NASED Winter Conference Speakers

Marci Andino
Marci Andino has served as Executive Director of the SC State Election Commission since 2003. Ms. Andino is responsible for overseeing the conduct of primary, general and special elections in South Carolina to ensure that elections are conducted in a fair and impartial manner. She is also responsible for supervising county boards of voter registration and elections and serves as agency liaison with the General Assembly. The State Election Commission is responsible for supporting the statewide voter registration system, statewide voting system, performing county compliance audits, administering a training and certification program for county election officials and conducting candidate filing.

Prior to her return to the agency as Executive Director, Ms. Andino took a 2 ½ year hiatus from state government and worked for a global information technology company as a sales representative with responsibility in the public sector.

Ms. Andino currently serves on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission’s Standards Board, the Election Infrastructure Sector Government Coordinating Council and the Council of State Government’s Overseas Voting Initiative Technology Working Group. Ms. Andino is also former President of the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED) and the South Carolina Deputy Director’s Organization and former Secretary of the SC Information Technology Director’s Association.

Ms. Andino holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Limestone College and a Master of Arts in Computer and Information Resources Management from Webster University.

Lori Augino
Lori Augino is the Director of Elections for the Office of the Secretary of State. Ms. Augino was appointed by Secretary of State Kim Wyman in January, 2013. In this position, Ms. Augino oversees federal, state, and local elections conducted by the 39 local County Auditors in Washington State.

Lori serves as a member of the Election Assistance Commission’s Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), serves as Incoming President for the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED), serves as a member of the Council of State Government’s Election Technology Working Group, and serves as a member of the Department of Homeland Security’s Elections Critical Infrastructure Government Coordinating Council.
Prior to serving as Director of Elections, Lori Augino worked for the Pierce County Auditor’s Office for nearly 18 years, serving the citizens of Pierce County as the Chief Deputy Auditor from 2010 to 2013, overseeing the county’s elections, licensing, recording, and animal control divisions. Lori served as Pierce County Elections Manager from 2000 to 2010. Lori managed the closest election (and two recounts) in Washington’s history during the 2004 General Election in Pierce County. In 2009, Lori was named County Election Employee of the Year by former Secretary of State Sam Reed. She’s a graduate of the University of Washington, holding a BA in politics, philosophy, and economics.

**Jackie Barber**
Jackie Barber is the Chief Counsel for the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration under Chairman Roy Blunt, where her portfolio includes election administration and campaign finance. She previously served under Chairman K. Michael Conaway as Chief Counsel for the House Committee on Agriculture, overseeing the Committee’s legal office and oversight operations, and as Counsel to the Chairman at the House Committee on Ethics. Prior to her work in Congress, Barber served as Deputy General Counsel to the National Republican Congressional Committee. She holds bachelor’s degree in Business Management and Chemistry and a law degree from the University of South Dakota.

**Dan Bentley**
Dan Bentley is a Principal Product Mailing Specialist at the U.S. Postal Service.

**Sarah Berlin**
Sarah Berlin is the Program Director of the Voting Information Project at Democracy Works, where she works with state and local election administrators to provide election data to millions of Americans. Before joining Democracy Works in 2017, Sarah worked at the Center for Technology and Civic Life.

**Matt Bernhard**
Matt Bernhard is a PhD candidate in computer science at the University of Michigan.

**Maria Bianchi**
Maria joined Democracy Works in 2014 as the Outreach Coordinator for the Voting Information Project (VIP). She’s filled a number of roles on that team over the years, eventually becoming the Director of VIP when Democracy Works took over ownership of the project in 2018. In her role as Vice President of Election Administration, Maria manages a talented team
working with and for election administrators across the country to build innovative tools and technology solutions that improve the voter experience.

**Michelle Bishop**

Michelle Bishop is National Disability Rights Network’s Voting Rights Specialist, where she coordinates voter access initiatives nationwide and works on federal voting rights policy. She is a member of Election Verification Network, NonProfit Vote’s board, National Council on Independent Living’s board subcommittee on voting rights, and steering committees for National Voter Registration Day, National Disability Voter Registration Week, and REV UP campaign, as well as guest lecturer for Columbia University and Washington University in St. Louis. Prior, Michelle led a disability-focused get out the vote coalition in Missouri and was the Assistant Director of Public Policy at Paraquad in St. Louis. She received a Master of Social Work in Social and Economic Development from The Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis.

**Judd Choate**

Dr. Judd Choate has been Colorado’s State Election Director since 2009. He was President of the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED) in 2017 and a founding member of the Governmental Coordinating Council (GCC) – formed by the Department of Homeland Security following the 2016 election. Judd is on the board of University of Minnesota Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs Certificate in Election Administration Program, where he teaches a class on election security. He has a J.D. and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado and Purdue University respectively.

**Jen Daulby**

Jen Daulby is the Republican Staff Director for the Committee on House Administration. The Committee is tasked with the day-to-day operations of the House of Representations and is charged with the oversight of campaign finance and federal election administration. Ms. Daulby was previously Chief of Staff to Congressman Rodney Davis. Davis represents the 13th Congressional District in Illinois, one of the most competitive congressional districts in the country, which encompasses 14 counties in Central and Southern Illinois. She served as Chief of Staff for six years and opened the office for the Congressman on January 3, 2013.

Prior to joining Mr. Davis, she established the Washington, DC office for Land O’Lakes Company in October of 2009. She handled federal government affairs issues and lobbied Congress and the federal agencies on behalf of the cooperative.
Before joining Land O'Lakes, Daulby specialized in agriculture policy with areas of expertise including antitrust and intellectual property.

She also served as counsel to Congressman Steve Chabot handling issues before the House Judiciary Committee and in particular the Subcommittee on the Constitution. She was legal counsel to the House Committee on Agriculture and a legislative assistant to Congressman John Shimkus.

Ryan Drysdale
Ryan Drysdale is an assistant director of campus partnerships for the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge at Civic Nation and has ten years of experience in community development and civic engagement. Prior to joining the Challenge, Mr. Drysdale worked with community development organizations in Southeast Asia and has worked, volunteered, and studied on six continents. He has also served as a regional manager for Inspire U.S., a youth civic engagement program in 11 states.

Mr. Drysdale received his BA in international relations from the University of Iowa and his Master’s in international relations from Syracuse University, including coursework in Chile. He is a 2017 New Leaders Council Fellow, served on the advisory board for the Students Learn Students Vote Coalition, and is the executive director of Global Playground.

Jamie Fleet
James (Jamie) P. D. Fleet, II Jamie Fleet serves as Democratic Staff Director for the Committee on House Administration, one of 20 standing Committees in the United States House of Representatives. In this role, Mr. Fleet is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the back-office operations of the House, including human resources, finance, technology, security and other areas of operation.

The Committee also provides oversight for the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, Government Printing Office and the appointed House Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, Chief Administrative Officer, Inspector General). One of the Committee’s most important oversight responsibilities – one in which Mr. Fleet plays a central role – is the oversight of federal elections. During the 111th Congress, the Committee staff, under Mr. Fleet’s direction, reviewed such issues as, voter registration guidelines, military and overseas voting, use of technology in facilitating expanded voting, robocalls and other campaign outreach tools.

He spent several years as a Special Assistant to Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell and eventually formed his own successful campaign consulting firm. In that capacity, he provided guidance for state and national campaigns across the country.
Mr. Fleet also served as a Senior Advisor to City of Philadelphia Controller Jonathan Saidel. His mix of national, state, local and grassroots political experience, gives him unique insight into the U.S. elections system.

Mr. Fleet is a graduate of Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. He and his wife Kate are the proud parents of a young daughter. The Fleets reside in Philadelphia and split their time between Washington, DC and Philadelphia.

**Mike Garcia**

Mike Garcia is an economist and cybersecurity expert. After almost a decade with the U.S. federal government, he has spent the last two years helping private and public entities with cybersecurity strategy and policy, identity and access management, and election security.

From 2011-2017, Mike worked at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, ultimately directing its Trusted Identities Group. Before that he served as senior cybersecurity strategist for the Department of Homeland Security. Mike has also worked as an instructor of agribusiness management at Ohio State, a market research manager, and a software engineer.

Mike’s doctorate is in Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics from Ohio State with foci in Information Security Economics and Resource Economics. Additionally, Mike holds an M.A. in Economics and an MBA from Ohio State, and a B.A. in Economics, a B.S. in Computer Science, and a B.S.Ed. in Education from the University of Dayton. He is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and won’t let you forget it.

**Laura Godfrey**

Laura Godfrey is the vote.gov and Multilingual Community of Practice manager at USAGov, part of the Technology Transformation Services at GSA. With over 20 years of experience in the digital space, Laura leads the efforts to form partnerships with other federal agencies to improve and streamline services. Laura also works to standardize the use of Spanish and broaden the offer of non-English languages in federal government communications. Prior to working for the U.S. government, she worked for the private and international sectors for 15 years.

Laura has a B.A. in communications from the University of Maryland, advanced classical music studies at the Conservatorio de Música Gilardo Gilardi in Buenos
Aires, Argentina, and is a member of the North American Academy of the Spanish Language.

Mandi Grandjean
Amanda (Mandi) M. Grandjean is the director of elections and deputy assistant secretary of state for Secretary of State Frank LaRose. Prior to her time with the LaRose administration, Grandjean served as an attorney at Bricker & Eckler LLP, where her practice focused on election law, campaign finance, public policy, ballot initiatives, ethics and compliance.

Before joining Bricker, Mandi interned for Speaker John Boehner of the U.S. House of Representatives. She has also served as a media liaison for the U.S. Embassy of the Republic of Iraq, worked as a legal intern with the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office and as a law clerk for Judge Daniel R. Hawkins.

Mandi graduated Miami magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa in journalism and political science, where she was also a member of the Miami’s women’s swimming and diving team. She also graduated with honors from the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She currently sits on the Miami University Pre-Law Alumni Advisory Board and the Miami Women in Law and Leadership Committee.

Geoff Hale
Geoff Hale leads the Election Security Initiative at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s (CISA) National Risk Management Center (NRMC). Mr. Hale has supported CISA’s election security mission since the Department stumbled into this space in 2016, with a brief disappearance to remove Kaspersky from federal networks. Over the past four years, Mr. Hale has worked with partners to understand risks election infrastructure and where CISA’s services can add value to election security.

Geoff is a Certified Information Security Manager and has been supporting CISA since 2010.

Tom Hicks
Thomas Hicks was nominated by President Barack H. Obama and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on December 16, 2014 to serve on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). He has served as chairman of the commission for two terms.

Prior to his appointment with EAC, Commissioner Hicks served as a senior elections counsel and minority elections counsel on the U.S. House of
Representatives Committee on House Administration, a position he held from 2003 to 2014. In this role, Mr. Hicks was responsible for issues relating to campaign finance, election reform, contested elections and oversight of both the U.S. Election Assistance Commission and the Federal Election Commission. His primary responsibility was advising and providing guidance to the committee members and caucus on election issues. Mr. Hicks has talked with Americans in every state about their voting experiences. In addition, he has worked with state and local election officials across America to address critical election concerns.

Prior to joining the U.S. House of Representatives, Mr. Hicks served as a senior lobbyist and policy analyst from 2001 to 2003 for Common Cause, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that empowers citizens to make their voices heard in the political process and to hold their elected leaders accountable to the public interest. Mr. Hicks has enjoyed working with state and local election officials, civil rights organizations and all other stakeholders to improve the voting process. Mr. Hicks served from 1993 to 2001 in the Clinton administration as a special assistant and legislative assistant in the Office of Congressional Relations for the Office of Personnel Management. He served as agency liaison to the United State Congress and the president’s administration on matters regarding federal personnel policies and regulations.

Mr. Hicks received his J.D. from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law and his B.A. in Government from Clark University (Worcester, MA). He also studied at the University of London (London, England) and law at the University of Adelaide (Adelaide, Australia).

Ben Hovland
Benjamin Hovland was nominated by President Donald J. Trump and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on January 2, 2019 to serve on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

Most recently, he served as Acting Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, where he was a driving force behind Congress appropriating $380 million in Help America Vote Act funds to enhance election security to the states in 2018. While at the Senate, he focused on the federal government’s role in election administration and campaign finance regulation. He organized several hearings on election security preparations and improving election administration. He was integral to restoring a quorum at the EAC in 2015.

Earlier in his career, as the Deputy General Counsel for the Missouri Secretary of State’s office, he focused on legal issues related to the administration of state and
federal elections, including recounts, poll worker training, voter registration list maintenance, statewide database matching, voter education resources and ballot initiative litigation.

As an attorney for the Fair Elections Legal Network, Hovland's energies were focused on protecting Americans’ access to the ballot box. Thanks to his efforts, the court struck down a misleading ballot title that may have led to additional barriers to voter participation in Missouri, keeping it off the ballot. In Florida, he litigated to stop efforts to purge voters from the rolls based on inaccurate data matching in the lead up to the election.

Commissioner Hovland received his B.A. from the University of Central Arkansas and his J.D. from University of Oregon.

Keith Ingram
Keith Ingram is the Director for the Elections Division of the Office of the Texas Secretary of State. Mr. Ingram graduated Magna Cum Laude from Texas A&M University with a degree in Political Science followed by a juris doctorate with honors from the University of Texas School of Law in Austin, Texas in 1993. Mr. Ingram practiced law in McAllen and Austin, Texas and in Little Rock, Arkansas. He served from 2008-2012 in Governor Perry's appointments office working primarily on judicial appointments. Mr. Ingram currently serves as the Director of Elections Division, Texas Secretary of State.

Lindsey Kerr
Lindsey Kerr serves as Democratic Chief Counsel on the Senate Rules Committee under Ranking Member Amy Klobuchar. She manages the Committee’s policy work, including on issues related to campaign finance, elections, and cybersecurity. Prior to her current role, Lindsey served as Senior Counsel to Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN). Lindsey came to Capitol Hill as a PhD candidate studying law and politics with the American Political Science Association’s Doctoral Fellowship Program. She graduated from Georgia State University and received a Master’s in comparative politics, as well as a JD from the Georgia State University College of Law.

Bob Kolasky
Bob Kolasky was selected to lead the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s (CISA) National Risk Management Center (NRMC) in 2018, at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). As Assistant Director, he oversees the Center’s efforts to facilitate a strategic, cross-sector risk management approach to cyber and physical threats to critical infrastructure.
He most recently served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary for NPPD’s Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP), before it became the CISA Infrastructure Security Division on November 16, 2018, where he led the coordinated national effort to reduce the risk posed by acts of terrorism and other cyber or physical threats to the nation’s critical infrastructure, including soft targets and crowded spaces.

Mr. Kolasky has served in a number of other senior leadership roles, including acting Deputy Under Secretary for NPPD before it became CISA. In that position, he helped to oversee CISA’s efforts to secure the nation’s physical and cyber infrastructure. He has also held a position as the Director of Strategy and Policy for the Infrastructure Security Division and served as Director of the DHS Cyber-Physical Critical Infrastructure Integrated Task Force to implement Presidential Policy Directive 21 on Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience, as well as Executive Order 13636 on Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity. He is also the former Assistant Director for the Office of Risk Management Analysis at DHS where he was responsible for developing policies and processes to enable risk-informed strategic decisions by DHS.

Mr. Kolasky joined the Federal government in 2008 after six years as a management consultant. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1994 and from the Harvard Kennedy School in 2002.

Nicole Lagace
Nicole first entered public service when she joined Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea’s senior leadership team in December 2015. As Senior Advisor and Chief of Information, she oversees the Secretary of State’s IT department and is responsible for developing innovative communications strategies that make government more accessible to Rhode Islanders. Previously Nicole worked in the nonprofit sector with a focus on communicating public policy and turning complex concepts into user-friendly products. She is determined to increase civic literacy and participation throughout her state and make sure all eligible Rhode Islanders will #BeAVoter.

Michelle Ciulla Lipkin
Michelle Ciulla Lipkin is the Executive Director of the National Association for Media Literacy Education. As Executive Director, Michelle has helped NAMLE grow to be the preeminent media literacy education association in the U.S. She launched the first ever Media Literacy Week in the U.S. in 2015, developed strategic partnerships with companies such as Trend Micro, Thomson Reuters, Nickelodeon, Facebook and Twitter,
and restructured both the governance and membership of the organization. Since she began her tenure as Executive Director, NAMLE has grown from 300 members to over 6,500. She has overseen four national conferences and done countless appearances at conferences and in the media regarding the importance of media literacy education. Michelle has advocated for greater media literacy education through CNN, PBS News Hour, NPR, The New York Times, and Al Jazeera English. Michelle is also an adjunct lecturer at Brooklyn College in the TV/Radio department where she teaches media literacy.

Matt Masterson
Mr. Masterson currently serves as senior cybersecurity advisor at the Department of Homeland Security, where he focuses on election security issues. Previously Masterson served as a commissioner at the U.S. Election Assistance Commission from December 2014 until March 2018 including serving as the Commission’s Chairman in 2017-2018. Prior to that, he held staff positions with the Ohio Secretary of State’s office, where he oversaw voting-system certification efforts and helped develop an online voter registration system. He holds a law degree from the University of Dayton, School of Law and BS and BA degrees from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Maria Matthews
Maria Matthews is the Director of the Division of Elections at the Florida Department of State.

Christy McCormick
Christy McCormick was nominated by President Barack H. Obama and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on December 16, 2014 to serve on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). She was quickly elected by her fellow Commissioners as Chairwoman of the reconstituted Commission for the 2015-2016 term. As the agency’s first chairperson in four years, she re-established the operation of the Commission itself, as well as the Commission’s three advisory boards: the EAC Standards Board, Board of Advisors, and Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC).

Prior to her appointment with the EAC, Commissioner McCormick served as a Senior Trial Attorney in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice, a position she held from 2006 until joining the Commission.
In that role, Ms. McCormick was responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of federal voting statutes, including the Voting Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act, the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE). Additionally, Ms. McCormick worked with election officials to monitor compliance with federal voting statutes, especially the Voting Rights Act and its minority language requirements, and fair administration of elections. She has observed numerous elections, and worked with election officials all across America.

Ms. McCormick was detailed by the Deputy Attorney General to be Senior Attorney Advisor and Acting Deputy Rule of Law Coordinator in the Office of the Rule of Law Coordinator at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq from 2009 to 2010, where she worked as the U.S. elections expert overseeing the Iraq national elections (including an extensive election re-count), as well as on numerous U.S. and coalition Rule of Law efforts. She was the Rule of Law liaison to the Kurdish Regional Government as well as liaison to rule of law advisors at the Provincial Reconstruction Teams. Prior to joining the Department of Justice, Ms. McCormick served as a Judicial Clerk to the Honorable Elizabeth A. McClanahan in the Court of Appeals of Virginia from 2003 to 2006. Ms. McCormick was an Assistant Attorney General and Assistant to the Solicitor General in the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia from 2001 to 2003. She was a member of the U.S. Supreme Court legal teams for Black v. Virginia (defending the Commonwealth’s criminal statute against cross-burning) and Hicks v. Virginia (defending a 1st amendment challenge to a state trespassing policy), as well as in cases on appeal to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. She was a Judicial Law Clerk in Virginia’s Seventh Judicial Circuit Court from 1999 to 2001.

Ms. McCormick received her B.A. from the University of Buffalo, a J.D. with honors from the George Mason University School of Law (now Antonin Scalia Law School), and also attended the William & Mary School of Law.

**Don Palmer**

Donald Palmer was nominated by President Donald J. Trump and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate on January 2, 2019 to serve on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). Commissioner Palmer is a former Bipartisan Policy Center Fellow where he advanced the recommendations of the Presidential Commission on Election Administration to resolve the voting technology crisis, find ways to reduce lines of voters, and improve the voting experience. He provided testimony to state legislatures on election administration and voting reforms and partnered with state election officials and state legislators in support of election modernization across the country.
Palmer is a former Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections and served as the commonwealth’s Chief Election Official from 2011-2014. During his tenure, he implemented an online voter registration system and joined Virginia as a founding member of ERIC, a non-profit organization with the sole mission of assisting states to improve the accuracy of America’s voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. Palmer strengthened the security and accuracy of voting tabulation machines in Virginia with the establishment of a voting system testing certification program. He also served as the Florida’s Director of Elections where he successfully transitioned the state from electronic voting machines to paper based voting tabulation machines prior to the 2008 Presidential Election and expanded the Florida voting system state certification program.

Palmer is a military veteran, retiring from the U.S. Navy after two decades as an intelligence officer and judge advocate general. He was deployed onboard the USS John F. Kennedy and USS Eisenhower and served overseas in Europe and Southwest Asia. He served as a naval intelligence analyst at the United State Central Command focusing on East Africa. Prior to Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan), Palmer deployed from Europe to the USS Carl Vinson operating in the Arabian Sea. During his naval service, he was awarded the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Joint Service Commendation Medal. Commissioner Palmer earned his J.D. at the Stetson University College of Law and his master’s degree at George Washington University.

**Chris Piper**
Christopher E. “Chris” Piper was appointed Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Elections in January 2018. Previously, he served as Deputy Director of the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission and as Executive Director of the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council. He also served as Manager of the Campaign Finance Division and as Manager of Election Services at the Virginia Department of Elections and a political compliance consultant at an international law firm. Chris is an avid long distance runner who has completed eleven marathons and is a certified running coach. But mostly he enjoys relaxing with his wife, two teenagers, and two dogs. Fun fact: Chris spent a lot of his teenage years following the Grateful Dead and other bands around the country. What a long strange trip it’s been!

**Noah Praetz**
Noah Praetz formerly ran elections in Cook County Illinois. Currently he consults on Election Operations and Security. He is also an adjunct law professor at DePaul University College of Law. He started as a temporary worker hired to do data entry prior to the 2000 presidential election. Bush v. Gore had him hooked. He worked his way through the ranks doing nearly every
job in elections - learned all the pain points and all the opportunities. He went to law school at night. In 2019 he left Cook County to primarily support the federal election security effort. Noah has published articles on elections security, election day administration and referendum law in Illinois.

**Kevin Rayburn**
Kevin Rayburn is the Deputy Elections Director and Deputy General Counsel for the Georgia Office of the Secretary of State. Kevin previously worked as Assistant Director and Legal Counsel for the Tennessee Secretary of State’s office and as a private attorney. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence and Master of Business Administration from the University of Tennessee. Kevin has served in an advisory capacity to a number of organizations including the Election Assistance Commission, Bipartisan Policy Center, Uniform Law Commission, and Tennessee Bar Association.

**Mark Riccobono**
Mark Riccobono was diagnosed with glaucoma and aniridia at age five. Nonetheless, he attended public schools, graduating with honors. Mark earned a degree in business administration; and, after graduation, became the director of the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Later, he took a position with the National Federation of the Blind and earned a master’s degree in educational studies. While serving as the executive director of the NFB Jernigan Institute, Mark navigated a car equipped with nonvisual technology at the Daytona International Speedway. At its 2014 convention, the National Federation of the Blind elected Mark as its president. Mark and his wife, Melissa, have three children, Austin, Oriana, and Elizabeth.

**Rob Rock**
Rob is a 2005 graduate of the University of Rhode Island with a bachelor’s degree in political science. He began working at the Rhode Island Department of State as an intern in the summer of 2005. Rob was an Elections Assistant from 2005 – 2013 when he left to become the Town Administrator for the Town of Richmond, RI. In 2015, Rob returned to the RI Department of State to serve as Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea’s Director of Elections. Rob also has a Master’s in Public Administration from the University of Rhode Island.

**Brian Scully**
Brian Scully is Chief of the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Countering Foreign Influence Task Force. In this role, Brian leads the Department’s effort to build National resilience to foreign influence operations. Previously, Brian served as Director for
Strategy and Policy Programs at the DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP). As Director, Brian led development and implementation of National critical infrastructure security and resilience strategy and policy. Prior to joining IP, Brian spent three years at the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) as Branch Chief for Intelligence Strategy. Brian began his DHS career at FEMA, where he spent almost 9 years in a variety of positions to include Senior Advisor for Emergency Management to Secretary Napolitano, Senior Policy Advisor to Administrator Fugate, and Special Assistant to Administrator Paulison. Before joining the Federal government, Brian held positions in state and local government, private sector, and a non-profit organization.

**Ben Spear**

Ben Spear is the Director of the Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC) where he serves as a cybersecurity resource for state and local election officials and coordinated the nationwide deployment of an elections-focused cyber defense suite in advance of the 2018 Midterm Elections. Prior to this, Ben served in various roles on the MS-ISAC cyber intelligence team, developing innovative new ways to identify and present current cyber threat trends to SLTT constituents and providing expertise on critical infrastructure security. With his past experience developing law enforcement training for New York State and educational background in history, political science, and public administration, Ben has a unique perspective of the who, how, and why of malicious cyber activity. In his free time, Ben can be found with his wife (and new baby girl) at one of the many festivals in New York’s Capital Region, a concert or Broadway musical, or planning their next big trip. Ben is an avid reader of political and technology blogs and has a knack for strategy games.

**Michelle Tassinari**

Michelle Tassinari is the Director and Legal Counsel for the Elections Division in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. She is a graduate of Brandeis University and New England Law. She has served as editor and authored multiple chapters regarding election laws for Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education. She is currently Vice President of the National Association of State Election Directors. Ms. Tassinari serves on the Bipartisan Policy Center Task Force of Election Reform and on the Council of State Government’s Overseas Voting Initiative. Ms. Tassinari also serves as the state designee to the Election Assistance Commission’s Standards Board and the NASED representative to the Board of Advisors.
Trevor Timmons
Trevor Timmons has served the Colorado Secretary of State as Chief Information Officer since 2007 after eight years as Deputy CIO and Director of Software Development. During his time in Colorado, the office has gained a national reputation in several areas including elections administration, business registrations, and cyber security operations. In 2017, Colorado became the first state in the U.S. to implement statewide risk-limiting audits of voter-verified paper ballots for all federal and state elections. Colorado routinely ranks among the top states in the nation in voter participation and the percentage of eligible persons registered to vote.

Maurice Turner
Maurice Turner is Deputy Director of the Internet Architecture project at the Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT). Supporting work across all of CDT’s programmatic areas, Turner focuses on the Election Security and Privacy Project identifying and updating election cybersecurity practices and infrastructure, and working through potential remedies. A former CDT policy intern early in his career, Turner most recently served as a TechCongress Congressional Innovation Fellow assigned to the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, where he shaped policy and oversaw the preparation of memos, briefings, and hearings on federal IT systems, cybersecurity threats, and cybersecurity regulations. He has also played an active role in local elections in California and Virginia, holding progressively responsible positions from clerk to lead inspector overseeing multiple precincts, and providing him with firsthand insight into the transition from paper to electronic ballots. Turner holds an MA in Public Administration from USC, and a Certificate in Cybersecurity Strategy from Georgetown University.

Steve Trout
Steve Trout has over 20 years’ experience in election law and administration. He has worked in elections at the state level, county level, and in the private sector. He currently serves as Oregon’s Director of Elections, Immediate Past Chair of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), and Treasurer for the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED). He also serves as Secretary and on the Executive Board of the US Election Assistance Commission Standards Board and chairs the Standards Board’s Voluntary Voting System Guidelines committee. Previously he served as the Director of Election Innovation at Clear Ballot, and served on the EAC’s Future of VVSG Workgroup. While in Oregon, Steve pioneered using tablets in elections and automatic voter registration. Steve also worked in the private sector for 5 years.
assisting local governments with compliance with election laws, including HAVA and the Voting Rights Act, as well as with election administration and training. He has also served as Senior Election Counsel to the California Secretary of State and as Assistant Registrar of Voters in San Bernardino County, CA. He has served as counsel to the California Voting Modernization Board, and has taught continuing legal education seminars on election law and HAVA to state and county counsel from throughout the country. Steve holds a Juris Doctor in Law, Bachelor of Science in Managerial Economics, and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, all from the University of California - Davis.

Wendy Underhill
Wendy Underhill is the program director for elections and redistricting at the National Conference of State Legislatures, headquartered in Denver. She has been with NCSL for eight years. During the first four years, Ms. Underhill specialized in research and analysis on elections issues, such as voter ID, voting technology, voter registration, early voting and more. NCSL’s web resources on these topics are the nation’s standard—and these always benefit from fact-checking by state election directors.

Over time, campaign finance, partisan control of legislatures, and now redistricting have been added to Wendy’s portfolio. Even so, election policy remains her favorite topic.

Matthew Weil
Matthew Weil is director of the Bipartisan Policy Center’s Elections Project. Prior to joining BPC in February 2013, he worked at the Department of the Treasury on domestic finance issues in the office of public affairs. Previously, he served as a research and policy analyst at the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. He also served as a staff member on the AEI-Brookings Election Reform Project. Weil graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a M.S. in government analytics. He earned a B.A. in philosophy, politics, and economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Brittany Westfall
Brittany Westfall has worked at the West Virginia Secretary of State’s office since April 2012, first as an Elections Specialist, then as the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) Coordinator, and now as Director of Elections. She administered the development of West Virginia’s online voter registration system in 2015, and she has been working to make voting easier for military and overseas voters since 2013, first with online ballot delivery and now with mobile voting. She has been a member of the
Standards Board for the United States Election Assistance Commission since April 2017. Brittany holds a BA in Political Science and a MA in Political Science from Marshall University.

**Chris Wlaschin**  
Chris joined ES&S as the Vice President of Systems Security and Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) in April 2018. In this role he is responsible for company-wide security efforts including product, operational and infrastructure security. Prior to joining ES&S, Chris was the Chief Information Security Officer for the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington D.C. where he oversaw cybersecurity efforts for the Department. He has held other senior cybersecurity leadership positions in both the public and private sector including the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, National Research Corporation, and the University of Nebraska.

Chris served with the United States Navy for over 20 years in a variety of leadership positions. He earned his master’s degree from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelor of Science in Technology Education from Southern Illinois University. He also holds a current CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional) certification.

Chris is the Chairman of the Election Industry - Subsector Coordinating Council (EI-SCC) and a Federal Advisory Board Member for the Dell/EMC Corporation.

**Meagan Wolfe**  
Meagan Wolfe is the Administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission, serving as the state’s Chief Election Official. Meagan was appointed by the bi-partisan, six-member Commission in February of 2018 and unanimously confirmed by the Wisconsin State Senate in May of 2019 for a four-year term. Serving as an election security advocate and ambassador for the needs of Wisconsin’s clerks and voters remains her highest priority as the state prepares for the 2020 election cycle. A significant part of her job is ensuring that Wisconsin’s 1,922 local election officials (the most of any state) have the resources and technology they need to conduct elections. Meagan previously served as WEC’s Deputy Administrator, managing the teams that develop and maintain the statewide voter registration system, election security, and all other IT applications of the Commission. Meagan joined state service in 2011, starting as the state’s voter outreach coordinator and later as an elections IT project manager leading the multi-year redesign of the MyVote Wisconsin voter information portal, a project driven by data collected from comprehensive usability and accessibility studies.