

# THE EPOCH TIMES

### RELATED



**Trump Campaign Alleges 'Pervasive' Election Irregularities in Michigan, Seeks Audit of Dominion Voting Software**

142

Share Now

# 6839



Copy Link



A voter arrives at a polling place in Minneapolis, on March 3, 2020. (Stephen Maturen/Getty Images)

US NEWS PREMIUM

## Dominion Part of Council That Disputed Election Integrity Concerns in DHS Statement

### Dominion Voting Systems used statement that obscured company's council membership to dispute voting systems concerns

BY JEFF CARLSON | November 16, 2020 Updated: November 19, 2020 **A** **À** Print

After allegations emerged that called into question the integrity of voting machines produced by Dominion Voting Systems, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)—part of

the Department of Homeland Security—issued a statement on Nov. 12 disputing the allegations, saying “the November 3rd election was the most secure in American history.”

What the agency failed to disclose, however, is that Dominion is a member of CISA’s Election Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Council, one of two entities that authored the statement put out by CISA.

#### Sector Coordinating Council

- Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- Arrikan, Inc./Chaves Consulting, Inc.
- Associated Press (AP) Elections
- BPro, Inc.
- Clear Ballot Group
- Crosscheck
- DemTech Voting Solutions
- Democracy Live
- Democracy Works
- DMF Associates
- Dominion Voting Systems
- Election Systems & Software (ES&S)
- Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC)
- Freeman, Craft, McGregor Group
- Hart InterCivic
- KNOWink
- Microsoft
- Microvote General Corp.
- NTS Data Services
- PCC Technology Inc.
- Pro V&V
- Runbeck Election Services
- SCYTL
- SLI Compliance
- Smartmatic
- Tenex Software Solutions
- The Canton Group
- Unisyn Voting Solutions
- Voatz
- VOTEC
- Votem
- Voting Works
- VR Systems

A screenshot taken on Nov. 16, 2020, of the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency website shows the members of the Sector Coordinating Council. (Screenshot/The Epoch Times)

In addition, Smartmatic, a separate voting machine company that has been the subject of additional concerns, is another member.

The agency didn’t immediately respond to a request by The Epoch Times for comment on whether Dominion and Smartmatic had input or were otherwise involved in CISA’s Nov. 12 statement.

The joint statement on the integrity of the Nov. 3 election was issued by the Executive Committee of the Election Infrastructure

Government Coordinating Council (GCC), which represents a coalition of certain state & local government officials and government agencies, and the Election Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Council (SCC), a coalition primarily composed of voting system manufacturers that also includes Democracy Works, an organization that promotes the use of technology to boost voter participation.

The statement claims: “There is no evidence that any voting system deleted or lost votes, changed votes, or was in any way compromised.

“While we know there are many unfounded claims and opportunities for misinformation about the process of our elections, we can assure you we have the utmost confidence in the security and integrity of our elections, and you should too.”

Some of the allegations surrounding the integrity of the presidential election, including by President Donald Trump’s legal team, have focused on the voting systems provided by Dominion, and to a lesser extent, Smartmatic.

Both Dominion and Smartmatic have dismissed concerns over their systems.

Both companies are listed as members of CISA’s Sector Coordinating Council and appear to be actively involved, as they are named as “organizing members” of the SCC. Among the key objectives of the SCC is to “serve as the primary liaison between the election subsector and federal, state, and local agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), concerning private election subsector security and emergency preparedness issues.”

The council’s charter states that its primary mission is to “advance the physical security, cybersecurity, and emergency preparedness of the nation’s election infrastructure, in accordance with existing

Dominion Part of Council That Disputed Election Integrity Concerns in DHS Statement  
OF THE NATION'S ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING  
U.S. law,” and that “this mission will be accomplished through  
voluntary actions of the infrastructure owners and operators  
represented in the Council.”

## **CISA’s Reliance on Commercial Vendors**

CISA says that it “works to ensure the physical security and cybersecurity of the systems and assets that supports the Nation’s elections,” including voter registration databases; IT infrastructure and systems to manage elections (including counting, auditing, and validating election results); voting systems; storage facilities for voting system infrastructure; and polling places, including early voting locations.

In effect, CISA appears to act as something of an interface between commercial vendors and state and local governments.

“CISA is committed to working collaboratively with those on the front lines of elections—state and local governments, election officials, federal partners, and vendors—to manage risks to the Nation’s election infrastructure,” the agency states on its website.

As CISA notes, it doesn’t have direct oversight or responsibility for election administration, as that responsibility lies with state and local governments.

“Ultimate responsibility for administering the Nation’s elections rests with state and local governments, CISA offers a variety of free services to help states ensure both the physical security and cybersecurity of their elections infrastructure,” the agency says on its website.

## **Dominion Using CISA to Deny Allegations**

On Nov. 12, The Epoch Times published an article detailing a number of concerns raised about the integrity of Dominion Voting Systems in a sworn Aug. 24 declaration from Harri Hursti, a poll watcher and acknowledged expert on electronic voting security.

Hursti's observations were made during the June 9 statewide primary election in Georgia and the runoff elections on Aug. 11, and centered primarily, although not exclusively, around Dominion systems and equipment.

Hursti summarized his findings as follows:

1. *"The scanner and tabulation software settings being employed to determine which votes to count on hand marked paper ballots are likely causing clearly intentioned votes not to be counted."*
2. *"The voting system is being operated in Fulton County in a manner that escalates the security risk to an extreme level."*
3. *"Voters are not reviewing their BMD [Ballot Marking Devices] printed ballots, which causes BMD generated results to be un-auditable due to the untrustworthy audit trail."*

The Epoch Times reached out to Dominion Voting Systems for comment on Nov. 11 about the allegations in Hursti's sworn statement, to which the company didn't respond. Our article was published on the morning of Nov. 12. That afternoon, CISA published its statement denying any problems with the voting systems.

The next day, Nov. 13, Dominion sent us an email, titled "SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT: FACTS & RUMORS," which cited the joint statement published by the GCC and SCC, of which Dominion is an organizing member.

A screenshot taken on Nov. 16, 2020, of the "Election Infrastructure Subsector Coordinating Council Charter," dated Feb. 15, 2018, shows both Dominion Voting Systems and Smartmatic as organizing members. The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency uses "EISCC" and "SCC" interchangeably to refer to the Sector Coordinating Council. (Screenshot/The Epoch Times)

---

Nowhere in its email did Dominion disclose that it had any affiliation with CISA or was an active member of the SCC, one of the issuing councils. The email itself referenced the statement in third-party fashion:

"According to a Joint Statement by the federal government agency that oversees U.S. election security, the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity, & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): 'There is no evidence that any voting system deleted or lost votes, changed votes, or was in any way compromised.' The government & private sector councils that support this mission called the 2020 election 'the most secure in American history.'"

CISA didn't immediately respond to a request by The Epoch Times for comment about whether it has investigated the claims made in the Georgia lawsuit about Dominion.

## Concerns Raised in Georgia Lawsuit

While it remains unclear whether CISA and the GCC/SCC have evaluated concerns raised in the Georgia lawsuit, their public statements categorically deny any problems with the systems.

However, in an Oct. 11 order just weeks prior to the presidential elections, U.S. District Judge Amy Totenberg agreed with the concerns associated with the new Dominion voting system, writing that the case presented “serious system security vulnerability and operational issues that may place Plaintiffs and other voters at risk of deprivation of their fundamental right to cast an effective vote that is accurately counted.”

Despite the court’s misgivings, Totenberg ruled against replacing the Dominion system right before the presidential election, noting that “implementation of such a sudden systemic change under these circumstances cannot but cause voter confusion and some real measure of electoral disruption.”

Given the timing of Totenberg’s order, it doesn’t appear that any of these issues were addressed by Dominion, CISC, or any of its affiliated organizations or councils, despite their later statements claiming there were no such issues.



Help us spread the truth. Share this article with your friends.

    
**6839**

Shares

Copy Link



**TOP NEWS**

PREMIUM

PREMIUM