**Interviewer:**  **Jake Clements**

**Interviewee: Molly Cook**

**Date of Interview: 04/04/2024**

**Location: University of Milwaukee, WI**

**Event: C21 Tabling Trust Event**

**List of Acronyms: MC: Molly Collins, IN: Interviewer**

**File: Molly\_Cook\_4.4.2024**

IN: Could you first state your name?

MC: Name Molly Collins.

IN: And do we have your consent to record this interview?

MC: Yes.

IN: All right, so now on the scale here, you put yourself towards the trust end. Now, imagine that this end is going to be a one as one being the most trust, ten being the most distrust. What number would you put yourself at?

MC: Two.

IN: Alright. Now, when you think about the process of voting, you put yourself at a 2. Can you share a story maybe of why you put yourself there or just a reasoning behind that?

MC: Yeah, I have done election protection work in Milwaukee for probably about 20 years now and have watched how elections work and how they're administered in Wisconsin, and I broadly think that we do a really good job and people are really trustworthy and trying to do the right thing. I would say like I didn't put myself at a one because I know that the legislature is trying to make it harder for groups of people to vote. And you know, there are a lot of disenfranchisement that takes place, but I think Wisconsin's election officials are doing the best they can.

IN: Gotcha. And so you said you've been doing election protection. Can you talk a little bit more about what that looks like?

MC: Sure, like the ACLU or the League of Women Voters sends out protection inspectors to go and watch... just check things out, see if there are problems. If people are having trouble voting, why is that? Do they not have the right documentation? Can we help them? You know, figure out what they need to come back and successfully be able to cast a ballot?

IN: All right. So you're there kind of on the ground at the election polling places on Election Day?

MC: Yeah.

IN: Alright, very cool. Next question I have is where would you like to be on this scale? You're already added to. Is there a world where you can see yourself at that one, and if so, what would it take to kind of get you?

MC: At that area, I think broadly around our country, all of our government officials should be saying like, how do we make it easier for people to cast a ballot and what can we do to remove barriers to voting and participation, rather than inserting barriers because we don't like who's voting or we don't like who they're voting for, is more accurate.