



JOCELYN BENSON
MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE

May 1, 2025

Jacqueline Beaudry
Ann Arbor City Clerk
301 E Huron Street
Ann Arbor MI 48104

Dear Jackie,

Congratulations to the Ann Arbor City Clerk's Office for its win in the "Exemplary Contingency Planning and Emergency Response Efforts" category of the 2024 Clearinghouse Awards. As one of only 53 submissions that were recognized out of a record-breaking 258 entries, the team's achievement "More Days, More Ways – Planning a Safe and Secure Election in Ann Arbor, Michigan" speaks to the foresight and dedication required to create such an award winner.

The most important takeaway from this project is how vital critical emergency management planning is to the smooth administration of an election. As difficult as it is to consider the risks associated with storms, power outages, and other dangers, to fail to plan is the greatest risk of all. Your presentation is a model blueprint for ensuring that, in the event of a serious issue, a prompt and organized emergency response will help minimize risk to elections staff and voters, thereby safeguarding the integrity of our election processes and the right to vote.

Careful preparation is the key to successfully staging any event. Ann Arbor residents – including students at the University of Michigan - can take comfort in knowing that their community has a well-structured plan in place if there is an emergency during an election. Congratulations on a wonderful achievement.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Benson
Secretary of State

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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