**CYBERSECURITY CONVERSATION STARTER**

**Communications**

# Learnings to share with your COMMUNICATIONS colleague

I’ve learned how to create a **cyber incident response plan**, and I practiced by doing an exercise in which I created a response to a denial-of-service attack on our election website.

I’ve learned **media relations best practices** to help ensure our message is heard.

# Questions to ask your COMMUNICATIONS colleague

Are you in the habit of **monitoring election news** by reading [electionLine’s daily news](https://electionline.org/news/) on a regular basis? What have you noticed about recent news coverage of election cybersecurity issues?

Not to put you on the spot, but **how comfortable do you feel** talking about cybersecurity issues? Is there anything I can to do help you build familiarity with terminology, types of threats, or anything else?

What kind of r**elationships** do you have with local journalists? Are there any reporters you see as especially good allies or especially troublesome adversaries?

Do reporters sometimes **contact you out of the blue**? If so, what kind of process do you take when dealing with them?

Do we have a **statement on our website** about our cybersecurity preparedness? If not, can we chat about drafting one?

Do we have a **social media policy**? If so, can we look at it and consider how to add some notes about cybersecurity? If not, can we see about drafting one?

In the event of a elections cyber incident, do you feel that it’s pretty clear who would be the **communications response team**? Is there anything I could do to help make that clearer?

I’ve recently been exposed to a **basic cyber incident response plan**. Could I show it to you and get your input?

I understand that cybersecurity requires resources. In closing, do you have any **resource needs** that you’d like to talk about? Can I be an advocate to help you get the resources you need?