NEWS RELEASE

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NACo releases Cybersecurity guidebook for counties

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Association of Counties (NACo) today released its first Cyber security publication – the 'Cyber for Counties Guidebook' – as part of National Cyber Security Awareness Month in October.

Under the leadership of NACo Immediate Past President Chris Rodgers, NACo continues its commitment to educating, preparing, and connecting county leaders with the tools and resources they need to prevent and mitigate the effects of a cyber-attack.

The guidebook focuses on the specific needs of local elected officials and IT staff. It provides an in depth look at addressing the specific cyber threats that counties are facing, the resources available to them, and real solutions they can take to protect their critical infrastructures.

"For those counties out there that are looking for information on cyber security and what they should do and how to do it, this is a great first step," said Rodgers, commissioner, Douglas County, Neb. "We want to put this guidebook in the hands of every county in this country."

County governments are responsible for a great quantity of information of interest to cyber attackers: financial accounts, personal information like Social Security and payment card numbers and much more. Counties also play an important role in homeland security, making them attractive targets for an attack that could disrupt airports, water systems, electrical grids, and other vital systems for which counties are responsible.

"The Cyber for Counties Guidebook includes a collection of best practices and thought leadership from cyber experts across the public and private sector," said Jodi Chapin, director, AT&T State and Local Government. "We applaud NACo for continuing to make a significant difference raising cyber security awareness with counties around the country and are honored to be a part of the effort."

The Guidebook was developed by NACo in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security, Center for Internet Security, AT&T and other stakeholders.

Click here to view the Cyber for Counties Guidebook. For more information, contact Karon Harden at 202.942.4277 or kharden@naco.org.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,069 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.