

Election Official as an IT Manager

ELECTION SECURITY



Agenda

- Elections Professional Overview
- Election Official as IT* Manager
- Attributes of an Election Official
- Resources
- Q & A

*IT = Information Technology



Election Official Core Competencies

- Every profession, including election officials, expects and requires a measure of professionalism from its members
- Professionalism includes attainment of certain competencies, certification of attainment, an expectation of ethical behavior, commitment to enhancing the profession and its body of knowledge, and...
- Demonstration of the Core Competencies and Attributes required of the profession



Election Official Core Competencies (continued)

- “Lawyer”
- “Human Resources Specialist”
- “Communications Officer”
- “Accountant”
- “Auditor”
- “Trainer”
- “IT Manager”



Election IT Infrastructure

- Election Management Systems (EMS)
- Voting Systems (VS)
- Voter Registration Systems
- Electronic Pollbooks
- Servers/Workstations/Clients
- Networks (Hardwired and Wireless)
- Wireless Hotspots
- Software versions
- Websites
- Printers
- Smartphones
- Tablets
- Copiers
- Fax Machines
- Phone Systems
- GIS interfaces
- Vendors
- Contracts



Election Administrator as IT Manager

- Election Officials must function as complex IT systems managers
- Familiarize with all aspects of IT
- Understanding IT Governance is key



Knowledge

- Sufficient knowledge helps making informed decisions
- Knowledge of Fundamental IT technology
- Knowledge of how IT supports Election Administration
- Knowledge of election technologies, both internal and external to the election jurisdiction



Skills

- Able to recruit, select, supervise IT staff
- Able to evaluate IT alternatives and justify selections
- Able to integrate IT planning into overall election planning
- Able to communicate effectively with IT vendors and participate in decision making processes



Skills (continued)

- Able to review IT RFP* and contracts, ask meaningful questions and make informed decisions
- Able to use and/or direct the use of IT within the scope of the elections office
- Able to communicate the role of IT within the elections office to county IT staff, supervisory boards and the media

*RFP=request for proposal



5 things you could do right now

1. Ensure that all aspects of voting system (VS, EMS, Ballot Creation) are not connected to internet and have air gaps
2. Audit your systems, data, processes & procedures
 - Pre-election testing, post-election auditing, chain-of-custody, access controls, physical security
 - Do what election officials do...



5 things you could do right now (continued)

3. Assess your data risks & secure them appropriately

4. Develop your Texas Election Security Toolkit

5. Take advantage of all available resources

- Cyber Hygiene scans, phishing campaigns, etc.
- Join EI-ISAC: <https://learn.cisecurity.org/ei-isac-registration>





ELECTION SECURITY BEST PRACTICES
GUIDE & DATA CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

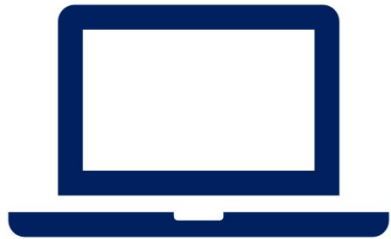


Election Information Security Policy Template	Election Security Incident Response Plan Template	Continuity of Operations Plan Template	Vendor Risk Management Policy Template	Election System Security Plan Template
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WRITTEN INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM (WISP) TEMPLATES



AVAILABLE SUPPORT



WEBINARS



TRAINING



RESOURCES

ELECTION SECURITY TRAINERS
ElectionSecurity@sos.texas.gov





Q&A

