2025 Election Verification Network Conference The Constance Milstein and Family Global Academic Center New York University Washington, DC

"Walking the Tightrope: Improving Election Resilience Amidst Tension"

Wednesday, March 26

2:00 pm "Coffee Break" Opening Reception

NYUDC, 1307 L Street, Washington, DC

3:00 pm Welcome and Election Trivia Contest

Kevin Skoglund, Citizens for Better Elections Chair, EVN Coordinating Committee (CoCo)

5:00 pm Happy Hour/Dinner on your own

Thursday, March 27

8:00 am Breakfast/Check-in

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

8:30 am Welcome & Introductions

Abramson Family Auditorium

Kevin Skoglund, Citizens for Better Elections/ Chair EVN CoCo Matt Bernhard, Enhanced Voting, Conference Co-Chair Grace Gordon, The Turnout, Conference Co-Chair

8:45 am **Keynote Address**

Abramson Family Auditorium

Meagan Wolfe, Administrator of the Wisconsin Election Commission 2024 winner of the EVN Public Service for Improved Elections Award

9:45 am CSSE Panel: Collaboration Between Election Officials and Law Enforcement

in the 2024 Election

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: LaTasha Hill, Brennan Center for Justice

Panelists: Tina Barton, The Elections Group; Chance Walkama, Laramie County, Wyoming **Description**: Election Day presented a unique set of challenges, with new threats and heightened pressures on those tasked with ensuring a safe and accessible voting process. The cooperative efforts of law enforcement and election officials, years-long preparation, and coordination across all government levels proved critical in conducting safe and secure elections. The session will consist of a panel of CSSE members to discuss how CSSE helped election officials and law enforcement coordinate and prepare for the 2024 election through tabletop exercises that included unknown substances, swatting, threats and intimidation, and AI and cybersecurity

scenarios.

10:30 am Break

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

10:45 am

Training Students as Cyber Navigators to Bolster Election Security in Virginia Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: David Levine, University of Maryland's Center for Democracy & Civic Engagement and George Mason University

Panelists: Massimiliano Albanese, George Mason University; Karen Hoyt-Stewart, University of Virginia; Duong Nguyen, George Mason University; Susan Reed, City of Manassas VA

Description: This panel will explore the success and impact of the Virginia Cybernavigator Internship Program (VA-CNIP), which has demonstrated innovative ways to enhance election security while addressing workforce challenges in election administration. The program has supported responsible and effective governance by helping local election officials meet rigorous security standards, identifying weaknesses in election systems, and implementing measures to mitigate risks. By leveraging college students with cyber expertise, VA-CNIP has proven to be a cost-effective model that not only bolsters election security but also fosters trust in the electoral process.

11:45 am

Lightning Talk # 1- Pursuing Effective Election Audits to Confirm Outcomes and Build Trust

Abramson Family Auditorium

Presenter: Susan Greenhalgh, Free Speech for People

Description: The presentation will be based on a paper currently in process that examines which elements of a post-election audit are necessary to provide publicly available evidence to confirm the outcome of an election is correct. The paper and presentation will take a close look at the post-election audits conducted after the 2024 election in the seven closely contested swing states and will examine if the audits conducted after the November election meet, or don't meet, the criteria for effective, trustworthy, meaningful, and reliable audits. Participants will come away with a clearer understanding of the audit process in these states and the strengths and weaknesses of current auditing practices, and what can be done to improve them. The session speaks directly to improving the resiliency of elections.

12:00 pm

Lightning Talk # 2- Do The Results Justify The Process? A New Perspective on Election Audits

Abramson Family Auditorium

Presenter: Genya Coulter, OSET Institute

Description: Despite significant developments in election verification over the past 25 years, such as risk-limiting audits and a move to voter marked paper ballots, public confidence in election outcomes has not always reflected this. Would a focus on auditing election processes give voters more reassurance regarding election outcomes? This panel explores the merits of routine process audits in election administration, while being mindful of the potential for future weaponization.

12:30 pm

Annual EVN Awards Ceremony Abramson Family Auditorium

Doug Kellner, Kellner Herlihy Getty Friedman Law, LLP Chair, EVN Awards Committee

1:15 pm

Annual EVN Awards Luncheon, *sponsored by Verified Voting*Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

2:15 pm Keynote Address: International Perspectives

Abramson Family Auditorium Sarah Cooper, The Carter Center

3:15 pm Easier, Cheaper, More Resilient: New Ways that Mathematics Can Help Election Officials
Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Dr. Brad Sturt, University of Illinois, Chicago

Panelists: Dr. Laura Albert, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Dr. Alessandro Arlotto, Duke

University; Prof. David Shmoys, Cornell University

Description: Mathematics has played a central role in making modern elections more secure and trustworthy, with examples including risk-limiting audits, cryptography, and rigorous logic and accuracy testing. This panel will discuss new and innovative ways that mathematics and operations research can help officials use their limited resources to conduct elections that are resilient and trustworthy. Diverse topics will include the security of vote-by-mail, ballot design, and more.

4:00 pm Break- Sponsored by The Turnout

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

4:15 pm The State of Auditing in Georgia

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Will Adler, Bipartisan Policy Center

Panelists; Matt Bernhard, Enhanced Voting; Blake Evans, Georgia State of Elections; Joseph

Kirk, Bartow County, GA

Description: Since 2020, the state of Georgia has deployed multiple auditing techniques during their post-election process. This includes a risk-limiting process that in 2020 escalated to a full hand count, a OCR-based ballot image audit, and in 2024 a pilot transitive ballot comparison audit combining the two. In this panel, participants will discuss the variety of lessons learned by Georgia election administrators about standing up these auditing processes, including why the audit typically examines more ballots than a typical risk-limiting audit would. The panel will also discuss learnings from the new ballot image audit process and what insights it brings into how voting equipment in Georgia works, as well as what parts of both processes can be improved going forward.

Friday, March 28

8:00 am Breakfast/Check-in

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

8:40 am Welcome & Introductions

Abramson Family Auditorium

Kevin Skoglund, Citizens for Better Elections, Chair, EVN Coordinating Committee (CoCo)

Matt Bernhard, Enhanced Voting, EVN Conference Co-Chair Grace Gordon, The Turnout, EVN Conference Co-Chair

8:45 am **Keynote Address**

Abramson Family Auditorium

Cathy Darling Allen, former Shasta County Registrar of Voters

9:45 am Effective Advocacy

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Pam Smith, Verified Voting

Panelists: Susannah Goodman, Common Cause; Gowri Ramachandran, Brennan Center for

Justice

Description: This panel will examine efforts to improve election practices over the past few decades, focusing on lessons learned and highlighting new areas for advocacy going forward. Key topics include moving virtually every jurisdiction in the U.S. to paper ballots prior to 2020, the expanded populatory of post-election tabulation audits, and the key takeaways from

advocates for how these policy goals were accomplished.

10:30 am Break

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

10:45 am Effective Technical Advocacy

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Dr. Audrey Malagon, Mathematical Association of America

Panelists: C.Jay Coles, Verified Voting; Dr. Stephanie Singer, Campaign Scientific

Description: Panelists will share details of specific cases where technical advocacy helped advance election security. They'll also share what they've learned about advocating around technical topics, like election audits, including effective communication strategies and lessons

learned.

11:45 am Verifying Non-Voting Election Technology

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Mike Garcia, Center for Internet Security

Panelists: Saige Draeger, Verified Voting; Brian Glas, Cloud Security Partners; Aaron Wilson,

Enhanced Voting

Description: Non-voting election technologies (electronic poll books, voter registration systems, election night reporting solutions) are fundamental to public administration of elections in the U.S. This panel discusses the RABET-V model for verifying non-voting election technology from the perspectives of the program administrators, assessors, and technology providers who have piloted and gone through the program. The panel will cover how the program works, what products are covered, what standards it uses, and what election officials and advocates can do to support the broad adoption of RABET-V.

12:30 pm

Lunch

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby and Pearlstein Family Grand Foyer

1:30 pm

Building Resilient Elections: Frontline Poll Worker Security, Voter Access, Policy, and Data-Driven Solutions

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Dr. Natalie M. Scala, Towson University, College of Business & Economics and Center for Interdisciplinary and Innovative Cybersecurity

Panelists: David Garreis, Anne Arundel County Board of Elections; Daniel Griffith, Secure Democracy Foundation; Dr. Lia Merivaki, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University

Description: The goal of this panel is to draw from academic / practitioner partnerships to apply data-driven and research-driven insights into the election administration process. We will highlight two partnerships: (1) Towson University's Empowering Secure Elections Lab (TU ESE) and the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections 5-year long partnership, and (2) the newly formed McCourt School of Public Policy partnership with the nonpartisan, nonprofit organization Secure Democracy Foundation. The academic / governmental partnership between TU ESE and Anne Arundel County has led to actionable impacts to improve polling place security and reduce insider risk associated with poll workers. Current work in the partnership involves understanding voter experience in the county with an early investigation on how to improve voter access, participation, and engagement in elections. The McCourt School partnership with Secure Democracy focuses connecting election officials with academics to research and improve election resilence.

2:30 pm

Accessibility and UOCAVA Voting

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Rachel Wright, Council of State Governments

Panelist: Grace Bannasch, Shutesbury, MA; Josh Benaloh, Microsoft Research

Description: The Military and overseas voting population face a lot of the same challenges of accessing the ballot that the Disability community does. Often, solutions that would benefit one of these communities would benefit the other. This panel will talk about ways to improve access for both communities, encourage collaboration in improving access for voters in these communities, and address the security risks and challenges inherent to expanded access.

3:30 pm

Accessibility and AI

Abramson Family Auditorium

Moderator: Abdiaziz Ahmed, The Brennan Center for Justice

Panelists: William Gates, Director of ASU Mechanics Democracy Laboratory & former Maricopa County Supervisor; Katie Harbath, Duco Experts

Description: This panel will explore the transformative potential of AI in breaking down barriers to voter participation, particularly for underserved groups. Panelists will share practical examples of AI-driven accessibility tools, lessons learned from implementation efforts, and strategies for balancing innovation with equity. The discussion will also examine how election officials, advocates, and technologists can collaborate to ensure AI benefits all voters equitably and responsibly.

4:30 pm

Closing Toast

Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Lobby

This conference is sponsored in part by
Brennan Center for Justice, Enhanced Voting, OSET Institute, The Turnout & Verified Voting