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DEPARTMENT *of* ELECTIONS

Virginia Election Security Updates and Reminders



Election Security Updates

- The threats did not end in 2020 and we are ALL vulnerable
 - Ransomware
 - Privacy
 - Intentional / Unintentional Insider Threats
 - Misinformation / Disinformation
- Threat scope
 - Information Systems
 - Voting Equipment
 - Phones
 - Physical Environment
 - Physical files and paper



Election Security Updates

- Election Security Division Standup
- Election Security Staff/Programs
 - CISO
 - ELECT Information Security Program
 - Locality Security Program
 - Data Privacy Program
- Election Security Partners
 - DHS/CISA/FBI
 - VITA / VA National Guard / VSP / VDEM
 - VA Higher Ed - VT / UVA / VCU / JMU / NSU / GMU / W&M
 - VRSS Advisory Group & VALGITE
 - VML & VaCO



Election Security Updates

- Locality Security Program
 - VRSS Program
 - Advisory Group
 - Compliance (reporting & deadlines)
 - Cyber Navigator
 - About
 - Pilot Program
 - Grant Funding
 - Voting Systems Certification
 - Data Privacy Program
- ELECT Assistance
 - Consulting and guidance
 - Training and templates
 - Response and incident assistance
 - Advocacy



Voting Systems

- All vendors currently supporting Virginia localities are certified to the new standards.
- Localities have to upgrade their voting systems by July 2022.
- The enhanced security requirements are necessary to ensure election integrity (Dod wiping of media, Cast Vote Records and File Encryption).
- Three vendors who supported Virginia localities with EPBs have been certified to the new standards.
- The Cyber Security of the EPBs is critical with the capabilities of VPN and/or Cloud connectivity at satellite locations.



Integra Software - Security Compliance

- Integra is a software application tool designed with general registrars in mind – to offer a one-stop place that assists localities with the various compliance requirements.
- Integra continues to change to provide an easier reporting process for security compliance submissions.
- Cyber security is vital to the security of elections. We must have proactive plans and policies to assist us in securing our offices and our locality technologies.



Privacy

- The Why
- Governance
 - Privacy Policies & Confidentiality Agreements from your locality or your office
- Risk Management
 - Personnel Awareness and Training
 - VERIS - keep the information in the system
- Compliance
 - Encryption - 1 VAC 20-20-20
 - Reporting Incidents
- Data Management
 - Information in Physical Form
 - Masked Information (PII)



What can you do?

- Security is everyone's responsibility
 - Cultural mind-shift (and attack can actually happen to you)
 - Ask questions, learn more
 - Ensure adherence to guidance and compliance items
- Small steps can take us farther than big steps
 - Attention to detail
 - Report suspicious or nefarious activity
 - Share information
 - Stay calm



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Open Discussion



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Thank you

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