



For Immediate Release:

Date: 11/02/2018
Contact: Will Dinneen
Phone: 307-777-5365
Email: will.dinneen@wyo.gov

Secretary of State's Office: Wyoming's Elections Are Secure, Public Should Avoid Misinformation

CHEYENNE, WY – The November 6th General Election is right around the corner and the Wyoming Secretary of State's Office has been working diligently to prepare for the General Election. Wyoming's elections are kept secure through many safeguards, and as the General Election approaches the Secretary of State's Office has been further strengthening Wyoming's election infrastructure and providing support for local election officials.

"Wyoming's citizens will be given every possible opportunity to cast a ballot because Wyoming elections are run with the utmost integrity from beginning to end. On Election Day voters can be confident in election procedures that protect our right to vote and the confidentiality of our ballots. And every voter can be confident that their vote will be counted and counted accurately - one person, one vote, no exceptions," said Secretary of State Edward Buchanan.

Measures to secure Wyoming's elections include:

- Wyoming voting systems are never connected to the internet and thus cannot be hacked or subject to cyber threats.
- Each election judge is empowered under Wyoming law to challenge any voter who is suspected of misrepresenting themselves at the polls.
- Each polling place reconciles the number of votes cast to guarantee that the number of people who checked into the polling place matches the number of ballots cast.
- Every voting system that is used in an election is tested publicly for 100% ballot tabulation accuracy before being used in any election. Once tested, the ballot counter is immediately locked, sealed, and guarded through Election Day.
- Each ballot can be verified by a paper audit trail that can be used to confirm the accuracy of every single vote. In order to maintain the secrecy of each person's vote, this audit trail does not associate any ballot with the voter that cast it.
- Wyoming's 23 County Clerks work with well trained and experienced citizen election judges and poll workers who manage and monitor each polling place to ensure that the voting environment is efficient and free of obstructions and distractions for the voters.
- All voters must attest that they are citizens and eligible to vote.
- Wyoming's voter registration system interfaces with data from the Wyoming Departments of Transportation, Health, Corrections, and the Division of Criminal Investigation to prevent voter fraud, such as votes cast by deceased persons. If voter fraud were to ever occur, those individuals would be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

"If a Wyoming voter hears that Election Day has been moved to Wednesday instead of Tuesday - that is obviously false and misleading. And there is a lot of information available about the election through various sources including on social media. But the Secretary of State's Office and Wyoming's 23 county clerk offices are still the best sources of information for election-related matters, including for information

on registering to vote, absentee voting, and election results. We encourage members of the public to exercise caution about what they see on social media. Voters should reach out to election officials if they have any questions or hesitations before going to the polls,” said Will Dinneen, the Secretary of State’s Public Information Officer.

Dinneen continued, “If a voter is wondering where they vote, they can enter their postal code, house number and street name [on the Secretary of State’s website](#) and will be provided with the polling place location or the vote center nearest to their residence, as well as legislative district information and a map to their polling location and county clerk contact information.”

At each polling place, the ballot box is sealed on Election Day before polls open and is only opened again by a bipartisan team of election judges. The ballot box is never removed from the presence of election judges until all ballots are counted and recorded.

“Our Election judges are fully prepared to quickly and efficiently conduct a free and fair election at the polls. My staff, my election judges, and all of my fellow clerks are dedicated to making voting accessible and secure,” stated Teton County Clerk Sherry Daigle.

###