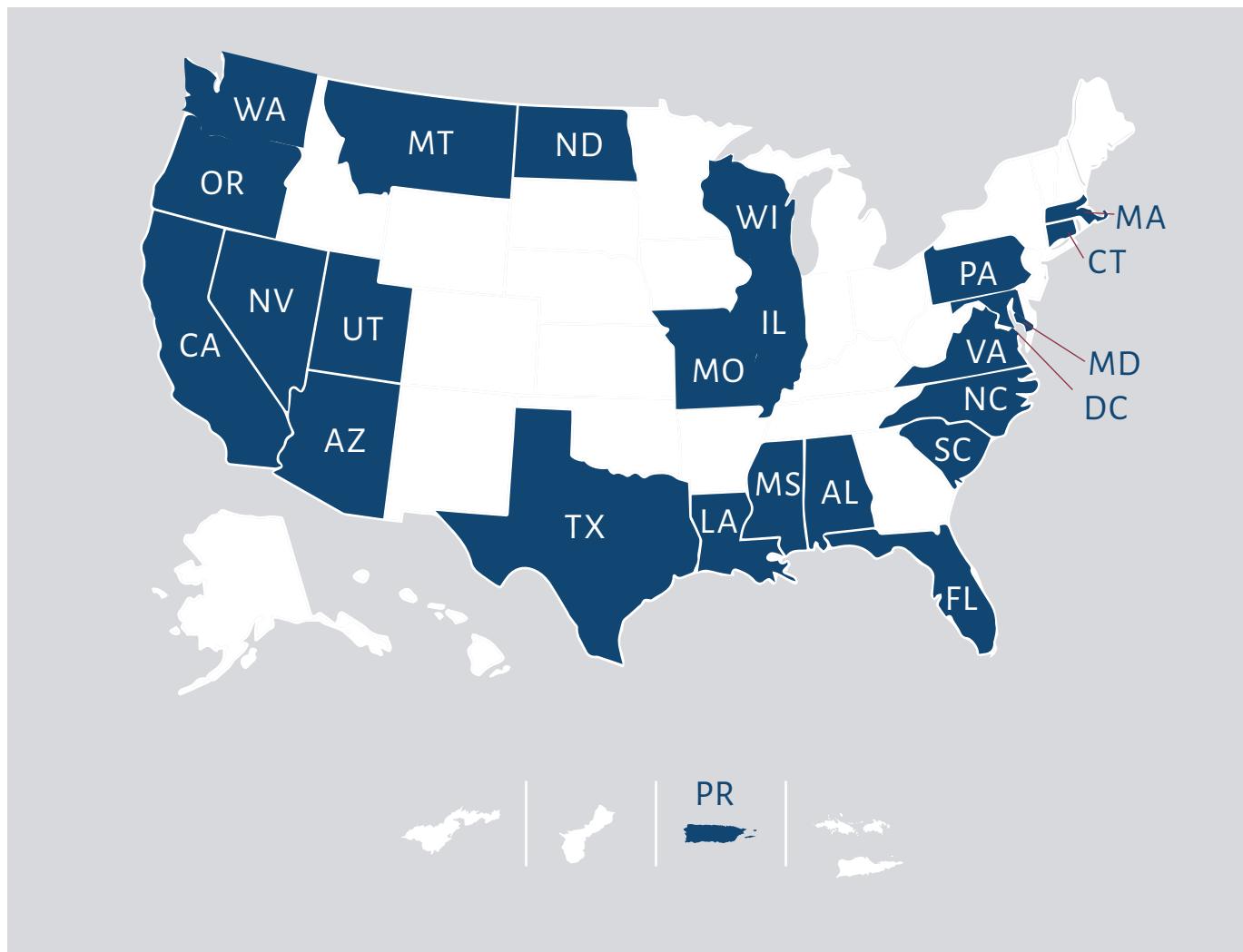
It was an honor to serve as Chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission over the past year. I continue to be inspired by the dedication and resourcefulness of the election officials I have the privilege of knowing and the hard work of the EAC staff. I am proud to present this report of the Commission's work and look forward to continuing the EAC's impact in 2019.



**Thomas Hicks**  
**Chairman**  
**U.S. Election Assistance Commission**

# Meet the Commissioners

In 2018, EAC Chair Thomas Hicks and EAC Vice Chair Christy McCormick traveled to 38 cities in 25 states and territories to attend or present at conferences, visit local election offices, attend public hearings and meetings, and lead workshops and roundtables for election officials.





## Chairman Thomas Hicks

EAC Commissioners serve as resources, advisors and conveners.

For election officials, the Commissioners are expert consultants who can provide guidance on election administration trends and how jurisdictions can prepare to tackle the complexities of administering secure, accessible, accurate, and efficient elections.

The Commissioners alert officials to resources and tools that can assist with all phases of election administration, from high-level best practices to more substantive nuts-and-bolts tactical approaches for every step in the voting process. EAC Commissioners ensure election officials are able to benefit from federal resources, including information sharing networks and working groups. They also work to provide opportunities for election officials to engage with a wide variety of national experts, including national security officials.

The EAC also ensures that the needs of election officials are what shape the creation of federal resources and designations intended to improve election administration.

For the federal government, the Commissioners regularly brief Members of Congress and federal officials from across the administration to provide a first-hand account of state and local efforts to administer elections. Commissioners report on what they have seen during site visits to election offices around the country, how election administrators are bolstering system resilience and efficiency, and what they may need to maintain the level of exemplary service that voters deserve and expect.

For voters and advocacy groups, the Commissioners provide a bridge between individual voters and the election officials who serve them.



## Vice Chair Christy McCormick

Election administrators must ensure elections are accessible to all and that voters have the information and services they need to participate in elections. The Commissioners engage voters from across the country to capture information about their voting experience and ways the EAC can best assist the state and local officials who serve on the front lines of democracy.

Throughout the year, EAC Commissioners know that traveling to election jurisdictions across the nation is the best way to fully engage, and understand, voters and election administrators hailing from such a diverse landscape. From local election office and polling place visits to national conferences and state election administrator meetings (and everything in between), the Commissioners dedicate themselves to meeting election leaders and voters on their home turf. These interactions provide pertinent

information that shapes the Commission's work, guides its resources and informs its strategic plans.

On January 2, 2019, the United States Senate confirmed Donald Palmer, formerly a fellow at the Bipartisan Policy Center and member of the EAC Standards Board Executive Board and Technical Guidelines Development Committee, and Benjamin Hovland, previously the Acting Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, to serve as EAC Commissioners. Palmer and Hovland's confirmation marked the first time in nearly a decade that the EAC had a full roster of Commissioners. Palmer and Hovland's confirmation also re-established a full quorum at the EAC, which will allow the agency to better serve the election community.

## Chairman Thomas Hicks



Thomas Hicks 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). He has served as chairman of the commission for two terms.

Commissioner Hicks has focused his efforts on voter access. Under his leadership, the EAC developed a pocket-sized [voter card](#) that serves as a guide on voting rights for voters with disabilities. The card is provided in both Braille and large print. The EAC has worked with advocacy groups and election officials to distribute the card.

In addition, Mr. Hicks has addressed the difficulties overseas voters have when requesting and returning their ballots, such as dealing with foreign IP addresses and issues with timely ballot delivery. He worked with key states to set up a help desk. Now, overseas voters receive an email response directing

them to the help desk to obtain their ballots.

He serves as the designated federal officer for the [Board of Advisors](#), which reviews the voluntary voting systems guidelines.

Mr. Hicks is a frequent speaker at conferences in the United States and overseas on issues such as voter access and cybersecurity.

Prior to his appointment with EAC, Commissioner Hicks served as a senior elections counsel and minority elections counsel on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration, a position he held from 2003 to 2014. In this role, Mr. Hicks was responsible for issues relating to campaign finance, election reform, contested elections and oversight of both the U.S. Election Assistance Commission and the Federal Election Commission. His primary responsibility was advising and providing guidance to the committee members and caucus on election issues. Mr. Hicks has talked with Americans in every state about their voting experiences. In addition, he has worked with state and local election officials across America to address critical election concerns.

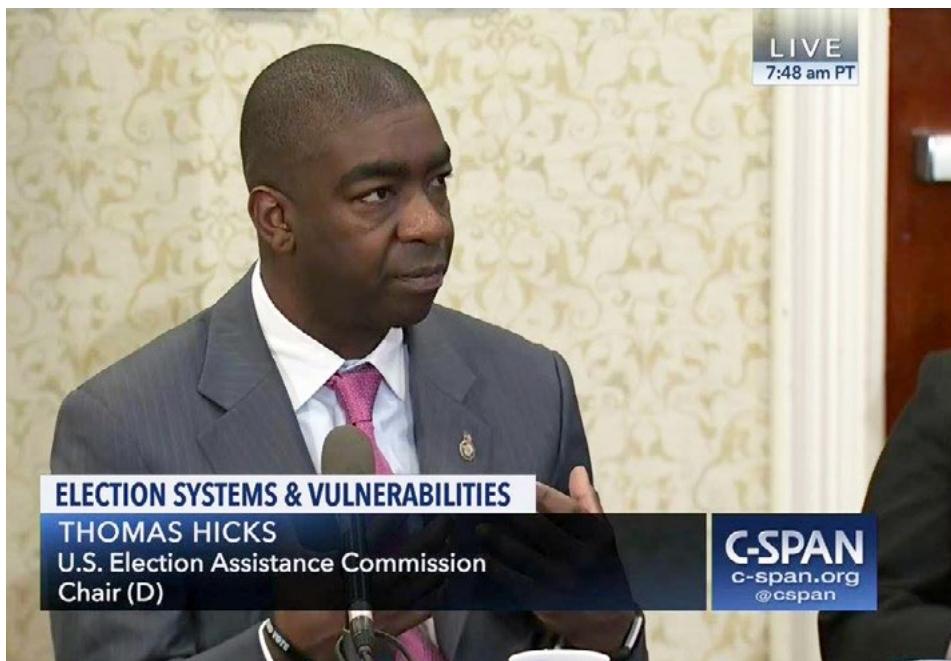
Prior to joining the U.S. House of Representatives, Mr. Hicks served as a senior lobbyist and policy analyst from 2001 to 2003 for Common Cause, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that empowers citizens to make their voices heard in the political process and to

hold their elected leaders accountable to the public interest. Mr. Hicks has enjoyed working with state and local election officials, civil rights organizations and all other stakeholders to improve the voting process.

Mr. Hicks served from 1993 to 2001 in the Clinton administration as a special assistant and legislative assistant in the Office of Congressional Relations for the Office of Personnel Management. He served as agency liaison to the

United State Congress and the president's administration on matters regarding federal personnel policies and regulations.

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).



## Vice Chair Christy McCormick



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 was quickly elected by her fellow Commissioners as Chairwoman of the reconstituted Commission for the 2015-2016 term.

As the agency's first chairperson in four years, she re-established the operation of the Commission itself, as well as the Commission's three advisory boards: the EAC Standards Board, Board of Advisors, and Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC). Chairwoman McCormick executed a new management policy, secured a long-overdue update to the Voluntary Voting Systems Guidelines (VVSG), obtained the accreditation of a new Voting System Testing Laboratory (VSTL), oversaw the hiring of the Executive Director and General Counsel, and led the reaffirmation of accessibility

in voting as a top priority for the Commission.

She instituted the EAC's first Language Accessibility Summit, first Election Data Summit, and established a working relationship with the United States Postal Service (USPS) to address postal issues in elections. As Chairwoman, Ms. McCormick also launched a continuing effort with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) and the Council of State Governments (CSG) to improve the Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS), and diligently and successfully worked to restore the Commission's standing with Members of Congress, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS), the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED), local election officials, and other stakeholders in the election community.

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 Department of Justice, a position she held from 2006 until joining the Commission. In that role, Ms. McCormick was responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of federal voting statutes, including the Voting Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act, the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE). Additionally, Ms. McCormick worked with election officials to monitor compliance with federal voting statutes, especially

the Voting Rights Act and its minority language requirements, and fair administration of elections. She has observed numerous elections, and worked with election officials all across America.

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. She was the Rule of Law liaison to the Kurdish Regional Government as well as liaison to rule of law advisors at the Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

Prior to joining the Department of Justice, 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.



## Commissioner Ben Hovland



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 on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

Previously, Commissioner Hovland served as an election attorney for the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. He has been involved with elections since 2000. Much of this time has been focused on improving access to registration and voting.

Mr. Hovland's career has most recently focused on the federal government's role in election administration and campaign finance regulation. Additionally, 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.



EAC Commissioner Benjamin Hovland testifies before the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules & Administration during his November 28, 2018 nomination hearing.

## Commissioner Donald Palmer



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 on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

Commissioner Palmer is a former Bipartisan Policy Center fellow where he focused on the recommendations of the Presidential Commission on Election Administration to improve the voter experience and reform the voter registration process. He has also served as a senior adviser to the Election Assistance Commission.

Palmer is a former Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections and served as the commonwealth's chief election official from 2011-2014. He also served as the Florida Department of State's director of elections. During that tenure, he served on Election Assistance Commission advisory boards, including the Standards Board and the Technical Guidelines Development Committee, representing the National Association of State Election Directors.

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 voting laws. Earlier in his career, he served as a U.S. Navy intelligence officer and judge advocate general, deploying overseas to Italy and onboard the USS John F. Kennedy. He retired from the Navy Reserves in 2012. He earned his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law.



EAC Commissioner Donald Palmer testifies before the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules & Administration during his November 28, 2018 nomination hearing.

# Distributing HAVA Funds



**The Washington Post** “States Detail Election-Security Plans”

**AP** “States move quickly to tap into money for election security”

**USA TODAY** “Cybersecurity: States ramp up election protections ahead of midterms with \$380 million in federal funds”

**LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR** “State will get \$3.5 million to improve election systems, security”

**statescoop** “Here’s how states plan to spend the federal money they’re getting for election security”

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**  
“States Detail Election-Security Plans”

*EAC Grants Director Dr. Mark Abbott presents on the HAVA funds contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, and the process for accessing these funds, during a public forum on election security on April 18, 2018. How states planned to use HAVA funds received significant national press coverage when the EAC released narratives and budgets from 48 of the 55 states and territories eligible to receive these funds.*

On March 23, 2018, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 was signed into law, making \$380 million available to states to improve the administration of Federal Elections, the first appropriations for Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds since FY2010. These funds came at a critical time.

Voting equipment across the country had surpassed 10, or in some cases, 15 years of age and election officials were working to improve the security of their election systems.

With the 2018 Midterm Elections not far off, the U.S. Election Assistance

Commission (EAC) worked to make funds available to states as quickly as possible so that they could have an immediate impact on election preparation. States received grant award notification letters in early April, which allowed them to incur costs, with prior EAC approval, against the forthcoming grant awards. The Commission also distributed Congressional guidance on how states could spend the funding and held a public forum on April 18, 2018, to provide additional guidance. Funds were then available for states to draw down and deposit into their election accounts. Once the states returned signed grant documents and the required certifications and assurances, they immediately began system upgrades to enhance election security ahead of the 2018 Federal Election.

Even as election officials across the nation prepared for the upcoming midterm elections, they wasted no time in requesting HAVA funds and developing their plans to bolster election security and administration. By July 17, 2018, the EAC announced each of the 55 eligible states and territories had requested 100 percent of the newly appropriated HAVA funds and 88 percent, or \$333,921,264, had already been transferred into state accounts.

On Tuesday, August 21, 2018, less than five months after the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 was signed into law and 77 days before the 2018 midterm elections, the EAC published program narratives and budgets from 48 of the 55 states and territories eligible to receive HAVA funds.

## Case Study: Colorado Improves Audits of Election-Related Systems

In 2009, the Colorado General Assembly passed legislation requiring counties to conduct risk-limiting audits (RLAs) following an election. A risk-limiting audit provides strong statistical evidence that the outcome of an election is correct. Because RLAs are centered on examining the original ballot cast, either a paper ballot or voter verifiable paper audit trail must exist.

In 2011, the Colorado Department of State received a \$230,000 grant from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to pilot a risk-limiting audit system that would help meet the requirements of that legislation. Colorado conducted the first statewide RLA after the November 2017 Coordinated Election.

Colorado intends to use the \$6,342,979 the state received in HAVA funds, and the required state match, to enhance technology and security in the state's election process, including by improving risk-limiting audits and other audits of election-related systems. The Colorado Secretary of State's office worked to improve the existing RLA system prior to the 2018 midterm election. The state also plans to add security audits of other election-related systems in 2019 and beyond.



EAC Chairman Thomas Hicks and Vice Chair Christy McCormick appear before the United States Senate Committee on Rules and Administration during the "Election Security Preparations: Federal and Vendor Perspectives" hearing on July 11, 2018. The Commissioners delivered testimony on the EAC's election security work and the status of distributing HAVA funds contained within the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 to eligible states and territories.

By September 20, 2018, all 55 states and U.S territories had submitted their final plans and budgets and 100 percent of the \$380 million had been disbursed.

The Commission made all state narratives and budgets public in order for the election community and the American people to have the particulars on how the states and territories were expending their funds. It is essential as part of the EAC's clearinghouse effort, that the states and territories have access to the wealth of ideas and innovative approaches contained in other states' narratives as they plan their own use of the funds. It is equally essential that the voting public know how states are using these federal funds.

Election security enhancements, including new voting equipment and cybersecurity protections, made up

nearly two-thirds of total investments detailed in state narratives and budgets. States and territories allocated the remaining third to improve voter registration systems, post-election audit activities, election-related communications, and establishing reserves for future programming.



Congressmen Steny Hoyer (MD-15) and Jamie Raskin (MD-8) visit the EAC's office in Silver Spring, Maryland, to hear about the Commission's progress in distributing HAVA funds and the Commission's work to support secure, accessible and efficient elections.



**"In Vermont, we have requested and received our \$3 million in 2018 HAVA dollars from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. The EAC provided this in a very quick way. Within 3-5 days of receiving our application, they got the money to us. I want to thank the EAC for providing a simple and quick way to get that money to us."**

*- Jim Condos, Vermont Secretary of State*

The state and territory narratives contained expenditures for items such as personnel, equipment, sub-grants awards, training and accessibility improvements. Many of the documents also contained information on how grant recipients would comply with statutorily required activities, such as the five percent state funding match.

The steady rate of incoming requests the EAC received for this critical funding made clear the urgent need for new resources and was a testament to the dedication of election officials to bolster the security of our country's election systems. However, requesting HAVA funding was only one of the ways states worked to make their election systems more resilient, just as the EAC's distribution of HAVA funds was merely one aspect of the EAC's election security work. While the long-term impact of the new HAVA funding will be determined by how states and territories choose to use

it, Americans should feel assured their election systems have integrity because of the diligent efforts of election officials around the country to improve every aspect of their systems.

Still, one message the Commission heard repeatedly from state and local election officials was that the funds contained within the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 should be considered a down payment, rather than a one-time solution.

The vast majority of states and territories plan to spend their allotted funds within the next two to three years. Each funding recipient is required to submit a standard Federal Financial Report and updated program narrative for each fiscal year and may be audited by the EAC's Inspector General. The first Progress and Financial Reports from states and territories were due to the EAC on December 31, 2018. The Commission will produce a brief summarizing how HAVA funds are being used in the first quarter of 2019 as our team provides technical assistance and grants management advice to state election offices as requested.

## Case Study: Cybersecurity

Iowa plans to use \$2.3 million of the \$4.8 million in 2018 HAVA funds allocated to the state to augment cybersecurity protections. At the state level, funds will be utilized for firewall upgrades, increased security for the statewide voter registration database, and additional staff members to better serve and assist counties as they seek to enhance their security measures.

On the county level, funds will be used to provide more secure access to the statewide voter registration database through two-factor authentication. Funds will also be used to explore improvements to technology and security equipment already available to Iowa counties. The most recent HAVA funds will also allow the Iowa Secretary of State's Office to continue to expand on educational and training opportunities available to county Auditors, their staff and county IT professionals.

## Case Study: Voter Registration

Massachusetts will spend \$4 million of the \$7.89 million in 2018 HAVA funding the state has received to make several upgrades to its voter registration systems.

In 2016, the Massachusetts Legislature amended state law to allow for the use of electronic poll books (e-poll books), subject to certification by the Secretary's Office, to check in voters at the polls. The Secretary's Office intends to use some of this funding for independent cybersecurity testing and guidelines for security and usage. After determining specific guidelines for use and certifying e-poll books, the Secretary's Office anticipates offering grants to assist local election officials in obtaining such equipment. The Secretary's Office will work with the Comptroller's Office to add equipment and related services to the statewide contract to make the procurement process easier and more cost effective for local officials. This program is expected to be in place by 2019.

Massachusetts also anticipates using a portion of the funding to implement automatic voter registration (AVR), which is set to begin on January 1, 2020. AVR will require certain modifications to the statewide voter registration database and will likely require additional technology. If the law is changed to allow for Election Day Registration (EDR) as well, funding will be used to provide the equipment needed for local election officials to implement EDR as well.

## Case Study: Voting Equipment

The majority of Kentucky's 120 counties utilize voting machines which create a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) once a voter casts his or her ballot. However, approximately 29 counties rely exclusively on direct-record electronic voting machines (DREs), which do not create paper record.

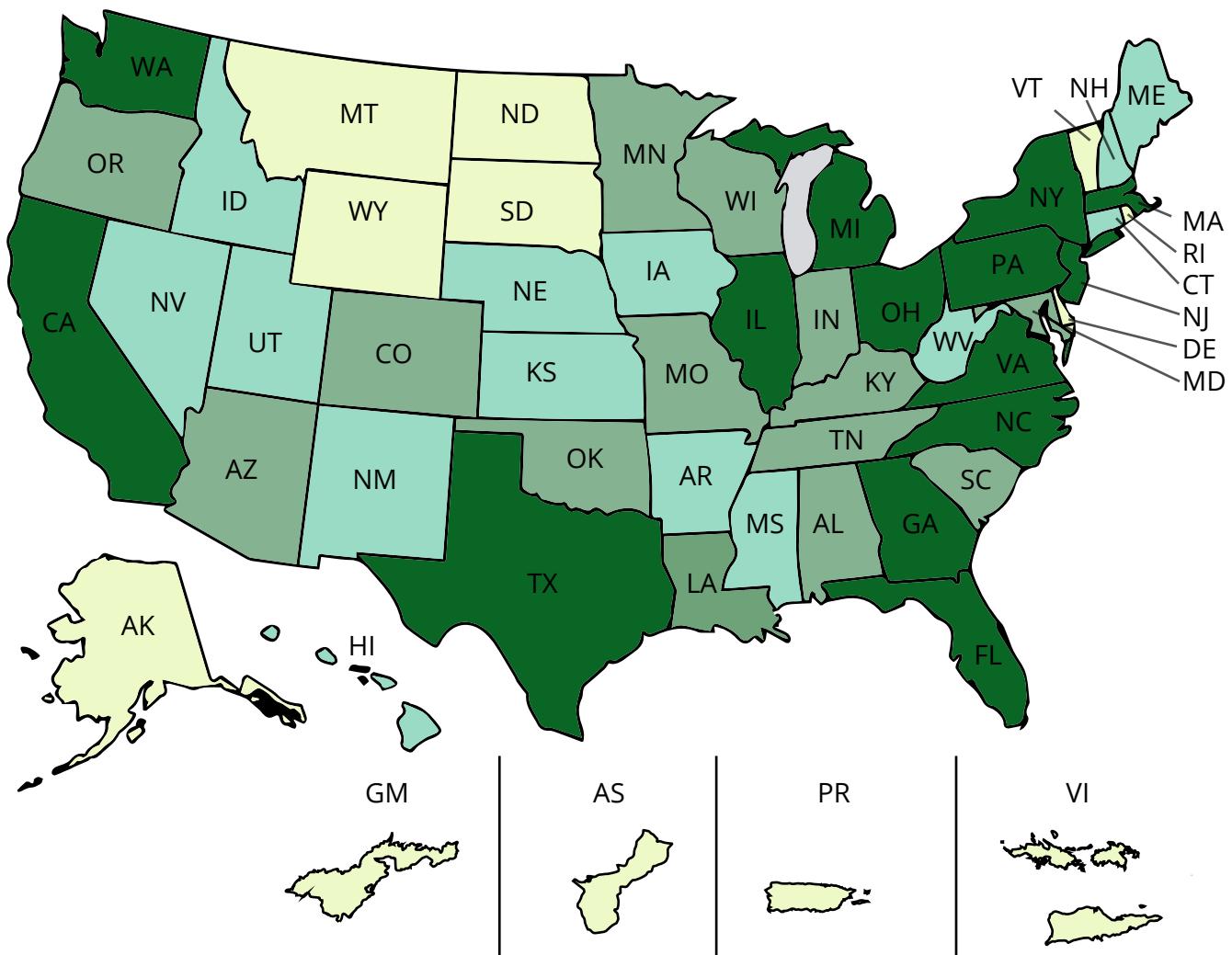
The Kentucky State Board of Elections (SBE) recently resolved to require all future voting equipment purchased by the Commonwealth to provide a VVPAT. The resolution will require approximately 13,000 voting machines to be replaced and cost approximately \$18-\$28 million, depending on the vendor and type of solution.

Kentucky will spend \$4.6 million of the \$5.7 million in 2018 HAVA funds available to the Commonwealth towards this replacement effort and for training on how to use the new equipment. While the funds will not account for the complete statewide replacement purchase price, it will assist the counties who solely use DREs to make the transition immediately.

Once a statewide VVPAT system is adopted, the Commonwealth of Kentucky will then have the ability to begin risk-limiting audits as a standard post-election protocol.

## 2018 HAVA Funds made available on March 23.

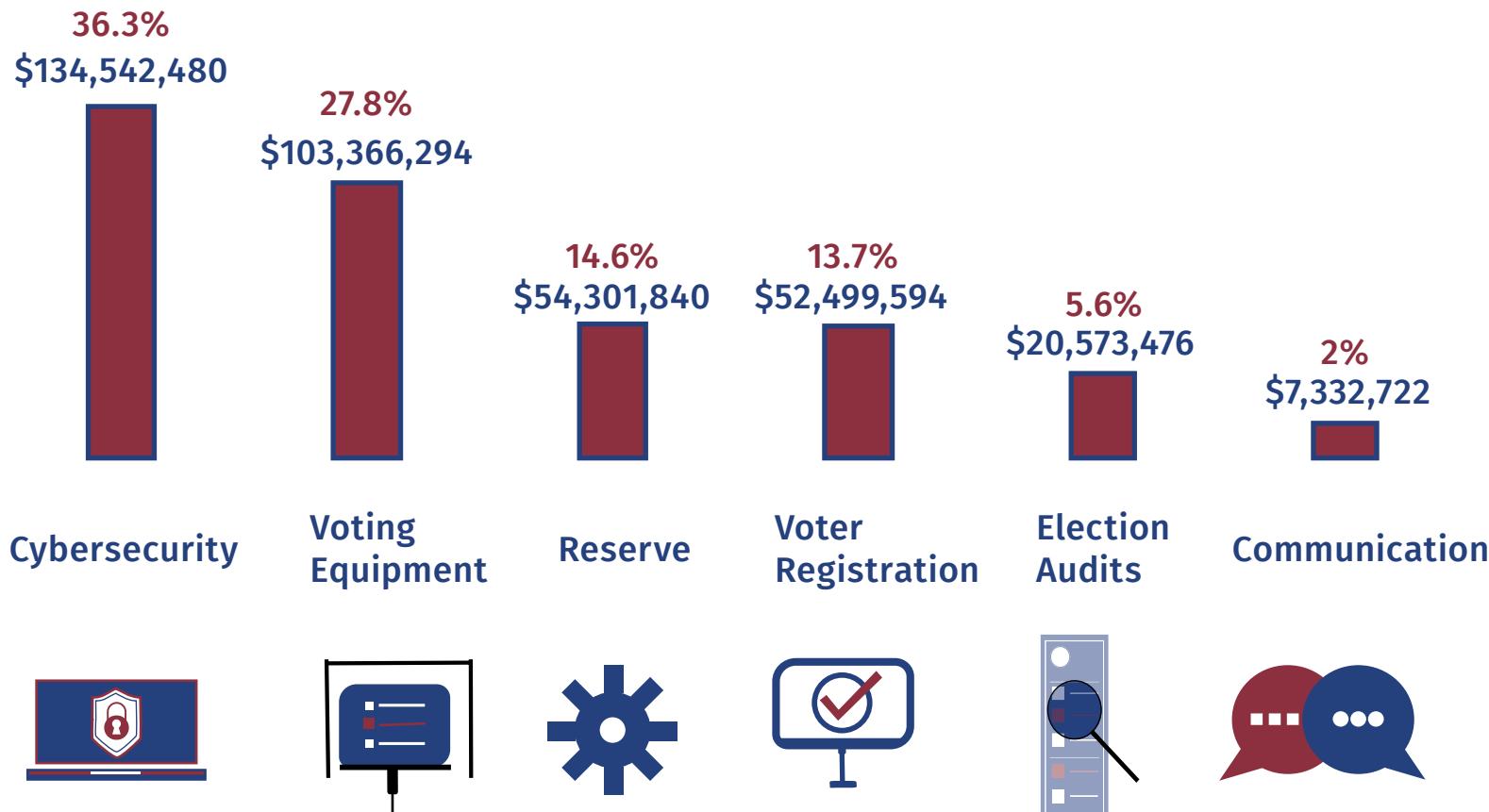
- \$7.9 - \$34.6 million
- \$5.2 - \$7.8 million
- \$3.1 - \$5.1 million
- \$600K - \$3.0 million



**100% of funds requested by July 17.**

**100% of funds disbursed by September 20.**

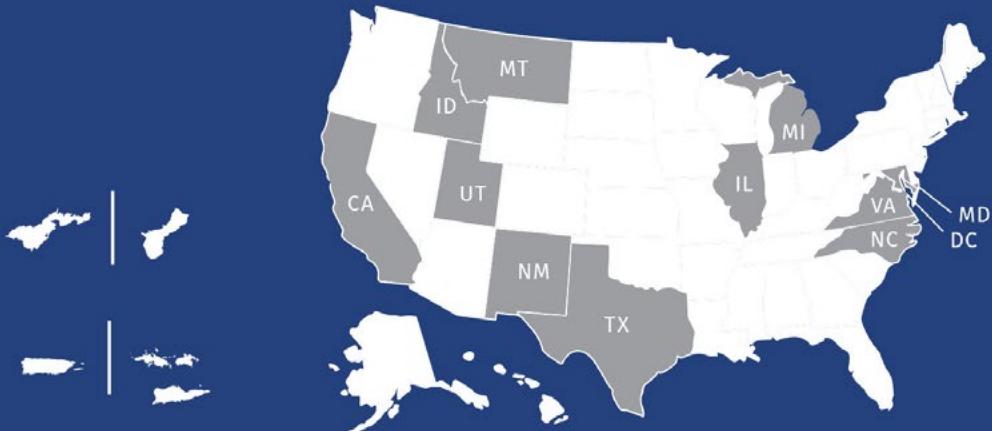
# HOW STATES PLAN TO USE 2018 HAVA FUNDS



AL	KY	PR	AK	MA	UT	AS	NJ	AL	ME	UT	AL	NV	AS	VA
AS	MA	RI	AR	MD	VI	CA	NM	AS	MO	WA	CA	OH	CO	VI
AZ	MD	SC	AS	MO	VT	CO	NV	AZ	NC		CT	OR	CT	WV
CA	MI	SD	CA	ND	WV	FL	OR	CA	NE		CO	RI	DC	
CO	MN	TN	CO	NE	WY	GU	PR	CO	NJ		GA	TX	FL	
CT	NC	TX	CT	NJ		HI	RI	CT	NM		GU	UT	GU	
DC	NE	UT	DC	NM		IA	TX	DC	NV		IA	VA	IA	
FL	NJ	VA	DE	OK		ID	VA	GU	OH		ID	VT	ID	
GA	NM	VI	GA	PA		MI	VI	HI	OK		KY	WA	IN	
HI	NV	VT	GU	RI		MN	WA	IA	PR		MD		MD	
IA	NY	WA	HI	SC		MO		ID	RI		MI		MI	
ID	OH	WI	ID	SD		MS		IN	TN		MN		NE	
IL	OK	WY	KY	TN		NE		MA	TX		NC		NJ	
IN	OR		LA	TX		NH		MI	VI		NJ		NV	

# The 2018 Election

## EAC IN THE FIELD Where We Were For Election Week



EAC representatives were on site in twelve different states and territories in the days leading up, and immediately following, the 2018 Midterm Election. On Election Day, Commissioners and staff visited election offices, served as poll workers and monitored Election Day threats at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)'s National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC). Staff and Commissioners also observed logic and accuracy testing, vote by mail processing and post-election audits.

The 2018 Midterm Election was one of the most closely scrutinized in recent memory. Speculation about potential cyber-attacks and stories about the progress made to improve the security and resiliency of state election systems dominated media coverage and remained at the forefront of voters' minds. Election officials took potential

threats seriously and, in the lead up to Election Day, they doubled down on efforts to secure election systems and educate voters to ensure confidence in the process.

During the 2018 midterm election, which was projected to see one of the highest midterm turnouts in decades,



**"I do think the Commission has now found a new mission and it's an important one. I look forward to our oversight**

**responsibility, but also working with the Commission as they do everything they can to help give state and local election officials the kind of help they need from the federal government to do their job."**

- U.S. Senator Roy Blunt

election officials were more aware of the challenges confronting their systems and proved capable of successfully navigating potential threats. As a result, there were no reports of cybersecurity-related compromises of election infrastructure.

The Commission's driving force in 2018 was to ensure election officials had the resources necessary to successfully administer secure, accurate and accessible elections. The EAC convened election officials to discuss some of the biggest issues they face, ensured the efficient distribution of \$380 million in newly allocated HAVA funds, and elevated best practices in election administration to serve as examples to other jurisdictions. Representatives of the Commission presented at conferences, conducted trainings, made site visits to election offices around the country, regularly spoke with

election officials about their needs, and audits. At the EAC's headquarters, additional staff oversaw a call and email center that operated from Thursday, November 1 until polls closed on Election Day. Staff answered questions from voters and election officials across the United States. The agency also created a unique website splash page feature that provided easy access to information most requested by voters, including polling place location and voter registration instructions.

Although the 2018 Federal Elections were administered successfully in the majority of jurisdictions, in some jurisdictions there were reports of long lines and wait times, aging and malfunctioning voting equipment, ballot design issues and understaffing. The EAC will continue to work with jurisdictions around the country to ensure election officials have the tools they need to address such issues and ensure a positive experience for voters.

**"I wanted to briefly say how important it is to have the United States Election Assistance Commission fully filled. As we look back at the midterms, I think we know we need a strong, fully functioning Commission now more than ever."**

- U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar



## Summit: The 2018 Federal Election

As any election official will tell you, administering a federal election takes months of preparation. For the EAC, that work began in earnest in January 2018, when the Commission began the year with an all-day summit highlighting a spectrum of issues that state and local election officials face as they work to administer elections and serve voters. The event took place at

the National Press Club and featured keynote speakers and expert panelists who addressed topics such as election security, voting accessibility, and how to use election data to improve the voter experience. Attendees also heard a keynote address from then-Acting Deputy Undersecretary of the Department of Homeland Security's National Protection and Programs Directorate Bob Kolasky.

With more than 125 election officials, activists and voters in attendance, the

### National Mail Voter Registration Form

As mandated by the Help American Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), the EAC maintains the National Mail Voter Registration Act (NVRA) form and its accompanying state-specific instructions. The NVRA form can be used by U.S. citizens in most states to register to vote or update their registration record through the mail. In 2018, at the request of states, the EAC processed nine updates to the NVRA form to align its state-specific instructions with changes in state law. To support voter registration for citizens with language needs, the NVRA form and instructions have been translated into nine languages (Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese). The EAC webpage, where the form is hosted, was the most visited page on the EAC website in 2018, registering 184,030 unique visitors.

In addition to being hosted on the EAC website for download, the NVRA form is used by vote.gov, a website managed by the Government Services Administration (GSA), and many non-governmental organizations seeking to register voters. For example, GSA reported to the EAC that in 2018, the English- and Spanish-language NVRA forms were accessed on vote.gov by 346,339 unique visitors across the 10 states which accept the form but do not have online voter registration. Three national non-governmental organizations focused on voter registration through online platforms (Rock the Vote, TurboVote, and vote.org) reported to the EAC that they supported voter registration for more than 2.2 million individuals using the NVRA form.

In addition to maintaining the NVRA form, the EAC further supports voter registration by directing EAC website visitors to states' online voter registration portals and relevant information.

summit was a powerful testament to the Commission's convening power. Since its inception, the EAC has worked with election officials to tackle some of the greatest challenges facing American elections. The summit provided a space for election officials to focus on some of the most pressing issues in election administration and hear from leading experts in the field as they prepared for the upcoming Federal Election.

## EAC Election Readiness Summit

Just one month before the 2018 Midterm Elections, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) hosted the EAC Election Readiness Summit in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center to inform the public and lawmakers about the steps election leaders can take to ensure secure, accessible, and efficient elections.

The event featured expert panelists and keynote speakers, including U.S. Senators Roy Blunt (R-MO) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), who examined election security best practices. Panelists also discussed investments in accessibility, post-election audits, and other vital election activities. The summit highlighted innovative and cost-effective steps for election administrators to consider as they looked to 2020 and beyond. In the afternoon, the EAC hosted an open house for election vendors to display and demonstrate their equipment.

The summit was a bookend event to an intense year of preparation for election officials around the country, who worked tirelessly to improve the security and resiliency of their systems.

## #Countdown18

The EAC launched a #Countdown18 online series to highlight the innovative work states, counties and municipalities were doing to prepare for the upcoming Midterm Elections. This five-week series featured interviews with election officials in the states, leading national experts and volunteers and examined efforts made possible as a result of the recently distributed 2018 HAVA funds.



The first week of the series focused on the additional steps election officials across the country took to safeguard and improve their Voter Registration systems ahead of Election Day, including the 29 states and territories that are using a portion of their 2018 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds for these efforts. The EAC highlighted the work of the Oklahoma State Election Board, which expects to move voter registration completely online by 2020 and launched the first phase of this project, the Online Voter Registration Update Service, in

2018. Veronica Degraffenreid of the North Carolina State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement told the EAC about how the new funds were helping expedite the process of revamping the state's statewide election information management and voter registration systems. Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea spoke about the development of a new voter registration system, which will be ready for the 2020 elections, thanks to the 2018 HAVA funds. Washington State Director of Elections Lori Augino also outlined the state's new single synchronized voter-registration system, which will be in place for 2019's August primary and November general election.

#Countdown18

### Securing the vote

- Paul Pate**  
Secretary of State  
Iowa
- Maria Matthews**  
Division Director, Election  
Department of State  
Florida
- Robert Brehm**  
Co-Executive Director  
State Board of Elections  
New York
- Chuck Flannery**  
Deputy Secretary & Chief of Staff  
Secretary of State  
West Virginia
- Dave Tackett**  
Chief Information Officer  
Secretary of State  
West Virginia

During a week-long "Securing the Vote" feature, the EAC focused on election Cybersecurity initiatives in Florida, New York, Iowa and West Virginia, four of the 41 states and territories who are using 2018 HAVA funds for this purpose. Robert Brehm outlined the New York State Board of Elections' plan to further strengthen its election infrastructure's cyber protections. Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate briefed the agency on numerous steps his office had taken including the formation of the Iowa Election Security Working

Group, post-election audits following the November 2018 elections, making cybersecurity training a priority for all election officials and educating voters on the cybersecurity measures in place. The series highlighted the Florida Department of State's hiring of five cybersecurity specialists to assist state and local election officials with election security and grants provided to Supervisors of Elections for the purchase of ALBERT sensors. Representatives from the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office also spoke about the state's secure mobile app for uniformed and overseas citizens to easily vote absentee and partnerships with Harvard University's Belfer Center, the West Virginia National Guard and others.

#Countdown18

### All Systems Go Replacing Voting Equipment

- Sally Williams**  
Director  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan
- Bob Giles**  
Director, Division of Elections  
Department of State  
New Jersey
- Roberto Benitez**  
Chief Information Officer  
State Elections Commission  
Puerto Rico
- Jim Condos**  
Secretary of State  
Vermont

The voting machine is the one 'hands-on' piece of equipment that most voters interact with during the election process. Whether it be an optical scanner or a direct recording electronic machine, the quality and reliability of that equipment is a critical component to a safe, secure election process. During the third week of the #Countdown18 series, the EAC spoke with officials from Michigan, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and Vermont about their efforts to Replace Voting Equipment.

Michigan was one of the few states working with all new voting equipment for the November 2018 elections, and Director of Elections Sally Williams walked the EAC through voters' initial response to the equipment and the checks and balances in place to ensure the integrity of the system. New Jersey Elections Director Bob Giles outlined a pilot program the state is embarking on to begin the process of replacing its current voting equipment with systems that provide a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail for auditing purposes. Roberto E. Benítez spoke about the Puerto Rico State Elections Commission's efforts to repair voting equipment damaged during Hurricane Maria, purchase electronic poll books and conduct IT infrastructure upgrades. The EAC also published an interview featuring Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos about the acquisition of a new state-of-the-art accessible voting system in advance of the 2018 Midterm Election and the plan to replace vote tabulators after the election.

#Countdown18

**Voting with Ease**  
Access to the Vote



**Indra Arriaga**  
Elections Language Assistance  
Compliance Manager  
Alaska Division of Elections


The right to vote is one of the most fundamental, and hard-won, principles of our democracy. Yet, the work to ensure all eligible citizens are able to cast a ballot is still unfinished. The EAC spoke

with state and county election officials about their efforts to ensure Voting with Ease, including initiatives to decrease wait times, assist military and overseas voters and provide language assistance at the polls.

General Registrar Michele White told the EAC about how Prince William County, Virginia went from making national headlines in 2012 for its three-to-four hour waits on Election Day, and having to keep polls open until 11 p.m., to every polling location closing on time in 2016. Sam Taylor at the Texas Secretary of State's Office outlined programs and extended deadlines in place to assist military and overseas voters in requesting, and returning, marked ballots. Indra Arriaga spoke about the Alaska Division of Elections' language assistance program, which provides translated election materials for languages that are historically written and oral language assistance for languages which are historically unwritten.

The EAC also featured an interview with Jim Dickson, a member of the leadership team that was influential in the drafting and passage of the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. Dickson noted the need for ongoing research and development on accessibility to keep up with constantly changing technology. His words serve as a poignant reminder that election security cannot come at the expense of voting systems which are accessible to all eligible voters.



Ending the Friday before Election Day, the #Countdown18 series gave voters an behind-the-scenes look at their own state and local election offices and allowed them to see how election administrators were working to improve their resilience of our election process.

The right to vote is the foundation of American democracy and citizens must be able to trust that the election process is secure and accurately reflects the will of voters. During the final week of #Countdown18, the EAC focused on one emerging trend that ensures voter confidence: post-election audits.

Alice Miller, Executive Director of the Washington, D.C. Board of Elections, spoke with the EAC about the District's election audit processes, which are used to verify the tally and that equipment counting the ballots performed properly. In Connecticut, where post-election audits have been conducted for more than a decade, Director of Elections Peggy Reeves spoke about the state's partnership with the University of Connecticut to develop a computer-assisted independent audit station which will allow election officials to manually review an image of each ballot subject to audit. New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver gave an overview of the state's shift from the two percent tabulator audit to its current risk-limiting voting precinct audit model. Finally, Colorado Director of Elections Judd Choate outlined how risk-limiting audits were piloted and implemented in the state.

# Enhancing Security



## Cybertraining Election Officials For This Year's Voting



Pam Fessler

Correspondent, National Desk

*"It was clear that many of those gathering in Orlando already have protections in place and are well aware of the risks. But some county election offices are extremely small, with no IT staff of their own. Dana Southerland runs elections in Taylor County, which has only 13,000 voters. She said she picked up some useful tips, such as changing passwords and being careful about opening e-mails...Southerland — who is also President of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections and helped organize the session — said perhaps the most important message is that no one is immune from attack, and they have to be prepared."*



## IT Management Training

States had already done a great deal of work to improve and shore up their systems prior to \$380 million in HAVA funding was made available through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, including forming unprecedented

federal entities and participating in tabletop exercises and other training sessions aimed at improving the overall security and resiliency of election systems.

One of these training sessions is the "Election Official as IT Manager," led by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission

(EAC)'s Testing & Certification team. The EAC customizes each session to reflect state-specific voting and election systems. With modules on technology in election offices, procurement and vendor selection, testing and auditing, security, risk management, critical infrastructure and federal resources, the course is aimed at helping election officials manage the increasingly complex technical demands of planning, directing and controlling contemporary elections.

To date, the EAC has provided its IT Management Training at no cost to eleven states and helped election officials improve the security and resiliency of their systems. In 2018 alone, the EAC Testing & Certification team conducted 11 "Election Official as IT Manager" trainings for approximately 600 local election officials across nine states. These trainings are ongoing and the EAC working with DHS has made the course available online through the FedVTE platform.

## Critical Infrastructure Designation

In early 2017, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designated elections as part of the nation's critical infrastructure. While the EAC was already collaborating with the DHS and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to distribute actionable alerts to election officials who had long focused on strengthening the security and resiliency of their election systems, the

critical infrastructure designation was established by the federal government to improve that process and provide election officials with additional resources and mechanisms for information sharing.

Since the designation, the EAC has actively worked to provide state and local election officials with a seat at the table during discussions about how the sector would function and, together with election officials, has been at the forefront of solutions which have dramatically increased election security. For example, the EAC led the establishment of the Government Coordinating Council for the Election Infrastructure Subsector (GCC).

The EAC recognizes the GCC as an exemplary proof-point of how local, state and federal governments can effectively work together toward the shared goal of protecting our nation's election infrastructure. DHS has said that the GCC was formed faster than any other similar critical infrastructure sector council to date and the Council is comprised of, and a valuable asset to, election officials.

Building on the formation of the GCC, the EAC also convened discussions between election system vendors and the DHS for the formation of the Sector Coordinating Council (SCC). Thanks to the swift establishment of the GCC and the well-established relationships between the EAC and election equipment vendors, both Councils were functioning before 2018,



*Members of the Elections Government Sector Coordinating Council (GCC) during their first meeting on October 14, 2017.*

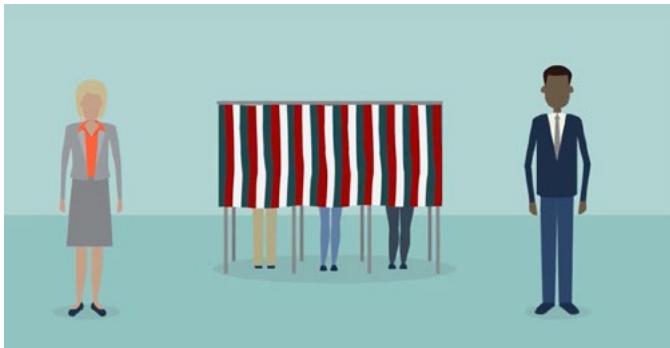
less than one year after the Critical Infrastructure designation.

Since then, the GCC has adopted and implemented a communications protocol document and a sector specific plan which provides expedited state and local access to security resources. The GCC also launched a number of working groups and are participating in others. Information Sharing and Analysis Centers (ISACs) intended to gather, analyze, and disseminate intelligence related to critical infrastructure are also up and running. The Elections Infrastructure-ISAC (EI-ISAC), for example, allows owners and operators of election administration systems to better secure their systems against cyber threats by providing threat-related notifications; assessments of relevant news; a 24/7 operations center with cybersecurity experts; timely sharing of actionable information; and real-time monitoring for network activity by malicious actors.

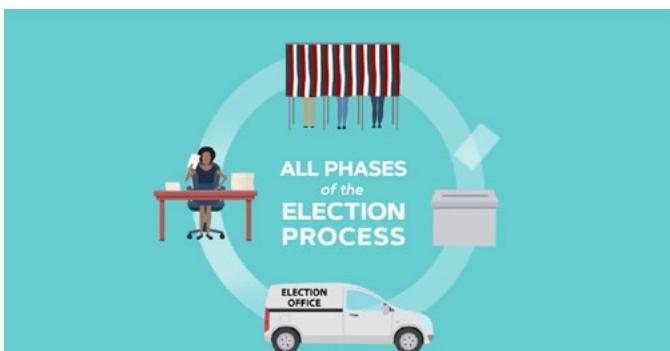
The SCC announced the creation of their own Information Sharing Analysis Center called the Special Interest Group (SIG) and is now working to establish charters and working groups.

The EAC continues its leadership in the sector through its collaboration with DHS and its involvement the GCC. Two months before the election, the EAC participated in a DHS classified national read-in on the current state of threats to election systems through the GCC. The critical infrastructure designation also accelerated the distribution of traffic and threat monitoring systems, known as Albert sensors, allowing them to be deployed on election networks across the country ahead of the 2018 Midterm Elections.

In 2018, EAC Chair Thomas Hicks served on the GCC's executive committee. Vice Chair Christy McCormick served as an ex-officio member of the GCC and Executive Director Brian Newby co-chaired the Council's Digital Network

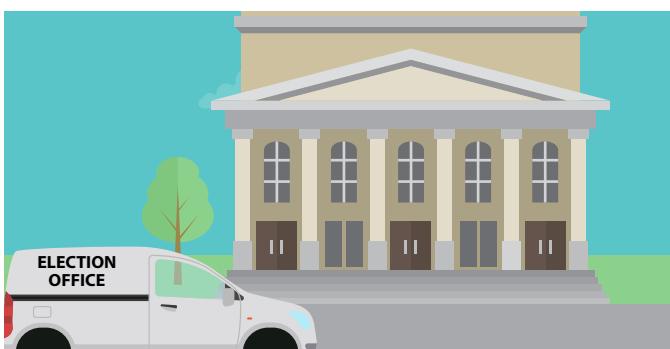


Development Working Group. With the confirmation of two additional Commissioners, the Chair and Vice Chair of the EAC will serve as official members of the GCC and the remaining Commissioners will serve as ex-officio members. The EAC is committed to working with election officials and their federal partners to continue ensuring the nation's election systems are secure.



## Materials for Voters

Following the 2016 Presidential Election, voters had concerns about the security of election systems and whether the system as a whole had integrity. However, thanks to the work of such officials, significant security protections were already in place and no votes altered during the 2016 election. While interference from nation-state actors shook voter confidence, election systems withstood these attacks and administered accurate elections.



*The EAC Election Security video and accompanying resources detail the broad spectrum of steps election officials take to secure elections.*

Over the last two years, a core tenant of the EAC's mission has been to help election officials as they worked to improve security against threats both physical and cyber. The Commission also worked to educate voters about the significant security measures in place within election systems. One resource the EAC produced this past year was a brief Election Security video intended to aid election officials as they engage community and civic groups.

This video examines the role registration, physical security, poll



*Former U.S. Virgin Islands Election Systems Deputy Supervisor Genevieve Whitaker speaks during a panel on Elections & Disaster Recovery during the 2018 EAC Standards Board Meeting.*

workers and voting equipment play in ensuring safe, accurate, fair and accessible elections. It also explains how the decentralized American election administration system protects election integrity and American voters, and examines the security measures in place for vote by mail ballots, election night reporting and voting technology overall. In addition, the video highlights ballot handling measures, post-election audits, and the planning most jurisdictions do to ensure election continuity in the face of unexpected events or natural disasters.

While jurisdictions across the nation all have unique policies and laws that govern how elections are administered and secured, this video captured the common threads that run throughout this essential work. The video, and the accompanying presenter's materials and pamphlet on election security, were an invaluable resource to election officials and voters alike. The Wisconsin,

**"I sit on the executive committee of the Government Coordinating Council and I sit alongside the Chairman of the EAC and the Presidents of NASS and NASED. This confederation is working really well for all of us to figure out our lanes and what's become clear to everybody, including the Department of Homeland Security, is the vital role that the EAC has played. For 15 years, they've been a significant partner. They're a trusted source. I think DHS has been able to rely on them significantly and we certainly have at the local level."**

*- Noah Praetz, Director of Elections, Cook County, Illinois*





**“It’s fair to say that the majority of county clerks in the rural areas of Missouri are depending**

**on the efforts of their election service providers who provide their voting equipment services, their Secretary of State’s office and the coordinated efforts of the Department of Homeland Security and the Election Assistance Commission to be their firewall for protection against incoming cybersecurity threats.”**

*- Shane Schoeller, Clerk, Greene County, Missouri*

Iowa and California Secretary of State’s Offices adapted this video to include state-specific information and made it publicly available to voters on their websites.

## Contingency Planning

Election officials across the country spend a lot of time thinking about what could go wrong—and for good reason. When an unexpected situation arises or disaster strikes, election officials must be able to continue operations, with limited resources and time. Proactively planning for the types of disasters we know are possible and developing contingency and recovery plans are some of the best ways to shore up the security of

voting systems. Crises will arise, from hurricanes and wildfires to criminal threats and power failures. But when these kinds of disruptions do occur, there is usually a precedent to look for guidance on how to best manage them. In order to ensure election systems are secure, election officials must also have strong plans in place to protect the physical security of voting equipment, including contingency plans, to mitigate the fallout from disasters that might occur.

Such planning is not limited to hacking and data breaches, though cybersecurity risks remain at the forefront of the public consciousness. Damage to election systems by natural disasters in communities across California, Texas, Puerto Rico, and other jurisdictions also demanded significant emergency responses in 2017. Significant support was required to rebuild election systems in many areas ahead of the 2018 midterms, with more work to be done prior to the 2020 Federal Election.

The EAC has a wealth of real-world contingency plans on our website, including disaster mitigation training materials and other resources that allow state and local election officials to see how other election offices have handled such challenges in the past. In May, Vice Chair Christy McCormick also moderated an Election & Disaster Recovery panel during the EAC’s 2018 Standards Board meeting. This discussion allowed attendees to hear from officials from New Jersey, Virginia and the U.S. Virgin Islands with real world experience on mitigating the impact of severe natural disasters on their election systems.

## Securing Systems

When the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) was passed in 2002, the legislation established a Testing and Certification program within the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to certify, decertify and recertify voting system hardware and software and accredit test laboratories. This was the first time in history that the federal government held this responsibility, allowing states to procure newly certified voting systems without the added expense of independent testing and certification.

Since then, the EAC's Testing and Certification team has served as a critical first step in maintaining the reliability and security of the voting systems used in American elections. In all, the program has certified 38 voting systems, or modifications to a voting system, from 6 different vendors. In 2018, the team tested and certified 10 voting systems from six different manufacturers. At least 47 states use the Testing and Certification program in some way when deciding which voting system to purchase, and state and local election officials often request that the EAC edit and review requests for proposals (RFPs) and other documents used in

the election technology procurement process.

At the core of the EAC's Testing and Certification work are the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) which test election system functionality, accessibility, accuracy, auditability and security capabilities. HAVA mandates that the EAC develop and maintain these standards together with our partners at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) the EAC Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), a diverse EAC advisory board comprised of representatives from the election community, public sector, private sector and interest groups.

The most recent generation of the guidelines, VVSG 2.0, were adopted by the TGDC on September 12, 2017. The VVSG 2.0 are a nimble set of high-level principles, supplemented by specific requirements for how systems can be tested and how accredited test laboratories can validate that a system complies with those requirements.

Both the Standards Board and Board of Advisors passed resolutions



The EAC hosted local election officials for a public forum on election security in Miami on April 18, 2018, just a few weeks after the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 provided \$380 million in new Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds.

during their 2018 annual meetings recommending that the EAC move forward with considering the draft VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines document for full adoption. Both boards also passed an amendment to the resolution recommending that the EAC adopt, within the Testing and Certification Quality & Program Manual, a provision providing for the ability of VVSG 2.0 requirements and Test Assertions to be updated in the absence of a quorum of EAC Commissioners.

The EAC also accredits independent voting system test laboratories (VSTLs) that evaluate voting systems against the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG). The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) assists the EAC through its National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program

(NVLAP) to provide recommendations regarding laboratory accreditation. After the EAC receives NVLAP's recommendations, the program conducts further review to address additional issues, such as conflict



The EAC election security forum in Miami gave state and local election officials from across the nation the opportunity to provide statements about their election cybersecurity efforts. The discussion also featured details about new HAVA funding.

of interest policies, organizational structure and recordkeeping protocols, before the Commissioners vote on full accreditation.

The Commission also operates a Quality Monitoring Program to ensure voting systems certified by the EAC are the same systems being sold by manufacturers. This program is a mandatory part of the Testing and Certification program and includes elements such as fielded voting system review, anomaly reporting, and manufacturing site visits.

If issues do arise, the EAC issues System Advisory Notices to inform jurisdictions and members of the public of an existing anomaly or issue with an EAC-certified system. The advisory notice describes the issue identified, the root cause of the issue if known, and the current status of a solution. The EAC also follows up with additional advisory notices as more information is gathered until the issue is resolved.

However, the work of the EAC Testing and Certification team doesn't end with certifying a system, or ensuring systems used by election jurisdictions are identical to those tested and certified by the agency. In 2018, the program worked with state and local election officials to ensure the proper management of election systems and the rigor of post-election checks on those systems. The team also authored the white paper "Wiping Election Equipment Before Disposal, Sale or Destruction" outlining the steps election officials must take

to ensure any proprietary information, election data and personal information has been properly sanitized from those devices once they reach the end of their useful life.

## Table Top Exercises

In March 2018, the EAC worked with others in the election industry to create and execute a national role-based tabletop exercise (TTX). The purpose of the tabletop exercise was to simulate scenarios that could occur during an election in order to get election officials to actively communicate, implement incident response plans, and ultimately increase awareness and preparedness for the 2018 midterm elections.

Following this initial TTX, the EAC provided assistance in the development and implementation of tabletop exercises for election officials in Illinois, Ohio and Colorado. The EAC also participated and assisted in the planning of the Department of Homeland Security's Tabletop the Vote 2018: National Election Cyber Exercise, which included 44 states, the District of Columbia and federal partners.

Members of the EAC Testing & Certification team also contributed to manuals and cybersecurity playbooks developed by use for third-party entities to support election officials.

## Risk-Limiting Audits

As states look to bolster election security, many jurisdictions are refining their post-election audit processes or piloting new initiatives, including risk-limiting audits (RLAs), a type of post-election audit which provides strong statistical evidence that the election outcome is correct.

In 2018, the EAC Testing and Certification team provided risk-limiting audit assistance and training across five states. The program also compiled feedback from jurisdictions that had

either implemented or piloted RLAs into the white paper **"Risk-Limiting Audits – Practical Application."**

Research is ongoing for integrating RLAs into state and federal-level elections, and for testing and potentially implementing other statistics-based post-election audits. The EAC will continue to provide support and resources to jurisdictions that are considering implementing post-election audits.

### *States where the EAC provided risk-limiting audit assistance and training in 2018*

**CO**



**IN**



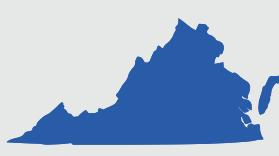
**MI**



**RI**



**VA**



# Leveraging Data

## Election Administration & Voting Survey

State and local election officials across the country use a myriad of data to improve election processes. Since 2004, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) has administered the Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS), the most comprehensive nationwide data about election administration in the United States. This biennial survey



**alone is not enough. The quality of the data you use always has to be considered.”**

*- Robert Torres, Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

collects data from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands at the state and local level by county or county equivalent. In addition to providing a detailed picture of how elections are administered across the country, data collected through the EAVS is used to help election officials identify trends, anticipate changing voter needs and the impact of proposed policies, and determine how to invest often limited resources. The EAVS has documented the impact of policy and administrative changes over time, such as the rise of online voter registration, a growing number of Americans voting before Election Day and more jurisdictions using technologies such as electronic poll books.

The EAVS collects data on the most recent federal general elections, which is then analyzed and summarized in a final report submitted to Congress and released to the public by June 30 the following year. The EAVS report and underlying data are then used by election officials, journalists, academics,

advocates and other stakeholders to better understand and improve future elections and the voter experience.

Additionally, the EAC leverages EAVS data to develop resources for election officials and the voters they serve.

The wealth of data within the EAVS includes information on voter registration, mail, absentee, and early voting, turnout by method, military and overseas voting, polling operations, poll workers, provisional ballots, and voting technology. For some of these issues, such as provisional ballots, the EAVS is the sole source of nationwide data and trends.

The EAC conducts the EAVS to meet its Help America Vote Act of 2002 mandate to serve as a national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information on the administration of Federal Elections, and statutory requirements under the National

Voter Registration Act (NVRA) and the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). Alongside the EAVS, the EAC also administers the Election Administration and Policy Survey (Policy Survey, formerly referred to as the Statutory Overview), which collects information on the policy and administrative frameworks in which elections are conducted in each state. Information collected through the Policy Survey is meant to complement and provide relevant context for the extensive data collected through the EAVS. Together, all the components of and data contained within the EAVS comprises the nation's leading source of election data, which for nearly 15 years has been an invaluable resource for improving the way America votes.





**“Evaluation is an opportunity to gather data and demonstrate the ways policies and programs that**

**have been enacted in jurisdictions can enhance the way you do your jobs and more broadly, the way citizens experience the democratic process.”**

*- Dr. Bridgett King, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Auburn University*

## EAVS DEEP DIVES

From the fall of 2017 until summer 2018, the EAC released a series of election data issue briefs known as “EAVS Deep Dives,” which looked at election administration trends and voting behavior ahead of the 2018 midterm elections. This series examined EAVS data released between 2004 and 2016 and provided an in-depth look at a variety of timely issues related to election administration. The briefs offered analysis that helps demonstrate the changing landscape of U.S. elections, including the steady expansion of alternatives to traditional in-person Election-Day voting, the rapid increase in the use of online voter registration, and the rise in electronic poll book usage, among other important findings. With election officials and policy makers increasingly focused on election security following the 2016 elections, the issue briefs’ findings on election technology

and fail-safe procedures, such as provisional ballots, were particularly relevant.

The **Voter Registration Deep Dive** focused on the impact of technology, methods of voter registration and list maintenance activities.

The **Early, Absentee and Mail Voting Deep Dive** demonstrated the growing trend of states offering early, no-excuse absentee and mail voting, and the increasing number of voters casting ballots before Election Day.

The **Poll Workers and Polling Places Deep Dive** showed a decline in the number of physical polling places across the country, the continued challenges jurisdictions reported facing in recruiting poll workers, and age data for poll workers.

The **Election Technology Deep Dive** analyzed evolving election technology and its implications for election efficiency, integrity, accessibility, voter experience and confidence, and the roles of election officials at all levels.

The **Provisional Ballot Deep Dive** reported the rate at which provisional ballots are issued and counted during Federal Elections, and the impact of different state policies on provisional ballot usage and acceptance.

Products such as the EAVS Deep Dives are part of an EAC initiative to make the survey data more accessible, usable and impactful for both election officials and voters.



## ELECTION DATA SUMMIT

While the EAVS is the most comprehensive survey on election administration in the United States, it only scratches the surface of available election data. In order to give state and local election officials and other election stakeholders the ability to discuss a broad spectrum of election data and highlight innovative and emerging data-driven practices from around the country, the EAC hosted its second Election Data Summit in Philadelphia on July 12, 2018, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of State. Held just four months before the midterm elections and four months after Congress allocated \$380 million in new funding to states to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, the summit examined ways election officials are using data to improve election processes and inform decision making. Each panel during the summit focused on a distinct aspect of

the election cycle and explored different sources of election data, including voter registration databases, electronic poll books, line management tools, voting equipment, and post-election audits. The event convened some of the nation's most respected election experts, each of whom brought a unique perspective to the conversation about how best to use election data and research future trends.

During the event, a **Voter Registration** panel explored how voter registration data is used, collected and shared in light of recent trends towards modernizing voter registration systems and increased sharing of registration data among states.

An **Election Day Preparation** panel examined how data can be used to identify polling locations, recruit poll workers, anticipate needs and establish systems to collect information and respond to emergencies ahead of Election Day.

**Election Data Summit**

Judd Choate  
Director of Elections,  
Colorado Secretary  
of State.  
Don Palmer  
Policy Advisor, EAC  
Ericka Haas  
Systems Engineer  
& Technical Liaison,  
ERIC  
Mike Moser  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Bureau of  
Commissions, Elections  
& Legislation, PA DOS

**Voter Registration**  
Philadelphia, PA | July 12, 2018

**Election Data Summit**

Prof. Charles Stewart III  
Moderator  
Director of the MIT Election  
Data and Science Lab  
Melissa Frey  
Special Assistant to the  
Director, PA Emergency  
Management Agency  
Neal Kelley  
Registrar of Voters,  
Orange County, CA  
Ben Uminsky  
Project Manager,  
Business Intelligence  
Competency Center, Los  
Angeles County, CA  
Mark Goins  
Coordinator of Elections,  
State of Tennessee

**Election Day Preparation**  
Philadelphia, PA | July 12, 2018

**Election Data Summit**

Amber McReynolds  
Director of Elections for the  
City and County of Denver, CO  
Erin Casey  
Executive Director,  
Pennsylvania Voice  
Laura Herzog  
Election Supervisor,  
Hendricks County, IN  
Michele White  
General Registrar, Prince  
William County, VA

**Election Day**  
Philadelphia, PA | July 12, 2018

**Election Data Summit**

Kathy Boockvar  
Senior Advisor to the  
Governor on Elections  
Modernization for  
Commonwealth of PA  
Rey Valenzuela  
Director of Elections,  
Maricopa County, AZ  
Jennifer Morrell  
Consultant, Election  
Validation Project,  
Democracy Fund  
Kara Rahn  
Director of Elections,  
Chester County, PA  
Dr. Bridgett King  
Assistant Professor,  
Auburn University

**Post Election Day**  
Philadelphia, PA | July 12, 2018

The EAC hosted its second Election Data Summit in Philadelphia on July 12, 2018, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of State, just four months prior to the Midterm Elections and four months after Congress allocated \$380 million in HAVA funding.

An **Election Day** panel examined how data-savvy election officials are leveraging a number of tools, such as mail-ballot tracking systems, electronic poll books and line management tools to strengthen specific aspects of voting operations and inform decision-making in real time during voting and in the post-election period.

Finally, the **Post-Election** panel focused on how officials can best use election data and research trends moving forward, with an emphasis on results and participation data, provisional ballot resolution tools, post-election audits, after-action reports and evaluations.

## 2018 EAVS

Months before the 2018 midterm elections, preparations for the 2018 EAVS, the eighth biennial survey of its kind, were already underway. The EAC worked to build on improvements from the 2016 survey in order to make the survey easier to complete, strengthen data quality and completeness, and encourage greater use of the data by election officials and other election stakeholders. As part of its efforts to make the EAVS easier to complete, the EAC is piloting online data collection for the 2018 EAVS. EAC technical assistance and data collection for the 2018 EAVS began in late 2018, but the main effort to collect, analyze, and report on the data will take place in 2019.

Once the 2018 EAVS report and underlying data is published in June



**"Anyone who hasn't jumped into the data collection game: Just start collecting it. You might not know what to do with it yet, but if you miss the opportunity to collect, you're just prolonging that cycle from actually getting started."**

- Kara Rahn, Director of Elections, Chester County, PA

2019, the EAC plans to continue developing products that make the data more accessible and useful to election officials, voters and other stakeholders. For example, data from the 2018 EAVS will be used to update the EAVS Data Interactive, a visualization tool launched in 2017 that allows users to examine specific data at the state and local level and compare jurisdictions side-by-side. The EAVS Data Interactive is just one of the tools the EAC will provide to election officials and voters in the coming year to help them to make informed decisions about election administration and policy.

The ongoing process of improving America's election systems relies, in part, on having accurate data about the way Americans cast their ballots. In 2002, Congress charged the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) with the task of collecting information on the state of American elections and making it widely available to policy-makers, advocates, scholars, journalists and the general public. Since 2004, the EAC has sponsored the biennially administered Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) as its primary tool for fulfilling that mission. We are pleased to present the 2018 EAVS, and we ask for your help in making it the most complete and accurate survey in its history.

Select the section of the survey you would like to go to:

- Section A: Voter Registration
- Section B: UOCAVA Voting
- Section C: Domestic Civilian By-Mail Voting
- Section D: In-Person Voting
- Section E: Provisional Ballots
- Section F: Participation and Election Technologies
- Submit Data

[« Back](#) [Continue »](#)

*In July, the EAC launched the EAVS Online Template to collect data for the 2018 EAVS. The online tool replaces the Excel Data Entry Template that was used in previous years, will make the survey easier to complete and strengthen data quality. Feedback from jurisdictions will be used to improve the template and inform additional modernization efforts for the 2020 EAVS.*

# Providing Assistance

## Voters with Disabilities

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) contained landmark provisions requiring the secure, private and independent casting of ballots for voters with disabilities. Since then, states have made significant efforts to eliminate barriers and close the voter registration and voter participation gaps that exist between voters with disabilities and voters without disabilities. However, obstacles still exist for voters with disabilities and additional progress is needed to realize the true promise of HAVA.

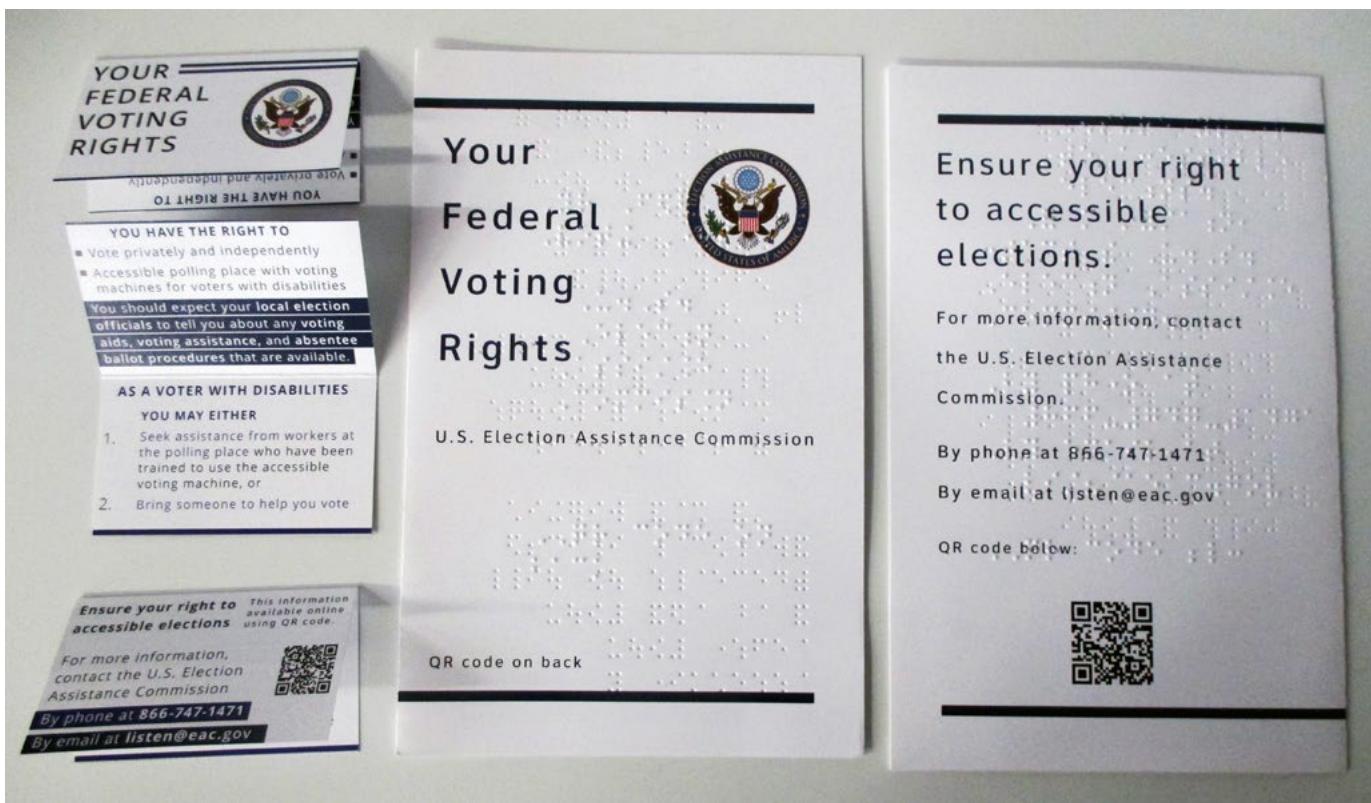
Today, more than 35 million Americans with disabilities are eligible to vote in the United States, accounting for roughly one-sixth of the total electorate. This ever-growing population of voters also faces educational, cultural and political barriers that can make participating in elections difficult. Since our establishment, the EAC has worked to expand access, regardless of a voter's abilities, by providing resources, promoting best practices, educating voters with disabilities about their

**“Ensuring the rights of voters with disabilities isn’t a choice, nor is it a partisan issue. It’s the law. We can never forget that as we work to improve elections.”**

*-Joint op-ed from Commissioners Hicks and McCormick published on the 28th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act*

rights, and testing and certifying voting systems to ensure they are both secure and accessible to all.

In 2018, the EAC hosted public forums to gather feedback from voters with disabilities about challenges they can face when casting a ballot. In June, Chairman Thomas Hicks and Vice Chair Christy McCormick conducted a town hall discussion with voters with disabilities and advocates from across America at the annual National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) conference. During this event, participants shared their voting experiences and offered suggestions for improvement. EAC Commissioners then shared this valuable feedback with election officials and continued their communication with voters with disabilities through the 2018 midterm election.



*Since 2016, the EAC has distributed more than 20,000 federal voting rights cards in Braille, large print and plain language in order to ensure voters with disabilities are educated about their rights.*

While there is no one solution that can be applied across the thousands of jurisdictions that comprise America's decentralized election system, there are common threads in how best to serve voters with disabilities. The EAC elevates best practices which can serve as exemplary models to election officials, such as technological improvements, better training for election workers, ensuring there are multiple options which accommodate the diversity of disabilities and regular engagement with voters with disabilities.

The EAC also ensures voters are educated about their rights. The EAC has distributed more than 20,000 federal voting rights cards in Braille, large print and plain language to voters with disabilities, advocacy organizations, and

election officials across the United States since 2016. EAC Commissioners stress the need to find election solutions that will both increase security and expand access in Congressional testimony, meetings with state and local election officials, public appearances and public articles. The EAC also promotes best practices throughout the year with voter outreach, updated materials and online campaigns.

While jurisdictions have made advances in providing access to voters with disabilities since the passage of HAVA, more work needs to be done to meet the promise of private and independent voting for all. Moving forward, election officials should be continuously reminded to do all they can to ensure accessibility at every point in the voting process.



The EAC composes and promotes “case studies” of best practices that can serve as exemplary models for election officials. In 2018, several of these features focused on how to better assist voters with access needs. Contra Costa County, California, for example, provided specialized training to its election workers, placing them in the shoes of voters who need assistance to give them a new perspective and providing real-life examples of situations that can occur at a polling place on Election Day. Other jurisdictions, such as El Paso County, Colorado, have partnered with disability rights groups and resource centers to create universally accessible polling places. By seeking out partners and building relationships within the community, election officials can benefit from additional expertise and make the most of their often-limited resources.

## Language Access

According to U.S. Census Bureau data, there are more than 25 million people in the U.S. with limited English proficiency. More than 60 million – or nearly one in five – people in the United States speak a language other than English at home. Such individuals can face challenges when attempting to register to vote and cast a ballot.

From translated materials to bilingual assistance at the polls, election officials across the country take a number of steps to help such voters overcome language barriers and participate in the elections process. In certain jurisdictions, such assistance is required by language provisions outlined in Section 203 in the federal Voting Rights Act. The most recent round of determinations in 2016 identified 263 jurisdictions that met coverage thresholds for particular languages, including the entire states of California, Florida and Texas.

**“It is incumbent upon us to not just provide the bare minimum in terms of languages or information, but to go beyond that to really inform voters how our system works.”**

*- Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea*



The EAC helps election officials meet the requirements of Section 203 by offering a glossary of election terminology in six languages other than English, a voter guide to federal elections in 11 languages, and the National Mail Voter Registration Form in nine languages other than English.



*Over 115 state and local election officials, advocates and stakeholders from language communities joined the EAC at the Newseum for the third annual Language Access for Voters Summit on Tuesday, July 24, 2018. The event was hosted in partnership with the Arizona State University Pastor Center for Politics and Public Service and Democracy Fund Voice.*

For the last three years, the EAC has also hosted a Language Access for Voters Summit to share information and generate new understanding and appreciation between various stakeholder communities. The 2018 Language Access Summit, hosted in partnership with Democracy Fund Voice and the Arizona State University Pastor Center for Politics and Public Service brought together election officials, voting rights groups, representatives of language communities, and other key stakeholders to discuss demographic changes, updates for jurisdictions complying with federal law and ways to cultivate long-term relationships with diverse communities. It also included a discussion of assessing and procuring resources to meet better assist voters with language needs. Summit panelists included experts representing Asian American, Latino, American Indian, Alaskan Native, and additional language communities from across the country.

**In the first session, Current Issues and Looking Ahead to 2021,** panelists discussed demographic shifts, what they mean for serving voters with language needs, current and issues faced by jurisdictions covered by Section 203 and those who are close to coverage.

**In Cost Effective Practices for Providing Language Assistance,** panelists offered cost-effective strategies for providing language assistance, with an emphasis on the particular challenges faced by smaller and medium-sized jurisdictions with limited budgets, and jurisdictions covered for multiple languages.

**LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR VOTERS SUMMIT**  **2018**



Terry Ao Minnis Senior Fellow and Co-Director, Democracy Fund Voice	Julie Barker Election Operations Supervisor, Clark County, Nevada	Rosalind Gold Senior Director, Policy, Training, and Advocacy, NALEO Education Fund	James Whitehorse Chief, Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office, U.S. Census Bureau	John C. Yang President, and Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice AAJC
--	--	--	--	---

**SESSION 1 : Current Issues and Looking Ahead to 2021**



**LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR VOTERS SUMMIT**  **2018**



Sonya L. Aston Administrator of Elections, Harris County, Texas	Michelle Tasseinari Director and Legal Counsel in the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Election Division	Kathy Plascencia Administrator of Elections, Board of Canvassers, and Voter Registration, Providence, Rhode Island	Dr. James Tucker Pro bono Young Counsel, Native American Rights Fund
--	--	---	---

**SESSION 2 : Cost Effective Practices for Providing Language Assistance**



**LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR VOTERS SUMMIT**  **2018**

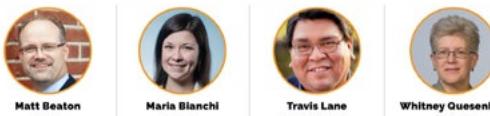


Stacey Scholl Senior Program Associate, Elections, Democracy Fund Voice	Bill Cowles Supervisor of Elections, Orange County, Florida	Nicole L. Crisp City Clerk, City of Quincy, Massachusetts	Francesca Nenes Florida State Coordinator, Local Progress/Center for Popular Democracy	Kira Romero-Craft Managing Attorney, Southeast Regional Office, LatinxJustice PRIDE!
--	--	--	---	---

**SESSION 3 : Above and Beyond Section 203**



**LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR VOTERS SUMMIT**  **2018**

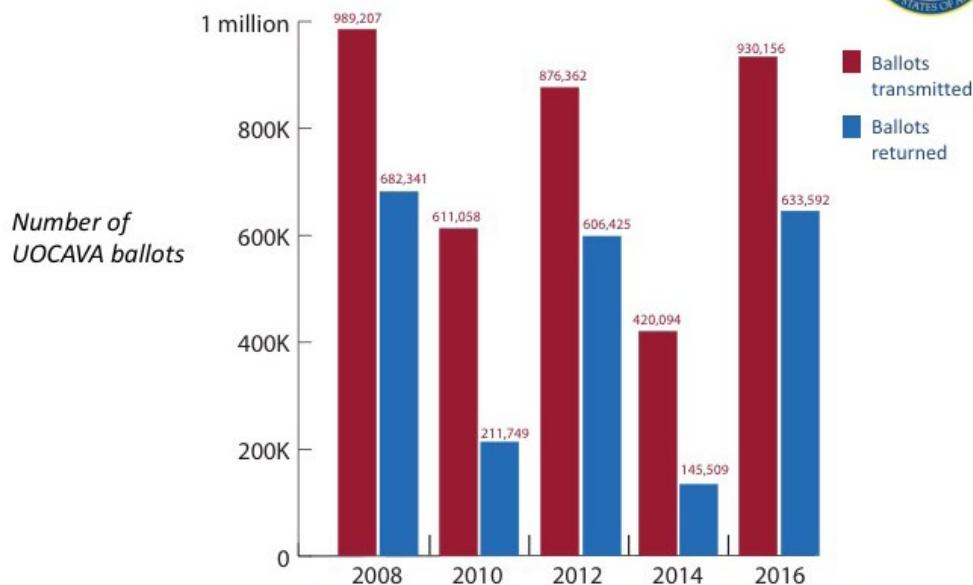


Matt Beaton Auditor, Franklin County, Washington	Maria Bianchi Director, Voting Information Project, Democracy Works	Travis Lane Assistant Director, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona	Whitney Quesenberry Co-Director, Center for Civic Design
---	--	--	---

**SESSION 4 : Trends in Election Administration and Their Impact**



## UOCAVA ballots transmitted



U.S. Election Assistance Commission | [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)

**Above and Beyond Section 203: Voluntary Assistance and Other Proactive Measures** highlighted the ways election officials have gone above the requirements of the law, such as providing language assistance on a voluntary basis, or providing assistance in languages not covered by Section 203.

The final discussion, **Trends in Election Administration and their Impact on Language Access**, focused on the changing landscape of election administration and how such changes can impact voters with limited English proficiency and other language minority voters.

Anticipating and meeting the needs of language minority voters will continue to

be a priority for many of the nation's election officials, particularly as shifting demographics increase the need for language assistance and potentially, increase the number of jurisdictions covered by Section 203 requirements.

## Access for Military and Overseas Voters

Another group which faces unique challenges in registering to vote and in requesting, receiving and returning their ballots are military and overseas personnel and their families. Our country's active duty service members, their families, and Americans living overseas are charged with taking on significantly more responsibility than

the average voter if they want to cast a ballot on Election Day. These citizens move often, do not have the option of going to a physical polling place and often must make their voting plans months in advance in order to cast a ballot.

Such citizens are supported by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). Because of issues that can arise with the timely and accurate delivery of election materials, however, the voting process can be an arduous one for voters and election officials alike. Compounding these issues is the fact that all countries do not have the same high level of postal service delivery that we enjoy here in the United States.

The EAC works to ease the burden on UOCAVA voters through our federal partnerships with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), the United States Postal Service (USPS) and others. The Commission monitors for innovative solutions to help UOCAVA voters cast their ballots, such as West Virginia's blockchain-based Mobile Voting App Pilot Project, and highlights other proactive measures election officials can take to ensure as many UOCAVA ballots as possible are counted.

Ahead of the 2018 Midterm Election, the EAC hosted an online event to discuss two pre-election dates important to both election officials and voters: September 22, the 45-day deadline for states to send absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters and National Voter Registration Day

on September 25. Moderated by EAC Chairman Thomas Hicks, the discussion featured FVAP Director David Beirne and Brian Miller from National Voter Registration Day. Both detailed their organizations' activities to ensure voters knew how they could cast their vote in the upcoming midterms.

The EAC is committed to continuing our efforts to ease the burden on UOCAVA voters and working to ensure they are able to cast their ballots.

## Convening Election Leaders

When the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) established the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) in 2002, this landmark legislation also established three advisory boards to assist the EAC in carrying out its mandates under the law. The EAC Standards Board is comprised of 110 state and local election leaders representing each state and U.S. territory. The EAC Board of Advisors is comprised of 35 members of national associations, federal agencies and Congressional appointees. The 14-member Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC) is comprised of members appointed jointly by the EAC and the director of NIST, who also serves as the Committee's chair.

These advisors convene regularly, including an annual in-person meeting, to discuss best practices in election administration and assist with the development of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG), a set of specifications and requirements voting systems are tested to determine if the systems meet required standards. All three boards are essential to the EAC's mission.

In 2018, members of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Standards Board and Board of Advisors met separately in Miami to discuss the intent and application process for newly appropriated HAVA funds, examine election security efforts, review the next generation of the VVSG and tackle other timely election-related issues, including disaster recovery contingency planning.

During this time, members of both boards received a briefing about the intent and application process for the \$380 million in newly appropriated HAVA funds. Members heard from several



*The U.S. Election Assistance Commission and Pennsylvania Department of State hosted an Election Data Summit which brought together some of the nation's most respected election data experts to examine ways election officials could use data to improve processes and inform decision making.*

security experts, including David Wulf, Acting Deputy Assistance Secretary for the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Infrastructure Protection, and Robert Kolasky, Acting Deputy Undersecretary for National Protection Directorate at DHS. A number of election leaders also discussed state and local efforts to strengthen election security during a public forum.

During their 2018 annual meetings, both the Standards Board and Board of Advisors passed resolutions recommending that the EAC move forward with considering the draft VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines document for full adoption. Both boards also passed an amendment to the resolution recommending that the EAC adopt, within the Testing and Certification Program Quality & Program Manual, a provision providing for the ability of VVSG 2.0 requirements and Test



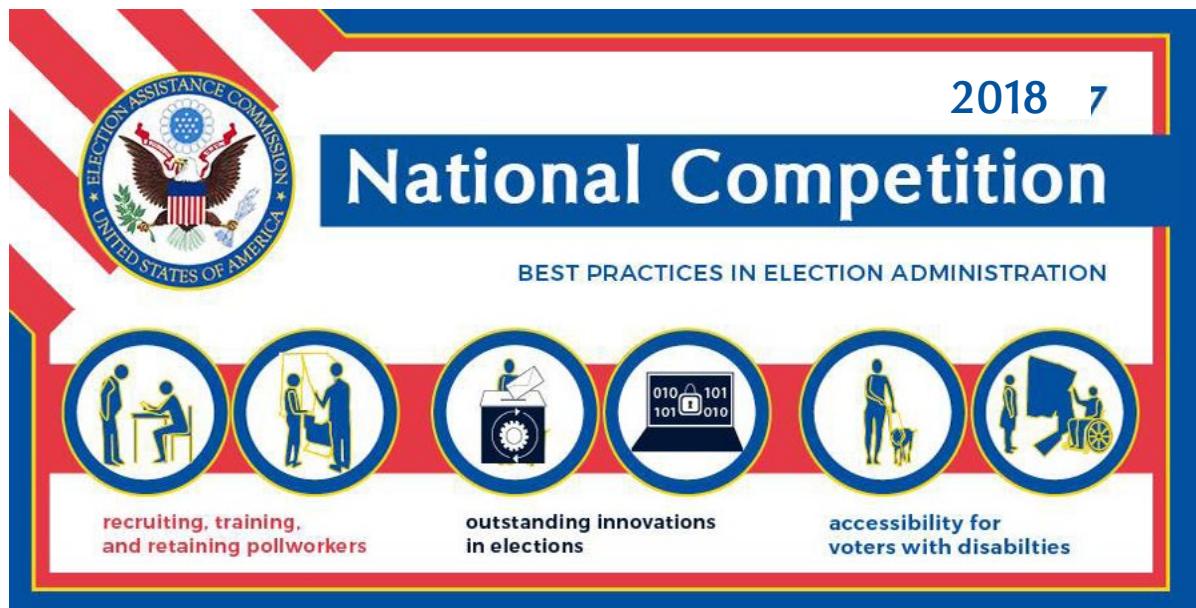
*EAC Vice Chair Christy McCormick moderates a conversation with national security experts at the 2018 EAC Election Readiness Summit on Capitol Hill on October 3, 2018, just one month before the election.*

Assertions to be updated in the absence of a quorum of EAC Commissioners. These discussions helped guide the work of the EAC and election officials around the country in the lead up to the 2018 midterms.



*Michelle Tassinari, Director and Legal Counsel at the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, talks about cost-effective practices for providing resources to voters who need language assistance at the Language Access for Voters Summit.*

# Highlighting Best Practices



Born of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)'s mandate to serve as a national clearinghouse of information on election administration, the annual "Clearie" awards recognize and celebrate the hard work and innovative thinking it takes to conduct an election. Election officials are known for their commitment to the values expressed in the EAC Clearie awards: excellence, innovation, maintaining accuracy and integrity in the election process, and ensuring all eligible citizens can cast a ballot. The Clearies

are a testament to their work and dedication and highlight best practices other election administrators can emulate.

This year's Clearie awards were dedicated to the life and legacy of Wendy Noren and R. Brian Lewis. Wendy Noren served as Boone County Clerk for over three decades and was a member of the EAC's Board of Advisors before passing away in March 2018 following a long battle with cancer. R. Brian Lewis was an early and steadfast

proponent of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), and of election officials, and served as Counsel to the Office of the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee before his passing. Both were luminaries in the field of election administration who will long be remembered for their hard work, integrity, and friendship.

The “Clearies” seek entries in three distinct categories: voting accessibility, outstanding innovations in elections, and recruiting, training and retaining election workers. The EAC received entries from dozens of states, counties and advocacy organizations. An independent panel of judges from across the country evaluated entries based on efficacy, innovation, sustainability,

cost-effectiveness and replicability. In the end, 10 innovative approaches were selected to receive an award.

The 2018 “Clearies” recipients featured jurisdictions that differed greatly in terms of size, number of voters served and budgets available to them. Some made cutting-edge technology changes to their systems, while others streamlined operations and election worker training. Yet, all demonstrated the dedication, adaptability and resourcefulness necessary for ensuring accurate, accessible and secure elections in the 21st century.

The EAC is proud to lift up the fresh, inspiring approaches of the 2018 “Clearie” award winners.

## Outstanding Innovations in Elections



### City of Rochester Hills, Michigan

The City of Rochester Hills' *Election Day Precinct Support Portal* allowed precinct workers to submit requests or questions via a smart phone or tablet using a simple Google Form. Form submissions were fed into a shared Google Sheet in real time that was monitored by phone staff and runners moving between precincts. Support calls were ranked by priority and dropped to the bottom of the Google Sheet once they were resolved. In this way, Rochester Hills was able to provide critical Election Day support across 32 precincts with just three staff. Election Inspectors were able to submit the request with the assurance that someone was responding. The Portal also generated valuable data, including requests per precinct, individual responder rates and a breakdown of the different assigned priority levels.





## New Mexico Secretary of State

During 2018, the New Mexico Secretary of State's Office received the award for its implementation of a new *electronic ballot software system* which allowed blind or visually impaired voters to independently cast an absentee ballot. The electronic ballot system includes functionality allowing blind and visually impaired voters to mark, print, and mail a hard copy of their ballot back to the county clerk for processing. The system, launched in the spring of 2018, just prior to the June primary election, was used by dozens of voters during its inaugural election and was extremely well-received by the voters it was intended to serve. Implementation efforts for the new system took four years to complete, during which time New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver's office collaborated with both the National Federation of the Blind – New Mexico and the New Mexico Commission for the Blind. These close relationships have created a more accessible election process across the state and will continue moving forward.



## Weber County, Utah

The Weber County Elections Office won for its "*Winning in Weber*" program to engage students, veterans, teens, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and children in the electoral process. Sample programs that are part of the "Winning in Weber" initiative include engaging students at Weber State University in the elections process, providing civic lessons for students at local public and private schools, leading story hour readings and discussions for children, and being the first county in Utah to sponsor the Vote in Honor of a Veteran Program. In addition, the Weber County Elections Office has extensive knowledge in election security, provides technical support and best practice advice to election officials in other counties, and fosters collaborative relationships with advocates who support voters with disabilities.



## Wisconsin Elections Commission

Wisconsin manages each municipality's election data on a state-wide database known as "WisVote." The challenge of securing WisVote is compounded as the number of database users increases. After researching several commercial possibilities, the WEC concluded the most effective option was to create "*Securing WisVote*," a series of online learning modules focused on cybersecurity best practices, and tailored for election officials across the state. By creating a baseline training program open to all local governments, the WEC helped bridge cybersecurity awareness gaps within the WisVote user population and enhanced overall cybersecurity in local governments statewide.

## Accessibility for Voters with Disabilities



### Contra Costa County, California

Contra Costa County conducts a survey of each of its 268 polling places after every election and is often able to identify ways to improve the accessibility of these locations. Following the November 2016 election, Contra Costa County Clerk, Recorder and Registrar Joseph Canciamilla realized improvements could be made to how election workers were trained to create a welcoming environment for all voters across the county and created the *Accessible Polling Place Location and Equipment (APPLE) class*. This class brought a fresh approach to accessibility training because it placed election workers in the shoes of voters who may need assistance to provide instruction on establishing accessible polling places and ensuring they remained accessible throughout the day. The county also provided an Accessibility Kit to give election workers further information on how to remove any accessibility barriers at their polling place. More than 700 election workers, nearly half of the county's total Election Day volunteers, have taken the class since it was launched in January 2018.



### Martin County, Florida

While preparing for the 2016 Presidential Elections, the Martin County Elections Office discovered the county had limited resources for voters who were deaf and hard of hearing. Following outreach to voters in the disability community, the office uncovered an additional need for engaging individuals with developmental disabilities. The Elections Office fostered partnerships across both communities and created "*Count Me in Too*," a series of educational videos aimed at helping these individuals exercise their right to vote. The videos aired on local television and were posted on the Martin County Election Office's website. During the 2016 Presidential Elections, voter registration and turnout among voters who indicated they had special needs increased by 8 percent. The same educational materials were also used during the 2018 Federal Elections.



## Iowa Secretary of State

Iowa Secretary of State Paul D. Pate launched the *Helping Veterans and Iowans with Disabilities Vote Project* in 2015 to ensure members of both communities knew about the resources available to help them vote privately and independently. New administrative rules were implemented, the Secretary of State's website improved its accessibility and an outreach coordinator was hired. The Secretary of State's Office also conducted training sessions and workshops across the state, distributed curbside voting signs to all 1,700 precinct locations, and utilized videos and social media to get the word out. Partially funded by a Help America Vote Act grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, the project educated thousands of veterans and Iowans with disabilities about resources available to assist them in casting a ballot.

## Recruiting, Training and Retaining Election Workers



## Bernalillo County, New Mexico

Bernalillo County is the most populous in New Mexico with 420,262 registered voters, and the Clerk's Office trains hundreds of citizens during election years to work as poll officials. Ahead of the 2018 Midterm Election, the county overhauled its poll official training program to maximize learning and reduce election worker errors. The centerpiece of the new training program was an online video series called "*Learn the Vote*" – the first online election worker training program in New Mexico. Online training reduced class time by one-and-a-half to two hours, allowed poll officials to review materials as often as needed and reduced poll official errors in the 2018 General Election. This allowed the Clerk's Office to redirect staff time previously spent fixing errors made by poll officials into successfully completing the election canvass within the statutory 13 days and completing the General Election audit in less than two days.



## Montgomery County, Maryland

Since 2004, the Montgomery County Board of Elections (BOE) has conducted the *Future Vote Initiative* to encourage students from grades 6 to 12 to participate in elections. To date, 43,619 students have participated in the Future Vote Initiative, including over 10,000 who have served as election judges after their sixteenth birthday. The program recruits energetic, tech savvy students, many of who are also bilingual, into the election workforce and saves the county money. The program also provides an experience for young people that will shape their values and character and give them an understanding of what it means to exercise their vote and empower others to do the same.



## The City of Ely, Minnesota

In partnership with "*Walking Civics*," a local nonprofit, the City of Ely recruits high school students and veterans to be trained and serve together at the polls on Election Day. This training model recognizes veterans have already "walked the talk" in answering the call to serve their country and is intended to inspire civic virtue, train competent election workers and link generations in service to elections. The session provided stellar training and a deep meaning for both veterans and high school students, preparing a new generation of election workers who will be on the front line of elections now and into the future.

# Financial Focus: Grants Administration



Amount the EAC has disbursed since its establishment 15 years ago to the 50 states, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

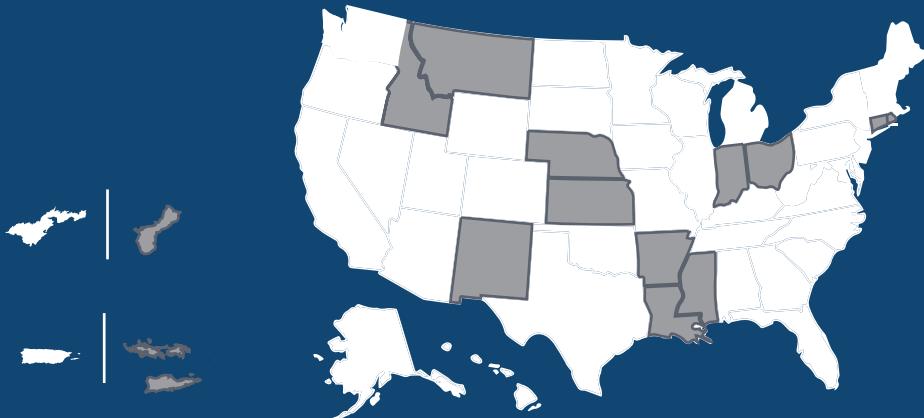
In FY2019, the EAC's Office of Inspector General (OIG) will announce its audit plans for the 2018 HAVA Funds awarded under Section 101 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). The EAC estimates that as many as 10 states a year could receive a federal audit focused on how the funds are being spent.

The Grants Office at the EAC is providing ongoing training and technical assistance to support states and their localities in effectively managing federal funds. Once the audit schedule is released by the OIG, EAC will be available to states on the list to conduct both pre- and post-audit assistance visits to help prepare for and respond to findings from the audits.

Additional information on HAVA grants can be found on [www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov).

The EAC also publishes an annual Expenditure Report. The most recent report, published on Aug 16, 2018, can be found at: [www.eac.gov/expenditurereport](http://www.eac.gov/expenditurereport).

# Financial Focus: Grants Administration

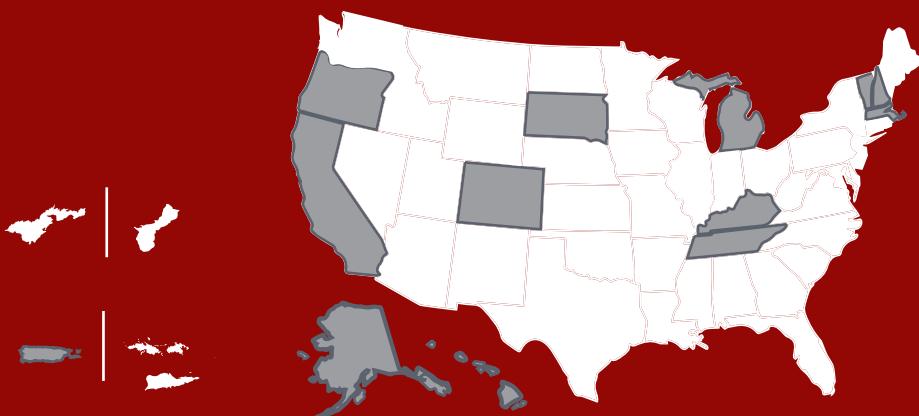
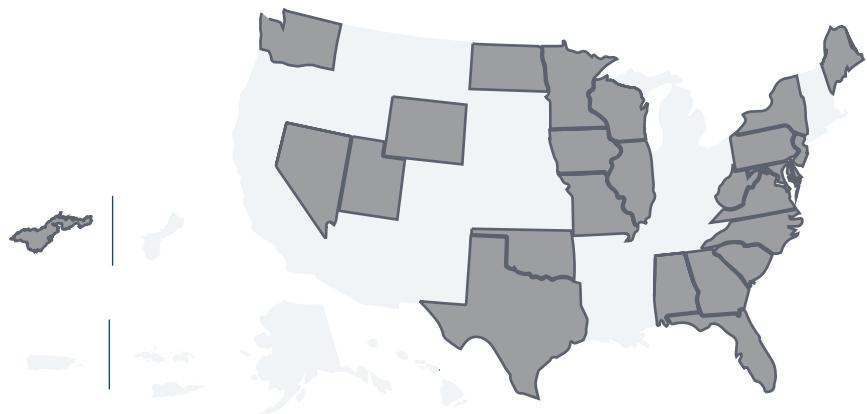


**14 states\* have expended  
100 percent of their initial  
HAVA funds and interest.**

\*Arkansas, Connecticut, Guam, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, and U.S. Virgin Islands.

**27 states\* have less than  
10 percent of initial HAVA  
funds remaining.**

\*Alabama, American Samoa, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.



**14 states\* have more than  
10 percent of initial HAVA  
funds remaining.**

\*Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Vermont.

# Financial Focus: Operations

**FY18 Appropriation** Total: \$10.1 million

## Funds allocated to:

U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) <b>\$8.6 million</b>	National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) <b>\$1.5 million</b>
--	--



**FY17 Appropriation** Total: \$9.6 million

## Funds allocated to:

U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) <b>\$8.2 million</b>	National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) <b>\$1.4 million</b>
--	--



**FY16 Appropriation** Total: \$9.6 million

## Funds allocated to:

U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) <b>\$8.1 million</b>	National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) <b>\$1.5 million</b>
--	--



**FY15 Appropriation** Total: \$10 million

## Funds allocated to:

U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) <b>\$8.1 million</b>	National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) <b>\$1.9 million</b>
--	--



**FY14 Appropriation** Total: \$10 million

## Funds allocated to:

U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) <b>\$8.1 million</b>	National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) <b>\$1.9 million</b>
--	--





## Executive Director's Note

Unless you are steeped in the world of election administration, it is difficult to appreciate the many competencies an election official must master and the tremendous pressure that accompanies those expectations. At the same time, the issues and threats surrounding elections are ever-evolving and funding for election offices is often limited, meaning election officials must be resourceful and adaptable.

As the nation's only clearinghouse of information on Federal Election administration nationwide, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)'s core mission is to support election officials through the distribution of assistance and products that help America vote. The EAC accomplished this in 2018 by producing timely products at critical moments in the election cycle, convening key leaders to

discuss the most pressing issues facing election administrators, and ensuring election officials received materials and intelligence in time to make such resources actionable.

The fiscal year began with the establishment of the Government Coordinating Council (GCC), the culmination of the EAC's work to establish a cybersecurity working group of state and local election administrators.

When \$380 million in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds were made available via the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, the EAC worked to ensure states received funding with enough time for it to have an impact during the 2018 election. All eligible states and territories received letters within 30 days allowing them to incur costs, and 100 percent of the funds were disbursed by September

20, just under six months after the omnibus was signed into law.

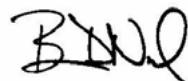
This past year held a number of other exciting developments for the EAC as well, including the nomination of two additional Commissioners, Benjamin Hovland and Donald Palmer, who were confirmed on January 2, 2019, marking the first time in ten years that the EAC has a full panel of Commissioners. The reestablishment of a full quorum will allow the agency to move forward on key initiatives, such as finalizing the next generation of Voluntary Voting System Guidelines, and increase our ability to reach out across the nation to engage and assist the election community.

As we move into 2019, the EAC's work will build on the strong foundation established in 2018. The EAC's expert staff and its Commissioners remain ready to support state and local election leaders in every aspect of their work. We will produce resources and services at the most impactful times for election officials and voters alike. We will also use our robust research and unique convening power to address leading election administration issues and elevate best practices as examples for other jurisdictions.

While we don't know what tomorrow will hold for elections, we do know that the competency and dedication of election officials who work to ensure American elections are secure, accurate, accessible and conducted with integrity, is steadfast. The 2018 Federal Election confirmed what we already knew

about election officials. Just as in 2016, they were ready for 2018, and will be prepared for whatever challenges 2020 brings. The EAC shares their commitment to upholding these values and will continue to serve as a vital federal resource.

As we reflect on the past year and look forward to 2019, I am grateful to Chairman Hicks and Vice Chair McCormick, and incoming Commissioners Hovland and Palmer, for their service and am proud to stand with the EAC's talented and dedicated staff to improve the way America votes.

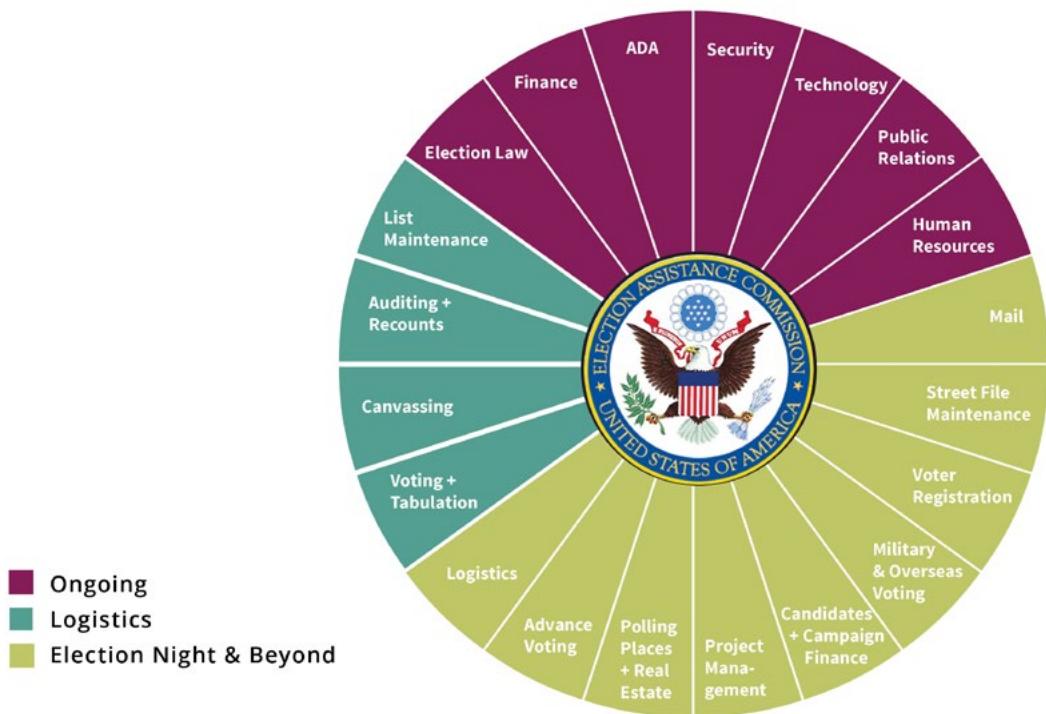


**Brian D. Newby  
Executive Director  
U.S. Election Assistance Commission**



EAC Executive Director Brian Newby speaks with Senator Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) at the EAC Election Readiness Summit on October 3, 2018.

## Election Administrator Competencies



*Election administrators must be masterful project managers with expert knowledge in many areas in order to successfully oversee an election.*

# EAC Advisory & Oversight Boards

Three federal advisory committees, the Standards Board, the Board of Advisors and the Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), help the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) complete its mandate under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

## 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 Appropriation each appoint two members representing voter interests.



During FY18, the EAC Board of Advisors was comprised of the following members.

## Members

### National Governors Association

2 appointments

#### **Jeffrey McLeod**

Director

Center for Best Practice's Homeland Security and Public Safety Division

Washington, DC



#### **Rahmeyer, Shaun**

Administrator

Office of Cyber Defense Coordination

Carson City, NV

### National Conference of State Legislatures

2 appointments

#### **Senator Daniel Ivey-Soto**

New Mexico State Legislature

Albuquerque, NM

#### **Senator John Murante**

Nebraska State Legislature, District 49

Gretna, NE

### National Association of Secretaries of State

2 appointments

#### **The Honorable Jim Condos**

VT Secretary of State,

and NASS President

Montpelier, VT

### The Honorable Connie Lawson

IN Secretary of State,

and NASS Immediate Past President

Indianapolis, IN

### National Association of State Election Directors

2 appointments

#### **Gary Poser**

Director of Elections

Minnesota Secretary of State

Saint Paul, MN

#### **Linda H. Lamone**

Administrator of Elections

Maryland State Board of Elections

Annapolis, MD

### National Association of Counties

2 appointments

#### **Ricky Hatch**

Weber County Clerk/Auditor

Ogden, UT

**Alysoun McLaughlin**  
 Deputy Election Director  
 Montgomery County  
 Gaithersburg, MD

**United States Conference of Mayors**  
 2 appointments  
 Vacant

**The Election Center**  
 2 appointments

**Tim Mattice**  
 Executive Director  
 Katy, TX

**Ernie Hawkins**  
 Chair, Board of Directors  
 The Election Center  
 Elk Grove, CA

**International Association of Government Officials**  
 2 appointments  
 merger of IACREOT and NACRC

**Michael B. Winn**  
 Travis County Director of Elections  
 Austin, TX

**Neal Kelley**  
 Registrar of Voters, Orange County  
 Santa Ana, CA

**United States Commission on Civic Rights**  
 2 appointments

**Patricia Timmons-Goodson**  
 U. S. Commission on Civil Rights  
 Vice Chair  
 Washington, DC

**Michael Yaki**  
 U. S. Commission on Civil Rights  
 Commissioner  
 Washington, DC

**Architectural and Transportation Barrier Compliance Board**

2 appointments

**Marc Guthrie**  
 Public Member, U.S. Access Board  
 Hebron, OH

**Sachin Pavithran**  
 Public Board Member  
 Providence, UT



## Chief Office of Public Integrity, United States Department of Justice

1 appointment

### Richard C. Pilger

Director, Election Crimes Branch  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, DC

## Chief, Voting Section Civil Rights Division U.S. Department of Justice

1 appointment

### Chris Herren

Chief Voting Section  
Civil Rights Division  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, DC

## Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program U.S. Department of Defense

1 appointment

### David Beirne

Director  
Federal Voting Assistance Program  
U.S. Dept. of Defense  
Alexandria, VA

## Speaker of the House

1 appointment

### Elliot Berke

Managing Partner  
Berke Farah LLP  
Washington, DC

## Democratic Leader

1 appointment

### Philip B. Stark

Associate Dean, Mathematical &  
Physical Sciences and Professor of  
Statistics  
University of California - Berkeley  
Berkeley, CA

## Senate Majority Leader

1 appointment

### Sarah Ball Johnson

City Clerk  
Colorado Springs, CO

## Senate Minority Leader

1 appointment

### Barbara Simons, PhD

Board Chair  
Verified Voting  
Association for Computing Machinery  
San Francisco, CA





## Senate Rules & Administration CMTE - Chair

2 appointments

### **Matthew Clay McDonald**

Attorney/Partner  
Jones Walker LLP  
Mobile, AL

**Shane Schoeller**  
Greene County Clerk  
Springfield, MO

## Senate Rules & Administration CMTE - Ranking Member

2 appointments

### **James C. Dickson**

Co-Chair  
Voting Rights Task Force  
National Council on  
Independent Living  
Washington, DC

## **Mark Ritchie**

President  
MN World's Fair Bid Committee  
Minneapolis, MN

## House Administration - Chair

2 appointments

### **T. Russell Nobile**

Attorney at Law  
WiseCarter  
Jackson, MS

### **Spencer Ritchie**

Associate  
Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP  
Jackson, MS

## House Administration - Ranking Member

2 appointments

### **Gregory T. Moore**

Executive Director  
NAACP National Voter Fund  
Upper Marlboro, MD

### **James R. Burn, Jr.**

Attorney  
Abes Baumann  
Pittsburgh, PA

## U.S. Election Assistance Commission - Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

### **Thomas Hicks**

Chairman  
U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
Silver Spring, MD

## 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 assure input from the state's local election officials' organization. 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.

During FY18, the EAC Standards Board was comprised of the following members.

### State

#### **ALABAMA**

**John H. Merrill**

Alabama Secretary of State  
Montgomery, AL

### Local

**Steven L. Reed**

Probate Judge  
Montgomery, AL

#### **ALASKA**

**Josie Bahnke**

Director, Division of Elections  
State of Alaska  
Juneau, AK

**Carol Thompson**

Absentee & Petition Manager  
Alaska Division of Elections  
Anchorage, AK

**State****AMERICA SAMOA**

**Uiagalelei Lealofi**  
Commissioner of Elections  
Pago Pago, AS

**Local**

**Fiti Tavai**  
IT/Data Systems & UOCAVA Division Head  
Pago Pago, AS

**ARIZONA**

**Eric H. Spencer**  
State Election Director  
Phoenix, AZ

**Reynaldo Valenzuela Jr.**  
Assistant Director of Elections  
Maricopa County Elections  
Phoenix, AZ

**ARKANSAS**

**Mark Martin**  
Arkansas Secretary of State  
Little Rock, AR

**Melanie Clark**  
Jackson County Clerk  
Newport, AR

**CALIFORNIA**

**Susan Lapsley**  
Deputy Secretary of State  
Sacramento, CA

**Neal Kelley**  
Registrar of Voters  
Orange County  
Santa Ana, CA

**COLORADO**

**Dwight K. Shellman III**  
County Support Manager  
Colorado Department of State,  
Elections Division  
Denver, CO

**Rudy Santos**  
Chief Deputy Clerk  
Weld County Clerk & Recorder's Office  
Greeley, CO

**CONNECTICUT**

**Peggy Reeves**  
Assistant to the Secretary of the State for  
Elections, Legislative and  
Intergovernmental Affairs  
Hartford, CT

**Timothy T. DeCarlo**  
Registrar of Voters  
Waterbury, CT

**DELAWARE**

**Elaine Manlove**  
State Election Commissioner  
Dover, DE

**Howard G. Sholl, Jr.**  
Deputy Director  
Dept. of Elections for New Castle County  
Wilmington, DE

**State****DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**Alice P. Miller, Esq.**  
Executive Director  
District of Columbia Board of Elections  
Washington, DC

**Local**

**Michael D. Gill, Esq.**  
Board Member  
District of Columbia Board of Elections  
Washington, DC

**FLORIDA**

**Maria Matthews**  
Division Director  
Florida Division of Elections  
Tallahassee, FL

**Paul Lux**  
Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections  
Crestview, FL

**GEORGIA**

**Brian Kemp**  
Georgia Secretary of State  
Atlanta, GA

**Lynn Bailey**  
Richmond County Elections Director  
Augusta, GA

**GUAM**

**Maria I.D. Pangelinan**  
Executive Director  
Guam Election Commission  
Hagatna, GU

**Joseph P. Iseke**  
Election Program Coordinator  
Guam Election Commission  
Hagatna, GU

**HAWAII**

**Aulii Tenn**  
Counting Center Section Head  
Office of Elections  
Pearl City, HI

**Shirley Magarifiji**  
Election Administrator, County of Maui  
Wailuku, HI

**IDAHO**

**Tim Hurst**  
Chief Deputy Secretary of State  
Boise, ID

**Patty Weeks**  
Nez Perce County Clerk  
Lewiston, ID

**ILLINOIS**

**Bernadette Matthews**  
Assistant Executive Director  
State Board of Elections  
Springfield, IL

**Lance Gough**  
Executive Director  
Chicago Board of Election Commission  
Chicago, IL

**State****INDIANA**

**J. Bradley King**  
Indiana Election Division Director  
Indianapolis, IN

**Local**

**Terri J. Rethlake**  
Clerk of Circuit Court, St. Joseph County  
South Bend, IN

**IOWA**

**Ken Kline**  
Deputy Commissioner of Elections  
Des Moines, IA

**Dennis Parrott**  
Jasper County Auditor  
Newton, IA

**KANSAS**

**Bryan A. Caskey**  
Director of Elections  
Topeka, KS

**Lori Augustine**  
Trego County Clerk  
WaKeeney, KS

**KENTUCKY**

**Jared Dearing**  
Executive Director  
State Board of Elections  
Frankfort, KY

**Kenny Barger**  
Madison County Clerk  
Richmond, KY

**LOUISIANA**

**Kyle Ardoin**  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Baton Rouge, LA

**H. Lynn Jones**  
Clerk of Court, Calcasieu Parish  
Lake Charles, LA



**State****MAINE**

**Julie L. Flynn**  
Deputy Secretary of State  
Augusta, ME

**Local**

**Katherine L. Jones**  
Portland City Clerk  
Portland, ME

**MARYLAND**

**Nikki Baines Charlson**  
Deputy Administrator  
Maryland State Board of Elections  
Catonsville, MD

**Katie Brown**  
Election Director  
Baltimore County Board of Elections

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**Michelle K. Tassinari**  
Director/Legal Counsel, Elections Division,  
Office of Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Boston, MA

**Vacant**

**MICHIGAN**

**Sally Williams**  
Director, Bureau of Elections  
Lansing, MI

**Jan Roncelli**  
Clerk, Bloomfield Township  
Bloomfield Township, MI

**MINNESOTA**

**Gary Poser**  
Director of Elections  
Minnesota Secretary of State  
Saint Paul, MN

**Debby Erickson**  
Administrative Services Director  
Crow Wing County  
Brainerd, MN

**MISSISSIPPI**

**Hawley Robertson**  
Senior Attorney, Elections Division  
Jackson, MS

**Baretta Mosley**  
Lafayette County Circuit Clerk  
Oxford, MS

**MISSOURI**

**Chrissy Peters**  
Co-Director of Elections  
Jefferson City, MO

**Dennis Von Allmen**  
Howell County Clerk  
West Plains, MO

**State****MONTANA**

**Dana Corson**  
Director of Elections and Voter Services  
Montana Secretary of State  
Helena, MT

**Local**

**Rina Fontana Moore**  
Cascade County Clerk & Recorder  
Great Falls, MT

**NEBRASKA**

**Heather Doxon**  
Election Specialist II  
Lincoln, NE

**David Shively**  
Lancaster County Election Commissioner  
Lincoln, NE

**NEVADA**

**Justus Wendland**  
HAVA Administrator  
Nevada Secretary of State  
Carson City, NV

**Joseph P. Gloria**  
Registrar of Voter, Clark County  
North Las Vegas, NV

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Anthony Stevens**  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Concord, NH

**Robert Dezmelyk**  
Moderator, Town of Newton  
Newton, NH

**NEW JERSEY**

**Robert Giles**  
Director, New Jersey Division of Elections  
Trenton, NJ

**Linda Von Nessi**  
Essex County Clerk of Elections  
Newark, NJ

**NEW MEXICO**

**Kari Fresquez**  
Bureau of Elections Director  
Santa Fe, NM

**Dave Kunko**  
Chaves County Clerk  
Roswell, NM

**NEW YORK**

**Douglas A. Kellner**  
Commissioner, Co-Chair  
NYS Board of Elections  
New York, NY

**Rachel L. Bledi**  
Commissioner  
Albany County Board of Elections  
Albany, NY

**State****NORTH CAROLINA**

**Veronica Degraffenreid**  
Election Preparation & Support Manager  
Raleigh, NC

**Local**

**Michael Dickerson**  
Mecklenburg County Director of Elections  
Charlotte, NC

**NORTH DAKOTA**

**Jim Silrum**  
Deputy Secretary of State  
Bismarck, ND

**DeAnn Buckhouse**  
Election Coordinator  
Fargo ND

**OHIO**

**Patricia Wolfe**  
Election Administrator  
Ohio Secretary of State  
Columbus, OH

**Steve Harsman**  
Deputy Director  
Montgomery County Board of Elections  
Dayton, OH

**OKLAHOMA**

**Carol Morris**  
Assistant Director of Support Services  
Oklahoma State Election Board  
Oklahoma City, OK

**Doug Sanderson**  
Secretary  
Oklahoma County Election Board  
Oklahoma City, OK

**OREGON**

**Stephen N. Trout**  
Director of Elections  
Oregon Secretary of State  
Salem, OR

**Derrin (Dag) Robinson**  
Harney County Clerk  
Burns, OR



**State****PENNSYLVANIA**

**Jonathan Marks**  
Commissioner of Elections  
Harrisburg, PA

**Local**

**Shari Brewer**  
Director, Butler County Board of Elections  
Butler, PA

**PUERTO RICO**

**Ramón Allende Santos**  
Ayudante del Comisionado  
San Juan, PR

**Walter Vélez Martínez**  
Secretario  
Dorado, PR

**RHODE ISLAND**

**Rob Rock**  
Director of Elections  
Providence, RI

**Louise Phaneuf**  
Town Clerk, Town of Burrillville  
Harrisville, RI

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Marci Andino**  
Executive Director  
State Election Commission  
Columbia, SC

**Wanda Hemphill**  
Director, York County Board of  
Registration & Elections  
York, SC

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Kristin Gabriel**  
South Dakota HAVA Coordinator  
Pierre, SD

**Carri Crum**  
Clay County Auditor  
Vermillion, SD

**TENNESSEE**

**Mark Goins**  
Coordinator of Elections  
Nashville, TN

**A.J. Starling**  
Davidson County Election Commissioner  
Nashville, TN

**TEXAS**

**Keith Ingram**  
Director, Elections Division  
Texas Secretary of State  
Austin, TX

**Dana DeBeauvoir**  
Travis County Clerk  
Austin, TX

**UTAH**

**Justin Lee**  
Director of Elections  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Sherrie Swensen**  
Salt Lake County Clerk  
Salt Lake City, UT

**State****VERMONT**

**William Senning**  
 Director of Elections & Campaign Finance  
 Montpelier, VT

**Local**

**Sandra "Sandy" Pinsonault, MMC**  
 Dorset Town Clerk  
 Dorset, VT

**VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**Lisa Harris Moorhead**  
 Member, Virgin Islands Board of Elections  
 Kingshill, VI

**Kevermay Douglas**  
 Deputy Supervisor of Elections  
 Kingshill, VI

**VIRGINIA**

**Christopher E. "Chris" Piper**  
 Commissioner of Elections  
 Richmond, VA

**Greg S. Riddlemoser**  
 General Registrar  
 Stafford, VA

**WASHINGTON**

**Stuart Holmes**  
 Election Information Services Supervisor  
 Olympia, WA

**Jerry Pettit**  
 Kittitas County Auditor  
 Ellensburg, WA

**WEST VIRGINIA**

**Brittany Westfall**  
 SVRS Coordinator, Elections  
 West Virginia Secretary of State  
 Charleston, WV

**Brian Wood**  
 Putnam County Clerk  
 Winfield, WV

**WISCONSIN**

**Meagan Wolfe**  
 Elections Division Administrator  
 Madison, WI

**Barbara K.D. Goeckner**  
 City of Amery Deputy Clerk  
 Amery, WI

**WYOMING**

**Kai Schon**  
 State Election Director  
 Cheyenne, WY

**Jackie R. Gonzales**  
 Albany County Clerk  
 Laramie, WY

**DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER**

**Christy McCormick**  
 Vice Chair  
 U.S. Election Assistance Commission

## Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC)

The Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC) assists the EAC in developing the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG). The chair of the TGDC is the director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The TGDC is comprised of 14 other members appointed jointly by the EAC and the director of NIST.

During FY18, the TGDC was comprised of the following members.

### Chair

**Walter Copan**

Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology  
Director, National Institute for Standards and Technology

### EAC STANDARDS BOARD

**Robert Giles**

Director, New Jersey Division of Elections  
Trenton, NJ

**Greg Riddlemoser**

General Registrar  
Stafford, VA

### EAC BOARD OF ADVISORS

**Linda Lamone**

Administrator of Elections  
Maryland State Board of Elections  
Annapolis, MD

**Neal Kelley**

Registrar of Voters  
Orange County  
Santa Ana, CA

### ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIER COMPLIANCE BOARD (ACCESS BOARD)

**Marc Guthrie**

Public Member  
U.S. Access Board  
Newark, OH

**Sachin Pavithran**

Public Board Member  
Providence, UT

### INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS (IEEE)

Vacant

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE ELECTION DIRECTORS(NASED)

### Lori Augino

Director of Elections

Washington Secretary of State's Office

Olympia, WA

### Judd Choate

Director of Elections

Colorado Department of State

Denver, Colorado

### Technical Experts

#### McDermot Coutts

Software Development Director

& Team Leader

Unisyn Voting Solutions

San Diego, California

#### Diane Golden

Director of Programs and Technical Assistance

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs

Kansas City, Missouri

#### Jeramy Gray

Assistant Clerk-Recorder

Chief Information Officer

Los Angeles County Clerk

& Recorder's Office

Los Angeles, CA

#### David Wagner

Professor

Computer Science Division

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California

## AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ANSI)

### Mary Saunders

Vice President, Government Relations and Public Policy

American National Standards Institute

Washington, DC

## DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER

### EAC Commissioner



# U.S. Election Assistance Commission

[www.eac.gov](http://www.eac.gov)

