**Amy Cohen** is the Executive Director of the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED). She previously spent four years with the Pew Charitable Trusts, where she managed the Voting Information Project (VIP), guided national research projects, and forged relationships throughout the corporate and nonprofit sector. Ms. Cohen has a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Washington University in St. Louis and a master of public policy from Georgetown University.

**National Association of State Election Directors (NASED)**

*MISSION STATEMENT*: The Mission of the National Association of State Election Directors is to promote accessible, accurate and transparent elections in the United States and U.S. Territories.

NASED was formed in 1989 when a group of state election directors and administrators met in Reno, Nevada. The driving issue at that time that spurred the group to organize was the concern that national networks were releasing presidential election results before all polls had closed.

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) has increased the importance for communication and coordination among state election directors. Though the issues have changed somewhat over the years, the purpose of NASED has remained the same—to serve as an exchange of best practices and ideas.