

## **Edgardo Cortés, Commissioner Virginia Department of Elections**



Edgardo Cortés has worked in elections for more than 15 years, with experience in all facets of the electoral process including campaigns, non-partisan voter registration, federal and state election policy, and local and state election administration.

As the first Virginia Commissioner of Elections, Cortés spearheaded voter registration and election administration modernization efforts in the Commonwealth. Accomplishments during Commissioner Cortés' tenure include:

- Establishing paperless voter registration at DMV locations
- Fully integrating online DMV transactions with the online voter registration system
- Establishing an online, paperless absentee ballot request system
- Implementing an easier to use voter registration form
- Creating an online assessment of election administration at the local level, making election data more accessible to the public

Cortés currently serves as the Chairman of the Board for the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) and Chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission Standards Board. Cortés is also a member of the Election Infrastructure Government Coordinating Council established by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Cortés previously served as General Registrar in Fairfax County, VA and Deputy Director for Policy and Grants Director at the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. He has also directed Congressional field campaigns, a national non-partisan voter registration program, and led efforts to implement automatic restoration of voting rights for individuals with prior felony convictions in Virginia.

Cortés holds a Bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a Master's degree in political management from the George Washington University. He lives in Springfield, Virginia with his wife and son.