The threats to our electoral system may be multifaceted – interference from malicious actors at home and abroad, misuse of election technology, misinformation campaigns – but the key to verifying elections is surprisingly simple.

**About Risk-Limiting Audits**

Experts agree that Risk-Limiting Audits, or RLAs, are the best method for providing evidence-based reassurance that an election outcome is accurate, or identifying when an anomaly requires further investigation. Despite this consensus, only two states currently have statutory requirements for true RLAs. Verified Voting and our RLA Pilots want to change that.

**How Do RLA Pilots Help?**

RLA Pilots allow both voting systems experts and those who will be carrying out the elections and audits themselves to **test procedures on the ground** and **document best practices**.

RLA Pilots demonstrate effective post-election audits for legislators, other county officials, Departments of State, the media, and the general public, **dispelling potential objections** that audits take too much time or money, while **building awareness and public support**.

**Verified Voting’s Pilots**

In Colorado and California, we pioneered the development and implementation of RLAs, by designing and conducting audit pilots. We have further refined this practice in other states – most recently Rhode Island – and are targeting jurisdictions in Virginia and Florida. For more information, please see our reports from Orange County and the City of Fairfax.

In many states, including several battleground states, all we can do is accept the results provided by computer and double-check the limited paper ballots available. **As the 2018 midterms demonstrate, we need to do better.** RLA pilots are a critical step toward that outcome, and Verified Voting’s experts are ready to assist jurisdictions with implementation.

**About Verified Voting**

Verified Voting works to **strengthen democracy for all voters** by promoting the **responsible use of technology in elections**.

We were founded in the wake of the 2000 elections by computer scientists who understood the connection between election administration and national security.

We bring together **policymakers** and **officials** with **technology experts** who comprehend the risks associated with the emerging digital landscape.

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