

For Immediate Release September 7, 2016

EAC Releases Tech Time Election Day Command Center Video

Contact: Bryan Whitener

(301) 563-3961

SILVER SPRING, MD – The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) today released the fifth segment in a <u>new video series</u> designed to provide election officials with technology tools for managing the administration of elections.

The video shows how Cook County, Illinois uses a call center and data management tool called an Automated Call Form to manage, sort, and provide an immediate response to reported issues. In this video Noah Praetz, the director of elections in Cook County, describes how this system works, why it was created, and how other jurisdictions can use the system as well.

"Election Day is an incredibly busy time for election officials, and among the many tasks they have is managing incoming information about challenges poll workers or voters are facing at the polls," said EAC Chairman Thomas Hicks. "Providing feedback and assistance as quickly as possible is an important part of running a successful election," he said.

EAC is producing a series of Tech Time videos for election officials. The videos highlight high and low-tech election administration tools. EAC recently released a video that shows how an Election Management Toolkit can help election officials project the number of voting machines and poll workers needed while estimating wait times for voters on Election Day.

These segments follow three more videos released in August. Focused on the use of data, they include: (1) how data analysis and predictive analytics tools can identify and recruit skilled applicants to work at the polls on Election Day; (2) how data visualization can help election officials and voters better understand how elections work, and (3) how data visuals can be used in policy and budget discussions. The episodes are available on EAC's website, YouTube, and Twitter.

EAC will release additional Tech Time Episodes throughout the summer. Participants include election officials, academics, election administration advocacy organizations, and others. Upcoming Tech Time Episodes will include: Social Media in Smaller Election Jurisdictions; Data Visualization to Persuade; and Election Office Website Accessibility.

Today's announcement is part of EAC Be Ready 2016 effort. To access a broad range of resources and best practices to help election officials and voters in 2016, visit EAC's website at BeReady16.

The EAC is an independent bipartisan commission created by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002. HAVA was passed by the U.S. Congress to make sweeping reforms to the nation's voting process, address improvements to voting systems and voter access that were identified following the 2000 election, and to provide federal funding to states for new voting equipment. HAVA mandates that the EAC test and certify voting equipment, maintain the National Voter Registration form, conduct research, and administer a national clearinghouse on elections that includes shared practices, information for voters and other resources to improve elections. More information is available at EAC.gov.