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Research Faculty Summit 2012

ADVANCING THE STATE OF THE ART

ATTACKING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNET VOTING SYSTEM

J. Alex Halderman
The University of Michigan



Who am I?

J. Alex Halderman

CS Prof.

University of Michigan

Security and Privacy

Tech Policy

Technology for Democracy

Selected Projects

- 2012 Widespread Weak Keys in Network Devices
- 2011 Telex: Anticensorship in the network infrastructure
- 2010 Hacking Washington D.C.'s Internet voting
- 2010 Vulnerabilities in India's e-voting machines
- 2010 Reshaping developers' security incentives
- 2009 Analysis of China's Green Dam censorware
- 2009 Fingerprinting paper with desktop scanners
- 2008 Cold-boot attacks on encryption keys
- 2007 California's "Top-to-Bottom" e-voting review
- 2007 Machine-assisted election auditing
- 2006 The Sony rootkit: DRM's harmful side-effects



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2745



MEDIA RELEASE

D.C. BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS
September 21, 2010

Contact: Alysoun McLaughlin, amclaughlin@dcoee.org
202-727-2511 (direct)/202-441-1121 (cell)

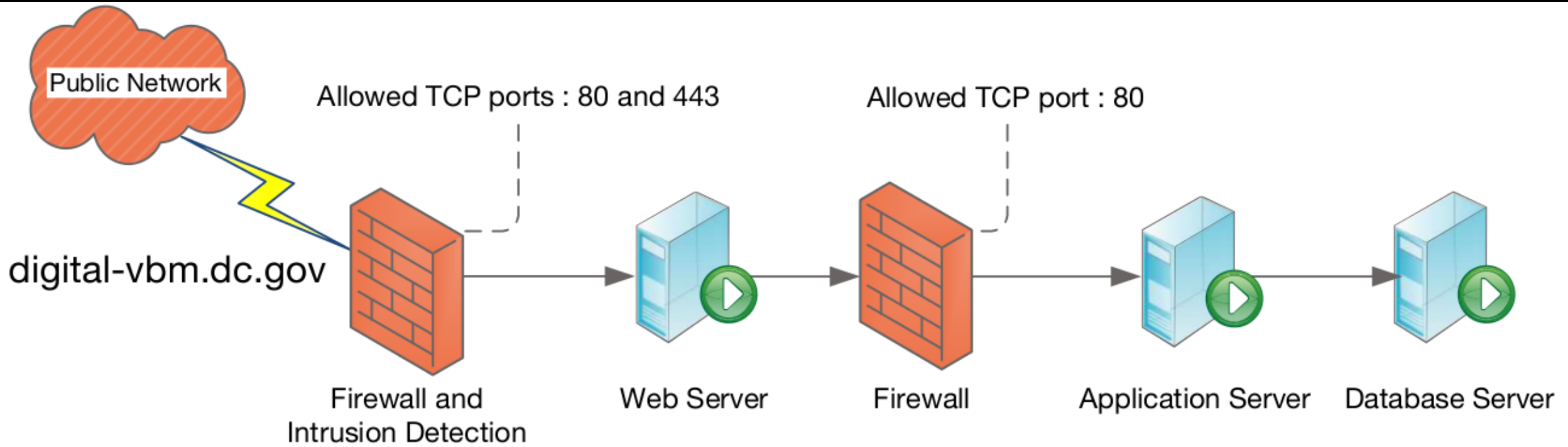
**Board Announces Public Test of
Digital Vote by Mail Service**
*Open Source Solution Provides Secure Alternative for Overseas Voters
Who Are Underserved by Traditional Vote by Mail*

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The Board of Elections and Ethics today announced that the public examination phase of the Digital Vote by Mail pilot project for overseas voters will begin on Friday, September 24.

Digital Vote by Mail is a first-in-the-nation use of open source technology to provide a secure means for overseas voters to obtain, print and mail their ballot – and, if the voter chooses, also digitally mark and return their ballot. After testing is completed, the service will be made available to overseas voters, who often do not have enough time to receive and return their ballot by mail in the few weeks between the September primary and the November general election. Prior to Digital Vote by Mail, the only option for these voters was to sacrifice the secrecy of their ballot by using e-mail or fax.

During the test period, which will continue through Thursday, September 30, individuals who wish test and comment on the technology and usability of the application will be granted access to the application, a complete system architectural diagram, and access to the underlying source code.

A limited number of test credentials will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning on Friday morning. Using these test credentials, a tester may log in as a fictitious District voter and request, complete and submit an absentee ballot. The Board will compile all test ballots and test the decoding software and back office processes needed to accept and process digitally transmitted ballots. The Board asks testers to thoroughly test the system and disclose any security, programmatic, usability or other functional or design issues they discover in the testing process. All data, hardware and software are logically and physically segregated from all other Board systems. Users will not be held liable for damage resulting from good faith efforts at testing system integrity.





DC General Election November 2, 2010

The service offers two options:

1

D.C. Digital Vote-by-Mail is a new service to the overseas and military voters of the District of Columbia. We've designed this service to make it easier for you to receive your voting materials and help you return your completed ballot more quickly.

Thank you for your participation in this election.

District of Columbia Board of Election and Ethics

Physical Ballot Return

Complete your ballot and return materials by mail or express delivery service.

- Obtain your blank ballot and other vote-by-mail materials
- Complete them online and print them
- Return materials by **mail or express delivery service**

See more [information](#) about this option.

[Start Mail-in Ballot](#)

2

Digital Ballot Return

Complete your ballot and return it electronically. This pilot project allows you to return your ballot through the Internet.

- Obtain your blank ballot and other vote-by-mail materials
- Complete them online
- Return completed ballot **electronically**

See more [information](#) about this option.

[Start Digital Ballot](#)



DC Specific Election
November 2, 2010

Digital Vote-by-Mail Service

Here are the steps you will follow to complete your ballot. Once you have reviewed the steps, click Continue.

1

Check In

Enter name, ZIP code, voter ID number, and PIN

2

Confirm Identity

Confirm your identity
Affirm voting eligibility
Review attestation document (optional)

3

Complete Ballot

Download your ballot
View your ballot
Mark your ballot
Save your ballot (Do NOT rename the file.)

4

Send Ballot

Locate your ballot on your computer
Upload your ballot
Receive notice of ballot receipt

[Back](#)

[Continue](#)

Key Dates

October 1

Vote-by-Mail service begins

October 22

Last day to apply for a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

Complete [instructions](#) for the Digital Vote-by-Mail Service.

[Find out more](#) about D.C. Digital Vote-by-mail, and the digital ballot return pilot project.



DC Specific Election
November 2, 2010

Check In

Your name, zip code, and voter ID number must match the information we have in your current voter record. The PIN number must exactly match the number that was provided to you by mail, by the Board of Elections and Ethics. All fields are required.

1 Check In

2 Confirm Identity

3 Complete Ballot

4 Send Ballot

Check In

Please enter your name, address, and PIN.

Name:

Zip Code:

Voter ID Number:

Enter 9-digit Number Provided by BOEE

PIN:

Enter 16-digit Number Provided by BOEE

[Back](#)

[Continue](#)

Key Dates

October 1

Vote-by-Mail service begins

October 22

Last day to apply for a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

November 2

Last day to return your ballot (by mail, must be postmarked by 5:00 pm EST)

Last day to return your

Complete [instructions](#) for the Digital Vote-by-Mail Service.

[Find out more](#) about D.C. Digital Vote-by-mail, and the digital ballot return pilot project.



DC Specific Election
November 2, 2010

Confirm Your Identity

To vote through the Digital-Vote-y-Mail Service, you must confirm your identity and your eligibility to vote. Select the checkboxes to confirm. You can also review the attestation document that confirms your voting eligibility by clicking on the PDF. (This step is optional.) [Keep this page open until you have finished viewing your attestation document.](#)

1 Check In

2 Confirm Identity

3 Complete Ballot

4 Send Ballot

Confirm

Confirm Your Identity ?

Please confirm your identity and voter registration address. If the address shown is incorrect, you will need to contact the BOEE to have it updated before you can mark your ballot. If the information is correct, check the box.

If this isn't you, press the Back button and re-enter your information.

Iva Pfannerstill
Addison Ave, Unit 261
WASHINGTON DC 20018

Check the box to certify that you are the person indicated.

Affirm

Affirm Your Eligibility ?

Review the text inline. Check the box to confirm statements are correct.

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

1. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, and I am eligible to vote in the District of Columbia; and

By checking the box above, I affirm that the information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge, and that I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for a conviction for perjury.

Review

Review Your Attestation Document (Optional Step) ?

If you would like to review your attestation document, click the PDF icon at the right. The document will open in your default PDF viewing application, on top of





DC Specific Election
November 2, 2010

Complete Ballot

Digital ballot return lets you return your ballot electronically. You will need to save your marked ballot, locate it on your computer, and upload it to the BOEE. **Keep this page open until you have saved your completed ballot.**

1 Check In

2 Confirm Identity

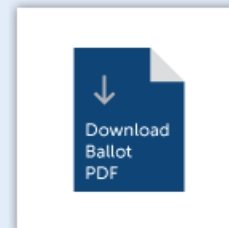
3 Complete Ballot

4 Send Ballot

Download

Download and View Your Ballot

Click the PDF icon at the right to download your ballot. The ballot PDF will open in your default PDF viewing application, on top of your web browser.



Mark

Mark Your Ballot

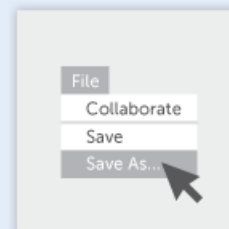
To complete the ballot online, click on the circles next to your candidates to select them. You can also type in candidates where indicated.



Save

Save Your Ballot

You must save your ballot when you have marked it. Save the PDF on your computer by selecting File/Save As in your default PDF viewing application. Save the ballot to a place where you can easily find it again (for example, your desktop). Do NOT rename the ballot.



Key Dates

October 1
Vote-by-Mail service begins

October 22
Last day to apply for a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

November 2
Last day to return your ballot (by mail, must be postmarked by 5:00 pm)

Back

Continue

Please fill out the following form. If you are a form author, choose Distribute Form in the Forms menu to send it to your recipients. Highlight Fields

PRECINCT 69 - SMD 11-ANC 5A

Official Ballot

Save As

Save in: My Documents

Name	Date modified	Type
No items match your search.		

Recent Places

Desktop

Libraries

Computer

Network

File name: P69-SMD-11-ANC-5A.pdf

Save as type: Adobe PDF Files (*.pdf)

Save Cancel Settings...

1. ca
2.
3.
4.

any

D

ATIVE

MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL WARD FIVE

MEMBER OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5A DISTRICT ELEVEN



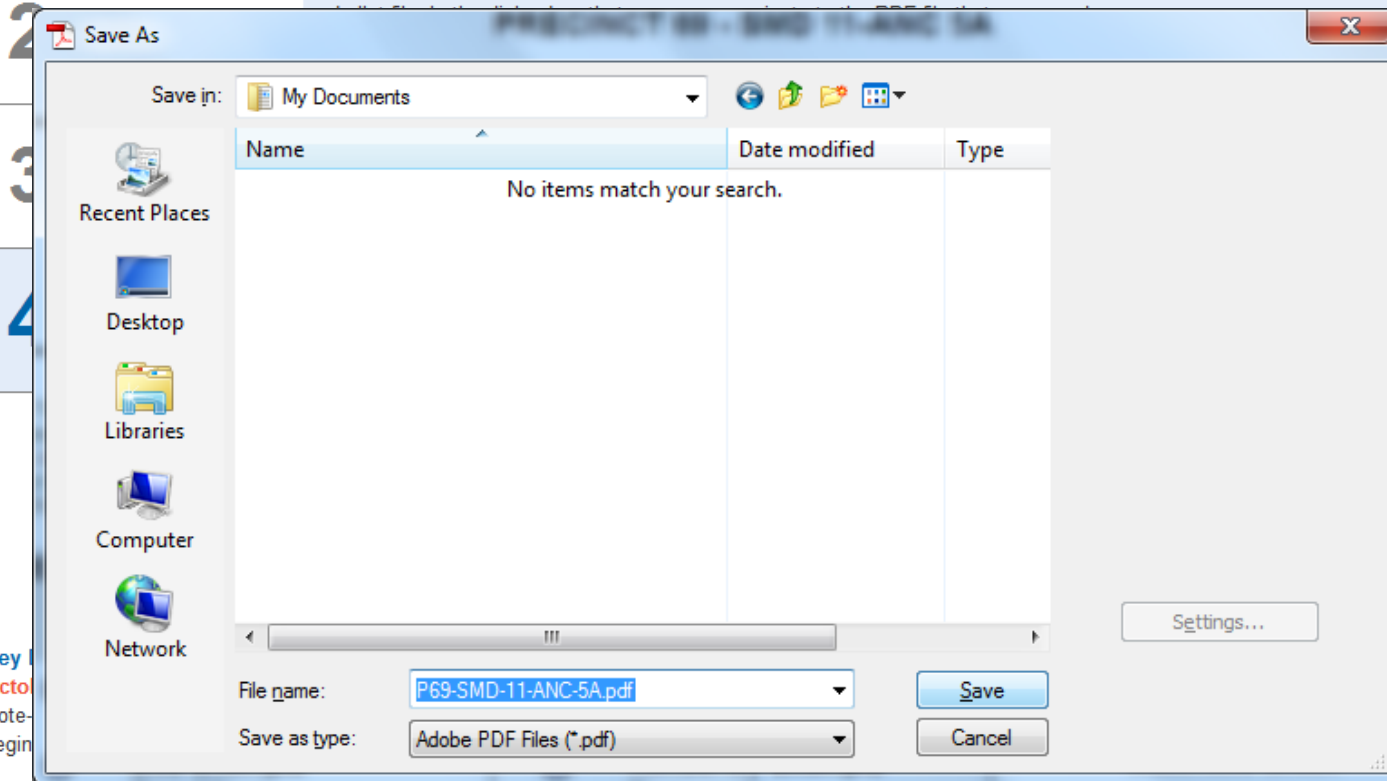
DC Specific Election
November 2, 2010

Send Your Ballot
To send your ballot electronically, you must find the ballot file and upload it.

1 Check In

Send

Locate Ballot PDF and Send
On the web page that is open, select the Choose File button to browse for your



Key
Octo
Vote-
begin

October 22
Last day to apply for a
Vote-by-Mail Ballot

November 2



DC Specific Election
November 2, 2010

Ballot Uploaded

Your marked ballot has been sent. Thank you for your participation in this election.

Thank You!

Ballot Received
7:37 PM, March 25, 2011

Check the status of your ballot at any time at the Board of Elections and Ethics [website](#).

Key Dates

October 1

Vote-by-Mail service
begins

October 22

Last day to apply for a
Vote-by-Mail Ballot

November 2

Last day to return your
ballot (by mail, must be
postmarked by 5:00 pm
EST)

Last day to return your
ballot (via Internet by
5:00 pm EST)

Tell everyone you voted!



Facebook



Twitter

RECRUIT



- ✓ 1. collect info (remember)
- ✓ 2. establish level of control
- ✓ 3. clear tracks
- ✓ 4. install attacks



↓

- ~~- replace old ballots~~
- ~~- steal imp ballots~~
- ~~- rig to replace new ballots~~
- ~~- rig to steal new ballots~~

get ROOT?

refactor

~~SSL cert?~~

SSL backdoor?



1. Ches
Telex
Mouse

2. V

W
fr
d

DC Digital VBM

Requirements

- Ruby 1.8+ (tested on Ruby 1.8.7)
- RubyGems 1.3.6+ (tested on RubyGems 1.3.6)
- Bundler 0.9.26
- GnuPG (gnupg.org) with the public key for ballots signing

Installation (locally)

Get the Bundler:

```
$ sudo gem install bundler --version=0.9.26
```

Get the sources:

```
$ git clone git://github.com/trustthevote/DCdigitalVBM.git
```

Install gem requirements:

```
$ cd DCdigitalVBM  
$ bundle install
```



```
module Paperclip
  class Encrypt < Processor
    def initialize(file, options = {}, attachment = nil)
      super

      @file           = file
      @recipient      = options[:geometry]
      @attachment     = attachment
      @current_format = File.extname(@file.path)
      @basename       = File.basename(@file.path, @current_format)
    end

    def make
      src = @file
      dst = Tempfile.new([@basename, 'gpg'].compact.join("."))
      dst.binmode

      raise PaperclipError, "GPG recipient wasn't set" if @recipient.blank?

      begin
        run("rm", "-f \#{File.expand_path(dst.path)}\")
        run("gpg", "--trust-model always -o \#{File.expand_path(dst.path)}\" -e -r \#{@recipient}\" \#")
      rescue PaperclipCommandLineError
        raise PaperclipError, "couldn't be encrypted. Please try again later"
      end

      dst
    end
  end
end
```

ballot.pdf → /tmp/49d5.pdf

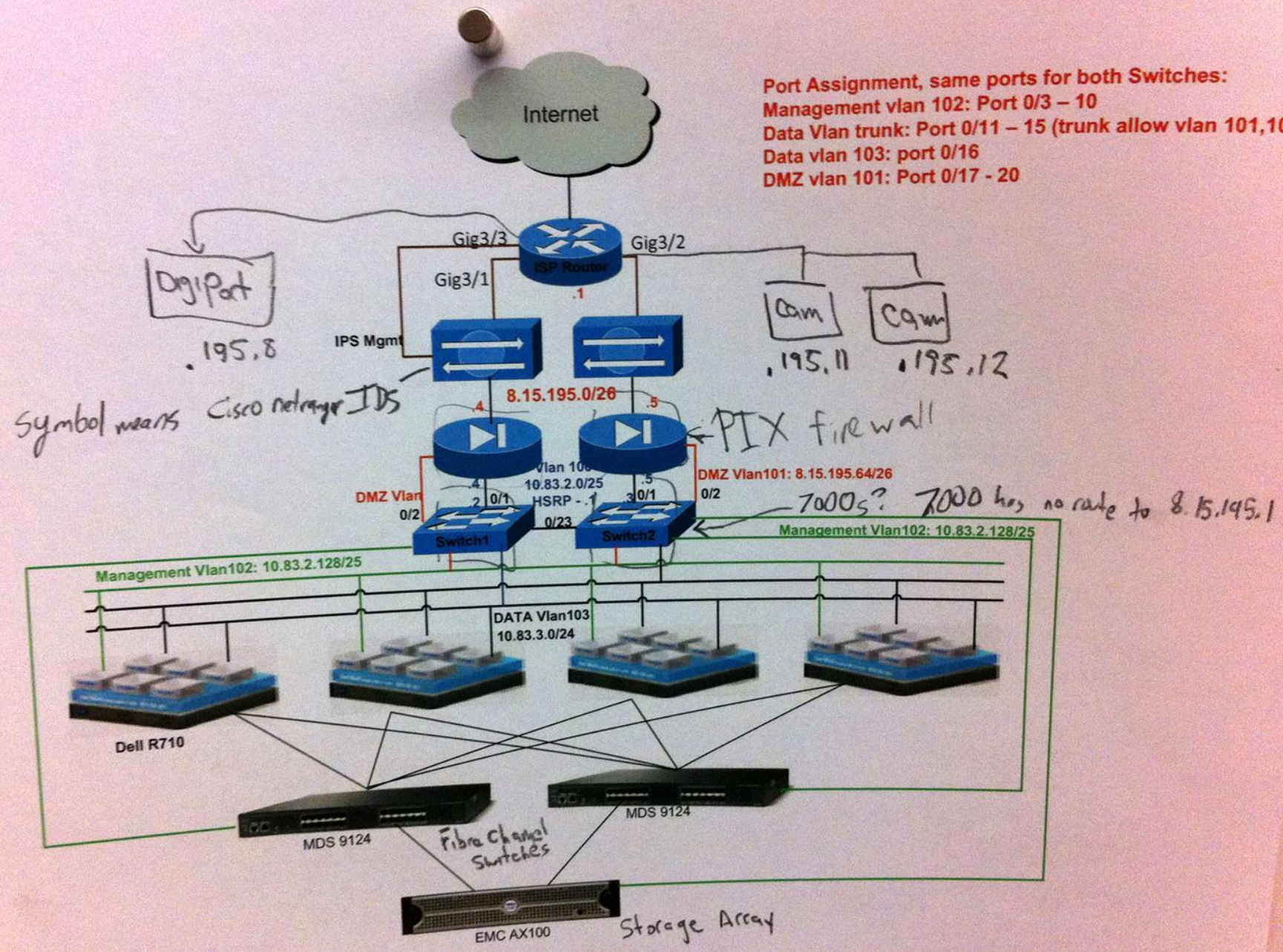
ballot.xyz → /tmp/49d5.xyz

ballot.\$(sleep 5) → /tmp/49d5.\$(sleep 5)

SURVEIL

Board of Election Ethics Network

Port Assignment, same ports for both Switches:
 Management vlan 102: Port 0/3 - 10
 Data Vlan trunk: Port 0/11 - 15 (trunk allow vlan 101, 103)
 Data vlan 103: port 0/16
 DMZ vlan 101: Port 0/17 - 20



DigiPat
 .195.8

Cam
 .195.11
 Cam
 .195.12

Symbol means Cisco netranger IDS

PIX fire wall

7000s? 7000 has no route to 8.15.195.1

DMZ Vlan101: 8.15.195.64/26

Management Vlan102: 10.83.2.128/25

DATA Vlan103
 10.83.3.0/24

Dell R710

MDS 9124

MDS 9124

EMC AX100

Storage Array

Fibre Channel Switches

Mans!
Act to all
Alms

Georgia

Switch TODO

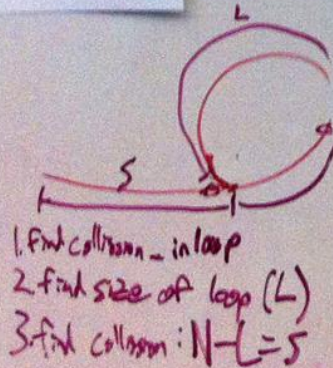
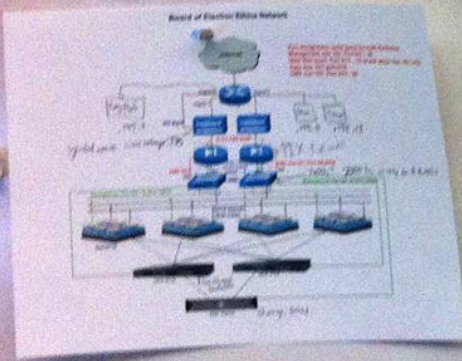
1. get Port ↔ Computer map (arp?)_{main?}
2. Find VPN
3. Tunnel

main?

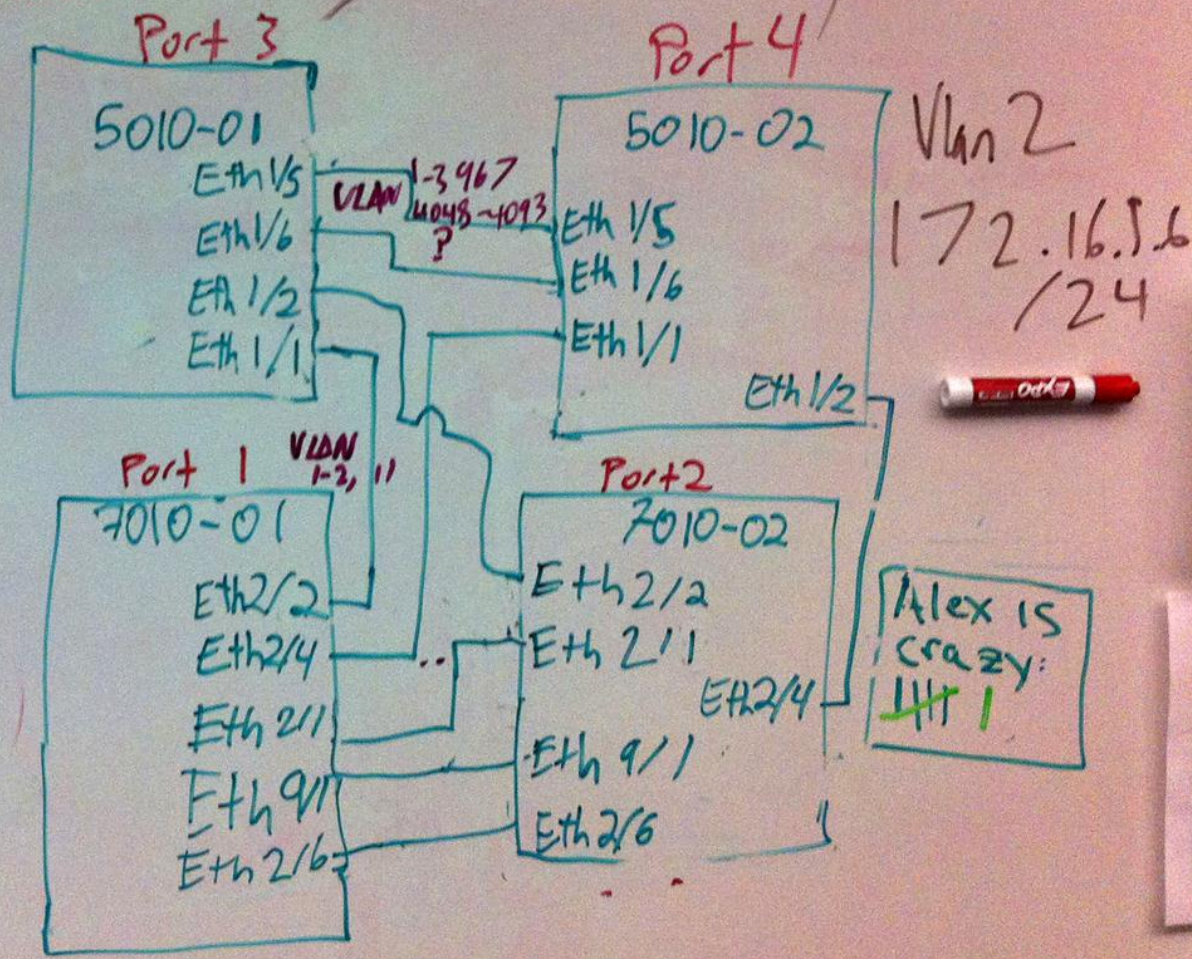
172.16.1.5

172.16.1.4

- A: Contacts
- S: SU
- E: HW?
- A: Work w/lan
- E: Look into Infast.



1. find collision - in loop
2. find size of loop (L)
3. find collision: $N-L=5$



Alex is crazy:
HIT 1



Digi Passport™ 8 Configuration and Management



User : root

- Network
- Serial port
- Clustering
- Power controller
- Peripherals
- Custom menu
- System status & log
- System administration
 - User administration**
 - Access lists
 - Change password
 - Device name
 - Date and time
 - Configuration management
 - Security profile
 - Firmware upgrade
 - CLI configuration
- System statistics
 - Activate Passport Locator LED
 - Apply Changes
 - Login as a different user
 - Logout
 - Reboot

User administration
/ admin / user_admin

User name : User group : All group Locked

Current local users

<input type="checkbox"/> #	User name	User group	Shell
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Hoang	System admin	Configuration menu
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	admin	System admin	Configuration menu
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	lle	System admin	Configuration menu
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	ocee	System admin	Configuration menu
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	root	Root	CLI

BOEE-IVP-Cage



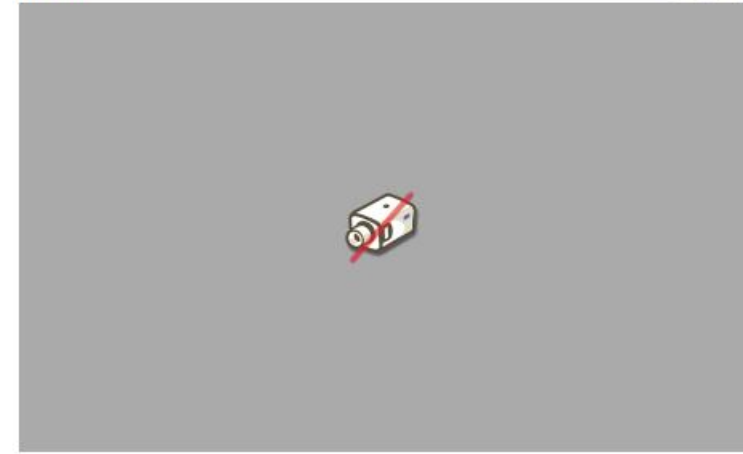
Primary Stream



BOEE-IVP-Cage



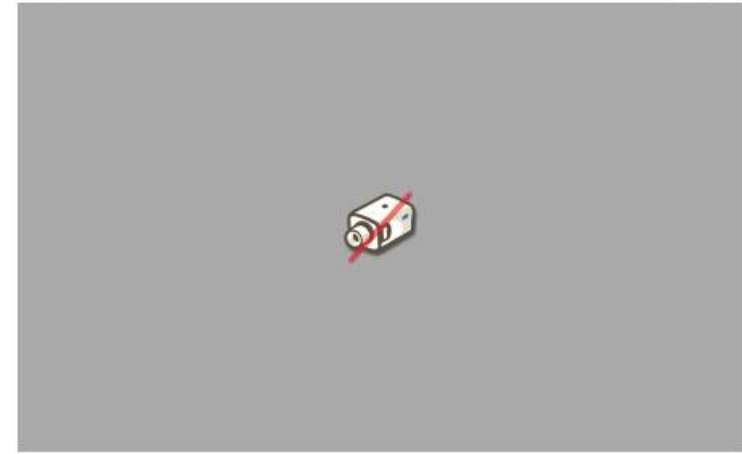
Primary Stream Offline



CR9-ODC-Main-Door Offline



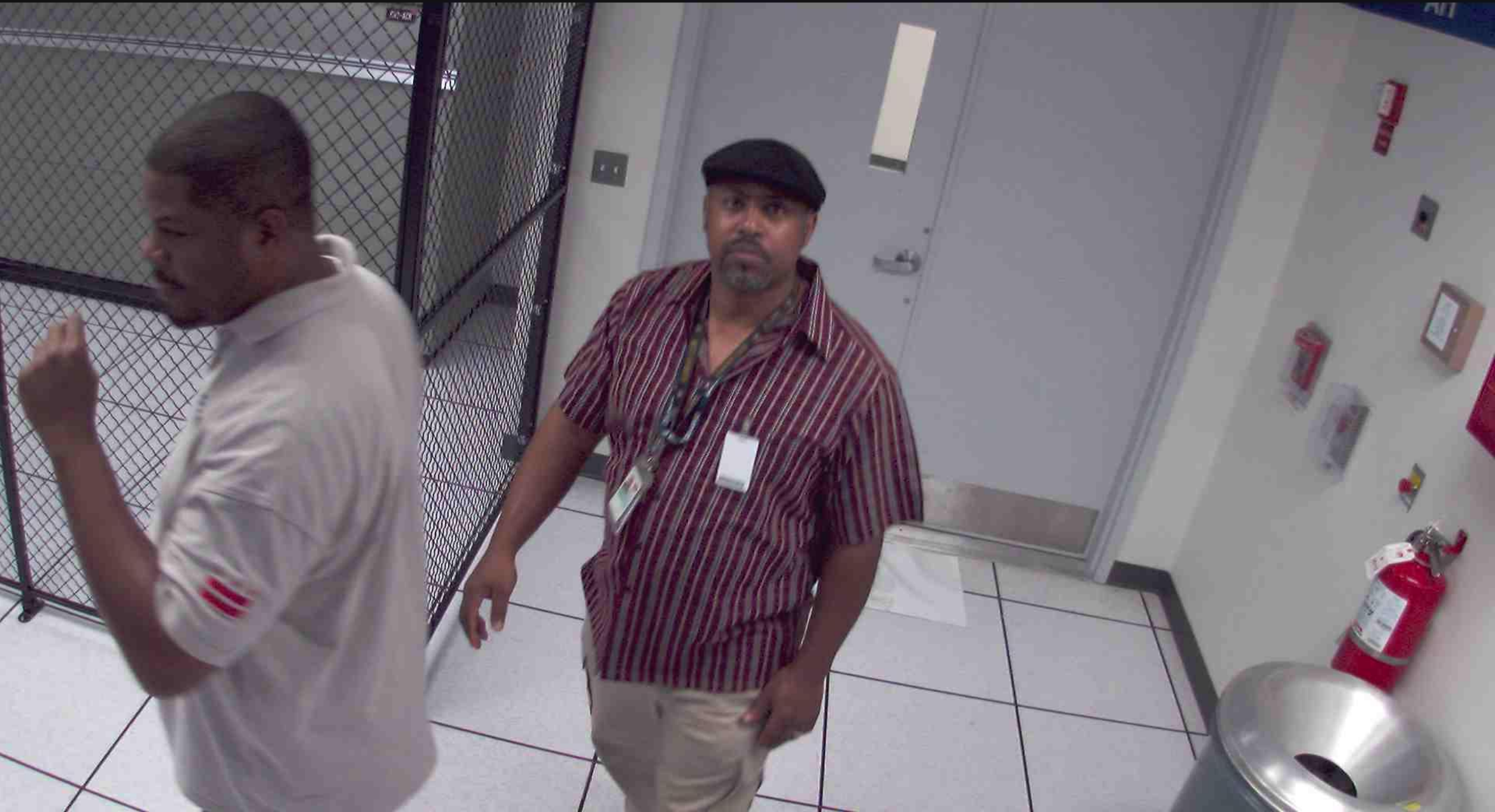
QuickView Stream Offline















ATTACK!

Steal database credentials, keys, logs, etc.
Replace all existing votes with our choices

Official Ballot
District of Columbia Mock Election
 PRECINCT 22
 September 17, 2010

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

1. TO VOTE YOU MUST DARKEN THE OVAL TO THE LEFT OF YOUR CHOICE COMPLETELY. An oval darkened to the left of the name of any candidate indicates a vote for that candidate.
2. Use only a pencil or blue or black medium ball point pen.
3. If you make a mistake DO NOT ERASE. Ask for a new ballot.
4. For a Write-in candidate, write the name of the person on the line and darken the oval.

DELEGATE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Vote for not more than (1)	AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL Vote for not more than (1)	UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE Vote for not more than (1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Alice Example Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Example Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Carol Example Statehood Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in Skynet	<input type="checkbox"/> Joan Example Statehood Green <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberley Example Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Liam Example Republican <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in Johnny 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Latoya Example Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Marcus Example Statehood Green <input type="checkbox"/> Newton Example Democratic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in Colossus
MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Vote for not more than (1)	MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL WARD ONE Vote for not more than (1)	MEMBER OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1B DISTRICT FOUR Vote for not more than (1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Duane Example Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Edward Example Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Frances Example Statehood Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in Master Control Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Example Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Nitan Example Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Odell Example Statehood Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in GLaDOS	<input type="checkbox"/> Orlando Example Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Phyllis Example Statehood Green <input type="checkbox"/> Quincy Example Republican <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in Deep Thought
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL Vote for not more than (1)	MEMBER OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WARD ONE Vote for not more than (1)	Thank you for voting. Please turn in your ballot
<input type="checkbox"/> Gregory Example Statehood Green <input type="checkbox"/> Helen Example Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Inez Example Democratic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in HAL 9000	<input type="checkbox"/> Abigail Example Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Yvonne Example Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Zachary Example Statehood Green <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or write-in Bender	

Steal database credentials, keys, logs, etc.

Replace all existing votes with our choices

Replace any new votes

Back door to reveal new votes

Clear logs

"Calling card"

```
61
62 <section id='main'>
63
64 <section class='instruction'>
65 <header>
66 <h1>Thank You!</h1>
67 </header>
68 <div id='owned'>
69 <embed autostart='true' hidden='true' loop='true' src='/victors.mp3' volume='100'></embed>
70 </div>
71 </section>
72 <section class='instruction'>
73 <header>
74 <h2>Ballot Received</h2>
75 <h2>12:18 PM, October 01, 2010</h2>
76 </header>
77 </section>
78 <footer>
79 <p>Check the status of your ballot at any time at the Board of Elections and Ethics <a
80 href='http://www.dcboee.us/' target='_blank'>website</a>.</p>
81
82 </section>
83 <footer>
```

One more thing...



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS
441 4TH STREET NW, SUITE 250
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2745

D.C. Overseas Digital Vote by Mail Service

Dear HARRIET DANIEL:

You have been selected to participate in the Digital Vote by Mail initiative. As part of its implementation of the MOVE Act, the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics (BOEE) will offer overseas voters an option to receive and, optionally, send their absentee ballots digitally. While you may choose to return your absentee ballot by mail or fax, the BOEE's Digital Vote by Mail process provides you a rapid return option that will maintain ballot secrecy and integrity.

The Way it Works

Approved overseas and military voters with internet access, such as you, may log on to our special digital delivery website. In your internet browser type in: **<http://www.dcboee.us/dvm>** in the address field. You will then be prompted to provide your name, address and personal identification number. For security purposes, please enter the information EXACTLY as listed below.

Voter ID Number:

[REDACTED]

Your name as listed with BOEE:

HARRIET SANDRA DANIEL

Residence Zip Code:

20007

Personal Identification Number:

BD15B35F1E3C4186

If your information needs to be updated, please contact our office separately by calling (202) 727-2525 or by visiting our website <http://www.dcboee.org>. DO NOT enter updated information in the Digital Vote by Mail website.

CONCLUSIONS

Web applications tend to be *brittle*

Small mistakes can have huge consequences

Voting is harder to secure than e-commerce

Deep security challenges left to solve

Decades, *if ever,*

before we can vote online securely.

ATTACKING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNET VOTING SYSTEM

Full paper available at <https://jhalderm.com>

J. ALEX HALDERMAN
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



Michigan**Engineering**

Microsoft