



FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS

PO Box 350 | Tallahassee, FL 32302 | Telephone: (850) 599-9120

Executive Committee
2019 - 2020

President
Tammy Jones

President-Elect
Craig Latimer

Vice-President
Wesley Wilcox

Secretary
Mark Earley

Treasurer
Ron Turner

Past President
Paul Lux

Board Of Directors
2019 - 2020

David Stafford
Mark Andersen
Tommy Hardee
Charles Overturf
Kaiti Lenhart
Lori Scott
Shirley Anderson
Mark Negley
Diane Hagan
Brenda Hoots

General Counsel

Ronald Labasky, Esq.

May 30, 2019

Governor Ron DeSantis
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Election Security and ERIC Implementation

Dear Governor DeSantis,

On behalf of our Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, let me thank you for your recent directive to Secretary of State Lee regarding elections security. Our association members have truly enjoyed working with Secretary Lee and her very capable team, and we look forward to assisting her in compiling this new report, as well as receiving the state's recommendations and plans for further bolstering our voter registration and elections systems.

If I may, please allow me to offer some observations and suggestions relating to elections security. It's important to realize that bad actors have already been successful in degrading our country's confidence in elections. We must approach election security with that in mind.

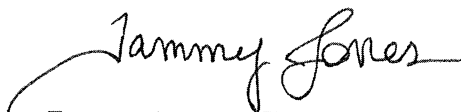
1. Elections security involves more than just cybersecurity. We must consider the accuracy of our registration data base. We must consider the physical security of our polling places and certainly the security of our offices, whether they be main offices or branch offices. We must selfishly guard the security and chain of custody of the ballots from the time we first take possession of them until they go into storage at the conclusion of the activities of that specific election.
2. The security of our Voter Registration database is a current topic of discussion in several corners. As you know, the threats are real, and everyone recognizes the imperative of security against those prowling the internet. All of our offices have enhanced our internet security measures since the 2016 election, and we are continuing to make improvements. There are likely additional enhancements we can put in place that will lead to more secure systems. We can and will do more given sufficient funding and time to bring them online.

3. The potential duplicative registrations of some people is a concern to many supervisors and our constituents. Your Supervisors of Elections are unanimous in believing that the time has come to enroll Florida in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). Enrollment in ERIC will not only identify those people registered in states other than Florida, it will allow us to protect our elections from voters who would attempt to fraudulently vote more than once.
4. The implementation of ERIC will also save Floridians hundreds of thousands of dollars. Those savings will be realized in several ways. First ERIC will give us address information that is more accurate than we currently receive from the USPS. This will save thousands in postage and many more thousands in labor. Reduced printing costs will also be realized.
5. Together, a focus on reviewing and strengthening our cybersecurity measures, improving physical security, and cleaning up and securing Florida's voter registration database will provide our citizens with greater confidence in our systems and that in turn will encourage them to participate in the elections process.

As you are well aware Governor, there are multiple "moving parts" to elections security. It involves more than simply spending more money on computer equipment. Our association urges you to enroll Florida in the ERIC system at the earliest possible date. Reaping the advantages of ERIC BEFORE the 2020 election will go a long way toward improving our record of election efficiency and accuracy here in Florida.

I, and my colleagues, will be happy to assist your office and that of Secretary Lee as you evaluate the security of our elections and move forward quickly with the ERIC implementation.

Respectfully yours,



Tammy Jones – CERA, MFCEP
President, Florida Association of Supervisors of Elections
352-486-5163
tammy@votelevy.com

c. Secretary Laurel M. Lee