A BIPARTISAN INITIATIVE

DEFENDING DIGITAL DEMOCRACY

HARVARD Kennedy School
BELFER CENTER
for Science and International Affairs
Defending Digital Democracy Project

NCSL Election Security Conference
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Caitlin Conley
Matt McCalpin
Irene Solaiman

Defending Digital Democracy Project

1. **Convening leaders** from tech sector, government, academia, and the media to develop best practices for basic risk mitigation steps and implementation

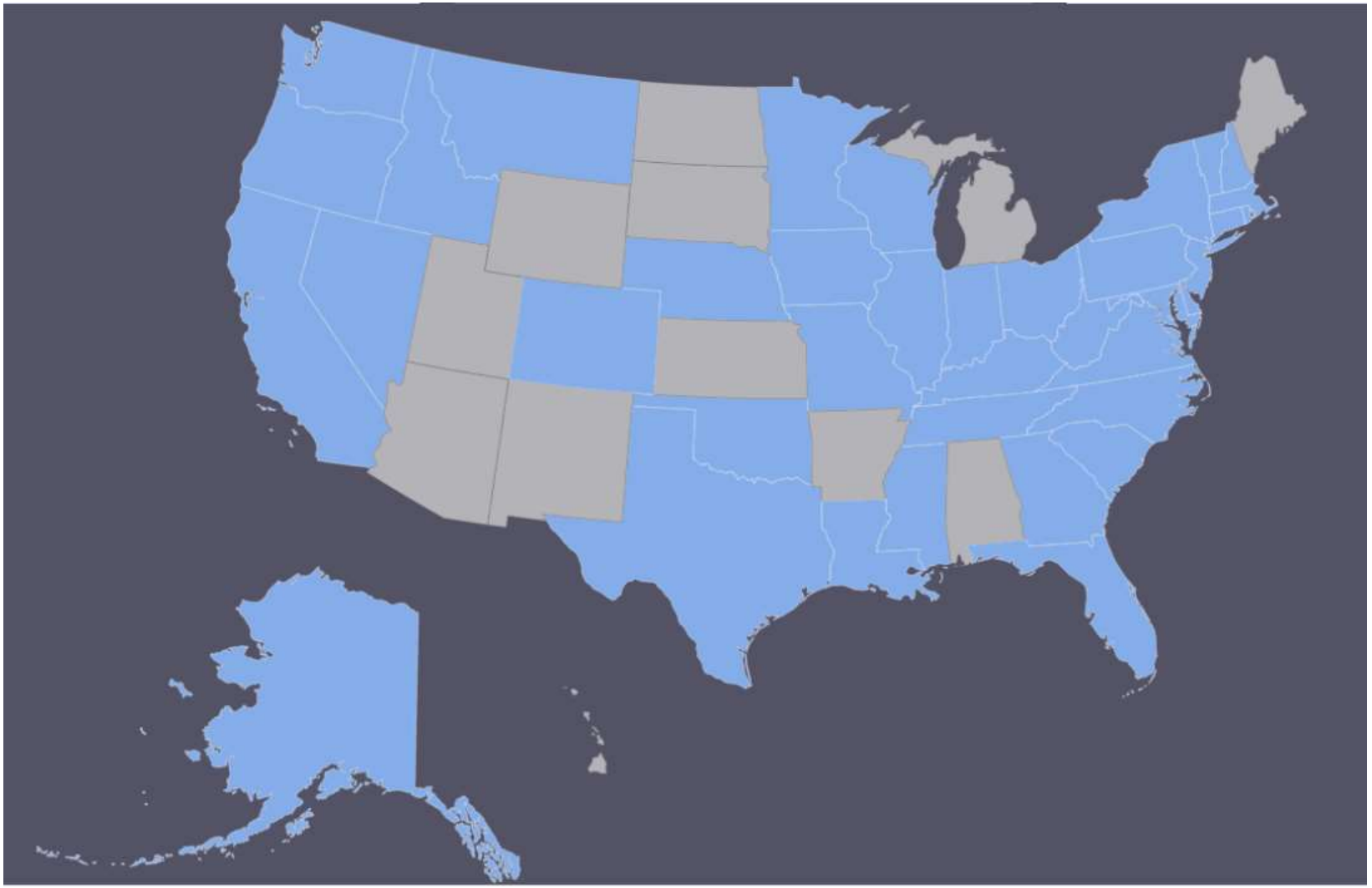
2. **Helping those on the frontline**—campaigns and election officials—understand the risks they face from cybersecurity and information operations

3. **Providing practical "playbooks"** to improve readiness

4. **Emphasizing training and preparedness** as fundamental to success—a plan is only as good as its execution

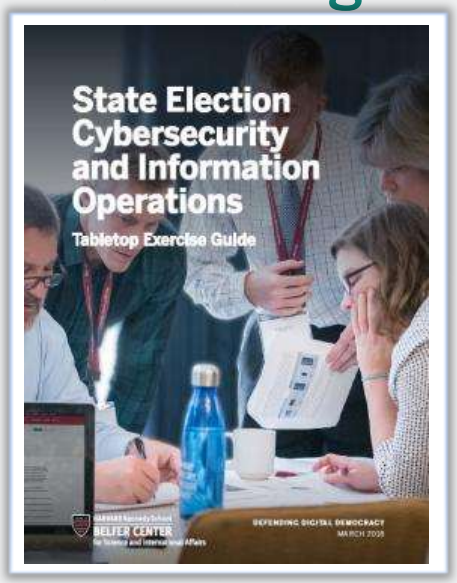
5. **Empowering policymakers** to better understand the issues so they can become more effective advocates

D3P Election Outreach

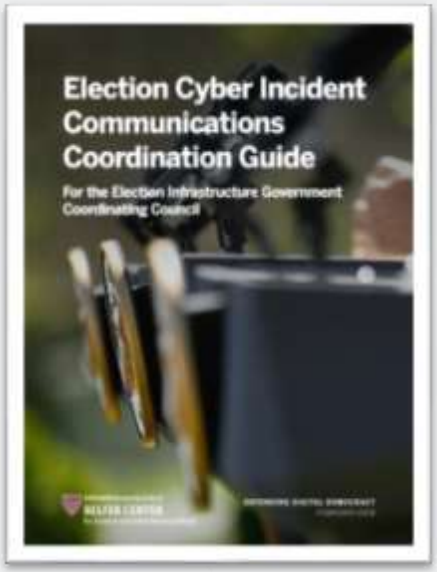


D3P Lines of Operation

Election Officials
Recommendations & Training



Election Officials & EIGCC
Communications Guides

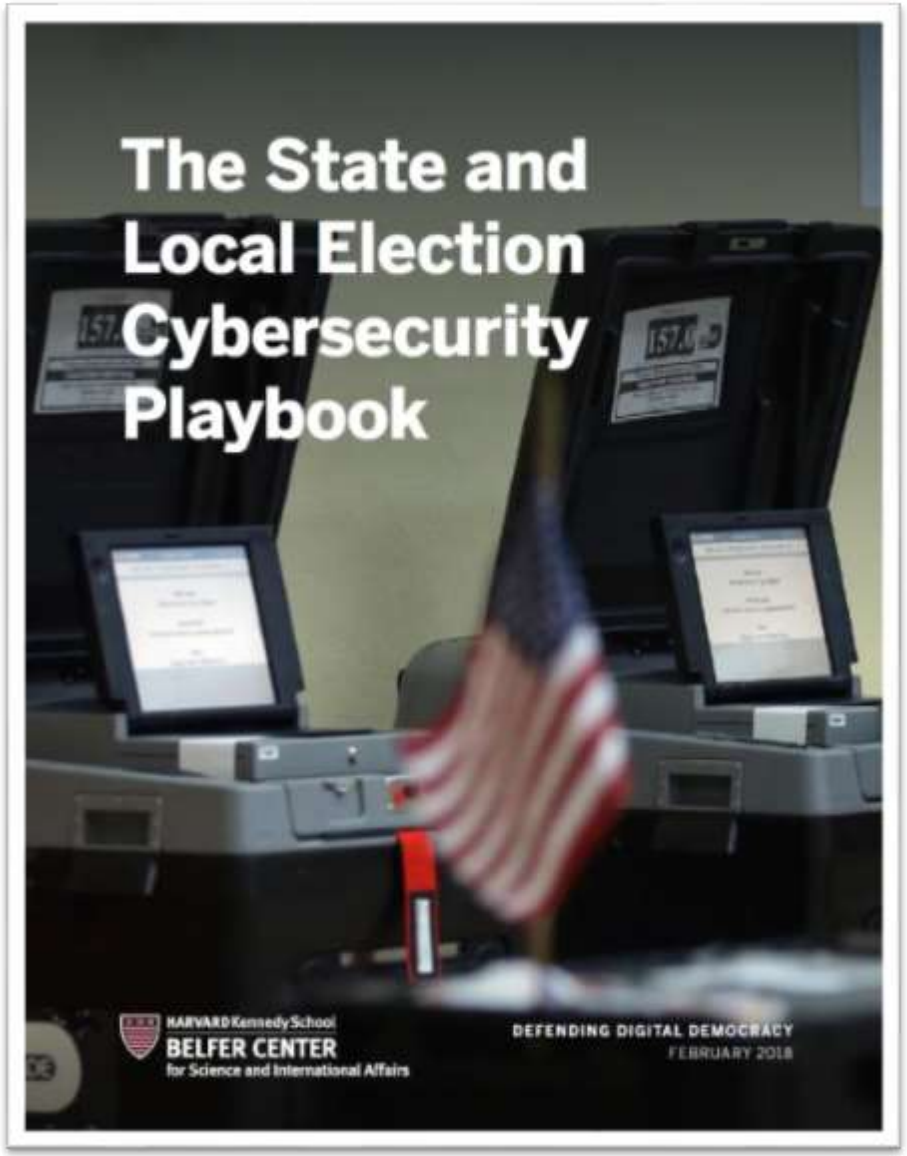


Election Officials
Table-Top Exercises

SEP 2017	DEC 2017	MAR 2018

Campaigns

State and Local Election Cybersecurity Playbook



Your No-Fail Mission

Protect the integrity of the elections process and preserve the public's confidence in the system.

S&L Playbook Components

- **Playbook Approach**
- **Common Ground**
  - 10 Best Practices for All Election Jurisdictions
  - Research Insights by Election System
- **Technical Recommendations by System**
  - Voter Registration Databases
  - Vote Casting Devices
  - Vote Tallying Systems
  - Election Night Reporting
  - Internal and Public-Facing Communications
- **Appendices**
  - Vendor Selection and Maintenance
  - Election Audits
  - External Resources

Potential Malicious Actors

POSSIBLE ACTORS


Nation-State Actors


Criminals


Black Hat Hackers


Insiders


Terrorists


Politically Motivated Groups

POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS


Financial Gain


Retribution for Perceived Grievances

Fame and Reputation


Sow Social Division


Foment Chaos / Anarchy

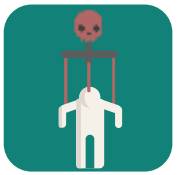

Subvert Political Opposition


Foreign Policy / National Interests


Undermine Trust in Democracy

Common Tactics: Cyber Operations

Hacking



Social Engineering

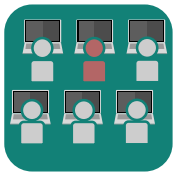
SQL Injection

Spear-Phishing

Port Scans

DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service)

Man-in-the-Middle



Insider Threat

Common Tactics: Information Operations

Information Operations (IO) includes propaganda, disinformation, and other tools used to manipulate public perception.

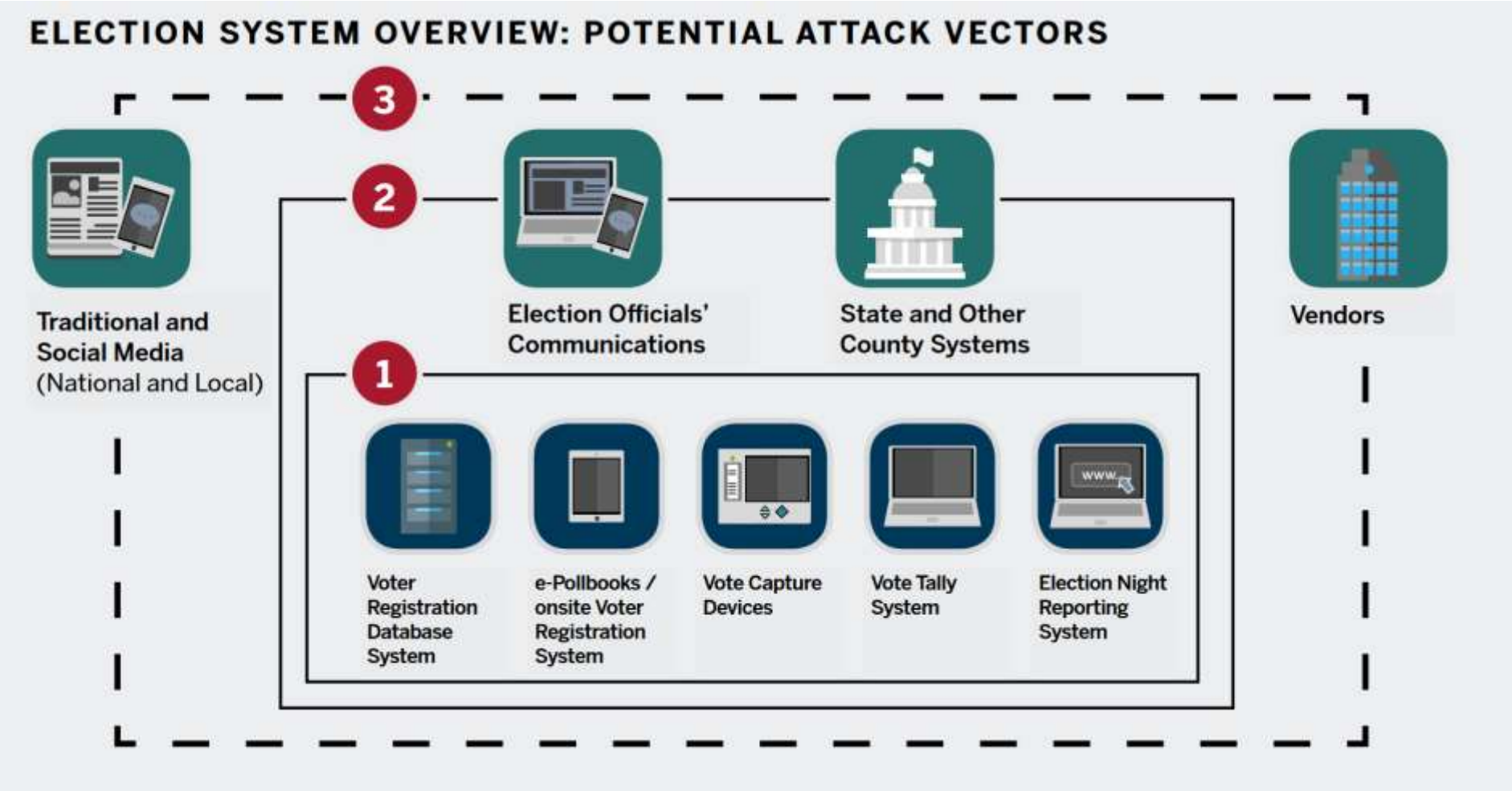
Leaking Stolen Information

Spreading False Information

Amplifying Divisive Content

Manipulating Public Facing Communications

Elections as a System of Systems



10 Best Practices for All Jurisdictions

1. Create a **proactive security culture.**
2. Treat elections as an **interconnected system.**
3. Have a **paper vote record.**
4. Use **audits to show transparency** and maintain trust in the elections process.
5. Implement **strong passwords** with **two-factor authentication**, and **change defaults**.

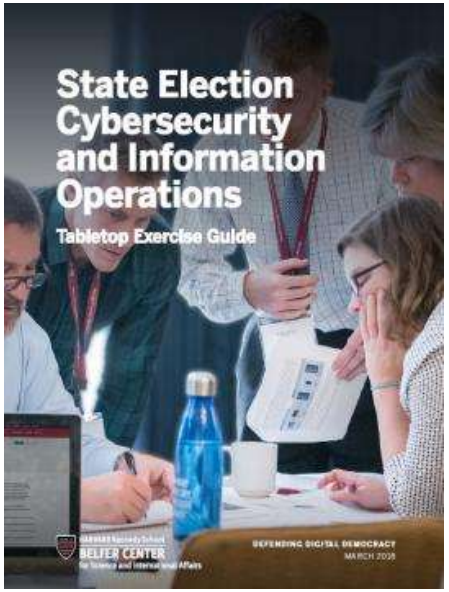
10 Best Practices for All Jurisdictions

6. Control and actively manage access.
7. Prioritize and isolate sensitive data and systems.
8. Monitor, log, and backup data.
9. Require vendors to make security a priority.
10. Build public trust and prepare for information operations.

Where State Legislatures Can Make the Most Impact

- Implement 2FA
- Isolate sensitive data systems
- Implement audit logs and monitoring
- Have a paper trail
- Do vote audits
- TRAIN

National Conference March 26 & 27 2018
TTX Train the Trainer Event



38 States & 120 Election Officials

Day 1: Threat Briefs, TTX, and AAR

Day 2: How to Build and Execute a TTX

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SHARE WITH #SECUREELECTIONS

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