Ready for Anything:
Threat-Agnostic Security Navigator
Support to Local Election Officials

Bill Ekblad
Election Security Navigator
MN OSS Election Security Navigator Program

A brief history: (...now in our 5th year!)

• 2020: All about Cyber Security
• 2022: Let’s add Physical Security, (+ Mis/Dis/Mal-Information)
• 2024: ? (AI? Election Interference? Others?)
Our Approach

• Collaboration: our “secret weapon”!
  • Share situational awareness (up, down, sideways)
    • Stay connected
    • “See Something / Say Something”
  • Leverage all available resources for accurate information
    • Federal / State / Academia / Non-profit / Vendor

• Encourage voters to seek out trusted sources
  • Elections officials (State / local)

“...we must prepare for everything.”
  - Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, Aug. 24, 2014

State-level Focus Areas:
  • Protecting state-wide systems (voter registration, results reporting, etc.)
  • Resource awareness and assistance
  • Grant funds
MN OSS Role in Elections Security

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
How We Do It

Virtual (Microsoft Teams):

Tabletop Exercises:

In-Person:
“So we must prepare for everything. And the only way you do that is you take a cold, steely, hard look at it and get ready.”

Chuck Hagel
U.S. Secretary of Defense
24 August, 2014