

Impact of cuts to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon

February 27, 2025

History of Federal Support for Election Security

January 2017: Elections Systems designated as Critical Infrastructure

February 2018: EI-ISAC established

November 2018: legislation to create CISA signed into law

Services Available to State and Local Governments through CISA

Cybersecurity Services

- Cyber Hygiene Vulnerability Scanning
- .gov Transition
- Cybersecurity Assessments (In-Person)
- In-person or Virtual Phishing and Ransomware Trainings

Physical Security Services

- Protective Security Advisor in-person assessment of facility physical security

Incident Response

Many Best Practice Security Guides for State and Local Governments

- Tabletop exercises
- Best practice guides, including rapid response best practice information for evolving threats

Secret-Level Classified Briefings and Threat Reporting

Services Available to State and Local Governments through the EI-ISAC

No-Cost Layered Defense for Election Security

- Device-level protection and response
- Active Defense Against Malicious Domains

24x7x365 Security Operations Center (SOC)

Election-specific threat reports

Discounted and no-cost cybersecurity tools and resources

Access to an annual self-assessment survey to evaluate cybersecurity maturity

Benefits of Federal-Level Election Security Support

- National resources to combat threats from other nation-state actors
- Access to real-time threat and response information from other federal agencies
- Efficiencies with centralized resources as well as centralized information sharing

2024 Election Security Incidents – Mail Security

☰ **CNN** Politics SCOTUS Congress Facts First 2024 Elections Watch Listen

More than 20 election offices have been targeted with suspicious packages this week

By [Marshall Cohen](#), [Sara Murray](#) and [Ali Main](#), CNN
🕒 3 minute read · Updated 6:29 PM EDT, Fri September 20, 2024



2024 Election Security Incidents – Physical Security

≡ **CNN Politics** SCOTUS Congress Facts First 2024 Elections Watch Listen

Election officials' homes 'swatted' as presidential race heats up



LOCAL NEWS

Election offices in over half of Minnesota counties have received bomb threats since Friday, secretary of state's office says

WCCO NEWS

By Riley Moser

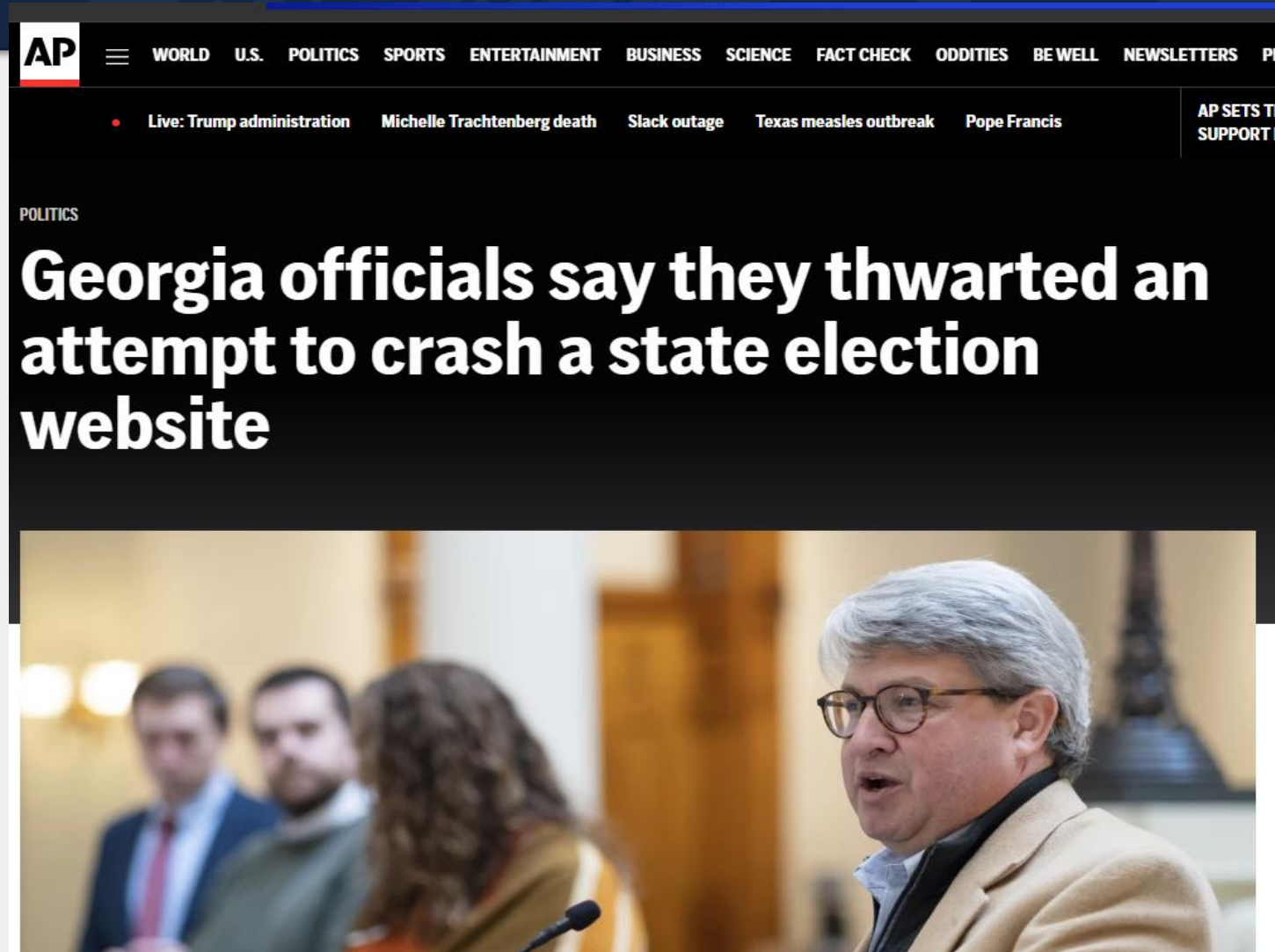
Updated on: November 14, 2024 / 10:23 PM CST / CBS Minnesota



**"E-MAILED BOMB THREATS...
ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE."**

STEVE SIMON
MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE

2024 Election Security Incidents – IT Security



2024 Election Security Incidents – Foreign Malign Influence


NBC NEWS Russia was behind second fake video spreading false voter fraud claims, U.S. officials say SHARE & SAVE [f](#) [X](#) [✉](#) [...](#) [🔖](#)

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2024 ELECTION

Russia was behind second fake video spreading false voter fraud claims, U.S. officials say

Experts warned that the new videos, which also appear designed to stoke racial animus, have gained large numbers of viewers online.



The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Simon

What is the future of CISA Services?

What we know now:

- Elections-related personnel placed on leave
- Ending funding of the EI-ISAC
- A March 6 expected evaluation of all election-related services



Questions?