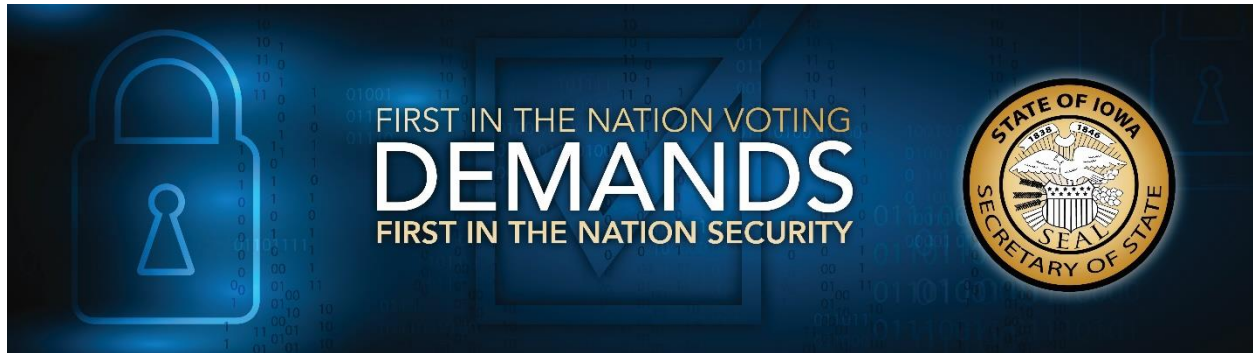# NASS IDEAS Award Application - 2019
State of Iowa

State Office: Iowa Secretary of State Paul D. Pate

Contact: Kevin Hall, Communications Director, Office of Iowa Secretary of State; (515)725-2942, kevin.hall@sos.iowa.gov

Title of Program: Partnerships Pay Dividends: A Roadmap to Election Cybersecurity

Project lead: Michael Ross, Chief of Staff; Eric Gookin, Director of Operations

Description of the program: Protecting the integrity and security of a state's elections requires a massive team effort. Cybersecurity is one of the biggest issues election administrators face. Knowing that a team is only as strong as its weakest link, Secretary Pate set out to formulate cybersecurity partnerships with all 99 counties in Iowa and a variety of state and federal entities to ensure the sanctity of the vote. In the end, these groups came together to create a human and technological firewall to protect Iowa's elections. This four-year journey resulted in a roadmap that every state in the country can follow.

Subject area of nomination: Elections

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HISTORY

Upon returning to the Iowa Secretary of State's Office in January 2015, Secretary Paul Pate's primary goal was to ensure the security and integrity of Iowa's elections. Every four years, all eyes are on the Hawkeye State because we hold the first-in-the-nation Iowa Caucus. First-in-the-Nation voting demands first-in-the-nation security. This can only be achieved through a team effort.

The "Partnerships Pay Dividends" project is about the Iowa Secretary of State bringing together county election commissioners and IT personnel, state and federal agencies, and private vendors for one common goal: protecting the integrity of Iowa's elections with top-notch cybersecurity at every level.

There are four primary areas the Secretary of State needed to focus on: Outreach to the Counties, Internal Fortification, Partnering with Other Entities, and Boosting Voter Confidence.

Securing the statewide voter registration system in every county is vital to this cybersecurity initiative, but also the most challenging. Each county in Iowa is on a different network, with different infrastructures and designs. About half of the counties have dedicated IT staff, about a quarter use an outside IT vendor and the remaining counties have neither. This required more than a one-size-fits-all approach to improving the overall cybersecurity of Iowa's elections.

The Secretary and staff met with a variety of agencies to discuss potential roles and capabilities each could bring to the table. However, only one agency had the expertise and resources at the ready to solve the potential cybersecurity vulnerabilities in our counties: Iowa's Office of Chief Information Officer's Information Security Division (OCIO-ISD), with Jeff Franklin at its helm as CISO.

OCIO-ISD for some time had been onboarding counties into their suite of cyber services at no cost to the counties. They offered several security options, ranging from training and malware detection to intrusion detection systems. They were having moderate success in the process but were slow to gain traction.

The partnership of the Secretary of State (SOS) and OCIO-ISD cannot be understated. The sustained advocacy from Secretary Pate lent substantial credence to the OCIO-ISD's cyber initiative. The increased knowledge of cyber threats gave urgency to implement cyber services in all counties in advance of the 2018 elections.

Starting in January 2015, Secretary Pate encouraged the counties to have all elections staff undergo "Securing the Human" cybersecurity training. This training is vital for the "human firewall" component of cybersecurity. One error by an elections staffer in any county could have a dramatic impact statewide. The effort to build a human firewall in all 99 counties grew more vital as the threat of interference in U.S. elections intensified. By June 2018, 93 counties had completed or were registered for "Securing the Human" training.

At the same time, only five counties were covered by OCIO's Intrusion Detection Systems and only 25 utilized OCIO's FireEye HX cyber-threat protection. While this was an improvement from where the project started, there was still a long way to go.

The OCIO and SOS made a concerted effort to conduct seminars and cybersecurity training for county election commissioners and staff. To engage counties, OCIO was on hand at several conferences to answer questions and register counties for free services.

Partnering with the Iowa Counties Information Technology organization was also vital. In August 2018, county election commissioners, IT personnel and homeland security managers were invited to participate in cybersecurity exercises called "Table Top the Vote", conducted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. In September, Secretary Pate's staff and OCIO contributed articles to the Iowa County magazine, encouraging participation in OCIO's cyber services.

In September 2018, the Secretary of State offered to pay conference fees for county election commissioners or staff to attend the National Election Security Summit in St. Louis. More than a dozen counties from Iowa sent personnel. In October 2018, Secretary Pate toured Iowa, visiting with county election commissioners, the public and media to discuss election cyber and physical security.

By Election Day 2018, the sustained push from OCIO and SOS yielded impressive results (**see the Results/Impact section**).
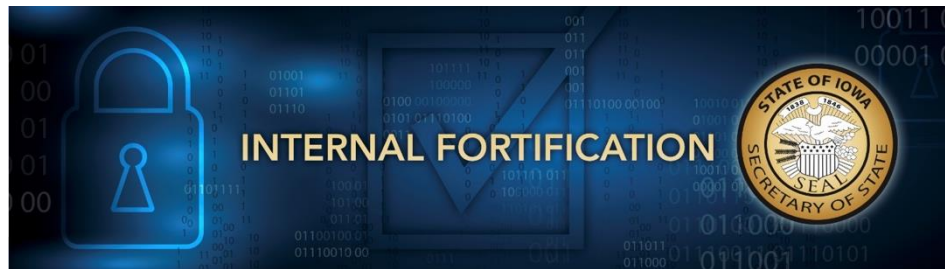
Securing a state's elections requires a thorough examination of the state's internal systems. In Iowa, we quickly learned upgrades were necessary. One of Secretary Pate's first projects was requiring all staff to undergo the OCIO's "Securing the Human" cybersecurity training on an annual basis. Later that year, we conducted a comprehensive review of our Information Technology (IT) infrastructure, including an exploration of the functionality and costs of a revised elections and voter registration system, IVoters.

Through proactive system management the OCIO, their Security Operations Center (SOC) and the Secretary of State reduced internal cybersecurity risk scores by 90 percent. In October 2016, SOS became the first State of Iowa office to engage in an independent IT analysis from the OCIO. This study identified areas of strength and opportunity for the office's IT operation and set a foundation for IT operational improvements. On Election Day, November 8, 2016, the SOS and OCIO-SOC jointly monitored systems into the early morning hours for intrusion detection and denial-of-service attacks.

In 2017, the decision was made to partner with our IVoters vendor, Arikkan, Inc. to move the statewide voter registration system to a new, privately-hosted, Criminal Justice Information Service (CJIS) compliant data center. This move transferred the system to new hardware, which offered many improvements, including next-generation intrusion detection systems. Programming changes were made for more secure access, and stronger defenses were put in place to protect personal identifiable information.

In April 2018, Secretary Pate invited the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to conduct a risk and vulnerability assessment on SOS systems. DHS continues to scan our systems on a weekly basis. Two-factor authentication for access to IVoters was put in place to add an additional layer of protection for a database with approximately 500 users.

All SOS staff were required to undergo security risk training provided by DHS and the FBI. On November 6, 2018, staff from the Secretary of State and several other entities monitored Election Day activities from the State Emergency Operations Center to ensure a smooth process throughout the state.

Iowa's OCIO has been a key partner throughout this four-year journey to ensure the cybersecurity of the state's elections systems and that of all 99 counties. However, there are numerous other entities SOS partnered with to ensure first-in-the-nation security.

Agencies that played huge roles securing Iowa's elections include the OCIO, ICIT, DHS, FBI, Iowa National Guard, Iowa Homeland Security / Emergency Management Department and the Iowa Governor's Office.

Implementation of online voter registration in Iowa by Secretary Pate required placing a heavy focus on cybersecurity protections. The Iowa Department of Transportation was a strong partner throughout implementation and remains a key ally in the online voter registration program.

Prior to 2016, it was not uncommon for Secretaries of State to express concern about DHS's involvement in elections. However, following the 2016 Presidential Election, DHS has become a valuable partner and provided key insight and assistance in securing Iowa's elections. DHS has partnered with the SOS numerous times for workshops and seminars, conducted risk and vulnerability assessments and weekly scans, and provided free cybersecurity resources to Iowa, including an Albert Sensor.

In July 2018, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security unveiled "The Last Mile" project to elections officials from across the country at an EIS-GCC meeting in Philadelphia. DHS and the Iowa Secretary of State's Office joined forces to create cybersecurity snapshot posters that could be customized for each of Iowa's 99 counties. The posters immediately drew attention from those in attendance and became a model for the nation.

Secretary Pate decided to assemble an 'A-Team' of cybersecurity experts from various entities to help secure Iowa's elections. On May 4, 2018, he announced the Elections Cybersecurity Working Group, made up of a variety of state and federal partners. This group helped identify strengths and weaknesses to improve election security statewide. These entities also provide valuable insight from areas outside of the elections arena to help the SOS implement best practices.
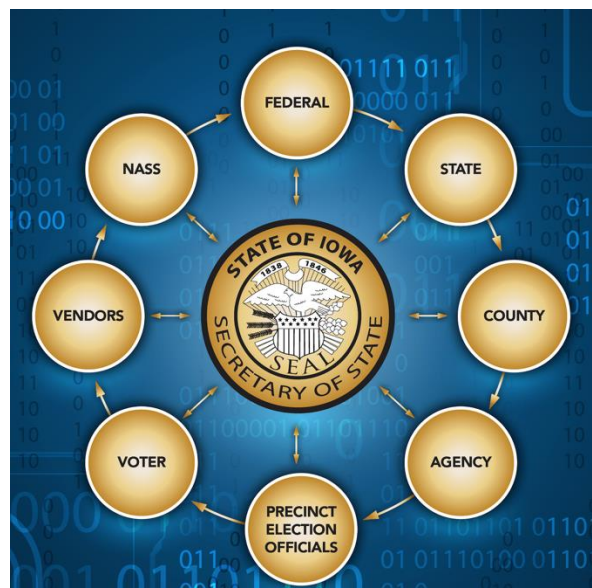
Suggestions from the Cybersecurity Working Group that have been implemented include mandatory two-factor authentication for access to the statewide voter registration system, mandatory "Securing the Human" training, and encryption of electronic poll books and data transfers.

Two top DHS officials, Matt Masterson and Chris Krebs, joined Secretary Pate multiple times in 2018 for media availabilities and outreach to counties. Masterson also visited Iowa in 2017 when he was chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC), to assist Secretary Pate with cybersecurity-related outreach to the counties. The SOS also worked with EAC to create the "Election Security in Iowa" animated video.

Another key ally for election cybersecurity has been the Iowa National Guard. Major General Timothy Orr is one of the National Guard's top cyber officials in the nation. Along with participating in the Elections Cybersecurity Working Group, the Iowa National Guard brought several county, state and federal agencies together to conduct "Stable Suffrage" exercises at their Joint Forces Headquarters. Guard members took attendees through a variety of scenarios to help everyone prepare for issues that could arise on Election Day. They also joined Secretary Pate and other agencies for a news conference on election security shortly before Election Day and assisted with monitoring activities from the State Emergency Operations Center.

By early 2017, cybersecurity became a key issue for election officials nationwide and the general public. Communicating to Iowans that their vote is secure and will be counted is vital.

Fair elections are the cornerstone of our constitutional republic. The erosion of public confidence in our elections due to foreign interference would be disastrous. Therefore, clear and consistent communication to the voters about the steps we are taking is necessary. This was done through outreach, personal interaction, social media and traditional media.

Throughout the process of securing the election, Secretary Pate conducted media availabilities to inform the public. When Matt Masterson visited, Secretary Pate announced his Cybersecurity Working Group with a news conference. On primary election day, when DHS official Chris Krebs visited Iowa, another media availability was conducted to announce the dedication of resources to all 99 counties to ensure the security and integrity of Iowa's elections.

Secretary Pate collaborated with EAC to create the "Election Security in Iowa" animated video. The video details the numerous steps Iowa election officials, primarily at the county and precinct level, take to protect the integrity of the vote and the physical security of ballots and equipment. The goal is to bolster public confidence in Iowa's elections. The video was shared and boosted on social media.

The DHS' cybersecurity snapshot posters were designed not just for county election commissioners and election officials, but also to inform the public of the steps election officials are taking. On October 1, Secretary Pate joined OCIO and Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds for a Cybersecurity Awareness Month ceremony in the State Capitol. The entities share valuable cybersecurity information with the public throughout the month.

Throughout October, Secretary Pate spent extensive time meeting with county election commissioners across the state and spreading the message through media availabilities that Iowa's elections are secure.

Precinct election officials were invited to participate in discussions as well. The SOS visited county courthouses, newspaper offices, radio stations, TV stations and more to spread the message that "Your Vote Counts".

One week before Election Day, Secretary Pate, DHS, OCIO, Iowa National Guard, and Iowa Department of Public Safety partnered for a news conference to reassure Iowans that their vote is safe and to discuss protections they have put in place to ensure election integrity. The message was relayed in numerous media reports statewide.

SIGNIFICANCE

Clean and fair elections are the cornerstone of America's form of government. If our elections are tainted in any way, Americans will begin to lose faith in the process. That could ultimately cause a catastrophic collapse of our constitutional republic. There is no greater task for election officials than ensuring the integrity of the vote. It is the most important job for every Commissioner of Elections in the country.

IMPACT/RESULTS

Ensuring the cybersecurity of a statewide elections process is a mission far too great for one person to handle. Iowa has 99 counties and 99 different county commissioners of elections. Only half of them have dedicated IT staff. Around 25 percent use an outside vendor and the remaining 25 percent have neither.

Further complicating the issue, all 99 counties are on different cyber networks, separate from the state's, with different infrastructures and designs. There was no simple, one-size-fits-all solution to improving the overall cybersecurity posture for Iowa's elections. It required a concerted effort from the SOS and OCIO, with reinforcement from EAC, DHS and many others about the absolute necessity to ensure the whole state is covered. One small mistake can create havoc across the system and have a disastrous impact on elections statewide, and even across the country.

As of June 2018, only five counties were using the Intrusion Detection System (IDS) services provided by OCIO and only 25 were using OCIO's Malware Detection (HX).

Today, the situation is noticeably different:
- All 99 counties are utilizing cybersecurity training by OCIO.
- 80 counties are being monitored by the OCIO Security Operations Center and have either intrusion or malware detection or both.
- 66 Counties are using IDS, an increase of 61 since June. An additional 23 are in progress.
- 66 counties are using HX, an increase of 31 since June. An additional 25 are in progress.
- 50 counties are covered by OCIO's Enterprise Vulnerability Management.

The goal is to ensure all 99 counties are protected with cybersecurity and that goal was achieved prior to Election Day 2018 All 99 counties are utilizing at least one program from OCIO, 80 of 99 are using 3 or more services, 8 are using two and 11 are using 1 OCIO program. The cost-savings for Iowa's counties to receive these services free-of-charge from OCIO is substantial. Estimates indicate a statewide savings in 2018 of more than $260,000.
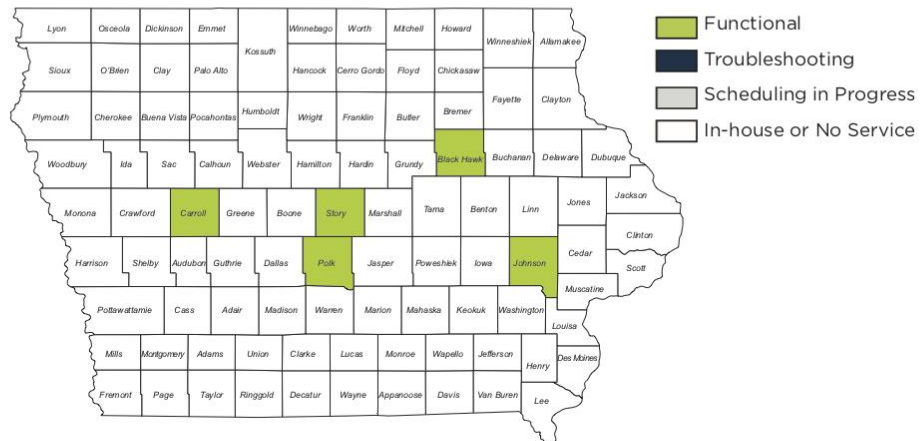
Iowa's 2018 general election sees the highest turnout for a midterm in the state's history. There are no glitches related to cybersecurity. Post-election audits instituted by Secretary Pate confirm the votes are counted accurately. By all measures, it is a monumentally successful election.

Statewide election cybersecurity requires a massive team effort. Secretary Pate assembled the "A-team" to ensure the integrity of Iowa's elections process. These partnerships paid dividends. We now have first-in-the-nation security. This is a model every state can follow.
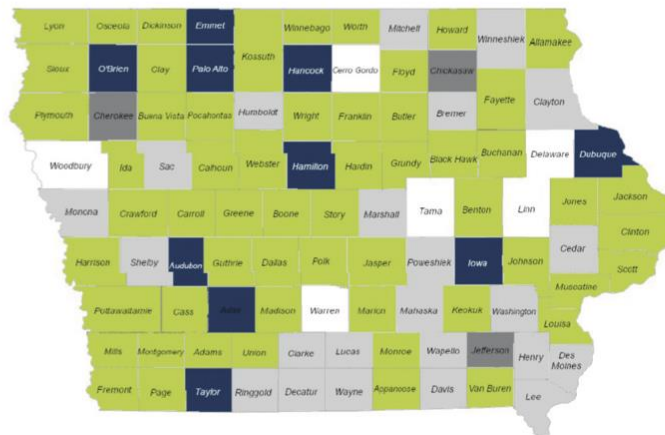
SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Information Security Division
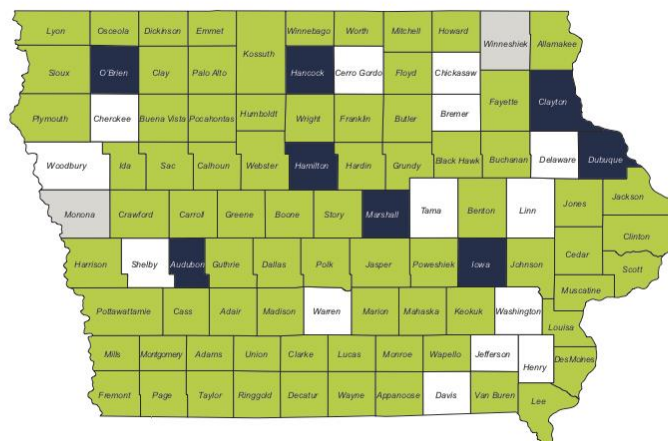## Intrusion Detection System County Partnership
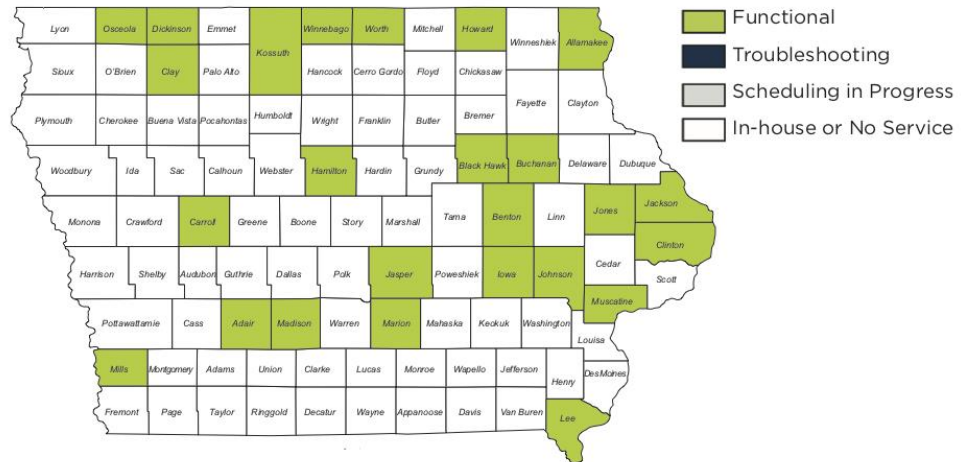

June 2018

October 2018

November 2018

Legend:
- Functional
- Troubleshooting
- Scheduling in Progress
- In-house or No Service

Information Security Division
Malware Detection County Partnership

Legend:
- Functional
- Troubleshooting
- Scheduling in Progress
- In-house or No Service

June 2018

October 2018
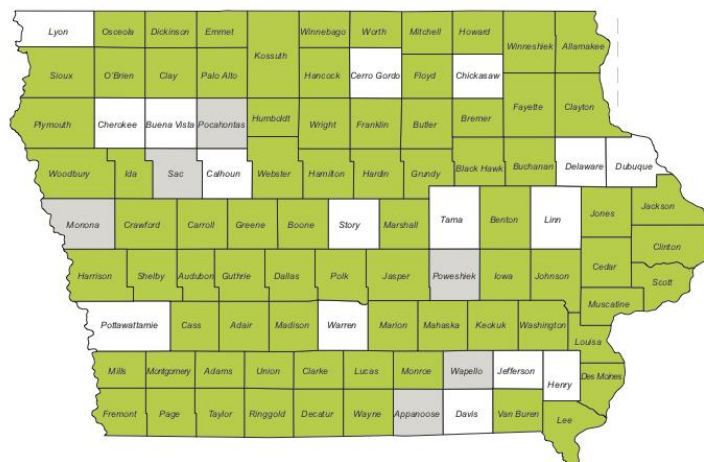
November 2018

Information Security Division
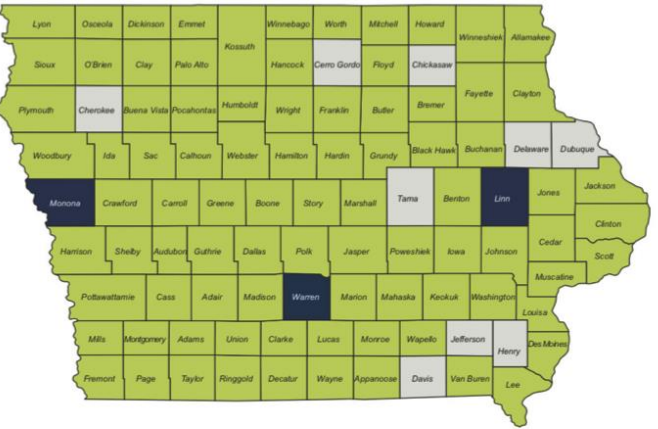# Cybersecurity Services County Partnership

Legend:
- 3+ Services
- 2 Services
- 1 Service
- In-house or No Service

June 2018

October 2018

November 2018

COMPREHENSIVE TIMELINE

Here is a comprehensive timeline of how Secretary Pate secured these partnerships and ensured first-in-the-nation security:

- **January 2015**: One of Secretary Pate's first projects is requiring all staff to undergo "Securing the Human" cybersecurity training on an annual basis. The training is offered by the state's Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). Secretary Pate also begins encouraging all 99 counties to ask their employees that work in elections to do the same.

- **Spring/Summer 2015**: The office conducts a comprehensive review of its Information Technology (IT) infrastructure, including an exploration of the functionality and costs of a revised elections and voter registration system.

- **Fall 2015**: Secretary Pate and staff work with the Iowa Department of Transportation on implementing an online voter registration system for the state. A key focus is ensuring cybersecurity protections are in place.

- **Spring 2016**: Working with the OCIO and their Security Operations Center (SOC), the Secretary of State (SOS) reduces cybersecurity risk scores by 90 percent, thanks to proactive system management.

- **Summer 2016**: The Secretary of State's IT Division and OCIO notice an increase in cyberactivity aimed as its systems. State of Iowa systems are targeted hundreds of thousands of times each day on a normal basis. Leading up to the November 2016 general election, there was a marked increase, especially aimed at the Secretary of State's website.

- **October 2016**: The Secretary of State becomes the first State of Iowa office to engage in an independent IT analysis from the OCIO. This study identifies areas of strength and opportunity for the office's IT operation and sets a foundation for IT operational improvements.

- **November 8, 2016**: Election Day. The SOS and OCIO-SOC jointly monitor systems into the early morning hours of the election for intrusion protection and denial-of-service attacks.

- **December 2016**: Reports from media claim U.S. intelligence agencies believe Russians meddled in U.S. elections, including computer hacking.

- **Early 2017**: Cybersecurity becomes the key issue for election officials nationwide. Secretary Pate makes it a top priority to ensure Iowa's elections infrastructure is protected, from the state level down to the smallest county.

- **Spring 2017**: The Secretary of State and Arikkan, Inc. partner to move the State Voter Registration Database (IVoters) to a new privately-hosted, CIS-compliant data center. This move transfers the system to new hardware which offers many improvements, including next-generation Intrusion Protection Systems. This also eliminates the need to replace the Iowa Secretary of State's current infrastructure, which would have cost more than $1 million.

- **June 21, 2017**: During a U.S. Senate hearing, a DHS official says hackers linked to the Russian government targeted voting systems in up to 21 states.

- **Spring/Summer 2017**: The Secretary of State's Elections Division attends classes and briefings on cybersecurity. Programming changes are made for more secure access to IVoters. Stronger defenses are put in place to protect personal identifiable information in voter records. The Secretary of State's Office implements encryption of data and hard drives for electronic poll books.

- **Summer and Fall 2017**: Secretary Pate and the OCIO join forces in an outreach effort to advocate "Securing the Human" cybersecurity training for all county elections officials and staff across the state.

- **September 22, 2017**: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) notifies several states, including Iowa, that hackers targeted their election infrastructure before Election Day in 2016. Iowa's public website was scanned by Russian hackers, but there was no intrusion.

- **November 2017**: Matt Masterson, then-chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC), assists the Secretary of State with cybersecurity-related outreach to the counties. Masterson visits Iowa to join help conduct "Election Administrators as IT Managers" seminars. Approximately 150 county election commissioners and staff from 50 different counties attend the meetings.

- **March/April 2018**: The Secretary of State's Office lays the groundwork and identifies potential partners for the Election Cybersecurity Working Group, focusing on a variety of state and federal agencies.

- **April 2018**: Secretary Pate welcomes DHS to town to conduct a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment on Iowa's systems.

- **April 9, 2018:** Secretary Pate provides the "Cybersecurity Campaign Playbook" to all candidates, political parties and county election commissioners in Iowa. The playbook was created by the Belfer Center's Defending Digital Democracy Project.

- **May 2018**: Secretary Pate participates in a panel discussion on election security during the State of Iowa's 3rd Annual Cyber Symposium. The symposium is hosted by the Iowa National Guard and enhances the working relationship between SOS and the Guard.

- **May 2018**: The Secretary of State's Office offers "Building a Human Firewall" cybersecurity workshops for county election commissioners and staff. Matt Masterson, now a Senior Cybersecurity Advisor with DHS, conducts one of the sessions, dedicated to cybersecurity from the human perspective. Emphasis for the workshops is on the potential for human error in relation to election cybersecurity.

- **May 4, 2018**: Secretary Pate announces his Elections Cybersecurity Working Group, made up of a variety of state and federal partners. The group helps identify strengths and weaknesses to improve election security statewide. These entities also provide valuable insight from areas outside of the elections arena to help Secretary Pate and his staff implement best practices related to cybersecurity. Suggestions from the Cybersecurity Working Group that are implemented include mandatory two-factor authentication for access to the state's voter registration database, mandatory "Securing the Human Training", and encrypting electronic poll books and data transfers.

- **June 2018**: SOS partners with Iowa counties and the Elections Infrastructure ISAC to pilot the CIS-Election Infrastructure Assessment Tool (EIAT)

- **June 2018**: An Albert Sensor provided by DHS is placed on Iowa's State Voter Registration Database, IVoters.

- **June 5, 2018**: One of DHS' top officials, Chris Krebs, joins Secretary Pate and OCIO in announcing the [dedication of resources for all 99 counties](#) to ensure the security and integrity of Iowa's elections.

- **June 21-22, 2018**: The Secretary of State's Office partners with OCIO, DHS and county IT to offer cybersecurity training to county election commissioners and continue encouragement to sign up for free services from OCIO and DHS. At this point, 93 of 99 counties are registered for "Securing the Human" training, but only 5 of 99 are covered by OCIO's Intrusion Detection Systems and only 25 are using the FireEye HX cyber-threat protection. This is an improvement from where the project started, but still a long way from the goal of securing all 99 counties. SOS and OCIO agree to substantially enhance their outreach efforts.

- **July 2018**: Secretary Pate collaborates with EAC to create the "[Election Security in Iowa](#)" animated video. The video details the numerous steps Iowa election officials, primarily at the county and precinct level, take to protect the integrity of the vote and the physical security of ballots and equipment. The goal is to bolster public confidence in Iowa's elections. The nearly 9,000 precinct election officials around the state are another part of the partnership they play a key role in the security of elections.

- **July 13, 2018**: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security unveils "The Last Mile" project to elections officials from across the country at an EIS-GCC meeting in Philadelphia. DHS and the Iowa Secretary of State's Office joined forces to create [cybersecurity snapshot posters](#) that could be customized for each state. Secretary Pate's Elections Division was working on a county-specific version. The posters immediately draw attention from several Secretaries of State in attendance and become a model for the nation. [ElectionLine notes](#) "many ideas and best practices were shared but there was one idea that had people getting out of their seats to take a closer look and even snap a few photos. What was all the fuss? A poster."

- **July 13, 2018**: The Justice Department announces [indictments against](#) 12 members of the Russian intelligence agency, GRU. The indictment says Iowa was one of the states the alleged hackers targeted. Thanks to the strong partnership built between the Secretary of State and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Secretary Pate learns alleged hackers looked at, but did not breach, an Iowa county's elections website.

- **July-August 2018**: The Secretary of State's Office sponsors booths at statewide Iowa county association meetings to showcase OCIO's cybersecurity services and ensure more counties are protected. These efforts result in several additional counties registering for OCIO's services.

- **August 2018:** "The Last Mile" cybersecurity snapshot posters [are delivered to all 99 counties](#). The posters contain valuable information for auditors, staff and voters, including a checklist and timeline election officials should follow to ensure security of the elections in their county. Iowa's posters become a model DHS follows to utilize with other states.

- **August 2018:** DHS conducts a variety of cybersecurity assessments on the Secretary of State's systems.

- **August 13-15, 2018**: Secretary Pate's staff brings auditors, IT personnel and homeland security managers from numerous counties together to participate in cybersecurity exercises, entitled "Table Top the Vote", conducted by DHS. More counties register for OCIO's cyber-services.

- **August 23, 2018**: Secretary Pate announces nearly 60 percent of Iowa's HAVA funding will be committed to [benefiting Iowa counties](#).

- **September 2018:** Secretary Pate implements two-factor authentication for access to IVoters. This adds an additional layer of protection for a database with approximately 500 users.

- **September 2018**: Secretary Pate's staff and OCIO contribute articles to the September edition of the Iowa County magazine, encouraging participation in the OCIO's cyber-services. The numbers of counties registering to use OCIO's cyber-protections continues to grow.

- **September 10-11, 2018**: Secretary of State's Office offers to pay conference fees for county election commissioners or a staff member to attend the National Election Security Summit in St. Louis. More than a dozen counties from Iowa send personnel.

- **October 1, 2018**: Secretary Pate joins OCIO and Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds for a Cybersecurity Awareness Month ceremony in the State Capitol. The entities share valuable cybersecurity information with the public throughout the month.

- **October 2018**: All SOS staff undergo security risk training provided by DHS and the FBI.

- **October-November**: Secretary Pate spends extensive time visiting county election commissioners across the state and spreading the message through media availabilities that Iowa's elections are secure.

- **October-November**: SOS, DHS and the Iowa Department of Public Safety stand up an Iowa-specific Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) room to identify and track issues through Election Day.

- **October 15, 2018**: The Iowa National Guard brings several county, state and federal agencies together, at the behest of Secretary Pate, to conduct "Stable Suffrage" exercises at their Joint Forces Headquarters. Guard members take attendees through a variety of scenarios to help everyone prepare for issues that could arise on Election Day.

- **October 29, 2018**: Secretary Pate, DHS, OCIO, Iowa National Guard, and Iowa Department of Public Safety partner for a news conference one week before Election Day to reassure Iowans that their vote is safe and to discuss protections they have put in place to ensure election integrity.

- **November 2018**: Secretary Pate mandates all elections staff statewide undergo OCIO's "Securing the Human" cybersecurity training.

- **November 5, 2018**: Election Day Eve. OCIO reports to SOS that all 99 counties are utilizing at least one of OCIO's cyber security programs, 80 are using 3 or more OCIO cybersecurity services, 8 are using two services, and 11 are using 1. An additional 25 counties are in the process of adding cyber-protections from OCIO.

- **November 6, 2018**: Election Day in Iowa. Staff from the Secretary of State, OCIO, Iowa Counties Information Technology (ICIT), the Iowa Department of Homeland Security, DHS, FBI, Iowa National Guard and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management monitor activities from the State Emergency Operations Center to ensure a smooth process throughout the state and to be prepared to act in any situation.

MEDIA CLIPS

KIMT-TV in Mason City: [Cerro Gordo County working with Secretary of State's Office to secure voter information](#)

KCRG-TV: [IA Sec. of State's office releases election security video](#)

KWQC-TV: [Iowa Secretary of State details election security measures in new video](#)

Cedar Rapids Gazette: [Video shows Iowa election security measures; 5-minute clip shows behind-the-scenes measures, Pate says](#)

Election Line: [The last mile; DHS partners with states on cybersecurity poster project](#)

KIMT-TV in Mason City: [Iowa first in the nation to use election cybersecurity posters](#)

Oskaloosa News: [Pate and Brown speak about secure elections](#)

KTIV-TV in Sioux City: [Iowa officials address voting security as election nears](#)

KCAU-TV in Sioux City: [Secretary of State discusses election security](#)

Spencer Daily Reporter: [Pate highlights election security, transparency](#)

GovTech: Iowa Secretary of State: [Election Systems are Secure](#)

Le Mars Daily Sentinel: [County visit talks election security](#)

KCCI-TV in Des Moines: [State leaders promise secure voting ahead of midterm elections](#)

WOI-TV in Des Moines: [Iowa Secretary of State: Election ballots are secure](#)

KCRG-TV in Cedar Rapids: [State leaders promise secure voting ahead of midterm elections](#)

KIMT-TV in Mason City: [Iowa using new security measure for November election](#)

Radio Iowa: [Secretary of State addresses ballot security](#)

Mason City Globe Gazette: [Iowa's shield against election cyberattacks: paper ballots](#)

Newton Daily News: [Iowa implements new ballot security measure for November](#)

Storm Lake Times: [Pate touts secure upcoming election](#)

KIWA Radio in Sheldon: [Iowa Secretary of State addresses cyber security concerns](#)

N'West Iowa.com: [Pate confident in Iowa's election security](#)

Dickinson County News: [Pate tours to calm fears of election meddling](#)

Caffeinated Thoughts: [Iowa's election security measures explained in new video](#)

KCCI-TV: [KCCI investigates: Is your vote safe on Election Day?; Despite threat of computer hacking, Iowa election officials reassure voters their vote is safe](#)

KMA Radio in Shenandoah: Pate: Safeguards in place to prevent vote tampering

Mount Pleasant News: Iowa's shield against cyberattacks: paper ballots; State says it has 'A-team' in place to protect from interference

Dallas County News: Secretary Pate, U.S. Homeland Security reassure Iowans: Your vote is safe

Marshalltown Times-Republican: Iowa implements new ballot security measure for November

Lamoni Chronicle: Secretary Pate, U.S. Homeland Security reassure Iowans: Your Vote is Safe

Omaha World Herald: Nebraska, Iowa work to shore up election security, public's confidence

WOI-TV: Iowa Sec. of State: Don't be influenced by Russian hackers

KCRG-TV: Iowa Sec. of State: State voting systems safe from cyberattacks

Corridor Business Journal: Pate arming candidates, auditors with cybersecurity playbook

Iowa Public Radio: Secretary of State launches cybersecurity partnership

KCRG-TV: Iowa secretary of state announces cybersecurity plan

KGAN-TV: Iowa Secretary of State announces initiative to safeguard voting system

Des Moines Business Record: Secretary of State announces Cybersecurity Working Group

WKBT-TV: Cybersecurity group announces to protect Iowa elections

Government Technology: http://www.govtech.com/security/Iowa-Secretary-of-State-Launches-Voting-Cybersecurity-Working-Group.html

Osceola Sentinel Tribune: Secretary Pate protects Iowa's elections system, creates unprecedented partnerships with Cybersecurity Working Group

Ft. Dodge Messenger: Cybersecurity group will help protect Iowa elections

Cedar Rapids Gazette: Iowa takes new steps to protect voting; More anti-cyberattack resources offered to counties

Mount Pleasant News: Iowa takes new steps to protect voting

Oelwein Daily Register: Secretary Pate, Dept. of Homeland Security dedicating new resources to protect security of Iowa's elections

KCAU-TV in Sioux City: State officials working to make election safe from cybersecurity risks

WOI-TV in Des Moines : County election commissioners meet to learn about cybersecurity resources

Cedar Rapids Gazette: Pate joins election security summit

KCRG-TV in Cedar Rapids: Secretary Pate joins National Election Security Summit

Cedar Rapids Gazette: Iowa officials build a 'human firewall'

Cedar Rapids Gazette: Summit to focus on election security; Pate among group of state officials hosting meeting in September

Spencer Daily Reporter: National cybersecurity initiatives mean more resources locally

Des Moines Business Record: Secretary of State opens voluntary cybersecurity assessment to county election commissioners

Anita Tribune: IA Secretary of State's innovative cybersecurity poster draws natl acclaim

Decorah Public Opinion: Paul Pate: Russians haven't hacked Iowa

Independence News/Buchanan County Review: Secretary Pate reappointed to national election cybersecurity committee

Marshalltown Times-Republican: Iowa Secretary of State's innovative cybersecurity poster draws national acclaim

Waterloo Courier: Iowa receives $4.6m for election security

Quad City Times: Iowa lands $4.6M for improvements to voting, election security

Radio Iowa: Iowa gets federal 'Help America Vote Act' grant

Mount Pleasant News: Iowa adds technology to detect Russian election hacking attempts

Washington Evening Journal: Iowa adds tech to detect Russian election hacking

KCCI-TV in Des Moines: 5pm story: New federal funds will make voting safer for Iowans

Cedar Valley Times: Plan for cybersecurity announce for election

KWWL-TV in Waterloo: State adds additional measures for cyber security

Newton Daily News: Iowa Secretary of State's office upgrades election cybersecurity; Secretary Pate to visit Newton

St. Louis Public Radio: Election officials work to protect against hacking, and bolster voter confidence

Lamoni Chronicle: Secretary Pate announces election cybersecurity plans for 2018 and beyond

WOI-TV in Des Moines: Governor, Secretary of State stress safety online

KNIA/KRLS Radio: Iowa Secretary of State believes cyber elections systems safe

Des Moines Business Record: Governor, secretary of state to participate in Cybersecurity Awareness Month

C-SPAN: Iowa Secretary of State on voting and election security

Raccoon Valley Radio: [Iowa Secretary of State Pate visits Adel Monday to discuss cybersecurity for election](#)

KIMT-TV in Mason City: [Iowa Sec. of State Paul D. Pate stops in Mason City to discuss election security](#)
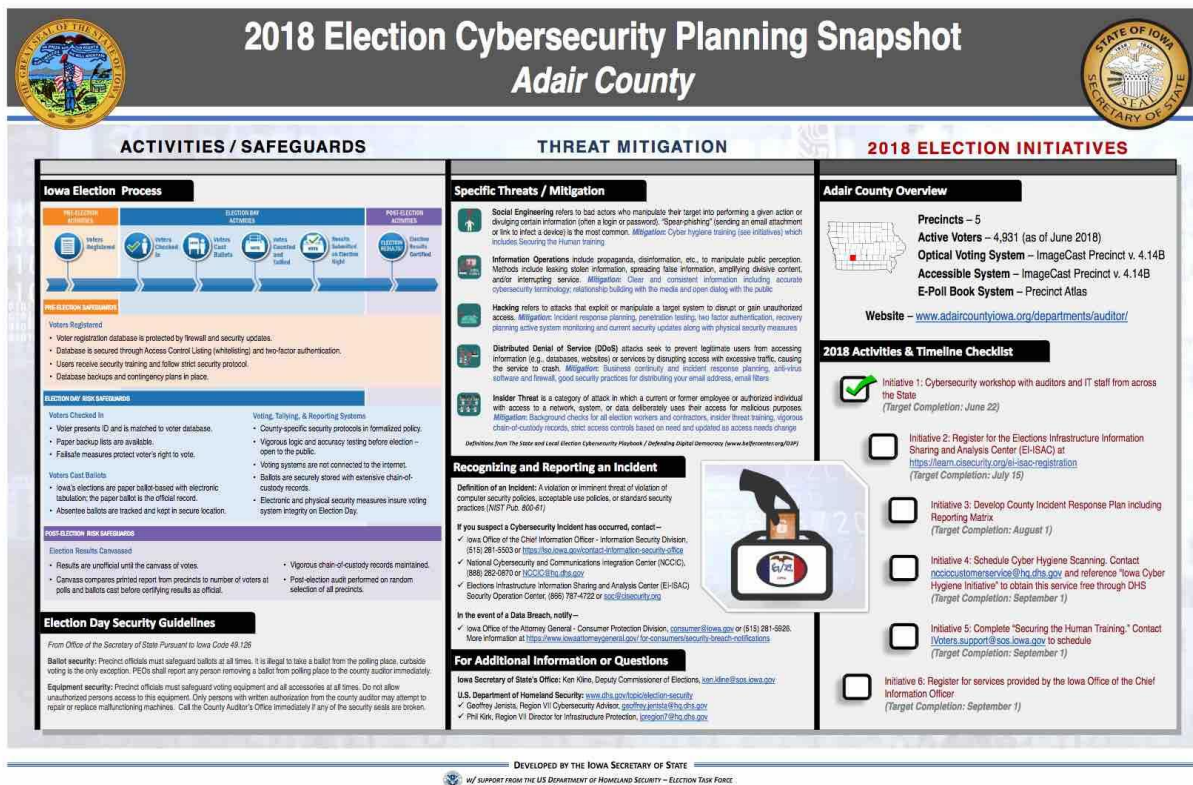
Marshalltown Times-Republican: [Sec. of State says Iowa elections are transparent in Marshalltown stop](#)

Cedar Rapids Gazette: [Iowa adds technology to detect Russian election hacking attempts](#)

Newton Daily News: [Secretary of State's innovative cybersecurity poster draws national acclaim; Posters to be distributed in Jasper County, statewide](#)

Other Supporting Materials

The Last Mile Project: Election Cybersecurity Snapshot Poster

Election Security in Iowa video: https://youtu.be/tIg07_z8Gtk