

# Florida Adopts Online Registration

The State of Florida launched Online Voter Registration October 1st and we at VR have been working closely with our customers and the Division of Elections to ensure a smooth transition for this elections milestone. VR Systems has been an active member in the OVR Implementation workgroup that met regularly to identify software and testing requirements as well as user interface needs. With the new online registration application in place, Voter Focus seamlessly retrieves voter submitted registration changes allowing county users to process the changes quickly and efficiently.

Now County website visitors can fulfill the entire registration process online, and verified individuals no longer have to fill out the form by hand and place it in the mail. Instead County offices will receive an electronic version which will be completely filled out.



For County officials, the registration data will automatically flow into the suspense queue to be processed. Signature verification will be conducted through an interface with the Department of Motor Vehicles to ensure integrity of the voter application.

# WELCOME NEW **ELM**\* & **VRTower**\* CUSTOMERS

Brevard Lake

Citrus Osceola

Flagler

Sumter

For the voter, registering to vote has never been easier, saving time and money by submitting and updating their voter registration information. For elections officials the transition is easy as there is no need to learn a new process. The OVR updates are similar to what has been done in the past and there are no new steps or programs.

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

FVRS plans to implement the automated sending of a 'Print File' of voter applications that were printed instead of electronically processed. Voter Focus has been enhanced and ready to retrieve the file and make it available in your local systems for review. Other future Voter Focus enhancements include new reporting to identify counts of OVR applications processed as well as an integrated process for printed online applications returned to the office.

This is another example of our commitment to our customers in ensuring our software complies with election laws and regulations.

#### **CYBER SECURITY**



A cybersecurity summit was hosted by Escambia County, FL in July and VR staff were honored to be included. Matt Masterson from the

EAC and Merle King, Executive Director, Center for Elections Systems, Kennesaw State University gave an overview of security issues facing elections and how best to prepare for the future. There was a great deal of valuable information shared and we look forward to another session in Orlando.

# VoterFocus\* TECH TIPS

# Did you know that you can save customized report queries created in FlexRep?

For reports and extracts you run frequently, you can save the search criteria as a FlexRep specification file (.FLX) and call up the file any time you want to use those search criteria to extract data.

#### **Troubleshooting**

We have a great VF troubleshooting document available for county offices to help gather the information needed to help us troubleshoot any issue or problem that may arise. Please visit the User Community for more information.

### Letter from the CEO



Dear Customers,

The past few months have brought many changes to the world of elections and our customer communities. Many of our customers were recently impacted by storms and are still

rebuilding from the Fall. Florida recently rolled out Online Voter Registration and nationally elections have been deemed critical infrastructure by the US government. As always we are committed to doing whatever is needed to support our elections family and stand ready to help in any way.

As the discussion of security in elections becomes a greater focus nationally, VR has been working hard to evaluate processes and we are actively involved in the conversations taking place within our customer and the security communities. We are enacting new ways to combat cyber actors and have partnered with leading experts to assist us.

We are proud to say that the new EViD Edge began shipping this past quarter and we are actively working with our customers to go through acceptance testing. The Edge was used in its first election and has been used to support voter registration outreach programs. We are pleased at the positive feedback we have heard regarding its performance and versatility.

Mindy J. Pulius CEO

# CORPORATE CUP CHALLENGE

Our VR team was out promoting wellness in our local community by participating in the corporate cup challenge. Erving, Rob, Patrick and Philip ran, lifted weights, kayaked and biked in the event.



"VR is here to make this an easy process and they do a fabulous job at it." - DAYNA CAUSBY, DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS, CLEVELAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

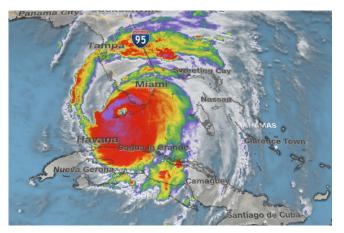
## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT Cathy Fowler



Cathy Fowler recently celebrated her 10th anniversary with VR. As a Voter Focus customer support representative she is always available to answer questions and provide information to our customers. One of VR's earliest team members, Cathy has a deep understanding of elections and has great respect for the work that our elections customers do. This year she earned her CERV designation after completing her coursework through the Election Center certification program. Prior to joining VR, Cathy worked for Hewlett Packard where she served in a range of roles including HR and sales support. Her hobbies include movies and reading. She values spending time with her family, including her husband and two children, a high school senior and recent college graduate. A native of South Carolina, Cathy is an alumni of the University of South Carolina.

### Hurricane Awareness

VR works hard to be prepared in the event of a natural disaster so that our customers do not have to worry about an interruption in elections services. This fall was particularly notable for its fierce storms. Many of our counties were significantly impacted by Hurricanes. Our team was available to answer any questions and provide assistance as needed.



For example, during Hurricane Irma, VR's headquarters were, at some estimates, in the middle of the track. We began our planning several days prior, and ran our Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) as is customary in these situations. We

had specially trained staff physically on site to make sure all of our equipment and data was secure. Our phone system was routed to our North Carolina offices as backup and a chain of support and management staff were accessible to answer questions as needed. Irma stayed East of us, so we were able to have all of staff back in the office safely the next day.

### **Conference Season**

VR has been active in the elections community by attending a variety of conferences around the US. In July we traveled to Lake Tahoe for the California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials (CACEO) summer conference. The main topic of discussion was SB450 which has charged California counties to modernize their voting systems. We also attended seasonal and annual



FSASE Attendees View the New EViD Edge

conferences in Virginia, North Carolina, Indiana and Illinois. Our staff participated on panels at Auburn University's elections event and discussed important issues facing elections officials.

### **EViD**★ Edge Ships

Our EVID Edges have been shipped and we are working with many of our County customers on acceptance testing. We are happy to report that the Edge has performed resoundingly well. Early models have been used already in elections, but we look forward to our customers utilizing the Edge more widely in upcoming elections.



#### **Edge Benefits:**

- Swappable battery
- Purpose built for elections
- Ruggedized tablet
- Ergonomic stand
- Multiple ports for wired and wireless communications
- 10 year service support
- Walk the line / mobility enabled

#### **Edge Case**

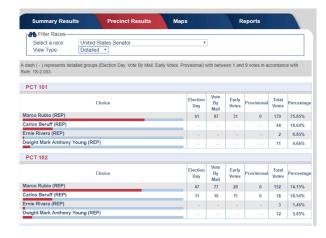


The EVID Edge case has been designed based on the feedback we have received from our customers over the years. You will find an easily stackable case for storage optimization and stability. In addition, the case has a port in the side that allows for ongoing charging while in storage or out.



#### **ENR TECH TIP**

To adhere to Florida Statute Rule 1S-2.053, if a candidate has between 1 and 9 votes for a specific vote type, in the Detailed View in ENR, instead of displaying a count for each vote type for that candidate, a dash (-) appears for all vote types for that candidate.



If you display the Detailed View in ENR, we recommend you test using the new XML file prior to an election to decide if you want to display Detailed results.

For more information, see the article "ENR Updates - 8/9/2017" in the VR User Community > Election Night Results (ENR) > Product Updates.

# VoterFocus\* Interfaces

VR is always there to help our customers optimize their systems. Please remember, when considering implementing a third party software that interfaces with Voter Focus, allow our staff some time to plan and assist you with the process. If you aren't sure you need a third party interface contract or if you require a software change, please contact Dale Woodruff (dwoodruff@vrsystems.com) or customer support for more information.

