Developing a Ongoing, Sustainable TTX Program

How Wisconsin Implemented a TTX Program for 1,922 Local Election Officials and Next Steps

Meagan Wolfe, Administrator
Wisconsin Elections Commission
NASED Summer Meeting 2019
Overview

Why Wisconsin implemented a TTX program.

How Wisconsin implemented a TTX program.

What’s next?
Why Wisconsin developed a TTX program

Who are Wisconsin’s Local Election Officials
Create resonate training for an audience with low or no technical expertise.

Engage local election officials as partners.

Utilize existing relationships among locals.

Identify and leverage the expertise of the local election officials.

Create training that is flexible and easily accessible.

Why Wisconsin Developed a TTX Program

To leverage local election official expertise and engagement to create an ongoing and resonant election security training program.
How Wisconsin Developed a Ongoing, Sustainable TTX Program

How Wisconsin Implemented a TTX Program for 1,922 Local Election Officials

In 2018 we held nearly 10 train-the-trainer events around the state. Paid costs.

TTX in a Box. Created easy to access TTX materials. Flexible to meet jurisdiction’s unique needs.

Low cost. Lead to ongoing training.

Utilized existing county/regional training relationships and models.
What the TTX Program Looks Like

Learning Center. Password access.

Time Clock. Video or application.

Resources. Contingency plan.
Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Materials and Resources

We are excited to provide you with the following materials and resources for you to use to conduct an Election Day Tabletop Exercise (TTX). As always, please feel free to reach out to our team if you have questions, concerns, or just need some help.

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TTX Preparation

In this section you will find an event checklist and PowerPoint presentation to answer the question "What is a Tabletop Exercise?" and to outline the scenario details. This PowerPoint contains notes to help guide the facilitator through the presentation.

- Day of Checklist
- Introduction to Tabletop Exercise & Scenario Overview

Tabletop Exercise Materials (Documents for Entire State Exercise)

The materials to conduct a full, statewide tabletop exercise include simulation instructions, state/county/municipalities, scenario injections, flavor injections, response log, clock, and inject table.

- Simulation Instructions
- State of Midlands Documents
- Catawba County Documents
- City of Barrington Documents
- Town of Hancock Documents
- Dorado County Documents
- City of Sidney Documents
- City of Whitakers Documents
- Fremont County Documents
- Town of Blue Gap Documents
- Town of Windham Documents
- Flavor Injects (for State)
- Flavor Injects (for each County)
- Flavor Injects (for each Municipality)
- Response Log
- Moderator Tip Sheet
Learning Center. Password access.

Time Clock. Video or application.

Resources. Contingency plan.
Breaking News:
Attackers infiltrate elections programming

By DYLAN SMITH  NOVEMBER 6, 2018

An anonymous source within Democracy Directive, the third-party vendor used by Fremont and Nicon Counties to program their election equipment, has revealed that their internal networks have been breached by an unknown assailant as many as 45 days ago. It is as yet unknown how much access this attacker had and what changes they might have made, but there is significant overlap between the time the breach is believed to have occurred and the time during which voting equipment was programmed for today’s election.
What the TTX Program Looks Like

Learning Center. Password access.

Time Clock. Video or application.

Resources. Contingency plan.
Follow Up Discussion / Feedback

Guidance to help facilitate the “did we do it right?” and “how should we have done it?” discussion. In addition, to obtain feedback about the training, we have included our After Action Response worksheet.

Discussion Resource
After Action Report Worksheet

Additional Resources

Based on some of the feedback we received during our election security training and tabletop exercises, we have created some additional election security resources for you to share.

One is an Election Day Emergency Response Plan template. We recommend that you download this Word document and tailor it to fit your needs. We hope that it provides a starting point and/or some additional guidance on ways to respond to emergencies on Election Day.

In addition, we have included an Election Security Communications Guide to aid in responding to an election-related security incident quickly and in a coordinated fashion.

We have also included a video on election security training and related resources and a memorandum to governing bodies.

Election Day Emergency Response Plan Template
Election Security Communications Guide
Elections Security Training Video

★ This file is password protected: W3C5w2_BC

Memorandum to Governing Bodies Regarding Election Security Awareness

Post Training - Contact WEC

Now that you have completed your training, we want to hear from you. We created a quick survey for you to complete which includes questions concerning when your training occurred and who participated. Please click the link to complete the short survey.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8GP895P
What the TTX Program Looks Like

- Script and Inject-**State** Table.
- Script and Inject-**County** Table.
- Script and Inject-**Municipal** Table.
- Flavor Injects- **All** Tables.
8:00 AM – Hand out MidVote 2
8:15 AM – Read MidVote 3 aloud to participants (Media Inquiry)
8:30 AM – Fake 3 appears on screen
8:45 AM – Read Fake 5 aloud to participants
9:00 AM – Read MidVote 4 aloud to participants
10:00 AM – Read MidVote 5 aloud to participants
11:30 AM – MidVote 6 appears on screen
12:15 PM – [OPTIONAL] “The occupants of several phones are unable to find themselves in MyVote; the Fremont...
1:30 PM – Programming 2 appears on screen
1:45 PM – Read Programming 3 aloud to participants
3:15 PM – Hand out Email 2
4:15 PM – Read Email 3 aloud to participants (Note: by county/municipalities during Email 1 at 3:00 PM
5:30 PM – Car 4 appears on screen
6:30 PM – Car 5 appears on screen
7:00 PM – Read MidVote 7 aloud to participants
8:45 PM – Read DDOS 4 aloud to participants

There is a surge in angry calls from members of the public demanding to know why voters are being removed from poll books. Phone staff are overwhelmed with callers shouting about a conspiracy by the Elections Commission
What the TTX Program Looks Like

- Script and Inject-**State** Table.
- Script and Inject-**County** Table.
- Script and Inject-**Municipal** Table.
- Flavor Injects- **All** Tables.
Catawba County Script

7:45 AM – Hand out MidVote 2

8:15 AM – Read Fake 1 aloud to participants; if participants inquire about tweet, hand out Fake 2

8:30 AM – Fake 3 appears on screen

9:00 AM – Read Fake 4 aloud to participants

11:30 AM – MidVote 6 appears on screen

1:00 PM – Read Vandals 1 aloud to participants, if participants inquire about website, hand out Vandals 2

1:30 PM – Programming 2 appears on screen

2:00 PM – Hand out Vandals 3

2:30 PM – Read Vandals 4 aloud to participants (Media Inquiry)

3:00 PM – Hand out Email 1 (Note to moderator: Email 1 email contains malicious link. If participant chose to click link, run Email 3 scenario at 4:15 PM)

4:15 PM – Read Email 3 aloud to participants (Note to moderator: SKIPPABLE based on actions taken during Email 1 at 3:00 PM)

4:45 PM – Hand out Fake 6

5:30 PM – Car 4 appears on screen

6:30 PM – Car 5 appears on screen

9:00 PM – [OPTIONAL] “Some polling places are reporting that th: They are getting an error that the host cannot be reached.”

Did Catawba County Clerk tweet bigoted remarks?

By DYLAN SMITH  NOVEMBER 6, 2018

Early Election Day morning, residents of Catawba County were shocked to see a tweet from a Twitter user calling themselves the Catawba County Clerk who appeared to be making disparaging remarks regarding immigrant voters. At press time, this reporter was unable to confirm whether or not the account actually has any connection to
What the TTX Program Looks Like

Script and Inject-**State** Table.

Script and Inject-**County** Table.

Script and Inject-**Municipal** Table.

Flavor Injects- **All** Tables.
6:15 AM – [OPTIONAL] “A pollworker fails to arrive. He does not answer his phone.”

7:45 AM – [OPTIONAL] “There are larger than anticipated numbers of voters. They have questions.”

8:30 AM – Fake 3 appears on screen

11:30 AM – MidVote 6 appears on screen

1:30 PM – Programming 2 appears on screen

3:00 PM – Hand out Email 1 (Note to moderator: Email 1 click link, run Email 3 scenario at 4:15 PM)

4:15 PM – Read Email 3 aloud to participants (Note to moderator: Read during Email 1 at 3:00 PM)

4:30 PM – Read Car 1 aloud to participants

5:00 PM – Read Car 2 aloud to participants

5:30 PM – Car 4 appears on screen

6:00 PM – Read Car 3 aloud to participants

6:30 PM – Car 5 appears on screen

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Dear clerk:

We have been receiving a lot of phone calls from voters who are being sent to the wrong polling place by MyVote. Please immediately sign in to MidVote using the link below and verify the accuracy of your polling place information. Failure to do so could cause voters to sue for disenfranchisement by providing incorrect polling place information.

https://MidVote.Mid.gov/PollingPlace

Thank you,

Joe Feelsen
MidVote Elections Specialist
Midlands Elections Commission
What the TTX Program Looks Like

Script and Inject- **State** Table.

Script and Inject- **County** Table.

Script and Inject- **Municipal** Table.

Flavor Injects- **All** Tables.
Moderator's note: The elector has the same name as his son. His son came in and voted, and signed on the wrong line.

Verbal: An elector came in to vote but had already signed the poll book. The elector claims that he did not already vote and is furious that someone is stealing his vote. He is threatening to call the police and news media.

Voter complains loudly to chief inspector about school children holding bake sale in hallway outside room where voting is taking place, says some baked goods contain peanuts, which disenfranchise her.

A voter wearing a shirt that says, "if you don't vote, you can't squawk" brings a bird cage with a noisy parrot to the polling place. She claims the parrot is her service animal, and she's too nervous to vote without it. She refuses to leave until she can vote.

A voter pulls "rare earth magnet" on a string out of his sock as he approaches the tabulator, waves it around the machine.
Keep it Dynamic. Be willing to adjust and use feedback.


Encourage local officials to make it their own.

Separate “Show and Tell” TTX & State/National level.

Keep it short. Full day vs. 3 hour version.

Impacts and Lessons Learned

What We Learned After Nearly 100 TTX Events

with More than 1,500 Participants
What’s Next For Our TTX Program

Expanding Interactive, Scenario Based Training Offerings


Election Administration TTX Training. Poll workers and LEO.

Communications TTX. Media training and holding communications.

State and National TTX. Next “Show and Tell” TTX event October 2019.
We’re Happy to Share!

To get an account for our learning center to access our TTX materials, email elections@wi.gov

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