

SMARTelections.us

January 16, 2020

To the Columbia County Board of Supervisors,

There is no better person to be an election commissioner in Columbia County than Dr. Virginia Martin.

Her dedication to her work, her honesty, and her commitment to transparency are unmatched. Additionally, the effort she is willing to make to ensure that the public can trust the elections in Columbia County is a model for us all to look up to.

She and her Republican counterpart in Columbia County have constructed one of the best auditing systems in the country to ensure that votes are counted accurately. In the process, Dr. Martin has become a pioneer in establishing secure, accurate and transparent protocols that can efficiently and affordably confirm the results of elections. She has done this at a time when we have a pressing need to increase both the competence of election administration and the confidence of the public in the process. She has done it on a limited budget, developing new templates and procedures as necessary, while involving the public and giving them full access to the process.

At a time when our democratic process is under attack from foreign adversaries, the ability to confirm the results of an election accurately and with complete confidence is a matter of national security. Dr. Martin is leading the way in defending our elections from attack and demonstrating to others how they can do the same.

In addition to her work in Columbia County, Dr. Martin has been generous with her time, giving talks around the country so that others can learn from the system that has been developed in Columbia County.

At SMART Elections, we feature her protocols on a regular basis as a model for other counties to look to. We have referenced her work multiple times in articles, research and discussions about best practices and hope to continue to do so. Recently at a Congressional Briefing on election security we featured her work as a model of one type of risk-limiting audit.

There is not a single other person who could do a better job as election commissioner in Columbia County, and we hope that she will retain that post for as long as she is willing to continue her profoundly important work.

We urge you to continue to support her work in every way that you can.

Kind Regards,
Lulu Friesdat
Co-founder; [SMART Elections](https://www.smartelections.us)
917.543.2125

Signed in support,

Liza Abraham
Executive Director, New York Democratic Lawyers Council

Jan BenDor, Statewide Coordinator
Michigan Election Reform Alliance

Duncan Buell
NCR Professor of Computer Science and Engineering; University of South Carolina
duncanbuell@duncanbuell.org
duncanbuell@gmail.com

Stephanie Chaplin
Ion Yannopoulos
April Smith Ziegler
Secure Elections Network

Jennifer Cohn
National Voting Rights Task Force

Rich DeMillo
Distinguished Professor of Computing; Georgia Institute of Technology

Allegra Dengler
Co-Founder; Citizens for Voting Integrity New York

Garland Favorito
VoterGA.Org
Voters Organized for Trusted Election Results in Georgia

Sally Hess
Swarthmore College

Nada Khader, WESPAC Foundation

Karen McKim
Wisconsin Election Integrity

Susan Pynchon
Executive Director & Co-Founder; Florida Fair Elections Coalition

Stephanie Singer, Ph.D.
Research Assistant Professor, Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University
Former Chair, Philadelphia County Board of Elections

Bennie Smith
Shelby County Tennessee Election Commissioner

Indivisible members:

Diane Englander
Jackie Linden
Ellen Martin
Sheila McLaughlin
Linda Senat
Lois Gudeon Sloan
Michael Spiegel

Affiliation is for identification purposes only and does not signify organizational endorsement.