

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Follow form instructions)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION	2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)
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3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code)

Secretary Of State, Nevada Office Of The
101 N Carson St # 3, CARSON CITY, NV 897013714

4a. DUNS Number	4b. EIN	5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)	6. Report Type <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Final	7. Basis of Accounting <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual
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8. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) From: March 28, 2018 To: September 30, 2019	9. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year) September 30, 2021
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10. Transactions Cumulative

(Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting)

Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment):

a. Cash Receipts	\$9,083,287.00
b. Cash Disbursements	\$3,018,881.69
c. Cash on Hand (line a minus b)	\$6,064,405.31

(Use lines d-o for single grant reporting)

Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance:

d. Total Federal funds authorized	\$9,083,287.00
e. Federal share of expenditures	\$3,018,881.69
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations	\$64,243.52
g. Total Federal share (sum of lines e and f)	\$3,083,125.21
h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g)	\$6,000,161.79

Recipient Share:

i. Total recipient share required	\$1,174,999.00
j. Recipient share of expenditures	\$1,174,999.00
k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j)	\$0.00

Program Income:

l. Total Federal share of program income earned	\$192,949.93
m. Program income expended in accordance with the deduction alternative	\$0.00
n. Program income expended in accordance with the addition alternative	\$0.00
o. Unexpended program income (line l minus line m and line n)	\$192,949.93

11. Indirect Expense	a. Type	b. Rate	c. Period From	Period To	d. Base	e. Amount Charged	f. Federal Share
g. Totals:					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation:
 Please provide the following information:

13. Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)

a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Griffitts, Ashley Management Analyst I	c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension) d. Email Address
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Griffitts, Ashley	e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) January 21, 2022

Standard Form 425
 OMB Approval Number: 4040-0014
 Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Paperwork Burden Statement
 According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 4040-0014. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: US Department of Health & Human Services, OS/OCIO/PRA, 200 Independence Ave, SW, Suite 336-E, Washington DC 20201. Attention: PRA Reports Clearance Officer

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(Additional Page)

Federal Agency & Organization : ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Federal Grant ID

Recipient Organization

: September 30, 2021

DUNS Number

DUNS Status when Certified

EIN

: Awarding Agency Approval

Reporting Period End Date

: Please provide the following information:

Status

Remarks

State interest earned (current fiscal year): \$0.00

State interest expended (current fiscal year): \$0.00

Program income earned (current fiscal year): \$0.00

Program income earned breakdown (current fiscal year): \$0.00 Source: e.g. Sale of registration list

Program income expended (current fiscal year): \$0.00

Federal Agency Review

Reviewer Name

Phone #

Email

Review Date

Review Comments :

2021-2022 EAC Progress Report

3. EAC Progress Report

1. State or Territory:

Nevada

2. Grant Number:

3. Report:

Annual (Oct 1 - Sept 30)

4. Grant:

Election Security

5. Reporting Period Start Date

10/01/2020

6. Reporting Period End Date

09/30/2021

4. Progress and Narrative

7. Describe in detail what happened during this reporting period and explain how you implemented the approved grant activities in accordance with your State Plan/Program Narrative. (Note: Your activities should align with your Grant Cost Categories Table.)

The majority of HAVA funds used during this reporting period were used to pay for strengthening cyber security at the state and county level and to develop a new top-down voter registration system. In addition, HAVA funds were used to pay staff and contractor salaries and benefits to support all categories of the HAVA grant program. The expenditures are discussed in more detail below.

Election Auditing

HAVA funds were used to begin a pilot program for Risk Limiting Audits (RLA), as required by NRS 293.394. The State contracted with VotingWorks, a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization, to use their Arlo Risk Limiting Audit software to conduct a pilot in four counties in January using data from the November 2020 election. In order to conduct a ballot comparison audit on the mail ballots, those four jurisdictions purchased imprinters for their tabulation equipment. The imprinters print a unique serial number on each scanned ballot, making retrieval easier. Some of the purchases were made during this reporting period, but several of the remaining counties who have not yet conducted pilots still need to purchase imprinters and will be reimbursed in the next reporting period.

The State conducted three additional RLA pilots for small municipal elections in April, July, and September. For the RLA in July, the State used HAVA funds to send observers from five counties to Clark County (Las Vegas). The State reimbursed those counties for their out-of-pocket expenses, which included transportation, lodging, and per diem. In September, the State used HAVA funds to travel to Esmeralda County to provide hands-on support for their RLA.

The next step in the pilot program is to conduct a statewide audit with all of the jurisdictions participating. To date, the State has conducted RLA pilots with single jurisdictions at a time, with one target contest for each audit. The goal, however, is to have all of the counties participate in a single audit where there is (1) a statewide contest and every single ballot cast in that contest has an equal chance of being selected for the audit and (2) a specific countywide target contest for each county. The State will conduct an RLA after the 2022 Primary Election with the eleven jurisdictions that have not already participated in a pilot and will conduct a pilot with all seventeen counties after the 2022 General Election. NRS 293.394 requires all elections starting in January 1, 2024 to have risk-limiting audits conducted prior to certification of the results.

Voter Registration Systems

During this reporting period, the State of Nevada began the process of researching, purchasing, and implementing a new top-down voter registration and election management solution (VREMS) as detailed in the 2020 Annual Report.

In March, 2021, the State published an RFP to hire an outside vendor to assist with the VREMS Discovery Project. The goals of the VREMS Discovery Project are to identify the business need, identify and document the existing business systems and processes, develop high level requirements, analyze the alternative solutions for a solution, recommend a solution direction including a recommendation on staffing strategy and timeline, and develop a roadmap for moving forward. The RFP was published in March 2021 and the procurement committee selected Gartner, Inc. to serve as the assessment vendor. Gartner began work on this project in mid-September 2021 and is working with the State and the counties to gather requirements and to perform a gap analysis and readiness assessment. This project takes up the majority of time for a contract project manager, two contract business analysts, and multiple full-time employees.

During the 2021 Legislative Session, the Nevada Legislature passed Assembly Bill 422, which codified the requirement of implementing a top-down voter registration system by January 1, 2024. The Legislature also passed Assembly Bill 432, which requires multiple third-party agencies and organizations to become automatic voter registration agencies in much the same way that the Department of Motor Vehicle serves and to develop a system that works with the new top-down voter registration system to interface with those third-party agencies. As a result, there are added complexities to the top-down voter registration system project.

In addition to the VREMS project, one of Nevada's highest priorities is to improve the auditing of the statewide voter registration list to prevent and discover cases of potential fraud. The Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) is extremely helpful in this endeavor and annual state membership fees are budgeted from this grant category.

Cyber Security

To increase the security of elections in Nevada, specifically with the voter registration databases, we continued the statewide multifactor authentication (MFA) project that was started during the last reporting period. This project is comprised of two phases:

Phase 1 was completed during the previous annual reporting period using primarily HAVA security funds. Some of the costs

associated with this project include election official training, and MFA hardware and licensing fees. Additional purchases of MFA hardware and licensing fees were made during this period.

Phase 2 of this program will focus on adding MFA to the Secretary of State database, including our voter registration portal called HAVA Services, which provides access to list maintenance reports for the county clerks. Phase 2 has been delayed throughout this reporting period, first because of COVID-related complexities and diversion of resources to focus on conducting the 2020 elections, but also due to shifting priorities within the Secretary of State's IT division.

In the last annual reporting period, the State had also begun a project called the Isolated/Dedicated Project, in which the State worked on moving county voter registration systems to isolated and dedicated software and hardware. The purpose of this project is to segregate the counties' existing voter registration systems on networks that are separate from their respective county networks. By doing so, the voter registration systems at the county level, and by extension the statewide voter registration list, are less vulnerable to cyber-attacks. This work was delayed due to COVID, the 2020 elections, and shifting priorities. However, most of the necessary software and hardware were purchased during this reporting period. The State will be working to complete implementation during the next reporting period.

Other

Additional funds were used to send full time staff to national conferences, including the National Association of State Election Directors, the Election Center, and the International Association of Government Officials. These conferences and training opportunities provide vital networking and information sharing among election officials from other jurisdictions and are necessary to help the State of Nevada continue to innovate and improve election processes.

A nominal portion of funds was used to travel for contract staff to assist with the 2020 General Election and phone and email services for full time staff and contract staff that work solely on HAVA-related projects.

8. Describe any significant changes to your program during the project, including changes to your original State Plan/Program Narrative or favorable developments that improved program efficiency and/or service delivery.

In the 2018/2020 narrative, the State discussed plans to improve the voter registration systems by enhancing the security of the existing bottom-up system. Throughout the past two years, it has become apparent that while some security concerns can be ameliorated through multi-factor authentication and siloed networks, the majority of complications and vulnerabilities in the current system would be lessened, if not eliminated, by transition to a top-down system. The State described this plan in the 2020 annual report but did not indicate that this was a significant change from the 2018/2020 narrative. Further, as discussed above, the Nevada Legislature has now mandated a top-down system (Assembly Bill 422) as well as the integration of multiple voter registration agencies (Assembly Bill 432). In addition, throughout the investigative conversations with the counties during this reporting period, the State has collected requirements for additional necessary modules that will work to improve elections administration statewide, while also increasing the time and budget for this implementation. The State's overall plan still comports with the 2018/2020 narrative, but the scope of this project has greatly expanded.

9. Issues Encountered:

Describe all major issues that arose during the implementation of the project and the reasons why established goals were not met, if applicable. Address each issue separately and describe whether and how the issues were resolved. Also, briefly discuss the implications of any unresolved issues or concerns.

The first issue was the realization of significant state budget cuts due to the pandemic. Due to these cuts, the State had to begin funding two additional election staff salaries with HAVA grant funds. While this was not the most difficult problem to solve, it did require some rearranging of planned funds. Efforts will be made to transition most or all of those salaries back to the State's general fund in the next reporting period, which covers the budgeting activities for the next fiscal year.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic made deployment of the MFA software and hardware quite difficult as most county and state staff were working from home. The need for VPN access required some rethinking of policy regarding the MFA project but had no impact on the financial aspect of the project. The counties have all implemented MFA software and hardware, and now the only part that is still awaiting implementation is activating MFA for the State staff. At this time, that part of the project is on hold due to shifting prioritization of projects within the IT Division of the Secretary of State's Office.

The COVID-19 pandemic also made it difficult to further implement the Isolated/Dedicated project, which had to be delayed while implementing the other time-sensitive election-related processes. The State plans to move forward on completion of the Isolated/Dedicated project within the next reporting period.

Lastly, as discussed above, the scope of the VREMS project has significantly grown as a result of recent legislation, investigation of requirements with the counties, and the advice of the assessment vendor. The State seeks to ensure that this project is approached thoughtfully and carefully since transitioning from a bottom-up to a top-down system, while also adding direct interfaces with other voter registration agencies, is a complex and significant undertaking. The HAVA funds will not be sufficient to meet all of the needs of this project, and the State will be seeking funding from the Legislature.

10. Provide a description of any training conducted, including security training.

In 2020, the State participated in October's National Cyber Security Awareness Month. A nominal amount of HAVA funds were used to prepare weekly training exercises that were conducted throughout October 2020. The State also used the knowbe4.com website to conduct online annual cyber security training with all state and local election officials. The State also participated in the CISA Tabletop the Vote event in July 2021. Furthermore, the State is currently working on developing a statewide team of IT and elections officials at the state and county level to share information about vulnerabilities, tools, and training opportunities.

11. Subgrants:

Did your office provide subawards to local jurisdictions during this reporting period?

Yes

12. Describe the activities carried out by your subgrantees during the reporting period.

The State disbursed \$145,233.35 in subgrants to the counties for purchases related to the RLA, MFA, and Isolated/Dedicated projects.

RLA – The counties were reimbursed for purchases of imprinters and ink cartridges to assist with applying unique identifiers on each ballot during tabulation.

MFA/Isolated/Dedicated – These projects are intertwined and serve the purpose of strengthening the counties' voter registration systems against cyber threats. The purchases for these projects included the following: (1) Server units; (2) VMWare licenses; (3) cables and wires; (4) server racks and slideouts, (5) cameras for server rooms; and (6) other software licenses.

Provide a breakdown of aggregate subawards expenditures across major categories.

Security : \$135,663.35

Election Auditing : \$9,570.00

Total : \$145233.35

13. Match:

Describe how you are meeting or have met the matching requirement.

Nevada's total required state match is \$1,174,999.00. As of this reporting period, 100% of this match has been met. A portion of this match (\$213,886.00) was previously met in 2018 with a cash contribution from the State's general fund with the purchase of additional voting equipment equivalent to the required match amount (details previously reported in the 2018 Grant Report Narrative). Additionally, \$961,113.00 in State funds was distributed among all 17 counties to assist with paying for annual voting system license and support fees in 2020 and 2021.

14. Report on the number and type of articles of voting equipment obtained with the funds. Include the amount expended on the expenditure table.

No HAVA funds were used during this period for voting equipment.

Login Capture

5. Expenditures

15. Current Period Amount Expended and Unliquidated Obligations

GRANT COST CATEGORIES - FEDERAL

Post-Election Auditing: : \$86881

Voter Registration Systems: : \$351256

Cyber Security: : \$645467

Subgrants: : \$145233

Other (Specify below) : \$9829

Voter Education/Communications: : \$7839

Other (Specify below) : \$137963

Total : \$1384468

Comments: 1. Other costs \$9,829 include personnel/fringe costs and operating costs. 2. Other costs \$137,963 include costs to improve the administration of Federal elections such as staff training and personnel/fringe.

16. GRANT COST CATEGORIES - MATCH

Voter Registration Systems: : \$201113

Total : \$201113

Comments:

7. Expenditures

17. Confirm Total Grant Expenditure Amounts

Federal : \$1425077

Match : \$201,113.00

Total : \$1626190

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

8. Certification

Name and Contact of the authorized certifying official of the recipient.

First Name

Ashley

Last Name

Griffitts

Title

Management Analyst II

Phone Number

Email Address

18. Add another contact to send a copy of submission confirmation and edit link?

Yes!

19.

First Name

Michele

Last Name

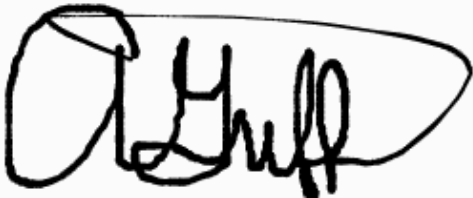
Forney

Title

HAVA Administrator

Email Address

Signature of Certifying Official:



Signature of: Ashley Griffitts

9. Report Submitted to EAC



Thank you. Your Annual (Oct 1 - Sept 30) progress report for Election Security has been submitted to the EAC. Please keep the PDF download of your submission as grant record.