



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

**RICK SCOTT**  
Governor

**KEN DETZNER**  
Secretary of State

May 30, 2018

Brian Newby, Executive Director  
U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Newby:

The State of Florida is committed to ensuring that all elections are supervised and securely executed with integrity to eliminate the threat of fraud and injustice. With that mission in mind, this week, Governor Rick Scott directed the Florida Department of State (DOS) to take several actions to increase the security and integrity of Florida's elections. Governor Scott has made it clear that fraud is unacceptable and the integrity of our elections is paramount. On May 3, he directed the Department to hire five cybersecurity specialists in advance of the 2018 elections to serve as a resource to all of our election officials. Following this action, on May 23, Governor Scott directed DOS to draw down \$19 million in federal funding to further enhance cybersecurity in Florida's elections.

These directions made by Governor Scott follow significant recent action taken by the State of Florida to enhance voting security which include:

- Working diligently with locally-elected Supervisors of Elections to help Florida counties modernize their voting systems. More than two-thirds of Florida counties have completed a voting equipment modernization and the majority of the remaining counties are in the process of completing a modernization or upgrade.
- Upgrading to state-of-the-art hardware, software and firewalls prior to the 2016 election to safeguard voter information in the Florida Voter Registration System (FVRS) and prevent any possible hacking attempts from being successful.
- Enhancing the security of the Florida Election Watch website to ensure there is no disruption in election night reporting of results as well as strengthening protections of Florida's online voter registration website.
- Securing \$1.9 million during the 2018 Florida Legislative Session to provide grants to Supervisors of Elections for the purchase of a Network Monitoring Security solution,

called ALBERT, that is offered through the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC).

The purpose of this letter is to certify that the State of Florida will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement number FL18101001, for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA.

We further certify that we have reviewed and accept the terms of the award as specified in the Notice of Grant Award. Our UEI number (formerly DUNS) is 360719454 and the signed Certification Regarding Lobbying is enclosed.

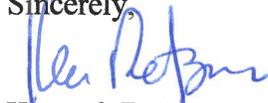
Today, at Governor Scott's direction, we are requesting \$19,187,003 to further enhance elections security and integrity in our state. We will develop the program narrative as follows:

The Department will work in partnership with local Supervisors of Elections to deploy the funds as rapidly as possible on the following:

- Federal Elections Activities
  - Strengthen the implementation of cybersecurity for election systems;
  - Enhance election technology;
  - Facilitate cybersecurity training for the state chief election official's office and local election officials;
  - Implement established cybersecurity best practices for election systems;
  - Continue election administration activities including, but not limited to, voter education, poll worker training, and standardizing elections results reporting.
- Voting Systems Assistance
  - Upgrade election-related computer systems to address cyber vulnerabilities.
- Statewide Assistance
  - All other election costs deemed necessary by the Department of State.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Maria Matthews at 850-245-6200 or [Maria.Matthews@DOS.MyFlorida.com](mailto:Maria.Matthews@DOS.MyFlorida.com).

Sincerely,



Kenneth Detzner  
Secretary of State of Florida

Cc.

Mark Abbott, Director of Payments and Grants

The Florida Department of State's Division of Elections (Department) provides administrative support to the Secretary of State, Florida's Chief Elections Officer, to ensure that Florida has fair and accurate elections. The Division ensures compliance with the election laws, provides statewide coordination of election administration, and promotes public participation in the electoral process. The Division also assists county Supervisors of Elections in their duties, including providing technical support.

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission notified the Department of \$19,187,003 in additional Help America Vote Act funds made available to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including the enhancement of technology and election security improvements. The Department submits the following proposal for the use of funds:

- Federal Election Activities
  - Strengthen the implementation of cybersecurity for election systems;
  - Enhance election technology;
  - Facilitate cybersecurity training for the state Chief Elections Official's office and local election officials;
  - Implement established cybersecurity best practices for election systems;
  - Continue election administration activities including, but not limited to, voter education, poll worker training, and standardizing elections results reporting.
- Voting Systems Assistance
  - Upgrade election-related computer systems to address cyber vulnerabilities.
- Statewide Assistance
  - All other election costs deemed necessary by the Department of State.

County Supervisors of Elections will receive funds only after providing the Department of State with a detailed description of the programs that will be implemented. Before a county Supervisor of Elections receives funds for any software or hardware technology, including, but not limited to, any emerging technology that enhances or facilitates the delivery of absentee ballots, the casting and counting of valid votes, voting system audits or recount processes, and the certification of accurate and complete official election results, the software or technology must first be certified or approved, whichever is applicable, by the Department of State. Additionally, before the Supervisor can receive funds for emerging or enhancing technology, the county Supervisor of Elections and the chairperson of the county governing body must certify that the county has purchased and made available sufficient equipment for casting and counting ballots to meet the needs of the county electors including reducing the wait time at the polls during the early voting period and on election day for the next regularly scheduled general election.

Supervisors of Elections shall report to the Department of State any unspent funds remaining on June 30 of each fiscal year.

