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Election Security TTX 2023

presented by



WELCOME



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 **ADRIAN FONTES**
SECRETARY OF STATE

MICHAEL MOORE

Chief Information Security Officer



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TODAY'S AGENDA

12:00 pm

Welcome & Day Overview

12:05 pm

Arizona's 2024 Safe & Secure
Election Plan

12:20 pm

Evolution of Threats

12:40 pm

State & Federal Resources

1:25 pm

Physical Security & Relationship
with Law Enforcement

1:45 pm

Break



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TODAY'S AGENDA

2:00 pm

Instructions for TTX

2:15 pm

Exercise 1

3:50 pm

Break

4:00 pm

Recap & Readouts



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2024 SAFE & SECURE ELECTION PLAN



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NOAH PRAETZ

Co-Founder



LIZ HOWARD

General Counsel



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EVOLUTION OF THREATS



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EVOLVING OPERATIONAL LANDSCAPE

Good Old Days

1998

And then there was...

2000

2016

2020

2024



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GENERAL THREAT ENVIRONMENT

Adversaries

Motivations

Targets



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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Election Risks and AI: Not entirely new; officials have faced similar risks.

Foundation for Defense: Leverage existing knowledge to defend against AI-related risks.

Understanding AI: Crucial for election officials to navigate and mitigate potential threats.



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GENERATIVE AI

Generative AI's evolving capabilities and accessibility heighten election risks.

From deepfakes to AI-generated images, the potential for deception demands vigilance and countermeasures.



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GENERATIVE AI

Risks of Voice Cloning in Scams



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WHAT IS A TTX?

Mirrors real world conditions



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GENERATIVE AI

Large Language Models in Cyber Threats



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GENERATIVE AI

Election-Specific Considerations in the Age of Generative AI



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CAN AI HELP?

AI Integration in Election Operations



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STATE & FEDERAL RESOURCES



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LT. COL LESLIE KING

Officer in Charge



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MATTHEW CRYMBLE

Protective Security Advisor



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JERRY D. KEELY

Cyber Security Advisor (CSA) Region 9



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RYAN MURRAY

Deputy Director of State CISO



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AARON JENNEN

Election Community Liaison



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NATE JOHNSON

Special Agent



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2023 Arizona Statewide Election Security TTX

December 15, 2023



Arizona Contacts

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- USAO DEO: AUSA Sean Lokey
 - [REDACTED], [REDACTED]@usdoj.gov
- USPIIS ECC: Norman Longaza
 - [REDACTED], [REDACTED]@uspis.gov
- USPS-OIG ECC: Dustin Warner
 - [REDACTED], [REDACTED]@uspsoig.gov

Aaron L. Jennen

Trial Attorney-Election Community Liaison

United States Department of Justice

Criminal Division | Public Integrity Section

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MICHAEL ROBSON

Program Specialist



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TRACI LONG

Program Manager



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U.S. POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE

ARIZONA ELECTION SECURITY TTX 2023





PROGRAM MANAGER TRACI LONG

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PHYSICAL SECURITY & RELATIONSHIP WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT



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CHIEF ROSKA

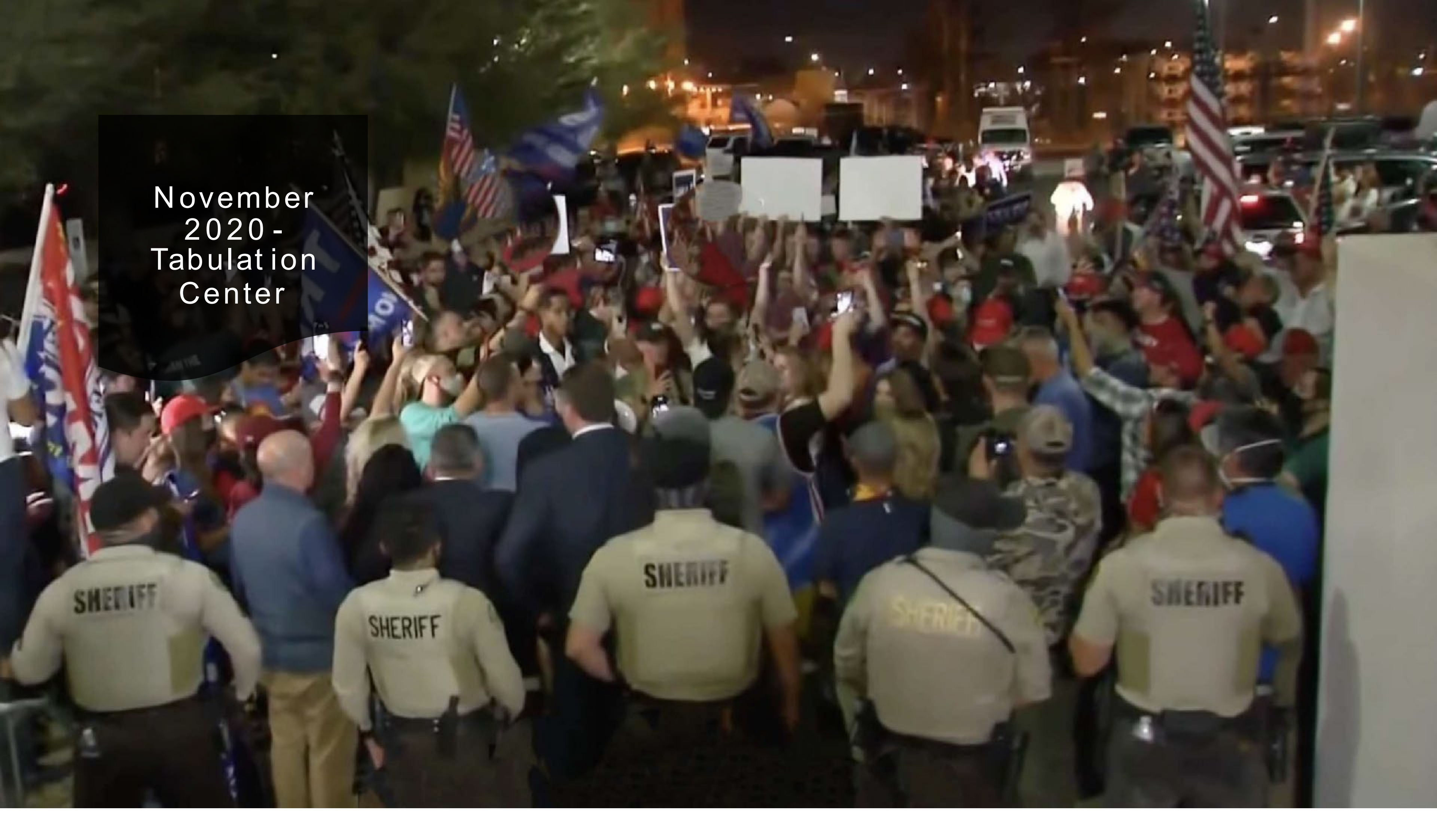
Executive Chief of Enforcement



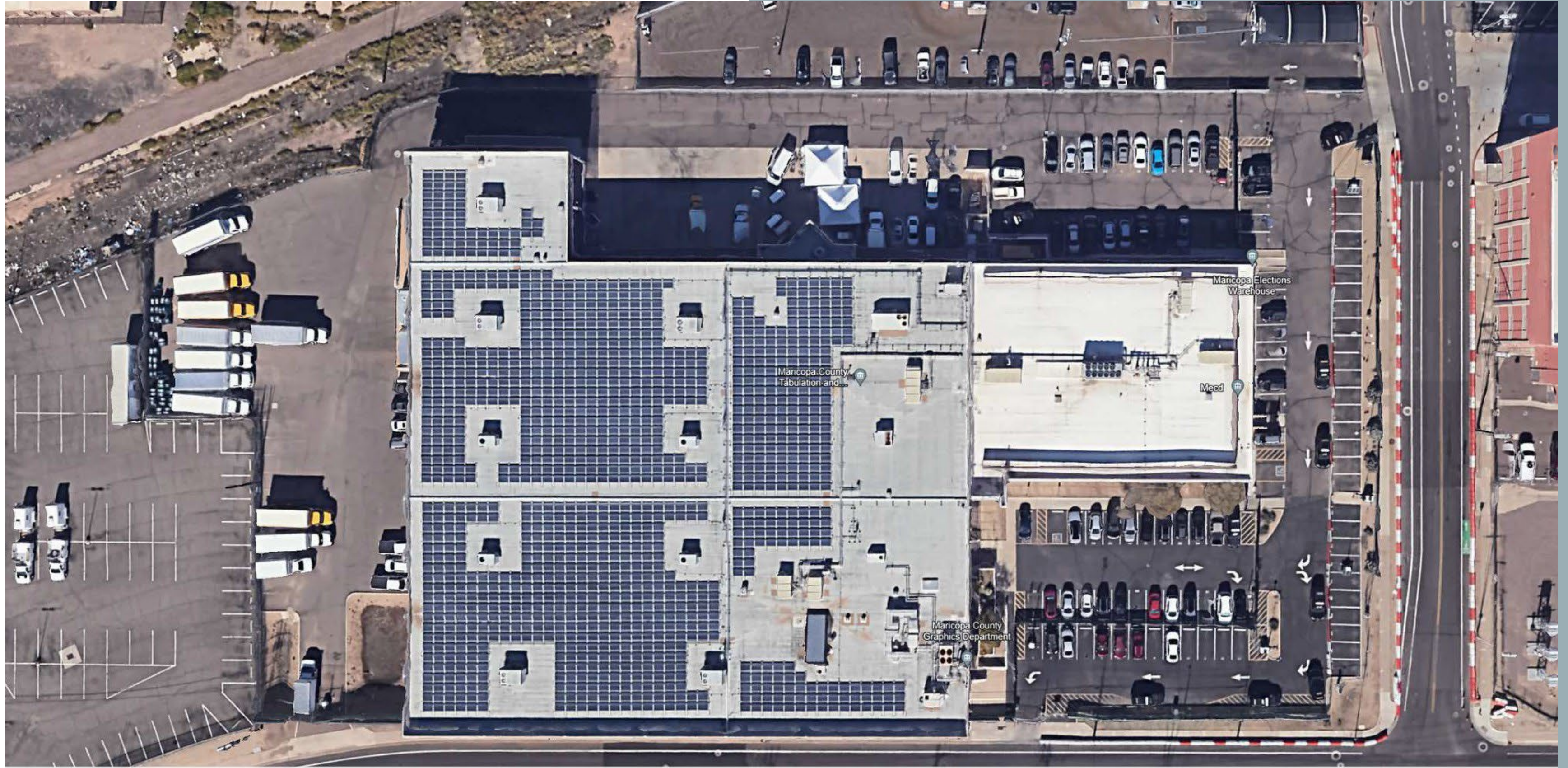
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November
2020 -
Tabulation
Center



November 2022



Early Ballot Drop Box





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15 MINUTE BREAK



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MATT TLACHAC

Senior Election Expert



MICHELE FORNEY

Senior Election Expert



KEN MATTA

All Around Election Expert



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WHAT IS A TTX?

- Mirrors real-world conditions
- Uses an accelerated timeline to increase pressure
- Gives participants the chance to play their real-life roles and corresponding responsibilities
- Forces participants to absorb information, make decisions, and execute plans



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PARTICIPANT EXPERIENCE

- **Participants can expect some chaos**
- **Skill building:** communication, decision-making, and leadership
- **Actions matter:** participants will be encouraged to not succumb to the pressure of giving up



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HOW THE TTX LOOKS?

- There will be 10 county teams and three other “player” tables: Secretary of State, Vendors, and Law Enforcement/Cybersecurity
- TTX will mimic actual timelines
- There will be two phases of the TTX:
 - Phase 1: Six months before November 5, 2024
 - *every 15 minutes is one month*
 - Phase 2: Election Day
 - *every 4.5 minutes is approximately 1 hour*



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LOOK AND FEEL

- The scenarios played out are fictional and the event is non-partisan: the atmosphere should be safe to share and struggle
- Each county has a slightly different makeup
- The threats introduced are actually real
- There will be times when a decision must be made: even with poor information
- This is a protected space: have frank conversations and don't worry about having the right answer



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ULTIMATE GOAL OF TTX

- Assess the effectiveness of existing policies and practices at deterring, defending, and responding to risks posed by the threat environment
- Build relationships with other “players” who are your partners in election administration
- Increase participant awareness and develop skills and knowledge necessary to prepare for those same risks as well as issues that affect the administration of elections in general



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LET'S GET TO SPECIFICS



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FACILITATORS

- Each of the county tables will have a facilitator
- They will:
 - Guide you through the exercise but will never give you the answers
 - Record actions and remediations you take keep track of the fortifications you purchase
 - Give you various “injects” or scenarios: *you will consider, discuss, and respond to them*



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FORTIFICATIONS

- The budget is \$30,000
- Costs are a representation of the actual cost in dollars and cost in time and resources
- You will purchase the fortifications starting on the first day during Phase 1
- Some of the fortifications purchased will prevent you from experiencing some issues
- Spend the money: *you cannot spend it on Election Day*



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INJECTS

- **Injects** are how information is communicated to you
- **Injects** come in three forms:
 - **Video** (*often simulating news reports*)
 - **Audio** (*often simulating phone calls*)
 - **Paper Injects** (*emails, news articles, social media posts, etc*)



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INJECTS

All the information is important,
even if another county is named.

The Daily Cactus

Your Laker County Trusted Source for
Local News

November 3, 2024

Helping or Harming? Elections Office Email Causes Stir

Voters around **Laker County** are reporting tough times getting through to the elections office.



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PARTNER TABLES

- Vendors
- Law Enforcement/Cybersecurity
- Secretary of State's Office



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OUTSIDERS IN YOUR MIDST...

- During each exercise, you will have individuals who will engage you:
 - Reporters
 - Lakers County Elections Director
- How you respond matters



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REMINDERS

- **Example Reactions**
 - Communicate with partners
 - Discuss as a group
 - Make decisions
 - Purchase fortifications
- **Build consensus and communicate through the spokesperson**
- **Work alongside others who may share your role**
- **How you communicate matters**



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LET'S GET STARTED



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15 MINUTE BREAK



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RECAPS & READOUTS



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JOIN US FOR HAPPY HOUR & DINNER

Located in the Upper Deck (above the pool deck), starting at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner.

Hosted by

**BRENNAN
CENTER**

FOR JUSTICE



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DAY 2



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WELCOME BACK



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MICHAEL MOORE

Chief Information Security Officer



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TODAY'S AGENDA

9:00 am

Welcome & Overview of Day

9:15 am

Opening Remarks with the
Assistant Director of CISA

9:25 am

Security in Election
Administration

9:45 am

Non-Public Communication Strategy

10:00 am

Communication Continuity in
Elections

10:15 am

Break

10:30 am

Exercise #2

12:00 pm

Grab a Box Lunch Break

TODAY'S AGENDA

12:15 pm

Emerging AI & Digital Tools

12:35 pm

How AI Assisted the TTX

12:45 pm

After Action & Recap

1:15 pm

Closing Remarks from Secretary of
State Adrian Fontes



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CAIT CONLEY

Senior Advisor to the Director



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REY VALENZUELA

Director of Elections (Mail-In Voting & Election Services)



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PROCEDURAL SECURITY IN ARIZONA



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**MARICOPA
COUNTY**

Welcome
Procedural
Security in Arizona

12.16.23



Procedural Security in Arizona

- In conjunction with Cyber & Physical Security, Election Administrators also need to consider “**Procedural Security.**”
- When looking at “**Procedural Security in Arizona**” there is an importance of knowing ARIZONA statute, Elections Procedure Manual (EPM) and our internal process & procedures when not specifically defined by either of those official guidance items.
- **Why?** To stay on the right side of the law, and about adapting an **Election Incident Plan (EIP)** that incorporates the principles using the template that the AZ Elections Community produced - *the EIP template is an easy way to have a plan if the don't have one.*

Procedural Security in Arizona

Ballot Return Envelopes

- Must be tamper-evident

Ballot Packets

- Must be mailed non-forwardable
- Only one mailed Ballot Packet must be verified by Recorder and send to elections for processing
- Must have two bipartisan retrievers of Ballot Packets from drop boxes

Voters Must show ID at the Polls

- For both in-person and Election Day

Procedural Security in Arizona

Voting Equipment

- Must be approved by the state

Logic & Accuracy Testing

- Must be tested before and after elections

Candidates Cannot Be Poll Workers

- With Precinct Committeemen exceptions

Election Boards Must be By-Partisan

Voted and Unvoted Ballots are Sealed at the Polls After Voting

Procedural Security in Arizona

- The number of votes cast on equipment at the polls is audited against the roster
- Only election officers may train poll workers
- Zero reports run on equipment and is verified when opening polls
- Results reports are run when closing polls
- Ballots (*and ballot stock*) are inventoried at the polls

AND MORE...


MARICOPA
COUNTY

Questions





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Angie [REDACTED]
Elections Security Officer
[REDACTED] [@azsos.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@azsos.gov)

Remembering You Are Not Alone

Non-Public Communications Strategy

Local election workers have been under siege since 2020. Now they face fentanyl-laced letters

Election workers face violent threats and harassment amid dangerous political rhetoric

Nov 16, 2023 6:35 PM EST

Election officials are bracing for conspiracy-fueled threats – while still hoping for the best

Harassment and concerning incidents at drop boxes in swing states fueled by 2020 conspiracies, as well as the prospect of counting delays, have many workers on high alert.



Attacks Against Election Officials Are Taking a Toll

A new Brennan Center poll finds that election officials are under attack and leaving their jobs. They need help.

Death threats and harassment: 2024 election workers already are scared

JUNE 23, 2023 · 5:12 AM ET

HEARD ON MORNING EDITION

Election workers brace for a torrent of threats: ‘I KNOW WHERE YOU SLEEP’

Workers ranging from secretaries of state to poll workers have faced harassment online since the 2020 elections. They say social media companies and law enforcement need to do more.

State and local election workers quitting amid abuse, officials tell U.S. Senate panel

BY: JACOB FISCHLER - NOVEMBER 1, 2023 7:34 PM

Election Officials Under Attack

SUMMARY: Scapegoated for election outcomes that some politicians and voters did not like, election officials have been under unprecedented attack. Here’s a plan to protect them.

ELECTIONS DEMOCRACY

Election Officials Under Attack

How to Protect Administrators

Jun 16, 2021





The Elections Group



“This is not yours to fix alone. You act like you’re all alone out there in the world, but you’re not. You’re not alone.” – Joyce Byers (Stranger Things)



BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE



Information Silos

An information silo is when information is contained within one system and cannot connect or communicate with others.

It's helpful to think of storage silos on a farm. These structures house grain, feed, woodchips, and other bulk products, keeping them enclosed and protected from the elements.



Information Silos

Like a farm silo, information silos hold data in a standalone, enclosed space.

There are cases where information needs to be siloed for security purposes, but sometimes, siloing information does more harm than good.

When information isn't shared freely, it can prevent teams from making the best decisions.



DOES SECURITY RISK MANAGEMENT IN YOUR ORGANIZATION SUFFER FROM A SILO PROBLEM?

MOST ORGANIZATIONS SEE SILOS AS AN ISSUE...

KNOWLEDGE SHARING



25%

of executives think their organization is effective at this across departments

COLLABORATION



39%

of employees don't believe that there is enough in their organization

...THAT DIRECTLY CAUSE BUSINESS PROBLEMS

OPERATIONAL FAILURES



86%

of all employees think poor communication and collaboration cause these

PROJECT BREAKDOWNS



75%

of cross-functional team efforts fail because of silo effects

© Human Risks 2019
Mapping the value of employee collaboration, McKinsey August 2006
Communicating in the modern workplace, Queens University of Charlotte 2015
Is poor collaboration killing your company? Salesforce 2012
75% of cross-functional teams are dysfunctional Harvard Business Review 2015

HUMAN RISKS
MAKING SECURITY RISK MANAGEMENT SMARTER

Bridging Information Silos

We need to know:

- **What resources does every county need? (Assessments)**
- **What threats are you receiving? (Reporting)**
- **What kinds of Mis/Dis/Mal-information are you seeing? (Communication and meetings)**
- **What can Law Enforcement do? What would you rather they not do? (TTX's)**



Get Updated Assessments



- **Assessments create conversations and reinforce your needs**
 - CISA and the National Guard can help with these!
 - Helps your organization identify security gaps
 - Justifies Grant requests
 - Individual information is protected, but we get a statewide snapshot of needs

Build an internal culture of communication and security

- Encourage your team to report security concerns.
- Discuss security best practices.
- Utilize security gamifications (phishing tests, etc).
- Use positive reinforcement
 - “I noticed you always make sure the door closes behind you. Thanks for keeping everyone safe!”





Foster Collaboration Between Departments

- Set up regular meetings between departments that “touch” Elections.
 - Recorders
 - BOS
 - Facilities
 - Emergency Management
 - IT
 - Sheriff’s Office
 - County Attorney
- Talk about
 - Resource sharing
 - Grant funding
 - Contingency planning
 - Documenting procedures



Foster Collaboration Between Departments

- Discuss “What If” scenarios
 - Who will do what?
 - What should NOT be done?
- Host a County Specific Tabletop Exercise
 - CISA and The Elections Group Can help!
 - More people = more prepared
 - Design Strategies that work for your county.



Make Connections Now

Other Counties
Other States
Your Threat Liaison Officer (TLO)
Arizona Counter Terrorism
Information Center (ACTIC)
Federal Bureau of Investigation
(FBI)
United States Postal Inspection
Service (USPIS)
Arizona Department of Homeland
Security (AZDoHS)

National Guard
AZ Department of Emergency and
Military Affairs (AZ DEMA)

Get to know these people now, so that
when you need them, you already know
who to call, and they know how to help!



Report, Report, Report!

ACTIC's P3 Reporting System

- Fusion Center
- A report to one is a report to all!
- <https://azactic.gov/report>
- When in doubt: **REPORT!**

Reporting means:

Getting you the help you need.

Notifying other Jurisdictions

Identifying Statewide, National or global trends

Creating unified messaging



Still Not Sure?
Send it to Angie or Michael.



Attend Security Meetings

- **Secretary of State's Office hosts 3 Statewide Election Security Meetings:**
 - Admin
 - Tech
 - Comms
- **ACTIC hosts regular "Threats to Elections" Briefings**
 - Contact Thomas Neve or Angie [REDACTED] to get on the list!
- **CISA offers a variety of physical and cyber trainings.**
 - <https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/training>

Questions?





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MURPHY HEBERT

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State



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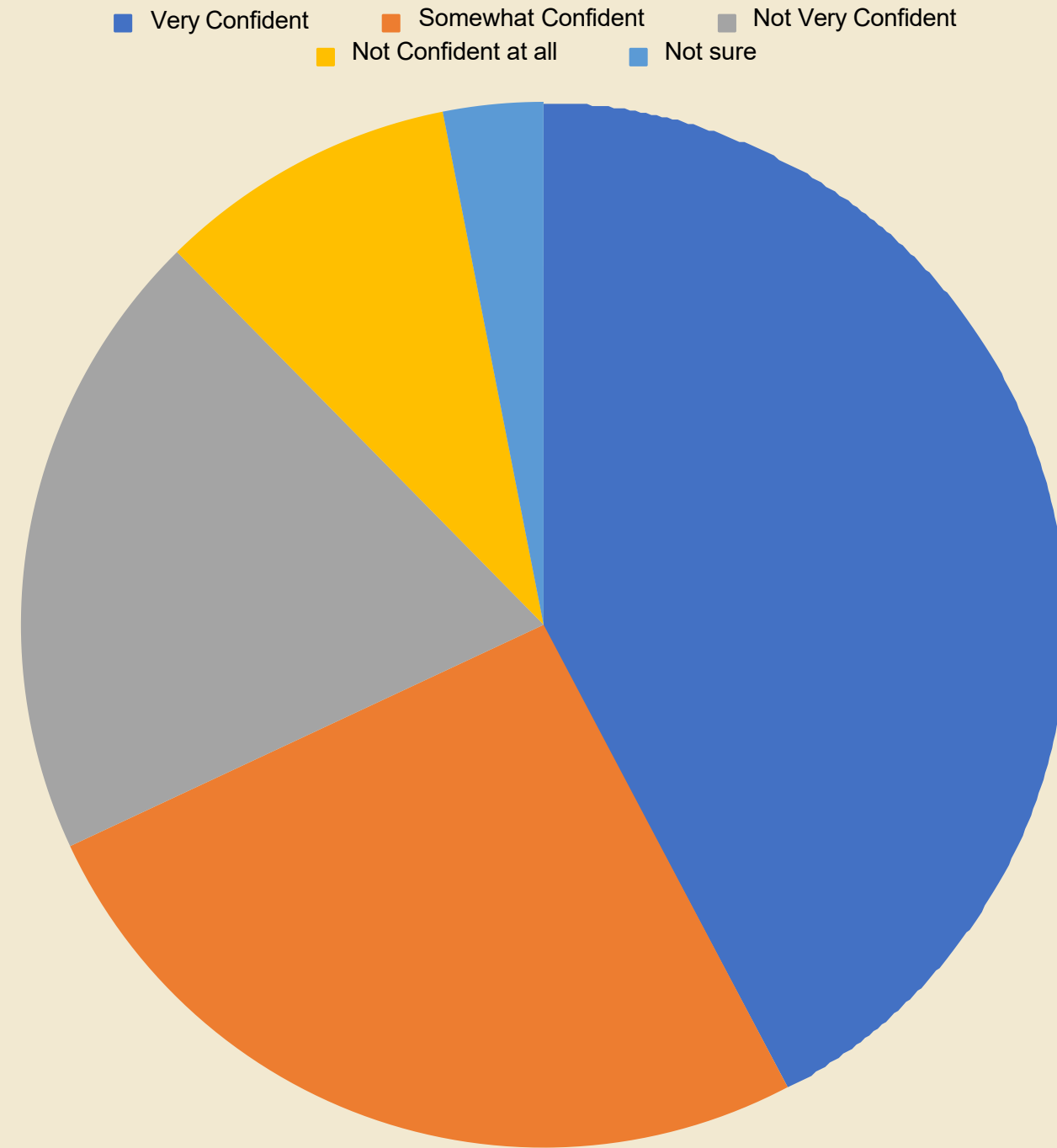
Murphy Hebert
Deputy Assistant
Secretary of State
[REDACTED]@azsos.gov

**I'm from the
government and
I'm here to help.**

Communication Continuity in Elections



How confident are you that the results in AZ will be accurate for the upcoming 2024 Presidential Election?



Noble Predictive Insights: [SDF+AZ+Election+Poll+--+Noble+Toplines+\(Dec+2023\).pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)

**How do we protect and
increase voter confidence in
our election results?**




ChatGPT

https://chat.openai.com

New Tab New folder AZ DEPT OF CORRE...

ChatGPT 3.5



How can I help you today?

Compare marketing strategies
for sunglasses for Gen Z and Millennials

Tell me a fun fact
about the Roman Empire

Suggest some codenames
for a project introducing flexible work arrang...

Write a course overview
psychology behind decision-making

How can we increase voter confidence in Arizona's 2024 elections?

ChatGPT can make mistakes. Consider checking important information.





https://chat.openai.com/c/1b03da3e-4d85-4570-a2c3-354ffd8ee91c

New Tab New folder AZ DEPT OF CORRE...

ChatGPT 3.5

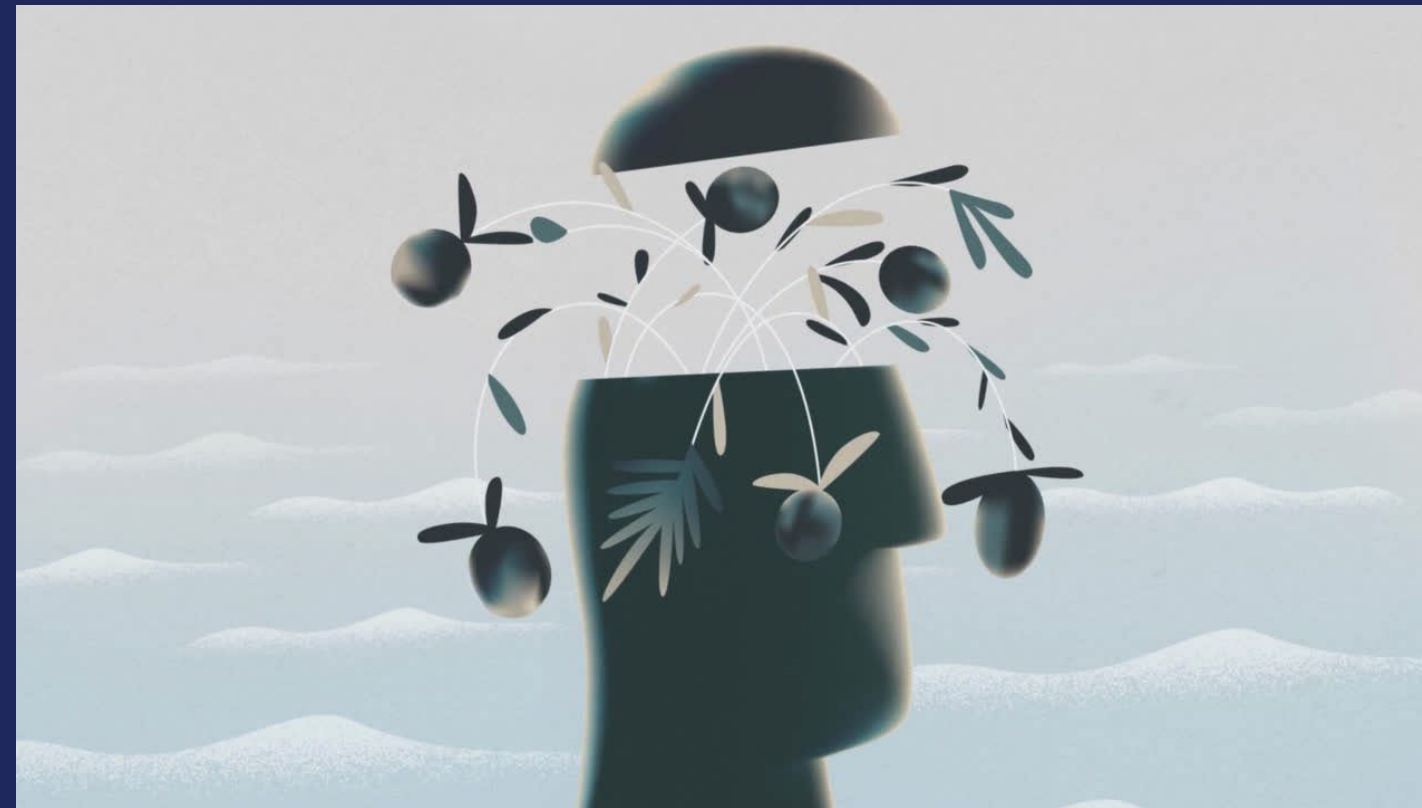
You
How can we increase voter confidence in Arizona's 2024 elections?

ChatGPT
Increasing voter confidence in elections involves addressing concerns, ensuring transparency, and promoting accessibility. Here are several strategies that could be implemented in Arizona or any other location to enhance voter confidence:

- 1. Transparent Communication:**
 - Establish clear communication channels to inform voters about the election process, including registration, voting methods, and result reporting.
 - Provide regular updates on election security measures and efforts to prevent interference.
- 2. Secure Voting Systems:**
 - Invest in secure and modern voting systems that have a paper trail. Auditable paper ballots can be used for verification purposes and provide a physical record of votes.
 - Regularly update and test voting systems to identify and address vulnerabilities.
- 3. Robust Cybersecurity Measures:**
 - Implement strong cybersecurity protocols to protect voter registration databases, election management systems, and other critical infrastructure.
 - Conduct regular cybersecurity assessments and audits.
- 4. Voter Education:**
 - Develop comprehensive voter education campaigns to inform citizens about the voting process, registration deadlines, and how to verify their voter registration status.
 - Educate voters about the security measures in place to safeguard their votes.

Message ChatGPT...

What we know:



Consistency = Credibility



**Teamwork makes the dream work.
(And other cheesy quotes.)**



Please Do!

- **Remember you are not alone.**
 - **Participate in the comms meetings.**
 - **Be consistent in your messaging.**
 - **Align your message with other election officials whenever possible.**
- Reach out about a comms plan.**

Please Please Please Do Not

- **Speak on behalf of another county.**
- **Feel compelled to answer a question that you aren't sure about.**
- **Ignore a problem.**
- **Forget that trust in our election processes is CRUCIAL to our democracy.**
Break Democracy.

Questions?



15 MINUTE BREAK



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EXERCISE #2



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SECRETARY OF STATE

LUNCH BREAK

15 minute break to grab a box lunch & return to your tables



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TOSHI HOO

Director, Emerging Media Lab @ Institute for the Future



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EMERGING AI & DIGITAL TOOLS



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HOW AI ASSISTED THE TTX



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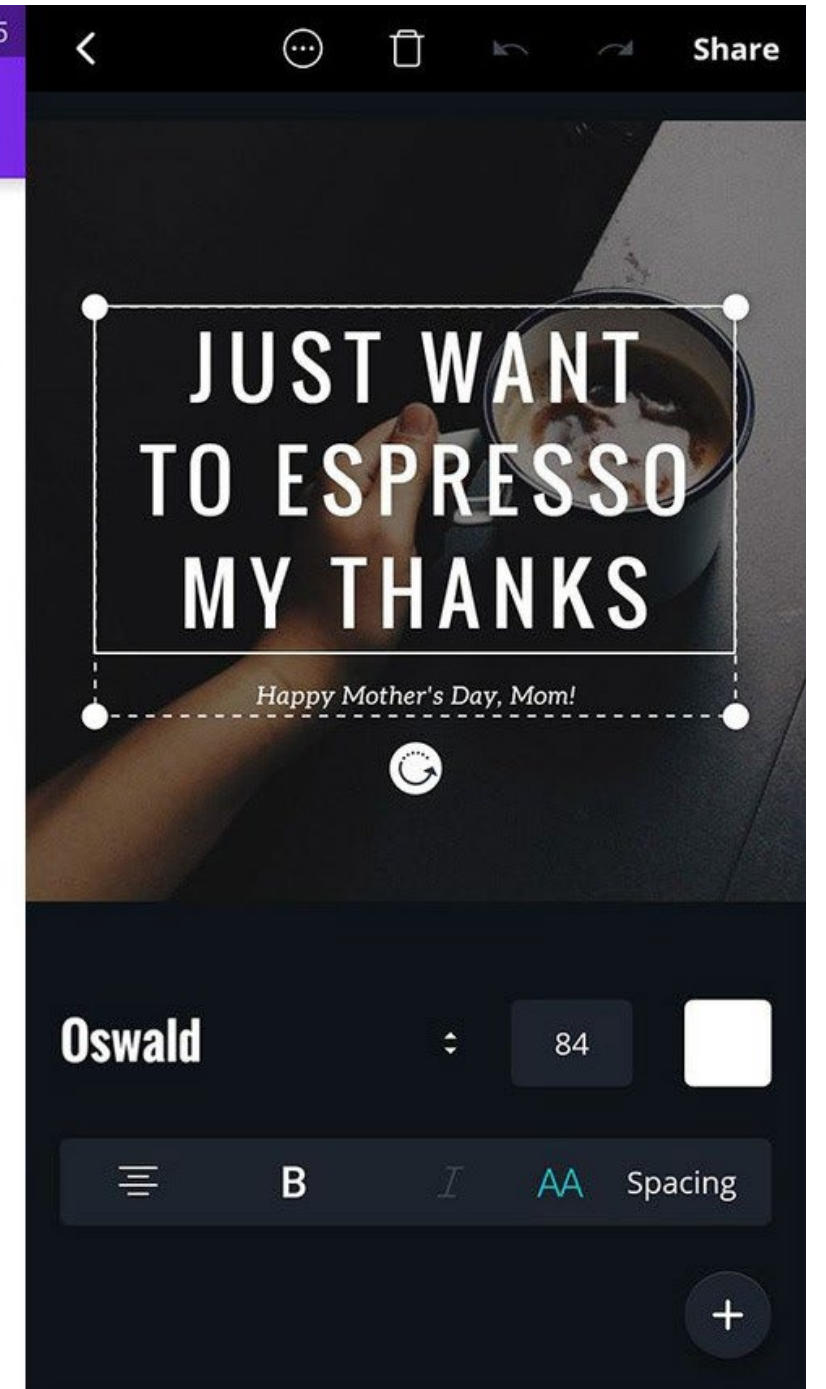
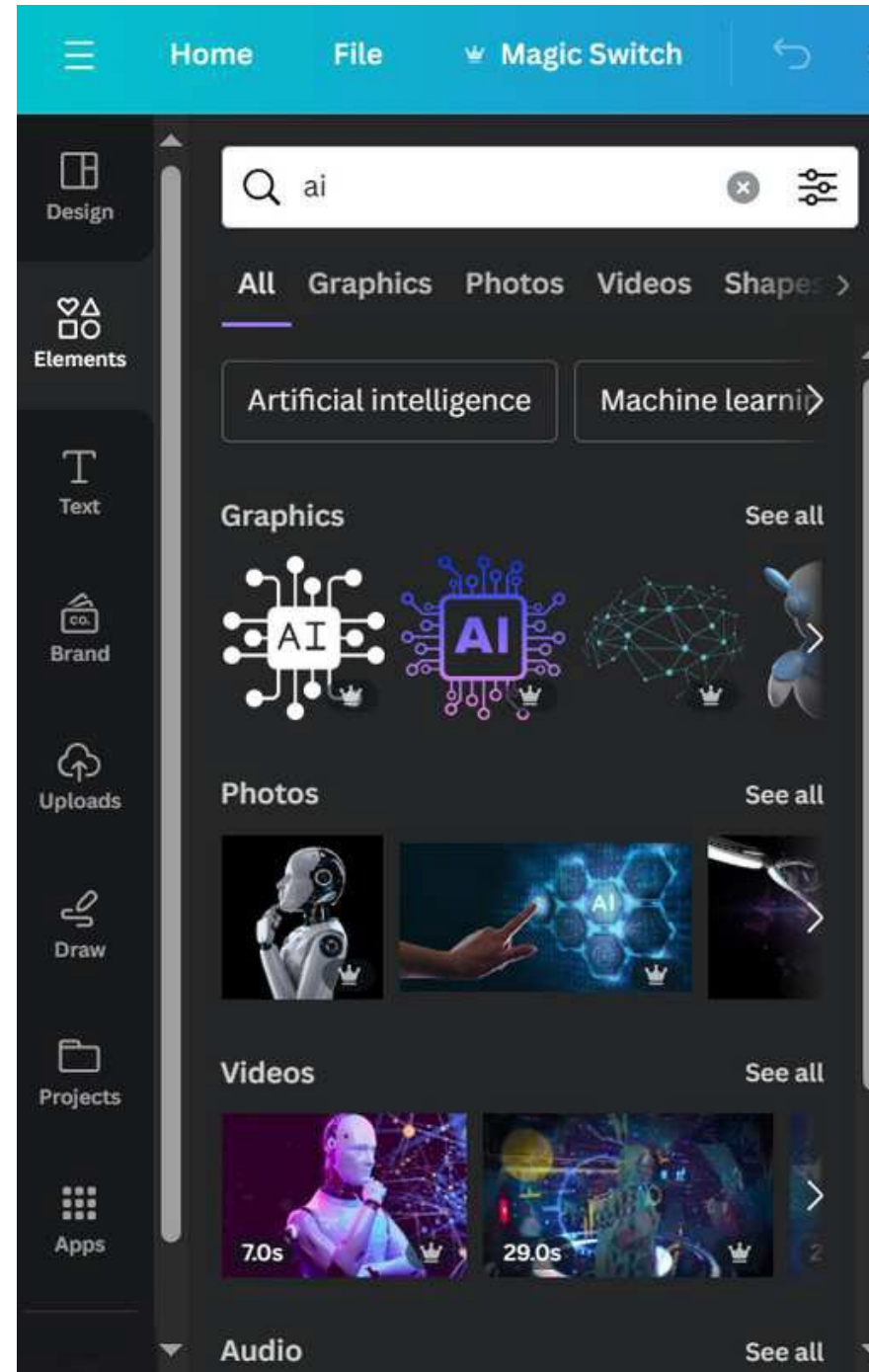
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Canva






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Magic Media

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Create an Arizona-themed logo for a team called Antelope County

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Friday, December 15th direct
AACo Conference starting
to Saturday, December 16th u

splash

- Edit
- Dashboard
- Log Out

Arizona Election Security TTX 2023 Registration Closed

statewidettx2023.splashthat.com

Natalie

Back

Event

Guests

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Analytics

Settings

50 Help

Guests

All Guests 370

Status

- Attending
- Checked In
- Checked Out
- Awaiting Reply
- Not Attending
- Waitlisted
- (No Status)

My Lists

Search Guests

Add Guest

175

VIEWING

- Checked In

Email Export Filters Columns

Full Name Email

Launch Mobile Check-In

Secretary of State Adrian Font... 11:13 AM
To You

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Event information, your player details, and your hotel confirmation number for Friday night are noted below.

The email address and cell phone number provided and listed below will be used for the exercises. Please respond to this email if you need to update your cell phone or email address.

Dear Natalie,

We are excited to confirm your RSVP for the Arizona Statewide Election Security TTX. This event is an exclusive opportunity for key decision-makers from all 15 Arizona counties, including election directors, recorders, county supervisors, county managers, law enforcement, emergency management directors, IT experts, communication and facility directors.

As we approach the event date, our dedicated team is working tirelessly to ensure a meticulously planned and executed training. This includes curating a comprehensive agenda with expert speakers and interactive sessions, designing unique swag items as tokens of appreciation, and arranging top-notch



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Search

A...Z

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175 / 193

SYNC

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NCianciola@... Protected

What is a TTX (Table Top Exercise)

✓ Searching for: **What is a TTX (Table Top Exercise)**

✓ Generating answers for you...

Your personal and company data are protected in this chat

A **Tabletop Exercise (TTX)** is a **discussion-based session** where team members gather in an informal, classroom setting to **discuss their roles during an emergency** and their responses to specific emergency situations. In a TTX, a **facilitator guides participants through a discussion of one or more scenarios**. The goal is to test existing plans, policies, or procedures, identify strengths and areas for improvement, and enhance coordination within an organization and among responding agencies ^{1 2 3}. It's like a collaborative "what-if" exercise where participants explore how they would handle different crisis scenarios without actually implementing actions in the real world. 🚀 📁

Learn more ¹ mblc.state.ma.us ² csoonline.com ³ ttx.epa.gov ⁴ cisa.gov

1 of 30 responses ●

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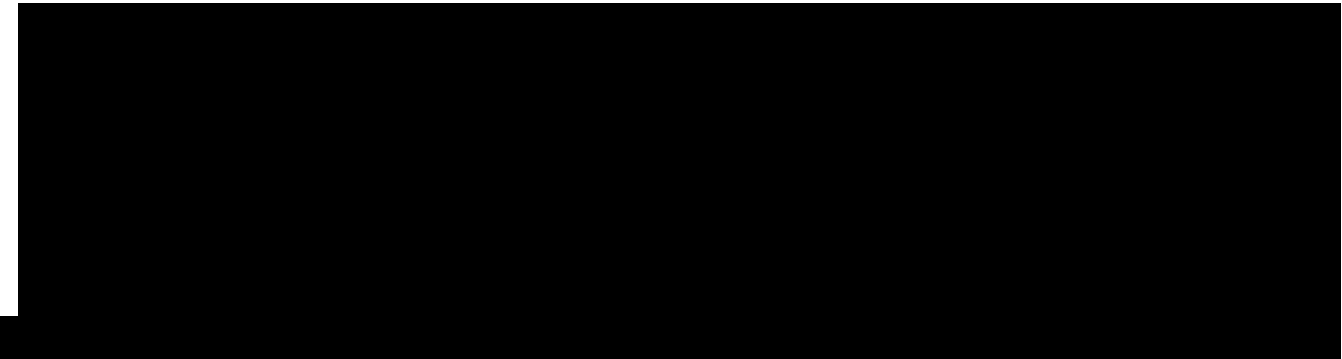
Ask me anything... 0/2000



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NATALIE



Office: [Redacted]
Cell: [Redacted]

@azsos.gov



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ACTION ACTION & RECAP



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THANK YOU!



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Reason	Page (# of occurrences)	Description
	32 (9)	
	33 (3)	
	37 (8)	
	89 (1)	
no reason	90 (2)	---
	102 (1)	
	106 (1)	
	125 (2)	
	132 (4)	
	130 (2)	