The Human Element in Election Security

Good Cybersecurity Practices for Election Offices and Campaigns

April 26, 2018
Human Beings Screw Up

You have to hack a computer, but you just have to ask a human.

Obviously, computers and machines are still vulnerable.
Change Cybersecurity Culture

Knowledge

Attitude

Behavior
• What is a successful hack?

• The best defense is a good offense: If our office is on the defensive, we’re already too late.

• Resources: SANS Securing the Human; News Articles; Non-profits
Attitude

• Everyone is a target

• Have healthy skepticism

• My email: firstname.lastname@workplace.com

• Removing the org. chart

• Dedicated phishing email address
Behavior

- Phishing Tests
- Cybersecurity checklist
- Two-factor authentication
- Principal of Least Privilege
- “Log Off Before You Walk Off”
Behavior

- Practice during the easier times
- Table Top Exercises
- CyberStorm VI

- Learn certain lessons now instead of on Election Day
- Roles and responsibilities
Behavior

• Information control
  • MS-ISAC
    • “Employees of for-profit companies or non-profits, consultants, or private citizens that are unaffiliated with an eligible entity…”
  • EI-ISAC
  • Nat’l Cybersecurity Center
Behavior

• Not above shaming
• Post It notes
• Don’t ruin this for the rest of us