

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT
(EACFFR)**

1. Federal Agency and Org. Element to Which Report is Submitted
U.S. Election Assistance Commission

2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned By Fed. Agency
(To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)
EAC-ELSEC22AK

3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code)

Recipient Organization Name:
Alaska Secretary of State

Street1:
240 Main St Ste 400

Street2:

City:
Juneau

County:
JUNEAU

State:
AK

Province:

Country:
United States

Zip 5:
99801

Zip +4:

4a. UEI
MJAVNYV4C4T1

4b. EIN
926001185

5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number
(To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)
E7638B1

6. Report Type
 Quarterly
 Semi-Annual
 Annual
 Final

7. Basis of Accounting

Cash
 Accrual

8. Project/Grant Period

From:
03/23/2018

To:
09/30/2099

9. Reporting Period End Date
(Month, Day, Year)
09/30/2022

10. TRANSACTIONS
(Use lines a-c for single or multiple grant reporting)

Cumulative

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

| | |
|---|----------------|
| a. Cash Receipts | \$7,000,000.00 |
| b. Cash Disbursements | \$4,860,948.17 |
| c. Cash on hand (line a minus b) | \$2,139,051.83 |

Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance: Do not complete this section if reporting on multiple awards.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| d. Total Federal funds authorized | \$7,000,000.00 |
| e. Federal share of expenditures | \$4,860,948.17 |
| f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations | \$0.00 |
| g. Total Federal share (sum of line e plus line f) | \$4,860,948.17 |
| h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g) | \$2,139,051.83 |

Recipient Share: Do not complete this section if reporting on multiple awards.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| i. Total recipient share required | \$2,483,873.60 |
| j. Recipient share of expenditures | \$255,839.38 |
| k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j) | \$2,228,034.22 |

Program Income: Do not complete this section if reporting on multiple awards.

| | |
|--|--------|
| l. Total Federal program income earned | \$0.00 |
| 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) | \$0.00 |

Federal Interest:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| p. Total Federal interest earned | \$145,362.73 |
| q. Federal interest expenditures | \$0.00 |
| r. Remaining Federal interest to be expended (line p minus q) | \$145,362.73 |

11. Indirect Expense

| a. Type | b. Rate | c. Period From | c. Period To | d. Base | e. Amount Charged | f. Federal Share |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| | 0.00% | | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| g. Total | | | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |

12. Remarks:


| | |
|---|--------|
| a. State Interest Earned: Enter the current year amount earned (not cumulative) | \$0.00 |
| b. State Interest Expended: Enter the current year amount expended (not cumulative) | \$0.00 |
| c. Program Income Earned: Enter the current year amount earned. (not cumulative) | \$0.00 |
| d. Program Income Expended: Enter the amount of Program Income expended in the current year (not cumulative) | \$0.00 |
| e. Program Income Earned Breakdown: List each source of program income individually next to each amount (federal interest earned is not program income). | |

| Source of program income | Amount | Delete |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| e. 1 | \$0.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Total: | | \$0.00 |

f. Comments: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation:
Continued answer for 12.(a): State interest earned for the current year = (negative) -\$29,956.20.

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 objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties.

Administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise. (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001 and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812).

| | |
|---|--|
| a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Sharon1651724 Forrest | c. Telephone (Area code, number and extension) |
| Certification Title N/A | d. Email address sharon.forrest@alaska.gov |
| b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official  | e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 12/16/2022 |

Report Attachment (For reporting multiple grants)

| 14. List Information below for each grant covered by this report. | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Federal Grant Number | Recipient Account Number | Cumulative Federal Cash Disbursement |
| | | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL (Should correspond to the amount on Line 10b on Page 1) | | \$0.00 |

**Progress Report
Section I: Cover Page**

Grant Information

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. State or Territory | 2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency EAC-ELSEC22AK |
| 3. Grant Type: | |
| <input type="radio"/> 101 <input type="radio"/> 251 <input checked="" type="radio"/> Election Security <input type="radio"/> Other [e.g., CARES] | |
| Describe Other | |

Report Information

| | |
|--|--|
| 4. Report Type: | |
| <input type="radio"/> Semi-Annual <input checked="" type="radio"/> Annual <input type="radio"/> Final <input type="radio"/> Other | |
| Describe Other | |
| 5. Report Period | |
| Start Date (Month, Day, Year) 10/01/2021 | End Date (Month, Day, Year) 09/30/2022 |

Section II: Progress and Narrative

Instructions: Reports due for the period ending March 31 should describe the activities of the previous six-month period and reports due for the period ending September 30 should cover the previous 12-month period. Final reports should cover the entire performance period from the start of the grant. Additional guidance can be found on our website: <https://www.eac.gov/payments-and-grants/financial-progress-reporting>

EAC grants reports will be made publicly available. Therefore, your report narrative should:
 * Be written in clear, concise, and plain language
 * Not include sensitive confidential information

6. 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 category expenditures in Section IV and you may use those categories as headings in your response as applicable.)

Check if no activity during this reporting period.

Election Security During this reporting period grant personnel (division) worked with the Voter Registration and Election Management System software vendor to enhance the security of the system architecture, schedule a regular, monthly system patch cycle; and perform system backups. During the recent General election cycle, the vendor provided regular security analysis reports on their own systems and environment used to interact with VREMS. Additionally, they established an emergency channel on election day to provide rapid response in the event of any cyber incident affecting VREMS. In late 2021, the Division contracted with a third-party cyber security monitoring service to provide 24/7 system monitoring and reporting of VREMS. Additionally, the company performed a penetration test of the VREMS environment and submitted a report to the Division in September 2022. The Division addressed the vulnerabilities provided in the report. In early 2022, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) conducted a Remote Vulnerability Assessment on the Division of Election Security on network and VREMS environment. Upon completion, CISA submitted a report to the Division, and the Division addressed all Division-related findings. Over the course of the year, the Division established a bi-monthly cadence with the Governor's Office Information Technology team, the State Security Office, and the Office of Information Technology senior leadership to discuss relevant Cyber and IT issues related to the upcoming elections. The State Security Office provided updated an Incident Response Plan for the Division to use during the election cycle and beyond. Additionally, along with our Federal partners, the SSO and the Division participated in the EI-ISAC/CIS Elections Tabletop Exercise in July 2022. In May 2022, the Alaska Elections Security Working Group was established, comprised of Alaska Federal and State agencies. The Group met monthly to discuss upcoming security concerns, personnel availability, and intel, and provide updates on security related tasks and projects. Group members also participated in Election Day situation rooms provided by various State, Federal, and Private entities. Overall expenses attributed to the election security category were \$282,689.82 (federal share principal \$268,555.33; state share principal \$14,134.49). Personnel expenses for the cyber security personnel and secondary support equalled \$245,135.25 (\$232,878.49 federal share principal, \$12,256.76 state match principal). Other associated support cost for items such as contractors, business supplies, equipment, and services were \$37,554.57 (\$35,676.84 federal share principal, \$1,877.73 state match principal). Working with GOV-IT, the division upgraded the Elections resource domain. It was secured according to CIS-hardening standards. Election workstations were established in the State of Alaska domain. The division performed an inventory of all YubiKeys, used for multi-factor identification for the VREMS environment in the division offices in preparation of distribution to temporary employees for the election cycle to ensure all logins and keys assigned were established according to division policy. The division acquired secure fire safes and key safes for division offices to secure keys and storage of critical devices. The division acquired a badge printer and printing supplies to produce ID badges for elections personnel, election workers, and other non-official election entities such as observers and office visitors. The intent was to clearly identify personnel and their purpose in the various areas of responsibility and access during elections. (Question 6 details continued below in the field for question 12; was short on space.)

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

Check if no training was conducted during this reporting period.

The Election Security Officer completed a Certified Information Systems Security Officer course. The Election Security Office is currently in the process of completing the SANS Training Program for the CISSP Certification Exam. All division staff members participated in a Know4 cyber security online training program focusing on phishing and internet security. Expenses for the training equalled \$11,002.06 (federal share \$10,451.96; state share \$550.10). The Division, along with other State stakeholders participated in the Tabletop the Vote 2021 and Tabletop the Vote 2022: National Election Cyber Exercise. Division employees continue to take advantage of the EI/MS-ISAC Monthly Membership call whenever possible.

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

Check if no voting equipment purchased during this reporting period.

During this reporting period the Division exchanged 331 of the existing ImageCast Precinct Tabulators (ICP) inventory for 331 ImageCast Precinct 2 Tabulators (ICP2) along with modems and ballot box adapter kits. Expenses specifically for the equipment upgraded equalled \$194,712.60 (federal share \$184,976.97; state share \$9,735.63).

9. Subgrants (if applicable)

Check if no subgrants were made during this reporting period.

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

10. Provide a breakdown of aggregate subaward expenditures across major categories. (Total subaward expenditures should be provided in the expenditure table in Section IV).

| Category | Subaward Federal Expenditures |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Voting Equipment | \$0.00 |
| Voting Processes | \$0.00 |
| Voter Registration Systems | \$0.00 |
| Election Auditing | \$0.00 |
| Cyber and Physical Security | \$0.00 |
| Voter Education | \$0.00 |
| Accessibility | \$0.00 |
| Other: | \$0.00 |
| Total | \$0.00 |

11. Match (if applicable)

Check if match not required.

Describe how you are meeting or have met the matching requirement.
 Match was met through three separate appropriations from the state. A first match of \$1,626,612 in general funds was appropriated in FY19 to the Election Fund as a result of a reappropriation in Ch. 19, SLA 2018, Sec. 15(b). A second match of \$600,000 in general funds was appropriated in 2020 to the Election Fund in HB 234, Section 19 (a); SB 174, Section 19 (a). A third match of \$200,000 in general funds was appropriated in 2022 to the Election in HB 281, Section 27 (h) line 3.

Section Section III: Challenges and Changes

12. Issues Encountered

Check if no major issues encountered during this reporting period.

#12 Answer: No major issues were encountered during this reporting period. #6 Continued Answer: The division worked with CISA on physical security improvements of division offices. A CISA representative performed a walk-through of all seven division offices. The final recommendation reports are pending from the CISA representative. Two offices have moved forward with recommended changes based on the walk-through by the CISA representative. Upon receipt of the all the final reports, the division will move forward to determine if any additional changes to offices will be needed. The division acquired and installed NDAA-compliant cameras and key-card door access for sensitive areas of the seven division offices. Voter Registration System The division receives weekly and monthly cyber hygiene scans offered by CISA and reviews and addresses vulnerabilities accordingly, as well as reviews and addresses vulnerabilities provided in the cyber hygiene scans performed by the third-party vendor. The division contracted with our escrow agent to conduct a code review to detect any vulnerabilities for remediation. The code review was completed and was provided to vendor for remediation. The division continues to participate with the State Rapid7 scans for security postures and known vulnerabilities to assist with security hardening and patch management. Expenses for the voter registration system category equaled \$69,408.00 (federal share principal \$65,937.60; state share principal \$3,470.40). The division is still in the process of exploring updates to the VREMS systems platform to determine its future direction for the upcoming 10 to 15 years life. Communications and Voter Education During this reporting period Over the course of the year, the Public Relations Manager focused on educating the public about the security measures the division takes to ensure fair and accurate elections and communicated with the public to mitigate mis/disinformation regarding election security. The division held three elections during this reporting period – a Special Primary Election on June 18 and a Special General Election/Primary Election on August 16. The June 18 election was an all by-mail election and because it was the first statewide all by-mail election, it required a robust communication plan to instill confidence in the security of voting by mail as a majority of voters were not familiar with this method. The PR Manager updated the website with additional and more prominently displayed election security information that had an emphasis on voting by mail. The PR Manager communicated with the media frequently and developed educational mailers that included information that set expectations about ballot counting and results, to help prevent doubt in the election process. The PR Manager heightened transparency via a constant engagement with the public through social media and the media with more frequent and detailed updates than were given in past years. Expenses for the communications category equaled \$53,153.83 (federal share principal \$50,496.14; state share principal \$2,657.69). (Continued below in second field for #12.)

Describe how and whether the issues were resolved. Also, briefly discuss the implications of any unresolved issues or concerns.
 #6 continued answer from the first field in #12: Voting Equipment During this reporting period the Division and Dominion Voting came to an agreement to trade-in the State's ImageCast Precinct Tabulators (ICP) for the I mageCast Precinct 2 Tabulators (ICP2) for a reduced cost. The Division exchanged 331 of the existing ICP for 331 ICP2 Tabulators along with modems and ballot box adapter kits. Expenses specifically for the upgraded equipment equaled \$194,712.60 (federal share \$184,976.97; state share \$9,735.63). The division transitioned to AT&T's FirstNet service after switching to 4G cellular modems which were not compatible with the previous (cellular network?) the division utilized. The 4G cellular modems and FirstNet service helped to ensure we could receive results transmissions timely by giving the division priority service on election night should there have been congestion issues on the network. Transmitting results in this manner is part of the division's security protocols. Due to new state election laws, the division was charged with implementing a new ranked choice voting system. The new statutes required specific ballot tabulating parameters that the previous tabulation system did not recognize, and the division had to upgrade that software. This upgrade necessitated upgraded ballot scanners that were compatible with the new software package and the new 4G modems. Additionally, Dominion Voting Systems informed the division our previous scanners would not allow us to fully perform testing of cards programmed with our new elections. Testing our election equipment is one of the division's protocols meant to ensure the security and accuracy of elections. Overall expenses for the voting equipment category equaled \$502,855.69 (federal share \$477,712.91; state share \$25,142.78).

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

Check if no significant changes were made during this reporting period.

Section IV: Expenditures

14. Fill out the table below with both the Federal and State Match expenditures for the current reporting period. Include federal and state interest expenditures and write-in any cost areas that do not fit into the predefined program categories. Subaward expense totals identified in section #10 should also be populated and rolled into the appropriate expense categories for #14. If you do not have expenses for a particular category please populate the field with \$0.00 Total expenses will automatically calculate. Please verify totals prior to submission.

Expenditures should be consistent with the activities described in your narrative and with the amounts in your financial reports. (EAC uses the difference between your current and previous period FFR to calculate current period expenditures).

| Categories | Federal | State Match |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Voting Equipment | \$477,712.91 | \$25,142.78 |
| Voting Processes | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Voter Registration Systems | \$65,937.60 | \$3,470.40 |
| Election Auditing | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Cyber and Physical Security | \$268,555.33 | \$14,134.49 |
| Voter Education | \$50,496.14 | \$2,657.69 |
| Accessibility | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Other | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL | \$862,701.98 | \$45,405.36 |

Section V: Final Assessment

The final progress report is your opportunity to share the significant successes of your project and present information about the results your project achieved. The report should cover the entire period of performance.

15. Self-Assessment - Assess whether the goals set out in your State plan/Narrative were met as intended during the grant program. Highlight any needs that were not met or ongoing/under resourced areas for future consideration.

16. Impact and Achievements - Describe how this grant program impacted elections in your state/territory. Highlight your accomplishments and successes.

17. Lessons Learned - Describe any lessons learned during the grant that may be replicated, expanded and/or help others.

Section VI: Certification

18. Name and Contact of the authorized certifying official.

| | |
|--|--|
| First and Last Name Sharon1651724 Forrest | Title N/A |
| Phone Number | Email Address sharon.forrest@alaska.gov |

19. Signature of Certifying Official
