

News Item

How Your Local Election Clerk Is Fighting Global Disinformation | The Pew Charitable Trusts

By Matt Vasilogambros July 22, 2020

Jim Irizarry has seen a dramatic increase in the amount of false and misleading information about voting access coursing through social media lately. The assistant county clerk for San Mateo County, California, and his team have been training for this moment for years, since the sophisticated Russian disinformation machine emerged during the last presidential election.

"They don't have to change a vote in the voting machines," Irizarry said. "But if you can get into the minds of voters to undermine their confidence in casting that ballot, you've been successful."

This year, state and local election officials across the country expect they'll need to defend voters against potentially devastating and widespread disinformation attacks that could suppress turnout and sow doubt in November's results.

[...]

Source: <u>How Your Local Election Clerk Is Fighting Global Disinformation | The Pew</u> Charitable Trusts