



**PROTECTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FROM MISINFORMATION &
DISINFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE
POTENTIAL BRIEFER BIOGRAPHIES**

Mr. Nathan Blumenthal

**Director of Rapid Response Election Security Cyber Unit (RESCU)
Colorado's Secretary of State Office**

Prior to joining the Colorado Department of State, Mr. Nathan Blumenthal served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Counter Terrorism and Threat Prevention for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), where he led the development and implementation of strategies to counter a range of threats. Before that, Mr. Blumenthal was Director for DHS' Countering Foreign Influence Task Force, which combatted the threat of foreign influence in the 2018 election and served two tours as a Director for Counterterrorism on the National Security Council.

Mr. Michael Caulfield

**Director of Blended and Networked Learning
Washington State University Vancouver**

Mr. Mike Caulfield is currently the director of blended and networked learning at Washington State University Vancouver. An early believer in the idea of civic digital literacies, Mr. Caulfield's work in this area intensified in spring of 2016. Mr. Caulfield's February 2017 work, *Web Literacy for Student Fact-Checkers*, won the Merlot Award for best open learning resource in the ICT category. Mr. Caulfield was a runner up in the Rita Allen/RTI International Misinformation Solutions Award (2018). Mr. Caulfield's SIFT model, a practical approach to quick source and claim investigation, encourages readers to take a minute or two to seek out basic information about sources and claims before they engage more deeply with media, and, if necessary, to move on to better material. It is based on research of Sam Wineburg and his own experiences helping faculty to teach critical consumption in the classroom. Mr. Caulfield is also known for his use of collaborative technology in the classroom and worked with wiki inventor Ward Cunningham from 2014-2016 on the use of federated wiki in education. Mr. Caulfield's 2015 essay *The Garden and the Stream* is credited with launching the "digital gardens" movement. Mr. Caulfield was an early proponent of the use of Open Educational Resources, and worked for MIT as the first director of community outreach for the Open Courseware Consortium in the mid-2000s.

Ms. Renée DiResta

**Technical Research Manager
Stanford Internet Observatory**

Ms. Renée DiResta is the technical research manager at Stanford Internet Observatory, a cross-disciplinary program of research, teaching and policy engagement for the study of abuse in current information technologies. Ms. DiResta investigates the spread of narratives across social and media networks, with an interest in understanding how platform algorithms and affordances intersect with user behavior and factional crowd dynamics. Ms. DiResta studies how actors leverage the information ecosystem to exert influence, from domestic activists promoting health misinformation and conspiracy theories, to the full-spectrum information operations executed by state actors. At the behest of SSCI, Ms. DiResta led an investigation into the Russian Internet Research Agency's multi-year effort to manipulate American society, and presented public testimony. A year later, Ms. DiResta led an additional investigation into influence capabilities that the GRU used alongside its hack-and-leak operations in the 2016 election. Renee has studied influence operations and computational propaganda in the context of pseudoscience conspiracies, terrorist activity, and state-sponsored information warfare, and has advised, the State Department, and other academic, civil society, and business organizations on the topic. Ms. DiResta regularly writes and speaks about technology policy, and influence operations. She is an Ideas contributor at Wired and The Atlantic. Her tech industry writing, analysis, talks, and data visualizations have been featured or covered by numerous media outlets including the New York Times, Washington Post, CNN, CNBC, Bloomberg, Yale Review, Fast Company, Politico, TechCrunch, Wired, Slate, Forbes, BuzzFeed, The Economist, Journal of Commerce, and more. She appeared in the documentary *The Social Dilemma*.



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Ms. Yasmin Green

**Director of Research and Development
Jigsaw**

Ms. Yasmin Green is the Director of Research and Development for Jigsaw, a technology incubator within Alphabet Inc. focused on solving global security challenges through technology. She was previously Head of Strategy and Operations for Google Ideas, now Jigsaw. At Google, Ms. Green served as Head of Sales Strategy and Operations for Southern Europe, Middle East, and Africa as well as Africa Operations Manager. Before joining Google, she consulted for Booz Allen Hamilton. She has experience leading projects in some of the world's toughest environments, including Iran, Syria, UAE and Nigeria. In 2012, she led a multi-partner coalition to launch Against Violent Extremism, the world's first online network of former violent extremists and survivors of terrorism. Based on her own interviews with ISIS defectors and jailed recruits, last year Ms. Green launched the Redirect Method, a new deployment of targeted advertising and video to confront online radicalization. Ms. Green is a Senior Advisor on Innovation to Oxford Analytica. Until 2015, she co-chaired the European Commission's Working Group on Online Radicalization. She was just named as one of Fortune's "40 Under 40" most influential young leaders, and in 2016 was named one of *Fast Company's* "Most Creative People in Business." Outside of geopolitics and technology, Ms. Green pursues her passion for art—in 2016, she produced the psychedelic papier-mâché art feature film *Adam Green's Aladdin*. She also serves on the Board of the Tory Burch Foundation.

Mr. Jonathan Meyer

**General Counsel
Department of Homeland Security**

Mr. Jon Meyer is a partner in the Government Contracts, Investigations & International Trade Practice Group in the firm's Washington, D.C. office. Mr. Meyer was most recently Deputy General Counsel at the United States Department of Homeland Security, where he advised the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, General Counsel, Chief of Staff and other senior leaders on law and policy issues, such as cyber security, airline security, high technology, drones, immigration reform, encryption, and intelligence law. He also oversaw all litigation at DHS, including high-profile issues such as executive action and no-fly rules, and managed the most important cases on a day-to-day basis, at levels from discovery disputes to Supreme Court briefs. Additionally, he led the Department's responses to Congressional oversight from over 90 committees and caucuses of jurisdiction, including testifying before Congress and preparing high profile witnesses for their testimony. Mr. Meyer was a point person for coordination with the White House, and the Departments of State, Justice, Defense, and many others.

Mr. Stephen Richer

**County Recorder
Maricopa, AZ**

Mr. Stephen Richer is the 30th Recorder of Maricopa County. He was elected in November 2020 and took office January 2021. Prior to his election as Recorder, Mr. Richer worked as a lawyer and business person. Mr. Richer holds a bachelor's degree from Tulane University, a master's degree from the University of Chicago, and a J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School. Mr. Richer and his wife live in South Phoenix.



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Dr. Thomas Rid

**Professor of Strategic Studies
Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies**

Dr. Thomas Rid is Professor of Strategic Studies at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies. Rid brings to Johns Hopkins more than a decade of experience in international security and intelligence studies, previously serving as a Professor of Security Studies in the Department of War Studies at King's College London, where he developed a Cyber Security module that bridged the gap between technological and political debates. Author of multiple influential books and papers, Dr. Rid has recently shared his expertise on information security through testimony before the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, as well as insights on intelligence with the German Bundestag and the UK Parliament. Dr. Rid closely tracked the election interference in 2016 and was one of the first named sources to call out the hack-and-leak as a Russian intelligence operation, only one day after details became public. Dr. Rid has held positions at the RAND Corporation in Washington, the Institut Français des Relations Internationales in Paris, and served as a visiting scholar at Hebrew University and Shalem Center in Jerusalem. From 2007 to 2008, Rid served as a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins SAIS. Dr. Rid holds a PhD and MA in Social Science from Humboldt University in Berlin.

Ms. Jennifer Scutchfield

**Assistant Secretary of State
Kentucky**

Ms. Jennifer Scutchfield, of Fayette County, most recently served as Assistant Director and General Counsel for the Kentucky State Board of Elections. Ms. Scutchfield previously was the 7th District Council Member in Lexington and was in private law practice. Ms. Scutchfield has worked for non-profits and educational institutions, and has served as an Assistant County Attorney.

Mr. Daniel Sutherland

**Former Chief Counsel
CISA**

Mr. Daniel Sutherland formerly served as the Chief Counsel for CISA, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. CISA works with partners to defend against today's threats and collaborating to build more secure and resilient infrastructure for the future. Mr. Sutherland's office negotiates complex technology agreements, provides daily operational support to the largest cyber operations center in the civilian government, advocates the agency's positions in litigation, drafts and negotiates legislation, and responds to audits and investigations. Mr. Sutherland has been engaged in many major cyber incidents of the past several years, including the OPM data breach, threats to the nation's election infrastructure, and risks posed by the Kaspersky Lab and the resulting litigation (909 F.3d 463 (2018)). His office was integrally involved in the drafting and negotiation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015, the Federal Acquisition Supply Chain Security Act of 2018, the National Cybersecurity Protection Act of 2014, and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018. In 2018, Mr. Sutherland stood up the Department's Countering Foreign Interference Task Force, seeking to respond to nation-states that use social and traditional media to sow discord among the American public. He is active in bar association activities focused on building the legal profession's proficiency in cybersecurity. Mr. Sutherland's position builds on a career focused on issues at the intersection of civil liberties and national security. In 2003, Mr. Sutherland was appointed by President Bush to serve as the first Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the Department of Homeland Security, where he built a civil liberties office and advised Secretaries Ridge and Chertoff on a range of security issues. His speech on the need for the government to engage with American Arab and Muslim communities appeared in the publication Vital Speeches of the Day. Mr. Sutherland has also served in the Senior National Intelligence Service where he coordinated the government's efforts to prevent violent extremism; Wired referred to him as "one of the government's point people on stemming the appeal of al-Qaida." Mr. Sutherland started his federal career as an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, where for 14 years he litigated cases in courts across the country. He is a graduate of the University of Louisville and University of Virginia School of Law.



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Dr. Claire Wardle
Co-founder and Director
First Draft

Dr. Claire Wardle is a leading expert on user generated content, verification and misinformation. She is co-founder and director of First Draft, the world's foremost nonprofit focused on research and practice to address mis- and disinformation. In 2017 she co-authored a report for the Council of Europe entitled, Information Disorder: Toward an interdisciplinary framework for research and policymaking. Previously, Dr. Wardle was a Research Fellow at the Shorenstein Center for Media, Politics and Public Policy, and also the Research Director at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia Journalism School. She has worked with newsrooms and humanitarian organizations around the world, providing training and consultancy on digital transformation. Dr. Wardle earned a PhD in communications and an MA in political science from the University of Pennsylvania. She is based in New York City.