Hacking Democracy: Elections and Beyond

Wednesday, July 29, 11am EST/10 am CST
All attendees must register for the Virtual Annual Meeting: ambar.org/annual
Free for ABA Members, $95 for non-members

Opening Remarks: Judy Perry Martinez, President, American Bar Association

Moderator: Harvey Rishikof, Director of Policy and Cyber Security Research at the University of Maryland Applied Research Laboratory For Intelligence and Security, Senior Counselor, ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security

Panelists: Suzanne Spaulding, Senior Adviser, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Member, ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security
The Hon. Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar, Justice of the Supreme Court of California
The Hon. James McPherson, Undersecretary of the U.S. Army, Special Advisor, ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security

Democracy is not inevitable. Right now, US democratic institutions are under tremendous stress as Americans struggle to hold them accountable to live up to our aspirations. Foreign adversaries also exploit and exacerbate the fissures and lack of public trust in institutions and processes, from elections to the justice system, while capitalizing on opportunities to engage in cyber assaults. Diverse strategies of disinformation, such as hack-and-leak or deep fake videos, often couched as news stories, amplify weaknesses and divisions of our own making to convince Americans to give up on rule of law and ideas of justice and democracy. This showcase program will explore digital threats against the U.S. democratic system, the current U.S. readiness to counteract these threats, and the way forward to protect our national security from hacking and disinformation.