PROTECTING MARYLAND’S VOTING PROCESS
Mitigating threats and improving Harford County’s voting process

A CLOSER LOOK

The Help America Vote Act of 2002 made sweeping reforms to the nation’s voting processes to include voting systems and voter access. Changes to voting systems included electronic equipment and the phasing out of paper punch cards that became a point of contention during the 2000 presidential election. The integrity of the new electronic systems was not challenged until the 2016 presidential election, when the Department of Homeland Security admitted that 21 states, including Maryland, were targets of attacks to their voting systems.

We are partnering with Harford County, Maryland, to holistically examine potential physical, cyber, and human vulnerabilities to Election Day voting processes. We are identifying threats, proposing mitigations, and developing a model that manages total risk. We are also creating educational materials for Board of Elections personnel to use to train election judges and be cyber aware.

OUTCOMES

- Enable Harford County to administer Election Day voting with increased confidence in the security of their process
- Empower Board of Elections personnel and election judges to mitigate cyber, physical, and human behavior threats
- Implement mitigations and practices to combat process threats

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