



## **Election Integrity and Security**

**Opinions Are Fun. Facts Are Better.** 

Register COVID-19 & voting 2020 General Election Results

Risk-Limiting Audit

## Disinformation is loud, mute the noise.

2020 has been a noisy year of foreign disinformation. Don't listen to it. The Secretary of State's Office is the trusted source for accurate election information in Colorado. **Shhhh....vou can hear facts** 

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# What's next? Audit and certification of official results.

Next steps (PDF) to make our 2020 general election results official:

- November 16 Counties will be notified of the ballots selected to be audited and a random seed will be established. <u>Learn more about the Risk Limiting Audit (RLA) here</u>. You can <u>visit our audit center here</u>.
- November 24 The county audit board will sign, date, and submit results of the RLA.
- November 27 Final canvass results to be uploaded to the results website.
- November 30 The Secretary of State will announce if any recounts need to occur.
- December 14 The Secretary of State will issue certificates of election to the presidential electors meeting.

# The foreign threat to our elections is real.

It's happening, Colorado. Foreign adversaries are trying to interfere with our elections and undermine confidence in the results. Don't let them. It's up to all of us to stay smart and aware, so check back here for the latest threat reports.

- <u>Iran is targeting election websites</u> to influence and interfere in the 2020 election. (FBI, DHS, October 30, 2020)
- <u>Iranian actors are intent on undermining public confidence</u> in the electoral process and are creating fictitious media sites and spoofing legitimate media sites. (FBI, DHS, October 22, 2020)
- Russia has targeted dozens of state and local government computer networks. (FBI, DHS, October 22, 2020)

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- <u>Iran and Russia are interfering</u> in our elections (DHS, October 20, 2020)
- Foreign adversaries are trying to undermine confidence in the 2020 election (DHS, October 6, 2020)
- Foreign enemies are peddling conspiracy theories to cause confusion about COVID-19. (DHS, October 6, 2020, May 2020)
- Foreign enemies may disrupt existing websites or create fake ones to cause confusion on election results (FBI, DHS, September 22, 2020)
- Foreign adversaries are trying to undermine confidence in our elections process (ODNI, August 7, 2020)

## Your vote matters, fight back with facts.

Together, we can counter threats to our elections. Here's how.

#### What you can do

**Keep it real**. Think before you link and be aware of rumors foreign adversaries spread so you don't spread disinformation.

#### Spread the facts.

- Encourage your family, friends, and community to rely on GoVoteColorado.gov for election information.
- Download and share our social media toolkit (ZIP).
- Facts are fun too! Read and share this graphic novel on foreign disinformation.

**Be prepared.** Review CDC guidelines for voting safely during COVID-19.

**Educate yourself.** Explore cutting-edge research on social media and mis/disinformation:

- Stanford University's <u>Internet Observatory</u>
- Harvard University's <u>Defending Digital Democracy Project</u>
- University of Washington's <u>Center for an Informed Public</u>

#### What we're doing

**Organizing.** <u>Established a team</u> to counter foreign disinformation.

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to combat foreign influence in our elections. If you are interested in partnering with us, please contact <a href="mailto:COElectionIntegrity@sos.state.co.us">COElectionIntegrity@sos.state.co.us</a>.

**Shedding light.** We are informing Coloradans what lies foreign enemies are spreading and how they are spreading them, so you can be on the lookout. (Share this website!)

**Countering.** We are <u>rapidly responding to potential foreign disinformation</u> on the electoral process so you know the facts.

**Local Officials Leading.** Douglas County has you covered for <u>trusted</u> <u>election information</u>.

Note: These links are being provided for informational purposes. The Colorado Department of State bears no responsibility for the accuracy or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site with any questions regarding its content.

### The myths of widespread voter fraud.

**Voter fraud is extremely rare.** The state's voting processes are designed to prevent fraud and ensure that all legally cast votes are accurately counted.

- Colorado elections are conducted by local county officials (<u>meet some of them here</u>) and not the state or federal government.
- Local bipartisan teams of Republican and Democratic judges in that county <u>oversee the entire process (PDF)</u> to ensure the election is conducted fairly. Learn how eligible Colorado voters can become <u>election judges here</u>.

**Elections can't be stolen.** Audits and recounts ensure election results are free from widespread fraud or tampering.

- Colorado <u>conducts a robust audit (PDF)</u> of election results to provide voters confidence that reported results match ballots cast. Visit the <u>Audit Center</u> to learn more about this process.
- Whenever the difference between the highest number of votes cast in a contest and the next highest number of votes cast in a contest is less than 0.5%, Colorado law automatically requires a recount (PDF) and any interested party can request and pay for a recount.

**Fraud is easily identified.** Individuals attempting to vote twice are quickly and easily identified.

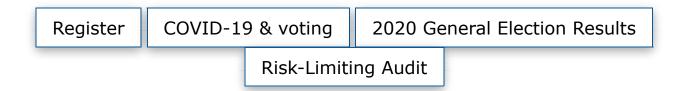
The statewide registration system signature verification prevents

- individuals from casting more than one ballot in the state.
- Colorado is a founding member of the interstate <u>Electronic Registration</u> <u>Information Center</u> which helps ensure individuals do not maintain active voter registration in multiple states.

**Fraud is prosecuted.** Federal and State law provides multiple avenues to prosecute individuals attempting to commit election-related fraud.

- Under Colorado State Law, ineligible voting or registration in Colorado is a <u>felony punishable</u> by a fine of up to \$5,000.00, imprisonment in the county jail for up to 18 months, or both.
- Under Federal Law, voters and election officials can be <u>investigated and prosecuted</u> for a range of election-related offenses.

Use this form to file a complaint alleging a violation of Colorado Election Law (PDF). Use this form to file a complaint alleging a violation of Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (PDF)



### **The Opinionators**

Colorado's state symbols sure have a lot of opinions. But they also know where to go for facts on elections - <u>GoVoteColorado.gov</u>.

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"The skiing-in-jeans look is making a comeback."

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"I could have been a Casa Bonita cliff diver."

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