



For immediate release 6/9/2017

## Russians Did Not Hack Florida Voting Systems

In response to recent news reports on Russia's attempt to hack Florida's elections systems, these are the facts:

- Phishing emails were received by Putnam County just before the 2016 November General Election with the intent of gaining access to our voter registration system (VR system). However, a security scan by the Putnam County Information Technology Department showed our voter registration system was not infiltrated or compromised in any way.
- Phishing emails are not uncommon; County Government Offices receive numerous phishing emails daily, similar to private email accounts. The most up to date security measures are in place to protect our data.
- Putnam County uses VR Systems for voter records/ registration purposes. VR Systems does not have a product that marks or tabulates ballots. We use a separate vendor for voting and tabulation equipment.
- Voter registration information is public record with few exceptions. (F.S. 119)
- Our voting equipment is not connected to the World Wide Web. You can't hack something you have no access to.
- Every Florida County votes using paper ballots which of course leaves a paper trail. You can't hack paper.
- All of our voting equipment is tested prior to elections and Post-election audits are also conducted.

*If you have any questions, please contact Charles Overturf at 386-329-0224.*