



# VOICE OF THE EAGLE

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Clay County  
Supervisor of Elections  
2017 Summer Edition



The Russians are coming!

Over the past year, as President of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, I've had many opportunities to speak about the security of the election process in Florida and the fact that I have great confidence in my fellow Supervisors of Elections across the state. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with skilled professionals who are singularly focused on fair, transparent, and SECURE elections.

With all of the misinformation swirling around, I feel it is important to remind you of these KEY facts when contemplating the security of elections in Florida.

First and foremost, our election systems are decentralized, meaning they are not connected to one another or the Internet, making them very hard to attack in any appreciable way. As I have explained before, the process starts with a Logic and Accuracy test, which is a public event that uses randomly created test decks, created in such a way as to show a specific pre-determined outcome. This randomization would make it difficult for hackers to create an altered program to change the previously tabulated outcome, as any changes would be apparent in the test.

Secondly, there's the post-election audit which is basically a hand recount that verifies the accuracy of the election by testing a random contest of a randomly selected precinct. It is important to note that the audit takes place in all 67 counties in the state.

Lastly, Florida utilizes a paper-based voting system, and in the event of tabulation irregularities we can always refer back to the ballot itself.

However, in the past several months the focus has grown to include other elections systems, including voter registration databases.

More news stories seem to suggest that elections systems have been breached or "hacked" and that it's widespread, but the fact is that hackers accessed only two states' voter databases, Illinois and Arizona, and it appears no data was altered. Those are the only two confirmed hacks of state voter databases we know of currently, and any suggestion to the contrary is not supported by the evidence currently available. Additionally, I want to point out that there is a huge difference from a confirmed scan of a database and a breach of a voting tabulation system.

With that said, the threat is real! There is a unanimous opinion in the intelligence community that hackers, working on behalf of the Russian government, undertook a coordinated effort to undermine our election process, and in doing so, to undermine Americans confidence and trust in their election system, and thus undermine our faith in our democracy itself.

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So where do we go from here?

We should remain vigilant, remember that contentment breeds complacency, and now is certainly not the time to be complacent. We should take the time to review our protocols and security procedures for opportunities to strengthen our infrastructure, and where it makes sense, continue to invest in security infrastructure and training.

Together, by remaining committed to bringing fair, transparent, and secure elections, we will ensure the democratic process is alive and well for voters, in Clay County and beyond.

*Chris*



## Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections 2017 FSASE SUMMER CONFERENCE

### SUPERVISOR CHAMBLESS

While you often hear it said, that all good things must come to an end, that is not exactly the case for Supervisor Chambless. While Dana Southerland, Taylor County SOE, serves as FSASE President, he is not off the hook. He now serves as Past President to be readily available to assist and impart guidance for the executive board in each of their new roles.

Secretary of State, Ken Detzner, commended Chambless for his outstanding leadership and commitment during a very important presidential election cycle.



*President Dana Southerland presents a plaque to Supervisor Chambless to recognize his professional leadership and service during his year as President.*

*FSASE Officers sworn in:  
Dana Southerland,  
Paul Lux,  
Tammy Jones,  
Craig Latimer,  
Wesley Wilcox and  
Chris Chambless*



### VOTE BY MAIL

In a collective effort to provide Florida voters with excellent voting opportunities, the design of the mail ballot envelope has come under scrutiny. Assistant Supervisor Conte compiled data from several counties of common issues or improvements made associated with the VBM envelope to present during the FSASE Summer Conference. Conte commented that the presentation gave counties the opportunity to see examples of what others did and hear the efficacy of the design changes before exhausting monies making changes that may not reap the anticipated benefits or cause other unintended consequences.



## TEAM CLAY



Our office hosted a county Governmental Luncheon. There was great discussion from all the Constitutional Officers and members of the Board of County Commissioners. Clay County is very fortunate to have a body of public servants that come together in unity to share ideas, concerns and opportunities to continue to improve our county.

#MakingClayGreat #ClayStrong

Although school is out, the Voter Outreach Team is preparing for College and High School Voter Drives beginning in September. The team is also preparing for SSYRA Elections. Teachers & Students, enjoy the summer and we will see you for the next school year.

*Schools Out  
for Summer*

## OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS

Our office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> to observe Independence Day Holiday and will reopen at 8:30AM on Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our office will be closed on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> to observe Labor Day Holiday and will reopen at 8:30AM on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.



### LESLIE

Leslie began as part-time in 2007 processing registration applications, and then moved into Election Services Bureau. She became full-time in 2012

and currently works in the Data Processing Bureau. DP is responsible for processing the public and candidate data requests, the Vote By Mail requests (this happens to be her favorite) and printing Voter Information Cards.

Data Processing Manager, Lynn Gaver, recognizes that Leslie's knowledge of the Mail Ballot and List Maintenance process makes her a vital part of the bureau. Lynn stated that Leslie is very devoted and always willing to lend a hand where needed. She has enjoyed working side by side with Leslie and looks forward to many years to come.

Leslie believes that having worked in each bureau gives her a better understanding of the overall contributions required to conduct a successful election season.



### JIM

It's been 5 years! Jim was hired as the System

Administrator, to improve the configuration of computer and network systems for the office.

He currently maintains these systems and is responsible for implementing innovative technology and systems to maximize our security posture while sustaining our functionality.

Jim says, "I enjoy everything about working here. The staff is great, the job is challenging, and new requirements are always on the horizon. I am just one of the cogs in the wheel of this office to ensure that Voter Registration and the Election process is carried out with the utmost in care and accuracy."

Assistant Supervisor Conte added that it is very refreshing to have the assurance that Jim has stopgaps in place and is always vigilant to eliminate potential vulnerabilities. She wrapped up the conversation by stating it's a never-ending job; technology does not stand still.



## National Voter Registration Day Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Every year, many Americans find themselves unable to vote because they miss a registration deadline, don't update their registration, or aren't sure how to register. National Voter Registration Day wants to make sure everyone has the opportunity to vote.

Let's broaden our awareness of voter registration opportunities and participate in this day of civic unity. Take part in this celebration:

- ✓ Register to vote
- ✓ Encourage others to register to vote
- ✓ Sign up for Vote By Mail
- ✓ Visit [www.ClayElections.com](http://www.ClayElections.com) to verify your Voter Registration Information
- ✓ Update your Voter Registration