

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Secretary Howe Selects North Dakota's First Ever Election Hero**

**LANGDON, ND** – North Dakota Secretary of State Michael Howe today awarded Kari Phillips of Langdon, North Dakota, the 2023 North Dakota Election Hero Award. This inaugural award recognizes Phillips tireless commitment and dedication as a poll worker in Cavalier County, and celebrates the effort and volunteers needed to conduct elections. Secretary Howe is pleased to present this award to Phillips to commemorate National Election Hero Day on November 6.

“Elections cannot run smoothly without community support, and Kari is a prime example of how knowledgeable volunteers on the front lines of elections make sure the process is done professionally and properly,” says Secretary Howe. “I am thrilled to present this well-deserved honor to someone that exemplifies what being an election hero truly is.”

Phillips was nominated by Cavalier County Auditor Lisa Gellner, who highlighted her 20 years of service to county elections. Gellner stated that Phillips enthusiasm is contagious and her extensive election knowledge “creates an awesome election team” that help the voters of Cavalier County. Phillips began her service as a poll worker in 2004 and has served both as a clerk and inspector.

The North Dakota Election Hero Award was created in honor of National Election Hero Day which celebrates the importance of election teams, poll workers, state leaders, and the many people who work to provide safe, secure and accessible elections.

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