Thank you for your interest in the Center for Local Elections in American Politics (LEAP). The Center’s local election database was created by Principal Investigators Melissa Marschall and Paru Shah through a grant by the National Science Foundation in 2010. Since then, LEAP has developed the most comprehensive database of local election results in existence. In 2015, the Knight Foundation provided funding to help establish the Center for Local Elections in American Politics within Rice University’s Kinder Institute for Urban Research.

Please be advised that we do not release data until we have completed the process of cleaning, checking, and verifying it. This means that not all of the data you see on our website are ready for download. Thus, it is important to check notifications from us or to check back with us occasionally, as we will make announcements when new data are available. In addition, users should be aware that some errors and omissions remain. To the best of our ability, we will indicate these in the “user guides” that we create for each state. We would appreciate if you could inform us of any errors or problems you encounter while working with the data.

Proper citation for these data is:


In addition to signing the data sharing agreement, users must submit a short abstract that includes:

1) Title of the research project or paper
2) Author name(s), institutional affiliation, contact information
3) For graduate students and postdocs, name, title of supervisor
4) Description of project, including research questions, hypotheses, methods (no more than one page)
5) Expected time of completion of proposed research
6) Expected outcomes (i.e., list conference where paper may be presented, potential publication outlets, etc.)

Submit to:
Melissa Marschall
marschal@rice.edu
THIS DATA SHARING AGREEMENT, dated as of __________, 2016, is made and entered into by and between the Center for Local Elections in American Politics (LEAP), and ________________________________, Investigator, with reference to the following:

________________________________________________________________________________________

[fill in geography, office, dates for data that will be shared]

Terms of the Data Sharing Agreement:

1. Access to the LEAP data are limited solely to the individual signing this Agreement. These data may not be distributed or shared with any other parties.

2. The Center for Local Elections in American Politics is not responsible for any errors in the data. Data are received ‘as is.’

3. This Agreement will go into effect upon receipt of the signed document by the PIs

4. By signing below, the parties have duly executed and delivered this Agreement as of the date indicated above.

Investigator

______________________________  ______________________________
Signature  Signatures

______________________________  Melissa Marschall
Name  Name

______________________________  Director, Center for Local Elections in American Politics
Title  Title