



2021

Washington State Elections Conference

Virtual Event

June 8-10 and 15-17



PROGRAM GUIDE

KNOW BEFORE YOU JOIN

Signing in to Whova (Event Platform)

Mobile App

Download the mobile conference app by searching for "Whova" in the app store or click the button below on your mobile phone.

iOS

Android

For BlackBerry or Windows Phone, [Click here](#)

1. Enter the email address you used for event registration. **To automatically log in to your event, please make sure to use the email you used when registering for the event.*
2. The app will take you to your event page automatically if the organizers have updated the app with your registration information

**If your event doesn't show up automatically, search for it. Then, click the join button on the bottom of the event description page, and enter the event invitation code the organizers sent you.*

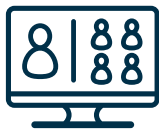
Web App

Click the button below to open the web app in your browser.

Website

1. Click "Sign up here" if you don't have an account yet, and fill in your email and password. **Please make sure to use the email you used when registering for the event. Otherwise, you will not be allowed to join the event.*
2. The app will automatically take you to the event main page.

View the Whova Attendee User Guide [HERE](#) for Additional Information



How to Join the Meetings

We will begin at 8:00am on Tuesday, June 8, please join a few minutes before to ensure that you do not miss any of the action. If you need help logging into Whova, [consult this guide](#).



Get Familiar with Zoom

[Verify](#) you have the latest version of Zoom installed on your device and become familiar with the platform. If you are not already comfortable, get acclimated to the Zoom [chat box](#) and the [in-meeting controls](#).



Check Your Connection

Ensure you have a strong Wi-Fi signal, or that your device is directly plugged in with an ethernet cable.



Technical Assistance

If you experience technical difficulties during the event, we're here to help. Email wsacaevents@wsac.org or call 360-489-3020 for immediate assistance, and a staff member will assist you.



Recorded Sessions

Some sessions will be recorded and made available after the conference.

AGENDA

June 8-10

Tuesday, June 8

8:00am - 9:45am . . . **Welcome to the 2021 Annual Elections Conference**

WSACA Election Co-Chairs Diana Bradrick and Garth Fell will kick off our annual elections conference. Secretary Wyman will share some opening comments and celebrate our 2021 award winners and newly certified elections administrators.

Kim Wyman, Secretary of State, Washington

Diana Bradrick, Auditor, Whatcom County

Garth Fell, Auditor, Snohomish County

9:45am - 10:00am . . . **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

Let's take our in-person Networking Breaks up a notch! Join in on this virtual opportunity to connect with all of our Exhibitors & Sponsors.

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Exhibitor | Fluence Automation

Exhibitor | Election Systems & Software

Exhibitor | Hart InterCivic

10:00am - 11:00am . . . **Improving Voter Confidence and Combatting Misinformation/Disinformation**

The 2020 election saw widespread election related mis- and disinformation. Election officials are the trusted source of information for elections. In this session we will discuss how election officials can identify, prepare and respond to disinformation related to the election process. Using examples from the 2020 election the presenter will offer insights and strategies for election officials to use to combat election related disinformation. From establishing rumor control sites, to social media strategies, to pre-bunking potential avenues for disinformation election officials are now in a position to have to anticipate and respond to disinformation from both foreign and domestic sources.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the nature of mis- and disinformation
2. Establish strategies for anticipating and pre-bunking possible election related misinformation
3. Establish strategies for responding to election related misinformation

Matthew Masterson, Non-Resident Fellow, Stanford University

Kate Starbird, Associate Professor, Department of Human Centered Design & Engineering, University of Washington

Continued on next page →

11:00am - 11:30am . . . **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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11:30am - 12:30pm . . . **Improving Voter Confidence and Combatting Misinformation/Disinformation, cont.**

During part B of the session, communications leads in the Office of the Secretary of State and county elections offices will share lessons learned from the spread of false information during the 2020 election cycle and strategies for tackling misinformation and disinformation in the future. Learn best practices for engaging and informing voters, tactics for combating misinformation and disinformation, and ways to amplify trusted information.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Best practices for informing and engaging voters
2. Strategies for combatting misinformation and disinformation
3. Methods to amplify trusted elections information, updates, and resources

Kylee Zabel, Communications Director, Office of the Secretary of State
Halei Watkins, Communications Officer, King County Elections
Emmett O'Connell, Outreach and Education Specialist, Thurston County Auditor's Office

1:30pm - 4:00pm **The Fine Art of Separating the Genuine From the Faux - Signature Verification Annual Training**

The Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory Division Questioned Document section is pleased to present their annual signature verification training session at the 2021 Washington State Elections Conference. Attendees will gain information and helpful tips on examination, comparison, and evaluation of signatures used during election process. This is an interactive workshop.

Learning Outcomes:

1. How to analyze signatures for handwriting characteristics
2. How to compare the handwriting characteristics between signatures
3. How to evaluate signatures to determine if genuine or non-genuine

Brett Bishop, Forensic Scientist, Washington State Patrol
Andrew Szymanski, Forensic Scientist, Washington State Patrol

2:30pm - 3:00pm **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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Thursday, June 10

9:00am - 10:00am . . . **Legislation. Past, Present, and Future**

This is a good session for all election administrators and auditors. Attendees will learn about 2021 legislative activity, the bills that passed and bills that did not. What is on the mind of legislators and advocates interested in election management. What we will see again, and ideas that are floating around the legislature. A solid discussion of bills that passed in previous sessions that are being implemented this year. The panel will discuss next session, and review new ideas from the state and WSACA, and collect input from attendees on topics that should be considered for future update. Question and Answer to follow.

Learning Outcomes:

1. To stay up to date on what is being discussed that could impact your work
2. To discuss implementation of bills that passed in recent sessions
3. To participate in identifying ideas for future legislative sessions

David Elliott, Policy Director, Office of the Secretary of State

Julie Wise, Elections Director, King County

Skip Moore, Auditor, Chelan County

10:00am - 10:30am . . . **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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10:30am - 11:30am . . . **Legislation. Past, Present, and Future, cont.**

1:30pm - 2:30pm **Redistricting in Washington - Population, Lines, and Deadlines**

The Washington State Redistricting Commission's Chair and Executive Director will explain the process used for redistricting in Washington and the challenges posed by the delay in receiving the redistricting data from the Census Bureau. Speakers will describe what the Commission's plans are for gathering public input without the data in order to ensure an inclusive and meaningful process.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Process of redistricting in Washington state
2. Challenge of delayed census data
3. Plans for public engagement in the redistricting process

Lisa McLean, Executive Director, Washington State Redistricting Commission

Sarah Augustine, Chair, Washington State Redistricting Commission

2:30pm - 3:00pm **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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3:00pm - 4:00pm . . . **More Numbers, Lines and Deadlines - Get Ready to Reprecinct**

Hear from OSOS and County staff about reprecincting. Learn what you need to know to prepare for drawing new precinct lines, working with GIS experts, and making the updates within VoteWA. This session is open to anyone that has responsibilities with updating precinct boundaries or is interested in the process. During this session you'll hear how Clark County updated their precinct boundaries and hear from VoteWA Support on how those boundaries were updated in VoteWA.

Learning Objectives:

1. Working with County or Contract GIS Experts
2. How Precinct Boundaries are Updated in VoteWA
3. How Voter's Precincts get Updated After Boundaries are Changed

Nicholas Pharris, VoteWA Support Lead, Office of the Secretary of State

Richard Cooper, Assistant Elections Supervisor, Clark County

Continued on next page →

Tuesday, June 15

9:00am - 10:00am . . . **Serving Our Young Voters and Highlighting Successes**

From the College HUBS

Recent legislation has focused on our young voters: future voter registration, allowing those 17 years old to vote in Primary elections, and requiring student engagement HUBs at some universities. These young voters have a voice - how do we get them engaged in the election process? This session includes speakers from the League of Women Voters about their youth outreach initiatives. In addition, speakers will discuss the successes and challenges of the university student engagement HUBs. Come learn what's being done to engage our young voters, and get ideas on how you can help in this important outreach.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn how to engage with the League of Women Voters on young voter outreach
2. Understand what's working at the HUBs and how that might be extended to other young voters
3. Gain understanding of what outreach is working and how it can be used in the counties

Sandy Jamison, Auditor, Whitman County

Jerry Pettit, Auditor, Kittitas County

Deidra Beck, Specialist Projects Coordinator, Chelan County

Cam Kerst, Member, League of Women Voters

Beth Pellicciotti, Member, League of Women Voters

10:00am - 10:30am . . . **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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10:30am - 11:30am . . . **Serving Our Voters Living With Disabilities**

This session is open to all who serve voters of all abilities. Want to learn some best practices when serving our Washington state voters living with disabilities? As a leader state that strives for service excellence, we continue to successfully find best practices and we want to share them with you. Our six panelist will cover: federal and state legislation, ballot drop boxes guidance, advisory committees, CARES fund use, cost efficiency language services, accessibility advocacy, and more!

Learning Outcomes:

1. Engaged advisory committees are change agents with strong advocacy
2. New ballot drop box guidance,
3. Seek local and state partnership and resources to increase language access

Megan Mason-Todd, Chair, Accessibility Communities GCDE Subcommittee

Hayley Johnson, Elections Manager, Cowlitz County

Julie Anderson, Auditor, Pierce County

Cathie Garber, Elections Supervisor, Clark County

Rosa Mariel Fernandez, Bilingual Elections Program Coordinator, Franklin County

Continued on next page →

1:30pm - 2:30pm . . . **VoteWA Update and Tips & Tricks** 

In this session we will show you what is new and exciting in the VoteWA system. We will also give you some tips on how to use the system as well as some reminders on things we don't want you to forget. There will be a tour of all the resources that are available in the knowledge base and a few demos of our search functions throughout the system.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn where to find training resources
2. Learn how to search the system for what you need
3. Learn what is new in VoteWA

Nick Pharris, VoteWA Support Lead, Office of the Secretary of State

Bryn Kildow, VoteWA Support, Office of the Secretary of State

Selena Faller, VoteWA Support, Office of the Secretary of State

Paul Procriv, VoteWA Support, Office of the Secretary of State

2:30pm - 3:00pm . . . **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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3:00pm - 4:00pm . . . **VoteWA Q & A Session** 

This is your opportunity to ask that burning question you have about the VoteWA system. The entire VoteWA team will be available to help answer any questions you have about anything in the system you are trying to do. If you want to know more about results uploading, or ballot return, or office/incumbent management, or anything else we are here to help!

Learning Outcomes:

1. Gain knowledge about the VoteWA system
2. Learn to do something that has been puzzling you
3. Get to know the VoteWA Support Team

Selena Faller, Management Analyst, VoteWA Support, Office of the Secretary of State

Bryn Kildow, VoteWA Support-Management Analyst, Office of the Secretary of State

Paul Procriv, VoteWA Support Team, Office of the Secretary of State

Victoria Donahue, Washington State Elections Team, Office of the Secretary of State

Nick Pharris, Geography Specialist, VoteWA Support Team, Office of the Secretary of State

Ceci Lambert-Zal, Management Systems Analyst, VoteWA Support Team, Office of the Secretary of State

Thursday, June 17

9:00am - 10:00am . . . **Auditing - Providing Transparency and Trust in Our Elections**

Let's take a dive into sampling (why a sample is enough) and how Risk Limiting Audits work. We'll discuss next steps for RLAs in Washington, as well as what you can do at the county level to prepare for a risk-limiting audit. This session is a follow-up to OSOS RLA Basics training.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn how RLA sampling works
2. Learn how to start preparing for a risk-limiting audit
3. Learn what OSOS is working on with regard to RLA next steps

Hannah Taylor, Results Audit Specialist, Office of the Secretary of State

10:00am - 10:30am . . . **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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Continued on next page →

10:30am - 11:30am . . . **Auditing - Providing Transparency and Trust in Our Elections, cont.**

Panel discussion with election administrators from around the country who have successfully conducted statewide risk-limiting audits. We'll discuss the transition from traditional audits to RLAs, audit timing, talking to stakeholders and the public about RLAs, and any other topics that are on your mind. Join this Q&A with the experts and bring your questions!

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand types of RLAs and how they work
2. Learn how RLAs have been implemented in other states
3. Learn how RLAs and traditional audits differ

Hannah Taylor, Results Audit Specialist, Office of the Secretary of State

Ginny Vander Roest, Election Implementation Manager, Voting Works

Eddie Morgan, Voting System Specialist, Colorado Department of State

Karen Hoyt-Stewart, Voting Technology Programs Manager, Virginia Department of Elections

1:30pm - 2:30pm **Ballot Tracking Best Practices** 

Hear best practices and lessons learned for tracking ballots from the moment they arrive in the mail or drop box through signature checking, opening, and tabulation. Our panel of experienced election administrators will take you step by step through their ballot tracking and daily balancing procedures that ensure they are ready for Reconciliation and Certification.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn basic principles of tracking and reconciling
2. See how these principles apply to an effective ballot tracking system
3. Receive examples and enough instruction to improve your county's process

Jamie Groomes, Chief Deputy Auditor, Okanogan County

Stephanie Wilder, Elections Director, Chelan County

Rene Rojas, Election Systems Supervisor, Benton County

Lynne Watanabe, Lead Election Technician, Thurston County

Jack Mongin, Election Technician, Thurston County

2:30pm - 3:00pm **Networking Break & Vendor Hall**

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3:00pm - 4:00pm **Reconciliation and Certification** 

Reconciliation and Certification from the State's perspective. Breakdown of the state reconciliation process including the review checklist. Common issues that show up and how to avoid them. The WHY of data collection...WHERE does the information go?

Wendy Mauch, Election and Voter Registration Supervisor, Snohomish County

Tillie Naputi-Pullar, Elections Manager, Thurston County

Les Bowen, Certification and Training Program Specialist, Office of Secretary of State

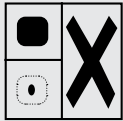
Fina Ormond, Certification and Training Manager, Office of the Secretary of State

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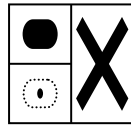


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