



**WILLIAMSON COUNTY TOWN HALL FOOTNOTES**  
**March 8, 2023**

*The simplest access point to all the research, data, studies, white papers, videos, news, etc. that we've collected over the past two+ years about the voting machines/processes in Williamson County and Tennessee is via our website: [www.TennesseeElectionIntegrity.com](http://www.TennesseeElectionIntegrity.com)*

*Our current presentation -- "A risk assessment of Williamson County voting machines" -- can be found [here](#). You can see this "Footnotes" document that you hold in your hands online under the title "Williamson County Town Hall Election Integrity Risk Assessment Footnotes (March 8, 2023)" [here](#).*

*If you don't have time to click on the support documents or videos, just read the text. They tell a frightening story that threatens all voters and all political candidates in Williamson County and Tennessee. In representing thousands of Tennessee citizens, we're concerned about the continued use of more and more machines in our elections.*

**Computerized voting machines are vulnerable to sabotage & cyber attacks that can change votes.**

- Cybertechnology expert J. Alex Halderman testifies before Congress.  
<https://rumble.com/vtacuu-halderman-tells-congress-voting-machines-can-be-hacked-anywhere-anytime-by-.html>
- Congressmen and women testify in 2019 to their experiences with voting machines.  
<https://rumble.com/vtah4d-congressional-members-testify-voting-machines-can-change-votes.html>
- Cybersecurity expert Col.(Ret.) Shawn Smith testifies why no county should use voting machines.  
<https://rumble.com/v15st7w-military-cyber-security-expert-why-no-county-should-use-electronic-voting-s.html>
- The ES&S EVP for Security testifies in 2022 in Louisiana Voting Commission all machines can be hacked. So, then, why are we using them with our precious vote? <https://rumble.com/v23rulm-es-and-s-vp-security-says-no-machine-is-safe-from-hacking-2022-la-voting-sy.html>
- ES&S CEO tells NBC News that the company gets parts for its machines from China.  
<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/all/chinese-parts-hidden-ownership-growing-scrutiny-inside-america-s-biggest-n1104516>
- J. Alex Halderman shows how easy it is to hack machines and infuse them with malware. Yes, this can be done here in Williamson County and Tennessee...  
<https://rumble.com/vtag3o-voting-machines-can-be-infected-with-malware-to-change-votes.html>

- Halderman demonstrates in an easy-to-understand way how machines can be hacked.  
[https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2020/11/michigan\\_professor\\_demonstrates\\_how\\_easy\\_it\\_is\\_to\\_hack\\_voting\\_machines\\_in\\_2018\\_new\\_york\\_times\\_video.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2020/11/michigan_professor_demonstrates_how_easy_it_is_to_hack_voting_machines_in_2018_new_york_times_video.html)
- Col. (Ret.) Shawn Smith discusses the telit chip that has been found on the ES&S DS200 scanner/tabulator that ES&S claims is free of wireless connectivity. <https://rumble.com/v21y6tc-shawn-smith-shows-telit-chip-on-es-and-s-ds200-voting-scanner.html>
- Col. (Ret.) Shawn Smith points out a wireless chip on the DS200 that was disguised as a power coupler. <https://rumble.com/v21y9sa-shawn-smith-discusses-disguised-chip-on-es-and-s-ds200-voting-machine-scann.html>
- There are better options for voting than using machines (Williamson Herald).  
[https://www.williamsonherald.com/opinion/letters\\_to\\_editor/letter-to-the-editor-there-are-better-options-for-voting-than-using-more-machines/article\\_5403b29e-a80b-11ed-9345-57639befd177.html](https://www.williamsonherald.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letter-to-the-editor-there-are-better-options-for-voting-than-using-more-machines/article_5403b29e-a80b-11ed-9345-57639befd177.html)
- Whitepaper: Election machines can be hacked, so why are we using them?  
<https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Election-machines-can-be-hacked-support-document-FINAL-10-121721-1.pdf>
- “Hacking Democracy” -- First HBO documentary (2006) digging into how these machines can be hacked. <https://www.bitchute.com/video/FHIKK12Avnox/>
- “Kill Chain: The Cyberwar on America’s Elections” -- a 2020 HBO documentary that shows how much easier it has become to hack an election. <https://www.bitchute.com/video/rOM1pO7T1fT3/>
- Voting Machines... what could possibly go wrong?  
<https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2018/11/05/voting-machines-what-could-possibly-go-wrong/?printpage=true>
- The computer scientist who prefers paper.  
<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/12/guardian-of-the-vote/544155/>

**Vendors are opaque: They won’t allow anyone in Tennessee unfettered inspection into the machines on which we vote.**

- 'They think they are above the law': the firms that own America's voting systems.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/apr/22/us-voting-machine-private-companies-voter-registration>
- 'Online and vulnerable': Experts find nearly three dozen U.S. voting systems connected to internet.  
<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/elections/online-vulnerable-experts-find-nearly-three-dozen-u-s-voting-n1112436>

- Want to hack a voting machine? Hack the voting machine vendor first. <https://www.csoonline.com/article/3267625/want-to-hack-a-voting-machine-hack-the-voting-machine-vendor-first.html>
- The small world of voting machine certification. <https://themarketwork.com/2020/11/20/the-small-world-of-voting-machine-certification/>

**We need to remove machines and move to high-security, currency-grade, hand-marked paper ballots.**

- Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett, has voiced full support for this. In a presentation to the Tennessee House Local Government Committee on January 25, 2022, Hargett says: “To be clear, any county that wants to use hand marked paper ballots, that’s their prerogative. We would sign off on that.” Voiced in the following short video: [SoS Hargett approves counties moving to hand-marked paper ballots vs. ballot marking devices \(0:14\)](#).
- Here is the high-security, currency-grade, hand-marked ballot we are advocating. <https://vimeo.com/561635300>
- If we moved from machines to hand-marked paper ballots cast and counted in precincts, we wouldn’t be alone. <https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/US-Locations-Switching-from-voting-machines-to-hand-marked-paper-ballots-3-021923.pdf>
- Both [Maury County](#) and [Shelby County](#) Tennessee offer their citizens the option of voting on hand-marked paper ballots. The link on each county will reveal a news story about this.
- Why paper is considered state-of-the-art voting technology <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2019/08/14/why-paper-is-considered-state-of-the-art-voting-technology/>
- Nevada approves hand counting votes amid fears of voting machines <https://www.bostonherald.com/2022/08/27/amid-fears-of-voting-machines-nevada-approves-hand-counting/>
- Election security experts urge Georgia to swap out touchscreen voting machines; move to paper <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/election-security-experts-urge-georgia-to-swap-out-touchscreen-voting-machines>

**No government entity is truly monitoring the election system for citizen safety and security. No one has our back.**

- Four examples of how the Tennessee State Election Commission is not doing their job protecting citizens from election issues. <https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SEC-cares-nothing-about-integrity-2-071822.pdf>

- The Secretary of State and his staff are not watching out for citizens. <https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/SoS-mission-statement-is-a-joke-2-102722.pdf>
- The EAC's behaviors, lax standards and apparent allegiance to voting machine vendors prove their machine certification process is untrustworthy. <https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/EAC-is-untrustworthy-012522.pdf>
- In 2021 with no public debate or no review from their Board, the EAC institutes new, far more lenient guideline changes that helped the vendors' bottom lines, but greatly weakened the security of all voting systems by allowing wireless networking devices in machines. <https://www.scribd.com/document/516851701/2021-07-13-complaint-4814-7096-7793-1#> And it caused one Board Member to immediately quit the EAC and sue them for their lawless actions. <https://dailycaller.com/2021/07/14/election-assistance-commission-voting-lawsuit/>
- Cybersecurity expert Col. (Ret.) Shawn Smith, who has tested and certified missile and space defense systems for the U.S. Air Force and Pentagon affirms the EAC's certification process is almost useless. <https://rumble.com/v21y7n2-shawn-smith-discusses-eac-testing-standards.html>  
<https://rumble.com/v21yaji-shawn-smith-discusses-no-voting-machine-certified-past-2005-standards.html>
- Col. Smith explains the collusion that occurs between the EAC and machine vendors concerning certification of their machines. <https://rumble.com/v21yaji-shawn-smith-discusses-no-voting-machine-certified-past-2005-standards.html>
- After Dominion Voting Machines are kicked out of Tennessee, our group attempts to work with the Williamson County Election Commission about remaining problems... only to be snubbed. <https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2022/03/dominion-kicked-tennessee-county-critical-election-problems-remain-williamson-county-election-officials-refuse-address/>

**Vote centers are totally against our Tennessee Constitution and require internet connections supposedly protected by VPNs aren't as effective as they used to be... leaving the votes of citizens highly vulnerable.**

- Check out the Tennessee Constitution, Article IV, Section 1. "...to vote in the election precincts in which they may reside..." [https://ballotpedia.org/Article\\_IV,\\_Tennessee\\_Constitution](https://ballotpedia.org/Article_IV,_Tennessee_Constitution)
- Tennessee Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins supports precinct voting for the added security it offers citizens. [Election Coordinator Goins affirms security of precinct voting.](#)
- Vote Centers violate the equal protection clause of the 14 Amendment Sec1 of the US Constitution as well as Article 1 Sec 5 of the TN State Constitution stating that elections must be free and equal.

- Location of Vote Centers have been delegated to unelected election commissioners and violate Article IV of the TN State Constitution.
- Vote Centers violate current TCA 2-20-101 definition of the use of electronic equipment defined as 'precinct-based optical scanners' as a method of counting votes in vote centers. The scanners are not precinct-based.
- Data from 2022 primaries indicates that inconsistent and arbitrary placement of vote centers may be responsible for disenfranchising between 900-4900 voters in the August 2022 primary in one county.
- The company that manufactures our vote center VPNs (Cisco Meraki) was hacked last year and couldn't protect itself! <https://www.forbes.com/sites/daveywinder/2022/08/13/cisco-hacked-ransomware-gang-claims-it-has-28gb-of-data/?sh=25c27b5c4043> August 13, 2022
- Vote centers are connected by the internet and, according to the Williamson County Election Commission, this connection is protected by a VPN. But recent technological stories about the effectiveness of VPN places that protection in doubt. Meaning it is possible that hackers can infiltrate our registration system, see how many citizens have voted, know how many usually vote and then insert phantom ballots into the voting system. [https://info.zscaler.com/resources-industry-report-2022-vpn-risk-report-by-cybersecurity-insiders-zscaler?bt=650271656527&bk=vpn%20risk&bm=p&bn=g&bg=143549760421&utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=google-ads-na&gclid=EAlaIqobChMlvuaR1brL\\_QIVs8mUCR3Mtgr9EAAYAiAAEgJWG\\_D\\_BwE](https://info.zscaler.com/resources-industry-report-2022-vpn-risk-report-by-cybersecurity-insiders-zscaler?bt=650271656527&bk=vpn%20risk&bm=p&bn=g&bg=143549760421&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=google-ads-na&gclid=EAlaIqobChMlvuaR1brL_QIVs8mUCR3Mtgr9EAAYAiAAEgJWG_D_BwE)  
<https://www.imprivata.com/blog/vpn-problems>
- There appears to be a sustained assault on virtual private networks. Security firm FireEye found a dozen malware families, spread across multiple hacking groups, feasting on vulnerabilities in Pulse Secure VPN. The victims spanned the globe and ranged across the usual high-value targets: defense contractors, financial institutions, and governments. *Hacks Are a Slow-Motion Disaster* <https://www.wired.com/story/vpn-hacks-pulse-secure-espionage/> April 25, 2021.
- [VPN Services Now Under Closer Scrutiny After NordVPN Hack](#) October 29, 2019

### **Voter roll hacks.**

- [US cyber security official says 21 states' voter rolls were hacked during 2016 election](#) February 8, 2018
- [Illinois primary puts focus on security of state voter rolls](#) March 18, 2018
- [Security Issues Abound – Texas Voter Registration Records Leaked](#) September 6, 2018

### **Other voter roll issues.**

- [New Judicial Watch Study Finds 353 US Counties in 59 States with Voter Registration Rates Exceeding 100%; Williamson County 110%](#) October 16, 2020
- [Erred Elections: Research Finds Widespread Voter Roll Issues](#) February 13, 2023
- [Maintaining updated voter rolls key to election integrity, security](#) February 19, 2021
- [National election watchdog issues report calling for cleanup of N.C. voter rolls](#) March 29, 2022
- [Security Concerns Top of Mind as 2024 Election Approaches](#) February 24, 2023
- [Supreme Court says states can remove voters who skip elections, ignore warnings](#) June 11, 2018

### **Ballot marking devices (BMDs) are completely vulnerable and experts recommend removing them.**

- Sixteen reports, sixteen reasons and one hundred seventy-five footnotes on why ballot marking devices (BMDs) are a bad technology if you're concerned with election integrity.  
<https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/BMDS-are-not-good-10-093022.pdf>
- J. Alex Halderman, performing his role as an expert witness in a Georgia voting machine lawsuit (Curling vs. Raffensperger), offered this in his summary about the lack of trustworthiness of ballot marking devices in his August 2, 2021 declaration, statement #33, page 23-24:  
<https://tennesseeelectionintegrity.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Halderman-Rebuttal-080221.pdf>

*“Georgia voters face an extreme risk that BMD-based attacks could manipulate their individual votes and alter election outcomes... Georgia can eliminate or greatly mitigate these risks by adopting the same approach to voting that is practiced in most of the country: Using hand-marked paper ballots and reserving BMDs for voters who need or request them. Absent security improvement such as this, it is my opinion that Georgia’s voting system does not satisfy accepted security standards.”*

- [And let’s not forget the SVP of Security at ES&S confirming in his 2022 Louisiana Voting System Commission testimony that all machines can be hacked.](#)

### **Tennessee Secretary of State says Tennessee is #1 in election integrity, but that claim has been completely debunked.**

- Tre Hargett is misinterpreting and misusing the Heritage Scorecard, which only says we have good laws, but nothing more. We’re NOT #1 in election integrity. Here’s why:

<https://tennesseeconservativenews.com/op-ed-heritage-foundations-election-integrity-scorecard-misses-mark-in-tennessee/>

**The machines are forcing us to spend more money and buy more machines and people to manage them.**

- Election integrity group tries to halt purchasing rush for voting system machines without the Williamson County Election Commission doing the due diligence and cost analysis they should. <https://tennesseeconservativenews.com/election-integrity-group-tries-to-halt-purchasing-rush-for-williamson-county-voting-system-machines-without-first-studying-all-options/>

**Here's the "rest of the story" on several items shared by the WCEC at the Town Hall meeting.**

- The WCEC's comment that paper ballot usage in recent Shelby County elections was a bare minimum, implying it might not be worth pursuing here in Williamson County.
  - There are mitigating issues that account for the low initial use of paper in recent Shelby and Maury County elections:
    - According to reports from the election and in the mainstream media, Shelby County poll workers were directing voters away from the paper option and towards the ballot marking devices (BMDs), so paper participation was low. [Here is the news story from the Memphis Commercial Appeal verifying this.](#)
    - For some reason, the powers-that-be in Maury County, which also offered voters a paper option, did not allow anyone to talk up the paper ballot option there prior to the election. So, there was a low number of requests for the paper ballot. If consumers don't know the product exists, how are they going to know to ask for or use the product?
    - It was also the first time the option was offered in both locations. Even Nike spent its formative years in the red before their shoe product took off.
- That the WCEC inspected the machines and verified communications devices don't exist there.
  - The WCEC was told by ES&S where exactly they could look in the machines for modems. They weren't allowed to pull in cybersecurity help to look unencumbered anywhere in the machines that they wanted to look for any wireless component (not just modems'). Besides, [as this cyber security expert shows, wireless components can be disguised.](#)
- The WCEC tests these machines with Logic and Accuracy (L&A) testing before they're used.
  - The Williamson County commission technicians DID CORRECTLY PERFORM their L&A testing on all machines in October 2021, yet the machines STILL miscounted votes in the election. L&A testing was done in [Monmouth County, NJ on ES&S machines before their machines double-counted votes](#) initially giving what amounted to a losing candidate the win in a school board race. L&A testing was done in Maricopa County, AZ the days and night before 40% of their machines malfunctioned on election day in predominantly

Republican Counties, disenfranchising thousands. Testing the machines won't completely prevent bad machine performance.

- That was the point of one evening's speakers: Regardless of what the WCEC does in testing or preparing these machines.... whether by accident... by hackers... by programming mistakes... or by vendor actions... vulnerabilities are occurring with these machines that affect elections. And, especially, destroys citizen confidence in elections. All because we are forced to use machines.

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