Zoom Authentication Update - version 2

These directions are intended to replace the directions given in June 2022 regarding an update Zoom made to their security. In the previous email, we described a way to gain access by using our shared Google email account. However, Google has now made an update that blocks that process. The revised process should work even with those changes.

Sometime in advance, maybe the day before your meeting time, open your Zoom application and switch to the ccrnfgca@gmail.com user account.

Try to start a meeting. If you can, then your computer is approved and you will probably not have a problem when it is time to start your actual meeting.

If Zoom does not recognize your computer, you will see a message saying something like "We detected an unusual sign-in from a device or location you don't usually use."

If you get that error message, please send a **text message** to Robert P at 661-316-7871 with your name, and the name of your group. If Robert is not available, try sending a **text message** to JT at 831-801-7250. Sometimes neither are available, which is why you want to test your access in advance of your meeting time.

Once you make contact with Robert or JT, they might ask you to try again to login to Zoom. When you try to login, Zoom will send an email with a special access code. Robert and JT can get the access code and text it back to you. Note, the access code is only valid for 10 minutes.

With the access code, you should be able to connect to Zoom and open a meeting. This will then mark your computer as a known Zoom user for the ccrnfgca@gmail.com account. Note, however, this access wears out after time based on some unknown process. Robert, for example, needs to re-verify his computer every couple of weeks. JT, on the other hand, has only been asked to re-verify her computer once in several months.

We recommend you pick two members from your group to serve as host and alternate host. If the host is blocked at the last minute, then perhaps the alternate host can still make the connection.

We do not recommend more than two hosts per group because gaining access takes time, and it seems to wear off unpredictably.

If, at the last minute you cannot start your meeting, either Robert or JT can start the meeting for you. You can then login as some other Zoom user, and Robert or JT can make you the host for this session. Then you can work on restoring access at a later time.