



NEWS RELEASE

For Information Contact:

Kathleen McGrath

Director of Public Information

Phone: (518) 474-1953

Email: kathleen.mcgrath@elections.ny.gov

Jennifer Wilson

Deputy Director of Public Information

Phone: (518) 474-1953

Email: jennifer.wilson@elections.ny.gov

For Release: IMMEDIATELY

New York State Board of Elections hosts election security workshop series in preparation for the 2026 General Election

ALBANY, N.Y. (08/18/2026) – Last week, the New York State Board of Elections hosted and participated in four Election Security Workshops & Tabletop Exercises alongside the state’s county boards of elections, the New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services (DHSES), the New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC), the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS), the New York State Office of Information Technology Services (ITS), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The purpose of these events was to strengthen preparedness and coordination by all entities as the 2026 General Election approaches, offering a collaborative opportunity for election administrators, emergency management, law enforcement, communications professionals, and information technology experts alike. The day-long sessions took place in Monroe, Warren, Oneida, and Ulster counties between August 10 and August 13.

The workshops featured training sessions on election security threats, cybersecurity best practices, voting technology, election security communications, incident response planning, and interagency collaboration. The sessions culminated in a comprehensive tabletop exercise that allowed participants to test response protocols and decision-making in realistic scenarios related to the cyber and physical security of elections.

“Election security is a shared responsibility,” said Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Co-Executive Director of the State Board of Elections. “By bringing together election administrators, cybersecurity professionals, and our public safety partners, we strengthen our collective ability to safeguard the voting process and maintain public confidence in the security of elections across the state.”

“Our election officials face an increasingly complex security environment, and preparation is essential,” said Raymond J. Riley III, Co-Executive Director of the State Board of Elections. “This workshop series reinforces our commitment to protecting the integrity of New York State’s elections by ensuring our federal, state, and local partners have the knowledge, resources, and relationships needed to respond effectively to any situation.”

The 2026 General Election is November 3, 2026. Early Voting will occur from October 24, 2026, through November 1, 2026. For information about registering to vote, requesting a ballot, or finding your polling place, voters should visit the New York State Board of Elections’ website at <https://elections.ny.gov/>.

If you have any questions regarding this press release, please contact Kathleen McGrath or Jennifer Wilson at the New York State Board of Elections at (518) 474-1953 or by email at INFO@elections.ny.gov.