Stenographic Transcript Before the

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

INTERVIEW OF

C/S Team Lead

OFFICER-TECHNICIAN, U.S. SECRET SERVICE

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Washington, D.C.

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2	COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
3	AND THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS
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6	INTERVIEW OF
7	Witness
8	OFFICER-TECHNICIAN, U.S. SECRET SERVICE
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12	Room SD-342
13	Dirksen Senate Office Building
14	Washington, D.C.
15	Wednesday, August 28, 2024
16	9:05 a.m.
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1 APPEARANCES:

2 3 On Behalf of the Witness: 4 Witness Counsel General Counsel, Federal Law 5 Enforcement Officers Association 6 Agency Counsel Deputy Chief Counsel, U.S. Secret 7 Service 8 Office of General Counsel, DHS Agency Counsel 9 Oversight Counsel [Virtual] 10 11 On Behalf of Chairman Peters: 12 HSGAC Majority, Chief Counsel/Chief Investigative Counsel, Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs 13 14 Committee 15 HSGAC Majority , Deputy Chief Counsel, Senate 16 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee 17 HSGAC Majority , Senior Investigative Counsel, 18 Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs 19 Committee 20 HSGAC Majority, Senior Investigator, Senate Homeland 21 Security and Governmental Affairs Committee 22 23 On Behalf of Ranking Member Paul: 24 HSGAC Minority , Chief Counsel, Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee 25



1	APPEARANCES (continued):
2	
3	On Behalf of Ranking Member Paul (continued):
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5	And Governmental Affairs Committee
6	HSGAC Minority, Staff Director, Senate Homeland
7	Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
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9	On Behalf of PSI Chairman Blumenthal:
10	PSI Majority, Counsel, Permanent Subcommittee on
11	Investigations
12	
13	On Behalf of PSI Ranking Member Johnson:
14	PSI Minority , Deputy Staff Director,
15	Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
16	PSI Minority , Chief Counsel, Permanent
17	Subcommittee on Investigations
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PROCEEDINGS

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HSGAC Majority : 2 Good morning. This is a transcribed 3 interview of U.S. Secret Service Officer-Technician 4 Witness , being conducted by the Senate Committee on 5 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Senate 6 Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. 7 This interview was requested by Committee Chairman 8 Gary Peters, Ranking Member Rand Paul, as well as 9 Subcommittee Chairman Richard Blumenthal and Ranking Member 10 Ron Johnson. This is a part of the Committee's 11 investigation of the July 13, 2024, assassination attempt 12 on former President Trump, and the U.S. Secret Service 13 planning in advance of and response related to the events 14 in Butler, Pennsylvania, on July 13, 2024. 15 On July 25, 2024, Chairmen Peters, Blumenthal, and 16 Ranking Members Paul and Johnson requested a voluntary transcribed interviews with U.S. Secret Service personnel, 17 18 including Witness 19 We will provide introductions of staff conducting 20 today's interview and explain how the interview will 21 proceed, and we will start by asking you, Witness , to 22 enter your name and title into the record. 23 Witness : My name is Witness , Officer-24 Technician, United States Secret Service. HSGAC Majority : 25 And counsel for Witness ?

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MR. Witness Counsel Witness Counsel

2 in Witness Counsel .

MR. Agency Counsel Agency Counsel Deputy Chief Counsel, United States Secret Service, and with me is my colleague, Nicholas Hunter, ASAC attorney.

HSGAC Majority: My name is HSGAC Majority. I am the Chief
Counsel, Chief Investigative Counsel for Major Chairman
Gary Peters on the Homeland Security and Governmental
Affairs Committee. I am joined by my colleague
HSGAC Majority, Senior Investigator, and HSGAC Majority, Deputy
Chief Counsel for Chairman Peters.

HSGAC Minority: Good morning. My name is HSGAC Minority HSGAC Minority I'm Chief Counsel for Ranking Member Paul, HSGAC minority, and I'm joined here with HSGAC Minority and

15 HSGAC Minority

.

16 **PSI Majority**: My name is **PSI Majority**, Senior 17 Counsel for Chairman Blumenthal on the Permanent 18 Subcommittee on Investigations.

PSI Minority : Good morning, sir. My name is PSI Minority
Image: I am the Deputy Staff Director on the Permanent
Subcommittee on Investigations for Ranking Member Ron
Johnson. I'm joined here today with my colleague, PSI Minority
PSI Minority, Chief Counsel.

24 HSGAC Majority: During today's interview we will proceed in 25 one-hour blocks. We will be taking breaks at those hours.



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Should you need additional time we're more than happy to
 provide it. Just let us know.

We will try and limit the number of people asking questions at one time. However, should there be follow-up we will try to make it clear to identify ourselves on the record who is asking the question and provide you the chance to answer.

8 The reporter is going to create a verbatim record of 9 what we discussed today, and with that in mind, as I'm sure 10 you're familiar, please respond to the questions verbally, 11 because the reporter cannot properly record a nonverbal 12 response. Do you understand?

Yes.

13 Witness :

14 HSGAC Majority : This interview is unclassified, so if the 15 questions call for any information that you know to be 16 classified information, please state that the implication 17 calls for classified information. And once you have 18 clarified the extent of the question that implicates 19 classified information, please try to answer fully, with as 20 much information as you are able to do so, with publicly 21 available information. Should the need arrive, we will 22 enter into a classified setting to ask additional follow-up 23 questions.

You are required to provide truthful answers in response to Congress. Do you understand?

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1 Witness : I understand.

HSGAC Majority: And that requirement applies to
congressional investigations and questions posed by
congressional staff, including in this interview today.
Specifically, USC Code 1001 makes it a crime to provide any
materially false, fraudulent, or misleading information,
and that statute applies in this interview today. Do you
understand?

9 Witness : I understand.

HSGAC Majority: Is there any reason you cannot provide any truthful answers to questions today?

12 Witness : No.

HSGAC Majority 13 At the conclusion of this interview we will 14 provide counsel with a transcript of today's interview and 15 an opportunity to provide an errata with any factual 16 corrections. In addition, we would ask, following this 17 interview, you not relay to anyone outside of this room information that you discussed today, in order to help 18 19 preserve the integrity of our investigation. Do you 20 understand?

21 Witness : I understand.

HSGAC Majority: Do you have any questions about the information I have shared just now?

24 Witness : No.







1

United States Secret Service.

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5 For the record, the Secret Service and the Department б of Homeland Security have made available to the Committee, 7 consistent with requests from the Chairman, information and 8 records that would not be publicly released. This 9 information and records are covered under the Privacy Act, 10 personnel, and other personal privacy information, for 11 official use only, intelligence and law enforcement 12 sensitive records, and raw intelligence information.

While the Secret Service and the Department have made this information and records available to the Committee, we continue to assert that such information and any discussion is not intended for public disclosure.

17 The Secret Service and the Department are not waiving 18 any protections, and for the purposes of administrative 19 efficiency and to promote constructive dialogue during this 20 interview, are making this assertion at the outset of the 21 transcribed interview to preserve all assertions and 22 protection from the public release or disclosure of 23 information or records used or discussed during the 24 transcribed interview.

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The transcript and any attachments are protected from

dissemination to the same extent as the documents and information they are based on. Please consult with the Secret Service and the Department prior to any public release or disclosure. We appreciate the opportunity to review the transcript.

6 The Secret Service and the Department have not 7 consented to, and were ensured that there would not be any 8 audio or video recordings of this interview. If the 9 Committee intends otherwise, please let us know. The 10 agencies understand the interview will be transcribed by a 11 court reporter.

12 Also, just as an outset, I'd like the Committee to 13 know that we, in the course of preparations, Witness 14 Technician Witness -- pardon me -- disclosed to us that 15 he had a few personal notes, two pages of personal notes, 16 that we made available to the Committee this morning, well 17 ahead of the beginning of the transcribed interview. There 18 is an additional one-pager that's there and several photos 19 that he took. That is the entirety of all of Officer-20 Technician Witness 's records, for the record.

We were -- however, we came prepared with copies of unredacted versions, but given the events of the previous transcribed interviews we did not feel we were able to show those at this point. Thank you.

HSGAC Majority: We have been made aware that the



25

transcription is the only record that is recorded here
 with respect to Secret Service statements regarding
 nonpublic information. The Committee is bound by Senate
 and Committee rules, and we will adhere to those rules and
 cannot enter into additional agreements beyond those rules.

As we have stated it is the Committee's practice, should the information we learn, including from documents and interviews, result in a public-facing report, including information we learn today, we will, as is our practice, provide excerpts of that information that are relevant to the individuals, and advance notice to the Department and an opportunity to identify any factual corrections.

13 With respect to documents that have been presented to 14 us, including the documents this morning that have been 15 provided in redacted form, the Secret Service had proposed 16 an additional agreement that would provide us unredacted 17 copies of information for the purposes of use only in the 18 transcribed interview itself, to be retained by the Secret 19 Service following the interview. That proposal was 20 specifically rejected by the Committee, in writing, in 21 advance of transcribed interviews.

As stated, the Committee will only be bound by Senate and Committee rules, and cannot relinquish control of documents and information in its possession without violating those rules, unless it acts in accordance with



1 the processes I described earlier. Nevertheless, having 2 rejected that offer, the Secret Service, in a prior 3 transcribed interview, sought to impose those terms on us 4 and produced unredacted information, in part. However, 5 some of that information was still redacted, and so we did б not have unredacted copies. That information was used in 7 the transcribed interview, including, in part, as exhibits. 8 As has previously been stated, the transcript of an 9 interview itself, including its exhibits, are Committee 10 records. They are, and must remain, in the custody and 11 control of the Committee. In that setting, the Secret 12 Service entered into the record and sought to be provided 13 opportunity in advance of any public report to raise any 14 concerns, including to the safety of any of its personnel, 15 which was acknowledged during the interview.

16 That, at the time, appeared to be the resolution to the concerns the Committee has raised about receiving 17 18 redacted information that has made it more difficult to 19 conduct our interviews. Hearing that that does not result 20 in a resolution here today we will continue to discuss with 21 the Secret Service and the Department a way to resolve our 22 concerns, but we remain our right to receive information 23 that is relevant to our review, including unredacted 24 information specific to the questions we are asking in 25 these interviews.



1 With that we will proceed with our interview with 2 Witness 3 **HSGAC Minority :** I have a clarifying question for 4 counsel. In your remarks you stated documents provided 5 this morning were provided well in advance of this 6 interview. Is that your words? 7 MR Agency Counsel Yes. They were in advance of today's, 8 yes. 9 HSGAC Minority : My follow-up is going to be, it's 10 10 minutes before the scheduled start time of this interview 11 well in advance. 12 MR. Agency Counsel We are only talking about three 13 documents, though. I think we should move on. The witness 14 is here. I think that's the important thing, is to seek 15 facts that the Committee is looking for, instead of this 16 discussion. 17 HSGAC Minority: And I just want to clarify, so you have the unredacted copies of these documents that were provided 18

19 last night here, right now? And if so, would you provide 20 them to us?

MR. Agency Counsel Yes. We're not providing them.
HSGAC Minority: Thank you.
HSGAC Majority: Office-Technician Witness, good
morning. My name is HSGAC Majority. I'm a Senior
Investigator with Chairman Peters here on the Committee.



Thank you for being here. As my colleague mentioned, we are going to go around different offices, hopefully make it easy for you to speak, and I'm going to start for the majority here.

5 Can you start with telling us how long you've been6 with the Secret Service?

7 Witness : I've been with the Secret Service just
8 under eight years.

9 HSGAC Majority: How long have you been a counter sniper
 10 with the Secret Service?

11 Witness : Just over six years.

12 **HSGAC Majority**: And what accounted for the difference?

13 What did you start as, at the Secret Service?

Witness : When I was in the Uniformed Division I was at the White House. You need to have two years of experience before you can put in for counter snipers.

17 **HSGAC Majority**: Did you have counter sniper experience

18 in law enforcement before you were with the Secret Service?

19 Witness : No.

20 HSGAC Majority: And to clarify, you are a counter

21 sniper, not a sniper. Is that right?

22 Witness : That's correct.

23 HSGAC Majority: And you were a counter sniper at the 24 July 13th Butler rally?

25 Witness : Correct.



HSGAC Majority: What's your understanding of the
difference between a sniper and a counter sniper?
Witness : A counter sniper, their job is to
basically engage with snipers and try to counter them, to
overcome the difficulties that come with long-range
threats.

7 HSGAC Majority: Is it generally true that a counter 8 sniper has a different focus or area of responsibility in 9 terms of where you're looking at as opposed to what a 10 sniper might be doing?

11 Witness : They are similar but they are 12 distinctly different and the overall goal that each has. 13 HSGAC Majority: And you said the overall goal for a 14 counter sniper such as yourself is to be looking for 15 snipers. Is that right?

16 Witness : That's correct.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. What was your involvement
in the planning of the July 13th rally?

19 Witness : I was the team leader for the Counter 20 Sniper Team. I was sent to help advance for the outdoor 21 event.

22 HSGAC Majority: And what planning aspects were you 23 responsible for?

24 Witness I was in charge of basically the 25 Counter Sniper Team's logistics, how the teams would arrive



up there, their hotels, where they were going to stay,
 the postings for the day, as well as creating documents
 that support said visit, on the counter sniper side.

4 HSGAC Majority: And what kind of documents did you
5 create?

6 Witness : We did overhead grids as well as line 7 of sight photos. So a rough explanation would be 360 8 photos of where the protectee was going to spend their time, as well as satellite imagery above, to try to get the 9 10 best perspective possible. I also created a logistics 11 sheet for said material, that's basically for team members 12 to have a quick look at who, what, when, where, why, all the information they may need to perform their jobs on that 13 14 day.

HSGAC Majority: And in your document, being marked
Exhibit 1, this is starting date is 150. It is slide deck
titled "Site 2, Butler Farm Outdoor Rally."

18 [Exhibit No. 1 was 19 marked for identification.] 20 **HSGAC Majority:** Are you familiar with this? 21 Witness : I am. 22 **HSGAC Majority:** Did you create this? 23 Witness : I did. 24 HSGAC Majority : Okay. And is this the document you're 25 referring to with the grid views and line of sight views?



1 Witness : Yes. This is what we consider the 2 overhead grid.

3 HSGAC Majority: Overhead. I took that to mean overhead
4 like satellite, if you're looking down, but you're saying
5 these views seem to be taken with a camera in terms of the
6 line of sight view. Is that right?

7 Witness : So typically we'll group them 8 together. So the very last page, page 5, has the overheads 9 from the top, but we also want to see line of sight in 10 every direction, and that's where the line of sight 11 pictures come in.

12 HSGAC Majority: I see. Understood. Thank you. When 13 did you first arrive at the site?

14 Witness : It would be Wednesday, because the 15 event happened that Saturday.

16 **HSGAC Majority:** And what did you do that day? 17 Witness : I arrived in Pittsburgh, I checked 18 into my hotel, and then I immediately went to the outdoor 19 site where I met with the site agent and start seeing the 20 site to get an explanation of where the plan had been so 21 far for the stage, the crowd, the basic plan for the site. 22 **HSGAC Majority**: Who was that site agent? 23 Witness : I believe it was Site Agent .

24 HSGAC Majority: You said you did a walkthrough. Did you

25 say that?



1 Witness :

Correct.

HSGAC Majority: Did you conduct a threat assessment of
the site?

Witness : When we get there I will ask the site agent what's happening here, where the protectee exactly is going to be, where does he get out of the vehicle, where is he going on the stage, does he spend any other time anywhere else there. From there I'll then decide, okay, where are the greatest threats looking at, and basically perform a threat assessment.

11 **HSGAC Majority**: Is that documented anywhere?

Witness : So when I go up I'll basically, in addition to making these documents, just kind of highlight all the threat areas that pertain to the protectee, also posting locations. That way if I'm working and the team that is going to be working counter sniper is seize the threat areas, so yes.

18 HSGAC Majority: Sorry. Was the threat assessment 19 documented in any of the planning documents that were 20 prepared for the rally?

21 Witness : This one you handed me, that's the 22 documentation.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. And what threats, vulnerabilities, or concerns were identified in that document?



1 : Let me go through it. I'll just Witness 2 start on the first page. To help the Committee understand, 3 typically, we use something called a tactical 12. So if 4 you're standing on the stage, facing directly where the 5 dais is facing, that is 12 o'clock. And just like going 6 around the face of the clock, you start -- this first 7 picture typically is known as 9, 10, 11 o'clock, looking 8 around at the stage. This is taken off the left of the 9 stage. There are multiple barns, the horse stadiums, as 10 well as the machinery building in this first slide. All 11 those have the potential to be areas for a long-range 12 weapon.

13 I can continue, or --

HSGAC Majority: No, that's helpful. Thank you. Our understanding is that this rally was the first time that Secret Service counter sniper were sent for a protectee who was anyone other than POTUS, VPOTUS, or an official candidate. Is that your understanding?

19 Witness : That is correct. I believe we covered 20 Trump when he was POTUS. This is the first time since 21 then, to my knowledge, at least, that we covered him.

HSGAC Majority: When did you become aware of the
 decision to send counter snipers to this event?

24 Witness : The Tuesday -- I arrived Monday. I

25 got the phone call from my Ops Desk informing me that they



1 wanted me to do the advance on that Tuesday.

HSGAC Majority: Would that be July 9th, Tuesday?
Witness: The event was the -- yes, July 9th.
HSGAC Majority: Do you know who decided to send counter

5 snipers?

6 Witness I 'm not sure where the decision is 7 made. I usually just get a phone call from the Ops Desk. 8 It's a sergeant on the CS team who basically is in charge 9 of the schedule, and they'll let you know when an advance 10 is coming. They'll make sure that there are no conflicts 11 in the schedule, and if you agree then you go.

12HSGAC Majority: And what was that person's name?13Witness13Witness13That day it was Sergeant Technician

14 Sgt Tech

HSGAC Majority: Were you told anything about why the
decision was made to send counter snipers?

17 Witness : No. He did say this is the first time 18 we're getting assigned on board a Trump rally. But it was 19 an outdoor rally, which is typically there are long-range 20 threats at outdoor rallies, so it didn't seem out of the 21 ordinary, besides being the first for the candidate.

HSGAC Majority: You may have just answered my next question, but you can you describe your reaction to being assigned as counter sniper to former President Trump?



Witness : Typically, we make money when we're on



the road. There's an excitement, yes, I'll do an
 advance. It's a good time. I enjoy traveling as opposed
 to sitting in D.C., so I was excited to take it.

4 HSGAC Majority: Sorry. You said you make money
5 traveling?

6 Witness : So when we travel, typically we're 7 paid by the hour, so that includes overtime. These trips, 8 typically, they're long hours, and they go multiple days. 9 That's a good opportunity to make money. That's how it 10 works.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. But in terms of operational security for the event, did it strike you as a concern in any way that counter snipers were being assigned for the first time to former President Trump?

15 Witness : Not concerning, considering he was one 16 of the candidates for the election. No.

HSGAC Majority: Did the fact that this was the first time counter snipers were being assigned to the former President cause you to plan any different for this rally as you would for any other events, protectee events?

21 Witness : Yes. I did speak to my captain, and 22 because this is technical not a POTUS event, it was DTD, we 23 wanted to know, this is our first time basics about how 24 long are typically advances going, what are the advance 25 teams looking like, how much time do we have to plan, just



1 basics, if there's any difference from our typical

2 advances that we conduct.

3 HSGAC Majority: And did you become aware of any
4 differences?

5 Witness : There were differences between the 6 POTUS advance and the DTD advance. This is my first one 7 doing them so there were differences.

8 HSGAC Majority: And our understanding is there were two 9 Secret Service Counter Sniper Teams, two members of each. 10 Is that right?

11 Witness : That's correct. There would be four 12 technicians on two teams.

13 **HSGAC Majority**: Who was the other member of your team?

14 Witness : That would be

15 Hercules 1 C/S.

16 HSGAC Majority: Were you and Hercules 1 C/S

17 both shooters or also known as riflemen, and neither of you 18 were exclusively the spotter or the observer? Is that 19 right?

20 Witness : So the way the Counter Sniper Team 21 works with the Secret Service is that both members are 22 equally trained as shooters or spotters. Typically, 23 whoever sees the target first becomes the shooter, and then 24 your partner then becomes the spotter.

25 HSGAC Majority: Understood. But you weren't going into



1 that day planning to be one of those two roles. You both 2 had your weapons and you were both planning to be shooters, 3 if necessary. Is that right?

Witness : Yes.
HSGAC Majority: Understood. Was there a Counter Sniper
Response Team for Secret Service at the rally?

7 Witness : Yes. We had something called CS
8 Response.

9 **HSGAC Majority**: What are they responsible for? 10 Witness : Typically, it consists of **LES** special 11 agent for the Secret Service and **IES** uniformed law 12 enforcement, local law enforcement. The best way to 13 describe it would be there for nonlethal threats. Anything 14 I may see in the line of duty that doesn't look right, is 15 potentially suspicious, I can't make out what I'm looking 16 at, that's not a direct threat. I can then send CS 17 Response to go investigate and find out the answers that I 18 need.

19 HSGAC Majority: And who was that? You said it would be
20 LES special agent from the Secret Service and LES local law
21 enforcement officer?

Witness : Yes, correct. I met with them before the event in the Security Room. I don't remember their names offhand. But we met them and I briefed them, and I handed over the paperwork, the same paperwork you have, I



briefed them on how we work, how it works, to work with
 CS Response.

3 **HSGAC Majority**: Does the name **CSRT Agent** ring a bell? 4 Witness : That does, yes. 5 HSGAC Majority: Do you recall if CSRT Agent б was part of the CS Response Team? 7 That sounds very familiar. I'd have Witness : to look at my notes to see if **CSRT Agent** is the name I 8 9 reached out to.

10 **HSGAC Majority:** And do you recall the name of the local 11 police officer who was the other member of the team? 12 Witness : He was not with him yet. When I went 13 and briefed him, typically we'll go up **LES** prior to 14 the protectee's arrival, and that's when we'll radio check 15 and CS Response will get in contact with them. Before that 16 it's not unusual for CS Response to be double tasked by 17 relief for the other agents as a response buddy.

18 HSGAC Majority: And did they have -- "they" being the 19 Secret Service Counter Sniper Response Team -- did they 20 have a planned position at the rally.

21 Witness : So typically, they don't stand by 22 until I, or a member of the Counter Sniper team designates 23 a reason for them to be utilized. They would not be 24 prepositioned as post-standers somewhere else. They are 25 standing by for our -- basically our direction.



HSGAC Majority: Do you know where they were standing by?

Witness I did not leave my position. I suppose they were in the site somewhere. The idea is once we reach out to them, they will then text and say the location that we want them to investigate.

7 HSGAC Majority: Understood. And in terms of your 8 position at the rally, our understanding is that Hercules 1 9 was on the northern barn and Hercules 2 was on the --10 excuse me -- Hercules 1 was on the southern barn and 11 Hercules 2 was on the northern barn. Is that right?

12 Witness : That is correct.

HSGAC Majority: And you were Hercules 1 on the southern
barn. Is that right?

Witness : On the southern, yeah, Hercules 1.
HSGAC Majority: What was your general clock position?
Witness : If you were on the stage, the stage
was 12 o'clock, we would be, I guess you can say that's 8
o'clock, maybe 7 o'clock, behind the stage.

20 HSGAC Majority: Is that the position you had planned to 21 be in?

22 Witness : Yes, that's correct.

HSGAC Majority: Did you choose that position as well as the Hercules 2 position?

25 Witness : Yes. As the team leader for CS, those



1 are the positions I identified, that could see the threat 2 areas that looked in on the protectee.

HSGAC Majority: And could you elaborate a little bit
more on that, how did you select those positions.

5 : That Monday when I arrived, after Witness б Site Agent showed me where the stage was going to be 7 placed, I took photos of 360 to identify the threat areas. 8 From those photos you can determine what buildings, 9 structures, wood lines, anything that was a long-range 10 threat that would look into the protectee. From there I 11 identified a position that I could also see those threat 12 areas.

I immediately saw the barn, and I reached out to a bunch of workers there at Butler Farm. He was able to give me a ladder, and I got up onto the roof. From the roof I was able to see all the threat areas that looked in on the protectee. Typically, in the past, **LES**

Anything elevated is better, but the closer you can get to the actual protectee, the line of sight, that's what we really seek.

HSGAC Majority: Were you comfortable with those
positions?
Witness
Yes. When we go up there to check
when we're doing the advance, you need to make sure the



roof is secure, it's not going to bend or break under
 pressure with all the weight we carry. The roof seemed
 secure. I had no issues with it. Utilizing tripods, they
 were good positions.

5 HSGAC Majority: Sorry. Clarify. Were you -- I meant 6 were you also comfortable in terms of the ability to 7 accomplish your mission that day from your positions? 8 Witness Yes. They were good positions. : 9 HSGAC Majority : Were any other positions considered by 10 you?

11 : Before I had seen the site I had Witness 12 spoken to the overall lead, I believe Lead Agent was 13 her name, over the phone, and I mentioned that we may need 14 LES 15 LES 16 LES But until I got to see the 17 site, once I saw the barns, that was confirmed that would 18 be the positions.

HSGAC Majority: And following up on our discussion earlier about snipers and counter snipers, can you talk a little bit about what your responsibility was as a counter sniper? In other words, were you scanning the crowd for threats? Were you looking out beyond the rally site, beyond the perimeter?

25 Witness : So particular the counter snipers,



we're looking for any and all threats. Those can be anywhere from 100 yards away out -- we train out to about **ESTIMA** away. They could be wood lines, buildings, dark areas. They could be anything that a sniper or someone who would wish to do harm from a long distance away, anywhere

6 that they would utilize to get that fact done, we want to 7 be in a place that I can also see them.

8 **HSGAC Majority**: Did you personally have any specific 9 area of responsibility or area of the clock that you 10 personally, as opposed to the other three members of the 11 Counter Sniper Teams, were responsible for?

12 Witness : When we go up, between Hercules 1 and 13 Hercules 2, it's typically easier, instead of being worried 14 about 180 degrees of coverage, which we can see, if we 15 split it and say I'll cover the left side and you cover the 16 right. Now you only have to worry about 90 degrees, so you 17 can extremely focus in on your area. However, that's not a 18 hard-and-fast rule of do not look on my side. We can see 19 everything, but it helps to break down where we can make it 20 easier on the teams if you split the work.

21 HSGAC Majority: Were you facing a certain direction for 22 the majority of the time up there?

Witness : The majority of the time I was facing 12 o'clock, basically the same direction as the stage. But that included everything from the 9 o'clock all the way to



the o'clock. The 6 o'clock, behind the stage, those barns actually provided very good, basically blocking the 6 o'clock, and long range threats.

4 HSGAC Majority: Did that change throughout the day, the
5 direction you were facing?

6 Witness Yes. We don't want to -- when you're 7 performing counter snipers you don't want to get locked in 8 The entire outdoor, anywhere **LES** in, 360 one area. 9 degrees, or in this case 180 degrees, all of that is 10 technically under my responsibility. So you don't want to 11 get locked in on one certain area and miss what could be in 12 another area.

HSGAC Majority: Now shifting to the AGR building, throughout your planning and advance work in the leadup to the rally, did you identify any concerns or vulnerabilities specific to the AGR building?

17 Witness : The AGR building was identified as a 18 threat. There are two separate structures on Google Maps 19 that identified as the AGR building. One is labeled the 20 "AGR International" and one is just labeled "AGR." Both of 21 those buildings, yes, the entire structures were labeled a 22 threat.

HSGAC Majority: Did you identify any line of sight
concerns from the roof to the stage? In other words,
potential line of sight that an unauthorized person might



1 be able to gain from the roof of the AGR to the

2 protectee?

Witness : Yes, that's part of the threat system.
HSGAC Majority: Who did you communicate those threats,
vulnerabilities, or concerns to?

6 Witness : When my team arrived, I gave them a 7 walkthrough of the site. We arrived at the actual stage, 8 and we walked up onto the actual podium where the protectee 9 is standing, and we did 360 degrees, went through every 10 target that looked in, and the AGR building was one of many 11 threat areas that was identified.

12 HSGAC Majority: How was that threat, the AGR building, 13 mitigated?

Witness : By having the CS Team being able to look at it. We could see that there's potentially a human on top of it or a potential sniper that could be a harm to our protectee.

18 HSGAC Majority: By CS Team, do you mean Secret Service
19 CS Team?

20 Witness : Secret Service. Local law enforcement 21 typically works with us in conjunction. But any team that 22 would be working against long-range threats.

HSGAC Majority: So is it fair to say that you and the other three members of the Secret Service counter snipers were part of the plan to mitigate the threat of the AGR



1 building?

2 Witness : One of the threats, yes.

HSGAC Majority: Did you or anyone else from the Counter
Sniper Team consider using large equipment or trucks to
mitigate the line of sight concerns from AGR?

6 Witness : That had been worked in the past. I 7 know there's grass between the AGR building. There's a 8 fence line and there's grass. I know that trucks have been 9 issued, but that was not brought up at the time for 10 blocking vehicles.

11 **HSGAC Majority**: Do you recall any conversations, either 12 between you and the Trump campaign staff, or anyone else in 13 the Trump campaign staff that you were aware of, about the 14 use of trucks to mitigate line of sight concerns?

15 Witness : No.

16 HSGAC Majority: You don't recall hearing anything about 17 a request to use Penske trucks to mitigate line of sight 18 concerns, and that request being turned down by the Trump 19 campaign?

20 Witness : I'm not aware of that conversation, 21 no.

HSGAC Majority: At the start of the rally, during the rally, was it your understanding that there was a direct line of sight from the AGR roof to the stage where former Patient Trump would be?



1 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority: And that wasn't a concern because it was mitigated by the actions you described earlier, about the counter snipers being able to cover that roof. Is that right?

6 Witness : That's correct. We had eyes on the 7 top of the rooftops.

8 HSGAC Majority: Did you identify any line of sight 9 concerns going the other way? In other words, did you or 10 any counter snipers from the Secret Service have any line 11 of sight visibility problems going out towards the AGR 12 building?

I believe Hercules 2, their line of 13 Witness : 14 sight towards the AGR building was covered by trees or 15 foliage, or at least one hairline sight to the building. 16 That's why you work in teams. If there's one team, a 17 single team, that would've been an issue, and we would've 18 had to figure out how to solve. But as much H2 may have 19 maybe not seen the AGR, they were able to see off to the 20 side, towards the first stage of the cutout [0:37:14] they 21 would see those sites better [0:37:19]

HSGAC Majority: So it wasn't a concern that Hercules 2 had tree cover blocking their line of sight to part of the AGR roof?

25

Witness

: No, because there are countless



threats that look in, through working together between Hercules 1 and Hercules 2. It is our mission basically to cover all threat areas looking in. If one team cannot cover a certain area, the other team should be able to cover that area.

6 **HSGAC Majority**: And you said Hercules 1 could see the 7 entire AGR roof?

8 Witness : Hercules 1 could see everything that 9 looked in from the building towards the protectee's area. 10 HSGAC Majority: And that included yourself who

11 personally had that view?

12 Witness : I was part of Hercules 1.

13 HSGAC Majority: Did you have any discussions with state 14 or local snipers or counter snipers?

15 Witness : Yes.

16 HSGAC Majority: What did you discuss with them in the 17 leadup or planning in advance?

18 Witness : When I originally got there I met with 19 local law enforcement. I believe defendence was the name of 20 the supervisor. He was there. He had boots on the ground, 21 I believe it was that Thursday before the event. There 22 were countless other little entities, but defendence, I kind 23 of stuck around him because he seemed to be in the 24 supervisor role.

25

Because our Counter Assault Team, Secret Service,



didn't have a representative at the scene, just for my knowledge I wanted to know where they were going to have local TAC teams, and I could put it on the overhead, as well as where they were going to place their, local CS, counter sniper teams, as well, which they highlighted and showed me where they planned to position those, all three teams.

8 **HSGAC Majority**: So you mentioned you spoke with ^{ButterESU commender} 9 **Mathematic**, who you are saying was the supervisor. Did you see 10 any state or local law enforcement officers who would be 11 serving counter sniper roles?

Witness : There were many members. All of them were dressed in multi-cam fatigues being used. I'm not sure if they were members of just a SWAT team or if they were members of their sniper teams. I'm not sure. I think they were in a tactical position but I don't know which [unclear].

18 HSGAC Majority: So I think I have some questions about 19 what, if any, instructions or guidance you gave to the 20 local counter snipers, but you don't know if you spoke 21 directly to them. My questions would include any direction 22 you gave through Butler ESU Commander or anyone else. Does that 23 make sense?

24 Witness : Yes.

25 HSGAC Majority: So with that in mind, did you instruct



1 the local counter snipers to be in certain positions? 2 Witness : After I saw the site the first time on Wednesday, I reached out to Buter ESU Commander and I left a message, 3 4 but he didn't answer his phone. And I introduced myself, 5 that I was with Secret Service, my name is Witness б I will be doing the counter sniper advance for this outdoor 7 rally. I'd just been to the site and I picked out the location on the rooftop barns as for our posting locations. 8 I asked if he'd be interested in co-locating with us, and 9 10 if he would give me a call back.

11 did not give me a call back, but I believe it was 12 who was part of the CS, who was the sniper team, who 13 did give me a call back. And he explained that they had 14 already picked out their positions, and I said I had no 15 issues with that, but I would like to see where they were 16 going to be, what they were going to be wearing, what 17 weapons they were going to be utilizing. And that was more 18 for, you know, blue-on-blue or no friendly fire potential.

19 HSGAC Majority: And what was your understanding of where 20 they were going to be position, "they" being the local 21 counter snipers?

Witness : When I originally spoke to them on that Thursday, I understood that they were going to have two teams in the horse stables. If you look at my overhead grid on page 5, there's a blue crosshair that's labeled



1 LES to the left of the stage, basically. That's 2 where they were going to have two teams located in there. 3 And then they were also going to have one team located 4 inside the AGR building, looking out the windows. It's 5 also labeled LES with a blue crosshair.

6 HSGAC Majority: So one local counter sniper team inside
7 AGR?

8 Witness : Yes. Sorry.

9 HSGAC Majority: Do you recall how many members of that
 10 team?

11 Witness : When I was originally briefed they 12 were going to have two members, but actually on the day of 13 the event I got a text message asking for a meet-up, which 14 is totally normally, which we basically have before events 15 like this all the time. And at that time I was told that 16 they had three members inside AGR building.

17 **HSGAC Majority**: So you mentioned that Butter ESU Sniper Team Lead 18 told you where they planned to position, but you needed to 19 follow up to know where. When you learned that they would 20 be inside the AGR building, did you have any concerns with 21 that decision?

22 Witness : So this could be partially -- for 23 Counter Sniper Teams with the Secret Service, our main 24 mission is we are concerned about lines of threat, 25 particularly lines of sight to a protectee. Most local law



enforcement snipers, when we work with them, they usually do typically short distances or they're working like a barricade subject, or a slightly different mission, I guess you could say.

5 But then I believe they wanted to have overwatch of 6 the area, and the crowd, on both sides, as well as the 7 magnetometers, the x-ray, the metal detectors, before the 8 time of the event. They wanted to have good sight of those 9 areas.

From my location where the Hercules teams were, we did not have good line of sight towards the magnetometers or any of those areas, so I would not, again, send teams up to have good line of sight to those areas.

HSGAC Majority: Did you instruct the local counter snipers -- and again, either directly or indirectly through or others -- did you instruct them about their responsibilities, including their areas of responsibility?

18 Witness : When we were there on, I believe it 19 was the day of the event, I was shown a printout. It kind 20 of had something that we call "cones of fire." It would be 21 where their position is on an overhead like this, and then 22 it was a cone, a transparent cone, that kind of showed 23 where there were threat areas or where they were mostly 24 going to be looking. That was shown to me, and the **LES** 25 teams both had line of cones toward the magnetometers as



well as over the crowd, both LES teams. So, they had
 cross coverage, basically.

When they showed me that and instructed that that was their plan, I understood, I had no problem with it, and that was it.

б **HSGAC Majority:** We talked earlier about the concerns or 7 vulnerability at the AGR building and that part of the plan 8 to mitigate that concern or vulnerability was the Secret 9 Service counter snipers locating yourselves on the barn 10 roof. Were the counter snipers from the local law 11 enforcement agencies in AGR part of that plan to mitigate 12 the line of sight concerns coming from AGR to the stage? 13 Witness : Yes. The **LES** team, over by the 14 horse stadiums, the left team on this, they would have had 15 had good line of sight towards the AGR building, in 16 addition to Hercules 1. And then the **LES** team actually 17 inside the AGR building, they would ve been looking 18 basically the opposite direction, towards the rest of the 19 site. So between the two of them we had good line of sight 20 of the entire area.

HSGAC Majority: But specifically the counter snipers in the AGR, was it your understanding that they would help provide mitigation to the line of sight concerns coming from AGR towards the stage?

25 Witness : Typically when we work with snipers



we're worried about long-range threats. I'm sure if something happened in their vicinity, they are law enforcement officers so they can react. But our biggest threat is when we think of long-range threats, not closerange threats.

6 **HSGAC Majority**: Did you instruct the local counter 7 snipers in the AGR building about any role they should pay 8 in covering the AGR roof specifically?

9 Witness : The AGR roof specifically? No.

10 HSGAC Majority: Did you go inside the AGR building or on

11 top of the roof at any point in the planning for the rally?

12 Witness : I did not, no.

13 **HSGAC Majority**: Do you recall doing a face-to-face

14 briefing with local law enforcement?

15 Witness : Yes.

16 **HSGAC Majority**: And when was that?

17 Witness : That was Saturday, the morning of the 18 outdoor rally.

HSGAC Majority: Do you recall where that occurred?
Witness : That occurred in the horse stadium
with the southernmost LES team.

HSGAC Majority: So it's my understanding that you didn't go in the AGR building nor did you go on the roof of the AGR building. Did you have an understanding of what kind of line of sight or coverage those counter snipers in that



1 building could have to the roof of that same AGR

2 building?

Witness : When they showed me their cones of fire paperwork, it looked like they were being towards the crowd that was for the outdoor rally. I assumed it was looking through the window, yes, you would be able to see everything towards that direction.

HSGAC Majority: Did you assume that included the roof in
front of the windows that the counter snipers were in?
Witness I I would depend on how close they are
to the window, and the angle. I didn't go inside to
building and look through the window, so I'm not sure how
much they could see.

HSGAC Majority: Did you observe any law enforcement
around the AGR building that day?

16 Witness : Yes.

17 **HSGAC Majority**: What did you see?

18 Witness : Throughout the day there were

19 uniformed officers walking around the area of the AGR

20 building. There were two differences fences that separated

21 the AGR building and the actual outdoor rally itself.

22 Throughout this whole area there were little citizens.

23 They had foldable chairs. They were under the shady trees.

24 They were listening to Candidate Trump's speech while not

25 being in the event. But this area was full of civilians as



1 well as local law enforcement.

HSGAC Majority: Do you recall roughly how many you saw
then around the AGR building?

Witness
At least two walking together. There
may have been more, but I distinctly remember seeing at
least two officers together.

7 HSGAC Majority: I'm sorry. When was that?
8 Witness : That was during the event itself.
9 Trump had already arrived onstage and was giving his
10 remarks.

HSGAC Majority: Did anyone raise concerns to you, or did you become aware of anyone raising concerns about the AGR building?

Witness : Before the event or during the event?
HSGAC Majority: Let's start with before.

16 Witness : Before the event, no one raised 17 concerns about the AGR building itself. There were many 18 threats that look in, but no one specifically singled out 19 the AGR building to me.

HSGAC Majority: And we're going to get to, you know, all
the radio traffic about suspicious persons, but did anyone
raise concerns about the AGR building during the event,
before there was a search for a suspicious person?
Witness
Eefore the BOLO, the Be On the
Lookout, no. No one raised concerns about the AGR



1 building.

2 **HSGAC Majority:** Regarding your view of the AGR building, 3 from your position on the barn, did you have visibility of 4 the far slope of that first roof? In other words, it's a 5 pitched roof. The near side slopes down towards you, б towards the south, and the far slope just sloped away from 7 you, towards the north. From your position did you have line of sight or a view of that far slope, sloping down 8 9 away from you towards the north?

10 Witness Not full line of sight. I could not 11 see the actual roof itself.

HSGAC Majority: So you could only see the near slope,
sloping up to the peak?

14 Witness : Correct.

15 **HSGAC Majority**: Did you ever see Crooks on the roof? 16 Witness : I did not see the individual on the 17 roof until after my partner gave the shot, and I identified 18 the body looking where he was seeing, and I was able to 19 identify. I could see his shoulder back to the top of the 20 individual. That was the first time I'd seen the 21 individual.

HSGAC Majority: And that was from the position that you would've been in throughout the day, you were able to see him?

25

Witness

Correct.

:



HSGAC Majority: I want to show you some photographs.
 These are two photographs that I'm handing you, marked as
 Exhibit 2.

4 [Exhibit No. 2 was 5 marked for identification.]

б HSGAC Majority : These photographs were taken from the 7 AGR complex. As you probably, there are a series of roofs. 8 This first photograph is taken from the far third roof. So 9 there's essentially a series of three roofs. The first 10 one, the southernmost one, is the one where Crooks ended 11 Then there are two additional roofs. The photo was up. 12 taken from the third, looking southward toward the barn. The second page is the same view, just zoomed in, 13

14 again, showing the three successive roofs.

15 So looking from your position on the barn, coming the 16 opposite direction, the opposite view, essentially towards 17 the photographer of these photos, could you see those other 18 two roofs beyond the roof where Crooks ended up?

Witness
No. You could only see the deep line
in the first group, facing forwards.

HSGAC Majority: You couldn't see either slope of the roof? In other words, you couldn't see the near slopes, sloping up towards the north, nor the far slopes, sloping away?

25

5

I do not remember seeing these other



Witness

:

1 roofs, no.

HSGAC Majority: Could you take a look at the second picture. This, again, is the same view, essentially just zoomed in. Is it your understanding that that red barn to the right of the tree was your position?

Witness : Yes. That would be Hercules 1.
HSGAC Majority : But you don't recall having this same
line of sight going the other way from your position to
where this photographer was?

10 Witness : No. I believe the first roof, the 11 third roof in this picture, blocked line of sight to those 12 other two roofs behind, I would imagine from this angle.

HSGAC Majority: Sorry. Could you explain? The photographer of these pictures is standing on what I would call the third roof, the farthest away from your position. So how did that block the line of sight to the closer barn roofs?

Witness : So that first roof had an inclination and declination. That first roof would then cover the rest of the roofs, which look in line with those other two roofs. If an individual was laying down you would not be able to see him. If an individual is standing like this, I should be able to see whoever took this photo.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. But if the individual, like
you said, was standing on any of these roof pieces, or



walking across them, is it your understanding that you
 would have had line of sight to that?
 Witness From our position you should have line

4 of sight, yes.

5 HSGAC Majority: Understood. Thank you.

6 How much time did you spend observing those two other
7 roofs, if at all?

8 Witness Do you mean for the advance or for the 9 day of?

10 HSGAC Majority: Sorry. During the day. When you were 11 in position.

12 In position, it's typical to scan the Witness : 13 entire area that you're in. There's no preferred way to do 14 it. You can look at a certain -- cut the area into 15 quadrants, and every couple of minutes switch to a new 16 quadrant. Or you can just look. The best way I've found 17 is you're up there for **LES** before the protectee 18 arrives. You can kind of acclimate yourself to the area of 19 what belongs, what doesn't, what looks out of place, what 20 looks like okay, this has been here for a while. So I 21 couldn't give you an exact time of how long we looked at 22 those roofs, but we did look at the roofs while we were 23 surveying the area.

HSGAC Majority: Do you recall observing anything on
those other two roofs when you were in position during the



1 rally?

2 Witness : No. Just the rooftops.

HSGAC Majority: Since the rally, have you learned how
Crooks got into the position that he got into?

5 Witness : I try not to listen to these too much, 6 but I heard originally there was a ladder, and maybe not a 7 ladder. I'm not aware of how he got on the rooftop.

8 HSGAC Majority: Yeah. Beyond these reports have you 9 heard from anyone in Secret Service or FBI about how, or 10 any other law enforcement agency, about how Crooks got into 11 position?

12 Witness : I've heard talk about potentially an 13 air conditioning vent for a unit that he used to climb on 14 top of, but I don't know how true that is.

15 HSGAC Majority: Understood. Thank you.

16 Switching gears to talk about the perimeter of the 17 rally. Does a security perimeter affect your

18 responsibilities or how you perform your job as a counter 19 sniper?

20 Witness : We need to be aware of what the 21 perimeter is, but our threats, if they're long-range 22 threats, that can be anywhere in the site or out of the 23 site. It doesn't matter. For us it's a threat. 24 **ISCAC Majorix**: So it's fair to say that you scan for

HSGAC Majority: So it's fair to say that you scan for
threats beyond the perimeter?



1 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority: What were you told about the perimeter
at this rally?

Witness : Basically a fenced-in area that
belonged to Butler Farms, that was part of the secure area
that individuals had to be magnetometered to get inside of.
Anything outside of that was basically not part of the
site.

9 HSGAC Majority: And was it your understanding that the 10 AGR building was outside that secured area and therefore 11 not secured?

Witness : Yes. In talking with the locals they mentioned that they got access to work outside of the, or inside the AGR building, looking out a window, but to my knowledge no one else should be in the building. It would be shut down that day, for workers.

HSGAC Majority: Do you know who determined the site
security perimeter?

19 Witness : I'm not familiar with who. I would 20 imagine the site agent and the overall lead had 21 conversations about that, but I'm not sure who with the 22 Secret Service creates the perimeter.

HSGAC Majority: Did you see the perimeter document
anywhere in your advance planning?

25 Witness : There were different overheads that



1 kind of showed those locations, where the magnetometers 2 were going to be, where the stage was going to be, 3 different those standard locations, but I'm not sure if I 4 saw an actual hard line where the perimeter was going to 5 be.

6 **HSGAC** Majority: Did you have any concerns at all about 7 either the location of the perimeter, how it might be 8 secured or implemented, or how it would affect your duties. 9 Witness : No. This is a pretty standard 10 perimeter. Typically it's who owns the area, I believe, 11 and then the rest of it either private land or public land. 12 If it's private land I don't think the government can just 13 seize it and use it for an outdoor rally, but I'm not sure. 14 **HSGAC** Majority: Were you aware of anyone else, either 15 Secret Service or state or local law enforcement, who had 16 any concerns about the perimeter?

17 Witness I was not aware of anyone. No one 18 came to me with any concerns.

19 HSGAC Majority: Now regarding your arrival at the site 20 on the 13th, what time did you arrive at the rally site? 21 Witness : If I can retrace my steps, we started 22 at 11:00 at our hotel, went and got breakfast, and then a 23 little bit after, probably 1:00 in the afternoon, we got to 24 the site. And we actually were planning to meet -- I 25 actually got a text message from local law enforcement when



1 I was about 10 minutes away, when we were at a gas

2 station right outside the Butler Farm area.

3 HSGAC Majority: So you said you came from a gas station?
4 Where did you come from before that?

5 Witness : We came from a breakfast spot called 6 First Watch. We got breakfast, with my whole Counter 7 Sniper Team and myself.

8 **HSGAC Majority**: All four of you?

9 Witness : All four, yes.

10 **HSGAC Majority**: Where were you the night before, so

11 Friday, the 12th?

12 : Friday the 12th I was in my room. Witness I 13 was actually watching all our equipment. We both our long 14 guns as well as our equipment bags. Depending on the trip, 15 sometimes we'll try to get local law enforcement to help us 16 store weapons and gear. But for this trip it's not unusual 17 for someone to volunteer. I was just going to stay inside 18 anyway, and I said I would sit on the equipment and make 19 sure it was secure.

20 HSGAC Majority: So you stayed in your hotel room all the 21 night?

22 Witness : Correct. I did.

HSGAC Majority: Do you know where the other three
members of the Counter Sniper Team were that night?

25 Witness : I think they went out to get dinner



and went to their rooms. We had just worked in town -what event that was just in town, in D.C., that week? I think it was an NSSE of some sort. We were covering, you know, when they were on the roof for 13, 14 hour days in the sun. Most of the guys were actually exhausted by the time they got to me, and they just wanted a hotel bed with their permission.

8 HSGAC Majority: You said you assumed the other three CS 9 members went out to dinner. Do you recall, or do you know 10 when they came home, back to the hotel?

11 Witness I do not. They got to me probably a 12 little bit on that Thursday, or that Friday afternoon, 13 probably around 4 or 5, if I can remember correctly, and 14 then after I took their equipment I told them they were 15 good to show up ready for work tomorrow. And I don't know 16 what they did the rest of the evening.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. So you said you got to the rally site a little after 1 p.m. Do you recall what time they actually set up in position on the barn room?

20 Witness : Typically we will go up ES prior 21 to the protectee's arrival. Now, that fluctuates as 22 protectees' schedules fluctuate. They can run late. They 23 can run early. I don't have the exact time in my head when 24 we went up on the actual roof.

HSGAC Majority: Did you say you usually set up LES



25

1 before the protectee takes the stage?

2 Witness : Typically we will be up there LES 3 prior to the protectee's arrival.

HSGAC Majority: And I understand you don't have the
exact time you were up, but does that sound roughly right,
that you went up well in advance of former President Trump
taking the stage?

8 Witness : Yes. We try to estimate what time 9 they are going to arrive, how long is the trip from the 10 airport where he's coming from, or his previous 11 destination, and then you make an educated decision. 12 That's an hour? Okay, cool.

13 HSGAC Majority: Did you have any other concerns at the 14 rally that we haven't discussed?

15 Witness : Just basic logistics for my team. 16 When we got there, the entire area had been shut down due 17 there getting a couple thousand people magnetometered at 18 the event. I was trying to figure out how to get all our 19 stuff to the back of the bar, at basically 6 o'clock at the 20 barn to park the vehicles and get through the crowd of 21 people, make sure the guys had water, Gatorade, food, get 22 them through. Just the normal concerns like that. Nothing 23 threat-wise.

HSGAC Majority: Were you made aware of any threats
related to this particular rally before the rally?



1Witness: No. No threats. I was not made2aware of any.

HSGAC Majority: Were you made aware of any threats to
former President Trump?

5 Witness : Not that I'm aware of, no.
6 HSGAC Majority : Do you recall being made aware of any
7 threats related to Iran?

8 Witness : No.

HSGAC Majority: All right. I appreciate you answering
 the questions. Let me turn it over to my colleagues for
 some follow-up questions.

12 Witness : Thank you.

HSGAC Majority: I'm going to bring you back to your earlier testimony. You talked about your analysis as you --

15 MR. Witness Counsel Can I -- stop for a moment and go outside 16 with my client for about a minute?

17 HSGAC Majority: Yeah. Let's go off the record.

18 MR. Witness Counsel Just a minute, and I'll be right back.

19 [Recess.]

20 MR. Witness Counsel Thank you for your courtesy. I

21 appreciate it.

HSGAC Majority: We're back on the record. I'm going to direct you back to your earlier testimony when you first became involved in planning for the event. And one the things you testified earlier this morning to was that among



your assessments was trying to identify threats that would look in on the protectee. Is that an accurate assessment?

4 Witness : Correct, yes.

5 HSGAC Majority: And one of the things you determined was 6 that the AGR building, given its proximity and that it was 7 heightened, would constitute one of those threats. Is that 8 accurate?

9 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority : 10 Now I want to understand, with respect to 11 later in the week, when you met with the counter sniper teams, for the locals or Butter ESU Commander or whoever it was, among 12 any of those discussions you had, did anybody describe to 13 14 you where their positions inside the AGR building would be? 15 Witness : From outside the building, basically 16 the area that we were in, the horse stadium, they pointed 17 to said building and said, "We will be in that building," 18 and I said, "Can you give me a better idea of where?" and 19 they said, "There are these two windows facing the crowd, 20 basically." They would be able to see it. They would be 21 able to look around that entire area. They would be 22 looking at all threats.

23 HSGAC Majority: What area -- the crowd itself or another 24 area?

25 Witness : Basically all the areas looking in.



1 They would be having overwatch so they would be able to 2 see crowds, anything happening inside the crowd. Beyond 3 the crowd, anything happening in private neighborhoods or 4 houses, even further beyond in that direction, as well as 5 anything happening in their immediate area, as well. If 6 something would happen, stick their head out, look out the 7 window --

8

HSGAC Majority : Did you know whether -

9 MR. Witness Counsel Whoa. Whoa. Let him finish his -- go 10 ahead.

11 HSGAC Majority: Do you have anything to add?

Witness : Basically anything in the area. They could look around windows, they could look outside, see anything on the rooftops, maybe not the rooftop of the building they were in, but any of the surrounding rooftops. I believe they would be able to see those areas.

HSGAC Majority: And why, in your belief, would they not be able to see the area of the rooftop of the building they were in?

20 Witness : Because the roof they were in -- the 21 building they were in, the roof is above their head. But 22 every other surrounding part of the AGR building you should 23 be able to see, within reason.

HSGAC Majority: And were you able to verify that yourself?
Witness : I did not go over to the AGR building



1 itself and see inside the window.

HSGAC Majority: And if you look at page 4 of Exhibit 1, are you able to identify the windows that were identified to you?

5 Witness : So those -- that would be I-10 -- the 6 I-10, there's a few windows inside this building, inside 7 those -- in the building itself, inside that square. That 8 would be the two windows they would have access to, to see. 9 HSGAC Majority: And were you able to identify for yourself 10 whether or not those windows opened?

11 Witness : I was not, no.

HSGAC Majority: And did you know, from your own observations that day, whether those windows were ever opened?

15 Witness : No, I did not ever learn whether those 16 windows could or could not be closed, but I imagine in an 17 emergency situation an officer would be able to break a 18 window.

HSGAC Majority : 19 Have you ever, in your operations as a 20 counter sniper, worked a position from inside a building? 21 Yes. We'll do something, particular Witness : 22 with POTUS, we'll do something called a . А 23 good example would be when President Trump was President, 24 in Las Vegas there's Trump Tower. He had his own basically, 25 I guess, hotel, you would say. LES



1 **LES** . Typically CS would be stationed **LES** 2 LES And the idea is you would have great . 3 line of sight to be able to see out 4 LES , in conjunction with our Technical 5 Division, LES 6 The idea would be we would be able to **LES** 7 LES , if we needed 8 to.

9 **HSGAC Majority**: And in your experience, if you are 10 operating from inside a building, behind a window, are you 11 generally behind your gun, and does that carry with it a 12 certain distance that puts you back form the window? Or in 13 your experience is it somewhat different?

14 : I would say it depends on the threat Witness 15 Typically, the most secure position you shoot behind area. 16 is from laying on the ground. Obviously, inside buildings, 17 unless it's a full-scale window, that's probably not going 18 to happen. So we utilize tripods that elevate the gun. 19 Typically these postings are long, so you want to be 20 sitting, or at least somewhat comfortable. That way you 21 can take the shot, if necessary. So the gun would be in 22 place.

The majority of our jobs I'll actually have my weapon
LES
. That way I can LES
. But a lot of my job is



actually communication with the rest of the team and
 visually seeing and articulating what I'm seeing to the
 rest of the team. That way we can get in communication.

HSGAC Majority: Three follow-up questions based on what you
just said as it relates to July 13th. In advance of the
13th, were you ever aware of what position the local sniper
teams would be in, inside that building, including what you
described, either prone on the ground, back behind their
guns, or in some other position?

10 Witness I do not know what position they were 11 worked in that room.

HSGAC Majority: And the day of, were you ever aware of what position they were in, whether they were on the ground behind their guns or in some other position?

Witness No. I was not aware of how they were working.

HSGAC Majority: And that day, prior to the shots fired by Crooks, were you ever in communication directly with that team to learn specifically about where they would be and what their line of sight would be?

21 Witness I knew their location inside the 22 building but I did not know of their position of how they 23 were planning to work the room, I guess.

24 HSGAC Majority: And with respect to my question about 25 communicating with them about that, you did not?



1 Witness : No. I had communication with my 2 original CS point of contact, """, I think his name was, 3 and he was stationed in the horse stadium, but he had 4 direct coms with the AGR team.

5 **ISGAC Majority**: So are you able to -- you testified about 6 what you think they should've been able to see. Are you 7 able to say, with any certainty here, based on what you 8 knew in advance of or that day, whether or not the local 9 sniper team would have been able to see the part of the 10 roof that you've identified on AGR that you think they 11 should have been able to see?

Witness : I want to be clear. I was never in the building and I never looked out the window. I do know what they could or could not see. My understanding is with those buildings you can lean up against a building window and you can look left to right. But I did not go over there and physically see it myself.

HSGAC Majority: And you don't -- and to finish this question -- you don't know whether or not they could lean up against a window, as you've just described, in this particular case.

Witness : I do not know for a fact. MR. Witness Counsel Whoa, whoa. I want to clarify the question. You don't know whether, in fact, they leaned up against a window or whether they could --



1

HSGAC Majority : The --

2 MR. Witness Counsel -- hold it, hold it -- have the capacity 3 to lean up the window? It's two different questions.

4 HSGAC Majority: Do you have any question about what I just 5 asked?

Witness : Listening to what my lawyer said,
7 those are two separate questions.

8 HSGAC Majority : Go ahead and answer each.

9 Witness : If they could do that, I believe they 10 could do that. I don't see a reason why. But I didn't see 11 inside the room. Maybe there was an obstruction of some 12 sort.

13 MR. Witness Counsel That's speculating.

Witness : They probably shouldn't be working in there if there was an obstruction in the window. But if they could or if they -- what was the second question? MR. Witness Counse In fact, do you know whether they looked up against the window versus what they could or what they have the capacity to do?

20 Witness : So, in fact, I do not know what they 21 did, but view that they could be able to.

HSGAC Majority: All right. And for clarity, I'm going to restate my original question, just so we have a clear record. Do you have any ability to state whether or not they could see the portion of the AGR roof that you



1 testified earlier you believe they should have been able 2 to see?

3 Witness : One more time.

HSGAC Majority 4 Do you have any ability to testify, with 5 any certainty, about whether or not the local sniper team 6 could have seen, could actually, that day, have seen the 7 portion of the roof of the AGR building that you testified 8 earlier you think they should have been able to see. MR . Witness Counsel 9 He already answered that question. HSGAC Majority 10 And what was your answer? 11 Witness I see no reason why they couldn't, but : 12 I cannot give you a certain answer because I did not see 13 the room. HSGAC Majority 14 Okay. Take a look at what I've just marked 15 as Exhibit 3. 16 [Exhibit No. 3 was 17 marked for identification.] HSGAC Majority This is a U.S. Secret Service Site Diagram. 18 19 It was provided to us by the Secret Service. Do you have 20 any familiarity with this document? 21 Witness : This is typically sent out by the site 22 agent. Yes, I've seen this before. HSGAC Majority 23 And when did you first see this? 24 : The night before the actual event Witness I reached out to the lead, Lead Agent, and I asked her, 25 itself.

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Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEPO (800.367.3376) 1 if I have any questions, typically the only thing that 2 concerns CS are where is the safe house, where is the 3 hospital, what are the routes you guys are taking, in the 4 event of an emergency action do I know where I'm going, 5 plus my team. That's our main concern, as well as what 6 radio coms are we using. Basically just logistics of how 7 the site is going to work.

8 HSGAC Majority: Look at page 2 of the document and the 9 image on that document, which has in it a clock -- 12, 6, 10 9, and 3. Looking at this image are you able to identify 11 where you were on July 13th?

12 Witness I was in the orange crosshair on the 13 southern barn.

HSGAC Majority: And looking at the police perimeter there, the gold star PD yellow, within that perimeter, again, you testified earlier that there were magnetometers set up that day.

18 Witness : Correct.

19 HSGAC Majority: And is it your view that the individuals 20 within that magnetometer, who have passed through that 21 magnetometer, are going to pose less of a threat than those 22 who are outside of the magnetometer?

Witness : Yes. If they go through the
 magnetometer they shouldn't have any weapons, hopefully.
 HSGAC Majority: Does that impact the kind of groupings of



people who are inside, people who are outside, does that mpact the attention you spend in terms of threat

3 assessments when you're looking at the threats that day?

Witness : We are aware of it. But just because someone doesn't have a gun or a knife or an obvious weapon doesn't mean that they don't pose a threat to a protectee regardless. So we'll still be surveying that area during the event.

9 HSGAC Majority: And in terms of outside of that area, you 10 mentioned that places with elevation present a higher 11 threat. Is that right?

Witness : Typically, elevation is one of them, wood lines, anything that a sniper could potentially use. HSGAC Majority: And looking at this Exhibit 3, outside the police line, on the three o'clock, is that building depicted there the closest building outside of the police line?

18 Witness : Outside the police line it appears to 19 be, yes. That's the AGR building.

And would that building, both being outside of the perimeter where the magnetometers are and being an elevated post, be among the areas that you would consider a threat that your team would be more required to have eyes on?

25

We would be concerned there, yes.



Witness

:

HSGAC Majority: I'm going to hand you what we've marked as Exhibit 4.

3 [Exhibit No. 4 was 4 marked for identification.] 5 HSGAC Majority: Can you identify for us what this is? 6 Witness : These look like my personal notes and 7 photos that I had when I worked PC.

8 HSGAC Majority: All right. We've just been handed these 9 today. There are redactions here. I'm going to ask for 10 your help to explain them.

11 Witness : Yes.

12 HSGAC Majority : Notated on this page 1 of Exhibit 4 is 13 "local technical counter sniper support" and among the 14 items listed here there's a redaction here, several 15 redactions, but in the second box from the bottom there's a 16 notation about the AGR building, and on the last box 17 there's a notation about the AGR building. Can you help us fill in the blanks and identify what information is 18 19 presented here, with respect to AGR?

20 Witness : Yes. So this is a tactical survey 21 insert. Typically when do a POTUS advance I will send this 22 over to the counter assault technician and they will 23 comprise a massive, basically every tactical asset that we 24 have, every part of Secret Service that had an insert, he 25 will put it into one book. I mean, it's like a -- what's



1 the word? -- like a quick search of what's that team
2 doing, where they're going to be, information for them.

As far as this piece of paper right here, there will have been an Impact Survey that is created at this event, but having doing advances, I put this together regardless.

7 Witness : It would be either Thursday or Friday evening. I would assume I finished it on Friday evening. 8 9 So your first question, I think, is the local Tactical 10 Counter Sniper Support. Basically it says Butler ESU 11 sniper team explanation and justification. Typically, what 12 we'd want to put there is where they are going to be 13 located, whether they are posted with, and underneath that 14 is basic information of what unit are they with, their call 15 signs, their point contacts, how many men on the team, what 16 are they wearing, basically identifications so that there's 17 no friendly fire on the day of the event. And anyone could 18 look at this and say, yep, that's who they're supposed to 19 be.

20 **ISGAC Majority**: So two questions and then I'm going to turn 21 it over to my colleague to ask a few more before we break. 22 With respect to the AGR roof, where Crooks eventually took 23 his shot, in your understanding, on the day of, before that 24 shot was fired, who was responsible for ensuring that any 25 threat that could've come from that roof was mitigated?



1 Witness : So ideally all sniper teams, both 2 local and Secret Service, would be responsible for long 3 range threats. Obviously, Hercules 2, but they had that 4 [unclear], so they were kind of out of the game 5 unfortunately.

б Hercules 1, the team I was located at, we had line of 7 sight towards that area, as well as the **LES** teams over 8 in the horse stadiums. There were two different **LES** 9 teams. They should have had line of sight over to that 10 area, as well. The **LES** team that was inside the AGR 11 building, obviously they should have awareness of their 12 areas, but they have a limited view of what they could see. 13 But all sniper teams were responsible for these areas. 14 HSGAC Majority: Thank you, Witness I'm . 15 **HSGAC** Majority with Senator Peters, as well. A few 16 follow-ups on what we talked about already. I just wanted 17 to make sure we're clear, first, on your initial 18 communications with the local law enforcement officers. 19 You said earlier you arrived on Wednesday, the 9th, and got 20 the message for Butler ESU Commander the next day, on the 21 And then you received a return phone call from 10th. Butler ESU Sniper Team Lead 22 Is that right? 23 Witness : That's correct. 24 **HSGAC Majority:** Do you know when that was?

25 Witness : It was in the evening. I don't know



for a fact, but I assume saw my calls, listened to the voicemail that said "Sniper, I'm going to turn that over to my sniper point of contact."

4 HSGAC Majority: And then when you spoke to resusance regarding their plans? 5 б Witness I told them that I had just seen this : 7 like that day. We were still putting it together. As of right now our plan is to be -- my teams were going to be on 8 top of the barns, behind stage. I asked if he would like 9 10 to co-locate with us, which we do a lot with these events. 11 He explained that they already had positions picked out, 12 and I said I understood that. You are professionals and I 13 trust you. I would like to see where you're going to be. 14 Obviously that way we don't have any blue-on-blue action, 15 or friendly fire, sorry and he had absolutely no issues at 16 all, and he said yep. I asked him if he was going to be at 17 the walkthrough the next day, at 10 a.m. -- or I think it 18 was at 11 -- the walkthrough the next day, in the morning, 19 and he said that he would not be there but his 20 representatives would be there. I said okay, I'll meet 21 with them, and we'll try to figure this out, and we'll 22 figure out where everyone is going to be.

HSGAC Majority: And then what was your understanding of the information that Butter ESU Sniper Team Lead had when they picked their positions. Do you know about them, about how they



1 should pick, or what their responsibilities would be?

2 Witness : So I believe it was on the next 3 disproportionately we met in person, when I was speaking to, I think it was strenges , who was kind of in some sort of 4 5 supervisory role there, that either they had worked this б location before -- I quess it was a, maybe a state farm 7 kind of area, but they had worked this location before and 8 they were somewhat familiar with it. And they had picked 9 these locations out prior to us meeting and being assigned 10 to the advance.

11 I had no problems with that. I understand that they 12 are professionals. They know the area. We are Secret Service who works hand-in-hand with local law enforcement. 13 14 So identified where these guys are going to be, what are 15 you looking at, and that's when they showed me the cones of 16 fire sheet that basically shows between the two sides, and 17 in addition my Secret Service overlay scenes, would have 18 decent coverage of the event surrounding the rally.

HSGAC Majority: Got it. And then when they showed you where there were going to be the cones of fire, I think you had mentioned earlier that the local snipers, you know, they typically don't focus on long-range threats. Is that right?

24 Witness : They are snipers and they do long-25 range threats. Typically the Secret Service sniper team,



1 we operate a little bit differently because we have a 2 protectee, and that's our main concern. And we usually 3 don't work in an overwatch capacity. Overwatch basically 4 being this entire area is under our control. We're just up 5 there in case anything would happen. We are much more 6 concerned with protecting out in the open, and kind of a 7 sniper could take advantage of that. That's our main 8 They may have experience with that, but most concern. 9 local law enforcement does not.

10 **HSGAC Majority**: And specifically local snipers who were 11 going to be stationed in the AGR building, their view was 12 mostly overwatch of the crowd.

13 Witness : From where they were located, they 14 would be looking at the crowd, but also beyond the crowd. 15 I believe there are private houses in the wood line there, 16 not a massive threat area but still a threat area that had 17 been recognized and communicated.

18 HSGAC Majority: Got it. And is typical? Looking at 19 that, roughly how many protectee events have you been 20 counter sniper advance?

Witness : I would say roughly around 15.
HSGAC Majority: And do you usually work with local law
enforcement snipers?
Witness : We do. Most of the time covering

24 Willess . We do. Most of the time covering
25 POTUS that's typically what we work. When we do utilize



local CS teams, we co-locate with them. And that just makes it easier for -- we have more eyes and locations than one, but also communication through the local assets. Typically the CS Response that I mentioned before, they have communication with the CS Response, so makes it super quick, immediate almost, instead of talking to a special agent and then talking to the local counterpart.

8 HSGAC Majority: And you said that the local snipers,
 9 they declined to co-locate with you? Was there a
 10 discussion about that?

11 Witness : So because this wasn't a POTUS event, 12 that wasn't an immediate red flag like okay, that's not 13 allowed. That was fine with me, as long as I knew where 14 they were going to be. My main concern at the time was 15 friendly fire. And I had brought it up to my supervisor on 16 the trip, Hercules 1 C/S, who I co-located with. I said, "Do 17 you have any issues? I'm going to find out where they're 18 going to be, what they're wearing, all the information we 19 had." He said, "If you do that I have no" -- he has no 20 problems with it. And I said okay. So because it's not a 21 POTUS event, it wasn't an issue for us.

HSGAC Majority: And have you worked events in the past where there were local snipers were not co-located with Secret Service?

25 Witness : Yes. Typically, we work the United



1 Nations every year up in New York City. NYPD ESU is kind 2 of a separate entity. They are massive. They control the 3 city. We are very fortunate to work with them. But there 4 is so much to look at in the city, as I'm sure you can 5 imagine, there are skyscrapers as far as the eye can see, б they will actually locate by themselves without CS local 7 government without the various teams independently located. 8 **HSGAC Majority**: And in those instances does the Secret 9 Service typically get input into where their locations are? 10 Witness : Typically we allow them to decide where they're going to locate. It's their city, their 11 12 jurisdiction. They know the city better than anyone. 13 There's a certain level of professional courtesy of they 14 are professionals, as well. They know their job. We are 15 going to work along with them and in conjunction with them. 16 As long as we know where they're going to be and they are 17 wearing police identification, we have no issues. We've 18 had no issues with them.

HSGAC Majority: And just one last quick question, jumping back to the rally, on July 13th. In your discussions with the local law enforcement snipers, was there ever any discussion of possibly putting local snipers on the roof of the AGR building?

24 Witness I don't think they ever mentioned they 25 wanted to be on the rooftop itself of the AGR building.



1 From the beginning I believe it was inside the AGR,

2 looking out the windows, basically.

3 HSGAC Majority: And did anyone from the Secret Service, 4 you or anyone else, if you are aware, ever raise the 5 possibility or suggest that?

6 Witness : No. They brought up different posting 7 locations that they considered. It was never the roof of 8 the AGR building. One of them was the water tower that was 9 located there, but that never came to fruition. It was 10 only spoken about.

11 **HSGAC Majority**: Thank you.

12 HSGAC Majority : I'm sorry. One quick follow-up. You had mentioned earlier to my colleague, that you saw 13 14 no reason why those local counter snipers couldn't see out 15 the window. But because you didn't go into that room, that 16 building, you didn't know what exactly they could see. 17 Considering you said earlier that the AGR building was a 18 threat that you identified, and that part of the way you 19 mitigated that threat was by counter sniper teams, should 20 you and the team lead have been able to see what exactly those counter snipers could see, and what they could cover? 21 22 : Knowing what happened, absolutely, Witness

that would've been great to go back and see. But typically when we post with local teams, there is a certain level of professional -- I respect that they are also law



1 enforcement professionals. I'm not going to look over 2 their shoulder and tell them, "You're not doing that right" 3 or "Hey, I would do that a little differently." You want 4 to be respectful and work with them in conjunction. They 5 have every right to do their job just as much as I can. б Obviously there is a level of respect where I can offer 7 creative solutions and input, but never tell them how to do 8 their job.

9 **ISGAC Majoriv**: And the last question on that, do you know 10 whether or not the Secret Service, either you, in your 11 capacity, or some lead for this particular event, has the 12 authority if they believe the assets, as planned, aren't 13 going to be sufficient to address a certain threat, to 14 order more assets or a change to the existing asset 15 structure?

16 Witness : I'm not sure exactly how that goes 17 about, but I have been part of conversations in past trips 18 where they're worried about the threat level of a sweep a 19 protectees in and they don't have bullet proof glass. I can 20 also, write the threat levels that we have distances, the 21 different levels, I can help write the reason why I think 22 we should get more bulletproof glass or something. And 23 then I guess that's under TSD, would help send that. I'm 24 not sure exactly how the process works, but I can request 25 further assets with articulation.



HSGAC Majority: And did you make any requests, or ask others to make any requests, based on the planning you had done that day?

4 Witness : I did not.

5 HSGAC Majority: And with respect to planning you did this 6 day -- I'm sorry, for this event -- and the time in which 7 you had to do it, specifically with respect to the timing 8 involved, was the timing you had for this different than 9 the timing you had for planning for other events, for POTUS 10 and VPOTUS?

11 Witness : Well, ideally for a POTUS event you're 12 supposed to have **LES** to do the advance. You have 13 of travel, you get there, and **LES** LES to the 14 actual day of the event. Obviously, that doesn't always 15 happen. You're planning with the staff of the President, 16 or whoever the protectee is going to be. I've also been to 17 events where they didn't foresee CS was needed, and the 18 requests were made for like the Vice President's detail, 19 that we do need CS to come look at this and do a threat assessment. I've been a part of those. Yeah, so I guess 20 21 it can happen.

HSGAC Majority: Did you have enough time for this event? Witness I felt confident that I had enough time for this event. It was only one site. Typically when we do an advance we'll do not only the airport, but also



there's a potential for LZs, any actual sites, rally sites, the hotel in which they may be staying. This was actually nice that it was only one site. So I did not feel that I had crazy amounts of time, given the current tempo that we are during an election year.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. We're going to break for about five
7 minutes.

8 [Recess.]

9 HSGAC Minority: HSGAC Minority , again from HSGAC 10 minority, Ranking Member Paul. I'm going to jump around a 11 little bit, so just bear with me. We talked a lot about 12 the walkthroughs that you did. You said you never went 13 inside the AGR building. Did you ever walk around the AGR 14 property?

15 When I did the actual advance, Witness : 16 preliminary advance, I guess you could say, that Wednesday 17 when I arrived, I walked around the site a little bit. Ιt 18 was basically just to get a lay of the land. Sometimes you 19 can do a lot of work through like Google Maps to finding 20 addresses and things, especially in the city. We need to 21 put those on these grids basically to have information. 22 But out here it was kind of -- I don't want to say the 23 middle of nowhere, but more of a rural setting. It's just 24 easier if you do a real quick walkaround.

25 So I walked around the neighborhood that's behind the



barns, kind of got a real quick lay of the land, walked through the barns on the actual Butler premise itself, and then the AGR, I did not actually walk through. That's the area that I stopped at the fence line that was blocking it off.

6 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And so did you ever walk on the 7 AGR property at all?

8 Witness : No.

9 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And then you talked about how you
 10 walked, I think you said through the barn area?

11 Witness : Yeah, on the Butler premise, yeah. 12 HSGAC Minority: And you got up on the roof. Of which 13 barn?

14 Witness : So there are three barns behind the 15 stage. That day, when I did the walkthrough, I originally 16 took pictures from on the ground, from where the stage was 17 going to be. We have copies. I think they were part of 18 the documents that were sent today.

19 HSGAC Minority: And were those the pictures that were in 20 Exhibit 1, I believe?

21 Witness : So no, those are different pictures. 22 I took these pictures and I looked at them, and I really 23 couldn't see what I wanted to see. So the pictures that 24 are in Exhibit 1, I actually climbed onto the center of the 25 roof, of the center of the middle barn, and I took pictures



from there. Ideally, I would've taken it right from the stage. That way we would see exactly what line of threats are coming at the protectee. But at the time I took these pictures the stage hadn't been constructed, so I decided the top of the roof a little more would look in, but that was the best option.

7 **HSGAC Minority**: So okay. So you got up on the middle of the roof, took pictures from there. Did you ever get on 8 9 the barn where Hercules 1 was posted, before the event? 10 Witness : So yes, that day, actually, I got on 11 both Hercules 1 and Hercules 2. The only reason I did that 12 was to see if the roof could support our weight. When we 13 have the kit and guns, we weigh a little bit more, and the 14 last thing we want is potentially a roof collapsing, or if 15 it's raining we could slide off it. Basically just safety, 16 officer safety.

HSGAC Minority: And so at what point did you learn that the roof facing AGR, closest to AGR, had an obstructed view? Was it when you got up on that barn roof?

20 Witness : So actually when I got on the roof I 21 looked around real quick, but I actually wasn't looking 22 independently at all the threat areas. It was more to make 23 sure that the roof was secure for us to stand on. I looked 24 over at the AGR building, but I didn't really make a mental 25 note of, hey, this is actually being blocked. It wasn't



until later that I was actually doing the grids and doing a 360 that I went, I don't know if you can see that from Hercules 2, so I made note of that at the time. But Hercules 1, you had a clear line of sight, so I was okay with it.

HSGAC Minority: And so Hercules 2, so you didn't notice while you were on the roof. It sounds like you didn't do like a complete 360 turnaround from each position. Is that right?

10 Witness : Yeah. Up there it was really just 11 officer safety.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And it wasn't until later that you realized that there was an obstruction from Hercules 2's position. When did you -- did you notify the individuals who were on Hercules 2?

16 Witness : When we went the day of the actual 17 event, we went through a walkthrough at the stage, and I 18 highlighted basically 360, all the threat areas that looked 19 in. I believe I mentioned the water tower as well as the 20 AGR building, but I did not mention them that hey, part of 21 the building is going to be obscured from you. But I knew Hercules 1, the post I was at with Hercules 10%, that we had line 22 23 of sight to it, so I did not mention it to them.

24 HSGAC Minority: And why didn't you mention it?

25 Witness : Honestly, I just didn't think about



1 it. This is one of the many threat areas that looked it.
2 I wouldn't have mentioned that hey, we can actually see the
3 buildings on the left side, the private residences and the
4 wood line, and you guys can't see that. It's kind of,
5 between each posting, when we're working together we have
6 full coverage, but there are certain things a certain post
7 would see better than another post.

8 HSGAC Minority: And as the individual who did the
9 advance, you're the team leader?

10 Witness : Correct.

11 **HSGAC Minority:** Are you responsible for communicating 12 with the rest of the team and making sure that they 13 understand what line of sight concerns are, what 14 obstruction there are, or is that not your responsibility? 15 Witness : That is my responsibility. And my 16 team, we walked through it. I showed it to them. And then 17 when they got on post they could reach out if they had any 18 concerns. But I believe they would understand I did the 19 advance work, this is this line of we can't see a certain 20 threat area, I assume that the advance did his job 21 diligently, which I did, and Hercules 1 could see the 22 threat area.

HSGAC Minority: And so do you believe that any of the members on your team were relying on your advance that you had looked and sat or stood in that position and viewed



1 from every angle?

2 Witness : Yes. I believe they do. They have to 3 count on my work. They haven't seen the site before.

4 MR. Witness Counsel And a clarification -- your team, meaning 5 U.S. Secret Service employees?

6 HSGAC Minority : Yes.

7 MR. Witness Counsel Do you understand that?

8 HSGAC Minority: The counter snipers that were --

9 Witness : Only CS -- yeah, CS.

10 HSGAC Minority: -- that were on the roof. But you

11 didn't actually do a 360 view of their positions.

12 : When I got up there I looked around. Witness 13 I was more worried about the actual safety of the roof for 14 a posting than looking around and identifying each threat 15 area from there. But I did look around and say you can see 16 part of the AGR building. Okay. That's great. You can 17 see the Mazda dealership that's across the yard, 500 yards away. You can see the offroad dealership that's 450 yards 18 19 away. You can see the local entities. You can see all the 20 different threat areas. Highlighting one threat area, 21 unless we were super concerned with that area, which we 22 were not at the time, all the threat areas were equal. 23 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And you mentioned that the line 24 of sight concern was mitigated with AGR because there were

25 always Secret Service counter sniper eyes on the rooftop?



Witness
 Mitigated as in between Secret
 Service was looking at them but as well as other local CS
 had eyes on from the horse stadium, as well.

4 HSGAC Minority: And so were they just looking at the AGR
5 roof?

б Witness No. Basically, the Hercules teams CS : 7 with the Secret Service, we were looking at everything 180 8 from the stage. I assumed the local counterparts, as well, 9 as long as it's in their line of sight and it's not being 10 obstructed, and there's no reason you can't see it, between 11 the horse stadium teams and the AGR building itself, if you 12 can see it, you can act on said threats.

13 HSGAC Minority: And why did you assume that?

14 : Because these are law enforcement Witness 15 professionals. They are titled and categorized as snipers, 16 long-range threats. We had spoken about beforehand what 17 level of proficiency are they at, what equipment are they 18 using, do they have light night equipment, thermals. In 19 those conversations, this is your area of concern, this is 20 what we're looking at. Do you guys have any issues? Can 21 you not reach out? Everyone has a hard limit. I can't 22 shoot out three miles. It's just not physically possible 23 for me. That's basically -- not that that came into play, 24 but examples like that.

25

HSGAC Minority :

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How far was the horse stadium snipers?

1 How far were they posted from the AGR roof?

Witness I did not actually physically measure that, but I would assume it would be anywhere below 400 yards, maybe 500 yards, from their posting location to the rooftop. It should be around that distance, which that should be within a normal area of engagement.

7 HSGAC Minority: And so your partner was Hercules 1 C/S?
8 Witness : That is correct.

9 HSGAC Minority: And he was the one who took the shot?
10 Witness : That is correct.

HSGAC Minority: And you said that you didn't have eyes on -- you couldn't see all of the roof. Could he?

13 : Not that I couldn't see all the roof. Witness 14 When he took the shot, I didn't have eyes on the target 15 yet, or the shooter himself yet. The way it occurred was 16 -- we both started scanning, looking for threats. said, "I got him." I immediately gave him a wind call 17 18 -- when you're doing a shooter/spotter, a wind call is 19 basically any adjustments you'd have to make to the wind. 20 That day there was minimal wind. It would be left to right, at most. But at 200 yards it's minimal, so there 21 22 should be no correction. So I gave him the wind call 23 center, send it, basically don't make any corrections. We 24 do this in training a lot.

25

From there I heard his round go off, and then I



immediately -- I still couldn't find what he was shooting at, so I got off my gun and looked to see what angle he was looking at. I figure out he was looking at the roof, got on, and then I saw the target that he had shot at.

5 HSGAC Minority: Okay. So just to go back, you said you
6 were looking for threats?

7 Witness : Yes.

8 **HSGAC Minority**: Why?

9 Witness : Originally, what clued us off that 10 something wasn't right was Hercules 2, Counter Sniper, another 11 one of our CS guys, he went over the radio and said, 12 "Security Room, be advised police are working an event 13 basically at the three o'clock of the stage, " which is the 14 direction of the AGR. That was enough for me and to to 15 realize something was happening, so we basically focused 16 our attention in that area. And from there we could see 17 the police were running with their hands on their pistols, 18 and that they were working some sort of incident. We 19 weren't sure what it was, but hands on guns, usually that's 20 a marker that something is happening. So we started 21 focusing on that area.

HSGAC Minority: And who had eyes on him as he was running across the roofs, plural? I guess the initial roof. Who had eyes on him when he got up on the roof, the first?



1 : I'm sorry. I don't understand. Witness **HSGAC Minority**: So there are multiple roofs. 2 Witness 3 Yes. 4 HSGAC Minority : It's a very large building. We actually 5 did go up on the roofs, and we walked it. It was bigger 6 than I thought when I was actually there. So he gets up on 7 the roof at the far end. 8 : Witness Mm-hmm. 9 HSGAC Minority: Is that your understanding of our 10 understanding? 11 Witness I assume, yeah. One of the rooftops, : 12 and then went towards the closest roof. 13 **HSGAC Minority:** And he had to run, walk, guite a 14 distance before actually getting to where he shot from. 15 Witness : Mm-hmm. 16 **HSGAC Minority**: When he initially got up on that first 17 roof, who had eyes on him? 18 Witness : So to my knowledge we did not have any 19 eyes -- we did not know that he was on the rooftop. When I 20 knew he was on the rooftop was after the original three shots had been fired, and then said that he had him. 21 22 That's when I knew there was an individual on the roof. 23 HSGAC Minority : So Hercules 1 C/S didn't have eyes on him until 24 after he had fired shots? 25 I don't know what he saw or didn't Witness :



see. I only know that he remarked to me, "I got him."
 That's when I knew that he had him on the roof. I don't
 know, before that, if he saw or did not see.

HSGAC Minority: And that was after the shots were fired?
Witness : The original there shots I distinctly
remember, and then ^{Herrores 106} said, "I got him."

7 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And you guys were facing the roof
8 --

9 Witness : Yeah, after --

10 HSGAC Minority: -- before --

11 Witness : -- it was put over the radio, we faced 12 towards the AGR building.

13 HSGAC Minority: And do you recall what the time frame 14 was, how many minutes, seconds?

15 Witness : I didn't look at a watch, but as soon 16 as he said it -- e basically have these tripods that our 17 rifles can sit on -- as soon as he said that we basically 18 flipped the guns to face the AGR building and we got down 19 and started looking, it felt like after he said that, the 20 gunshots rang out, maybe seconds to minutes, at most. 21 Between the three original shots happening and Herries tors sending 22 his shot back, it was seconds. It was very quickly. 23

HSGAC Minority: And you said you don't know what
saw. Did you ask him?

25 Witness : Not -- I didn't ask him. When he



1 said, "I got him," in my understanding he got what we 2 were looking for.

3 **HSGAC Minority**: Did you ask him after?

4 Witness : No. After the fact we actually --5 we've got something called the "OODA loop." It's kind of б like what you're thinking, your train of thought. After 7 these events that happened, and there was a kind of a 8 quietness in the OODA loop, I felt like I was kind of 9 sitting there going, I don't know what to do. What are we 10 doing? Luckily, Hercules 2 C/S, the other CS technician, 11 called me, and he said, "Hey, they're going to the 12 hospital. Do you want our team or your team to go to the 13 hospital?" And that kind of triggered like, oh, this is 14 like half the scenarios we've done. You guys go to the 15 hospital. Herewest of and I will cover your descent -- we don't 16 know if there's another shooter or another threat -- and from there we'll figure out what we're going to do after 17 18 that.

So actually saved me from kind of sitting there and going -- I was hyper-focused on this individual that had already been -- the threat had been neutralized, to our knowledge, and I was just kind of sitting there, waiting for something else to happen. Kind of got me back into thinking, okay, how do you -- what do you do next, basically.



1 **HSGAC Minority:** And then what did you do next? : After sending Hercules 2 C/S and Counter Sniper to the 2 Witness 3 hospital, I looked at Hereies and I said, "You might have to call ^{Counter Sniper}, " who is our captain, Captain 4 5 HSGAC Minority: Can you spell that, Captain ? 6 Witness : Captain , and then Captain is Captain I basically told $\frac{1}{1}$, "You've got to call Captain 7 Captain 8 because this is a big deal. We're involved." He agreed. 9 He immediately calling Herrower [sic]. I was -- we were still 10 on the roof, basically watching the events. The locals had 11 come up onto the roof to clear the subject. I saw them put 12 him in flexicuffs, like plastic handcuffs.

13 From there I decided let's get off this roof. It 14 seems like everything's -- I don't want to say under 15 control but there's no more threats at the moment. Let's 16 get off this roof. We got off the roof and went around to 17 the back, where our vehicles were. We took off our plate carriers, got some water. I think Heredes started taking 18 19 notes while he was on the phone, and I said, "You do 20 whatever you need to do. You're the guy who took the shot. 21 It's going to be big." My phone was blowing up. Different 22 numbers are coming up. Mostly it was like the P-Off for 23 the Secret Service wanted a situation update. I assumed 24 they went through the advance list, saw my name, and said, 25 "I'm going to call him. What can you give me?" They had



1 no idea we were still working the problem.

Once, basically, we had a second, reached out to 2 3 me and said, "They're at the hospital. They have a 4 location." I put him in contact with the CAT team that 5 that there, and I said, "What are they doing next?" And б they said, "If they move him, it's either going to be an 7 LZ" -- which is like a landing zone helicopter removal --"or they're going to go to the airport." I said, "He came 8 9 here on a plane. Let's the bet we're going to go to the airport." Herewest CAS and I basically set up -- started doing 10 11 long-range threat assessment down there, just to get the 12 ball rolling.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. So you guys got off the roof, and then he was writing notes. Did you write any notes at that time?

16 Witness : At the time, no. I was on the phone 17 talking to different entities basically asking for 18 situational updates, and I was trying to be as brief as 19 possible. I didn't know what I could or couldn't say. And 20 at the same time, we had two different medevac helicopters 21 landing in the field behind us. So I don't even know if 22 they could hear me. I could barely hear them.

HSGAC Minority: And during that time, were you -- so
before you left to go to the airport --

25 Witness : Yes.



HSGAC Minority: -- were you interviewed by anyone?
Did law enforcement come, or was Hercules 1 C/S interviewed by anyone?

Witness : So at the time when it occurred, we had a couple law enforcement kind of come over and see if we were okay, which we saw no issues there. We had one with Secret Service, I guess may have known him or recognized him, at least. And he asked if if he was all right, and issues said, "I'm fine. I'm fine."

But basically after that I got to the truck, and I I let him figure out, on the phone, taking notes, do your thing, whatever you need to do. We need to figure out the next step in the plan, or I need to figure out the next step in the plan, basically.

15 But so no, no interview with local cops. We did reach 16 out to my captain and say, typically when a police shooting 17 happens you're kind of benched or you're out of play, and 18 your weapon's confiscated. We were the **LES** 19 LES . Do you want us to stand down 20 or do you want us to go? And he said, " 21 LES Go." So that's why we went to the airport. 22 **HSGAC Minority**: Okay. And so in that time, did you 23 interact with FBI before you left for the airport? 24 : Not to my knowledge, no. Witness

25 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And you didn't interact with any



1 assistant U.S. attorney who was on scene?

2 Witness : I don't recall interacting with any --3 it was a couple of locals that walked up, and it looked 4 like a Secret Service agent that came up to us. I'm 5 thinking back.

6 HSGAC Minority: And did you see Hercules 1 C/S interact with 7 any assistant U.S. attorney?

8 Witness : No. was kind of on the back. He 9 had like a police F-150, and he had his -- the tailgate 10 down, and he was writing notes, talking on the phone, and 11 he had -- he was just kind of -- that was his work area. 12 He stayed right there. I didn't see anyone approach him. 13 I don't believe anyone came to speak with him.

14 HSGAC Minority: And then did you drive in the car 15 together to the airport?

16 Witness : So actually, before all the events 17 happened that day, logistically wise, I had two team 18 members that were jumping from Butler, Pennsylvania. They 19 were going to drive to Rehoboth that night, because they 20 had to cover the President the following day. And then 21 was actually going to be coming back to D.C., and he 22 was going to be leaving for an advance the next morning. 23 And I was going back to D.C., as well. I think I was 24 working WHAM -- I'm sorry -- working 5 a.m. on the White 25 House roof the next morning.



1 So we all had different assignments following this 2 assignment, so we each had different vehicles. So when we 3 did depart for the airport, I was in my issued GOV and Hercules 1 CVS 4 was in his issued GOV. 5 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And then so you worked some other -- did you work any other events or did you have to do any 6 7 protection after the shooting? 8 Witness After the shooting we met up at the : 9 airport. 10 **HSGAC** Minority: After that, separate from this. 11 Witness : Oh no. It was straight to the 12 Nothing else. airport. 13 **HSGAC Minority**: And then days after? 14 : The days following I was on Witness 15 administrative leave. I didn't do anything for, I think, 16 almost a week. 17 **HSGAC Minority**: Are you still on administrative leave? 18 Witness : I am not. I am currently active. HSGAC Minority: Okay. And when were you taken off of --19 20 so it was a week, you said? 21 : I think I was on administrative leave Witness 22 -- they let -- Secret Service has kind of like a therapy 23 that they offered for us. I spoke to them. Other than 24 that it was pretty quiet for a few days. I think we got

25 interviewed by the FBI and Pennsylvania State Troopers at



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90

1 headquarters, at the Secret Service Headquarters, that 2 week, as well. And then after that -- it had been about a 3 week, I want to say, and then I reached out to my captain 4 and said, "Hey, am I okay to work or not okay to work?" and 5 he said as far as he's concerned I'm not being punished at б this time. I said, "Okay. Well, can I crawl, walk, run? 7 Can I work back into the fold?" and he said, "Yep, if you 8 would like to, you can."

9 So that day I went out to the range, made sure my 10 weapon was working properly, which it was. And the next 11 day I started slowly working back into rotation at the 12 White House. So I guess I was, in total, off for about a 13 week of admin leave, or administrative duty.

14 HSGAC Minority: And have you done any counter sniper 15 advances since?

16 Witness : I originally -- I have been doing the 17 DNC for about -- I've been almost about a year now I've 18 been doing work leading up to that. I'd done a lot of 19 paperwork, a lot of building grids out there. When this 20 event occurred, I asked to stay on it, but I was told that 21 I would be taken off it.

I did work second teams, so not advance work, but I have worked second teams since then.

24 HSGAC Minority: At the DNC or --

25 Witness : I was at the DNC. Correct.



HSGAC Minority: So you were working, just not an
 advance on the campaign.

Witness : Yeah. I basically was taken off it.
I was very familiar with all the details, but I was taken
off it. So I was no longer an advance.

HSGAC Minority: And were any of the other counter
snipers that were there that day, did they work the DNC?
Witness : I believe was present, not in an
advance capacity but second teams. Other than that, forcules 10's
still is not -- I don't think he's in operational status,
and was not at that. So it was only PI and I were at the
DNC.

HSGAC Minority: And if we can go back to the AGR, you never got on the AGR roof. You never went inside the building.

- 16 Witness : Correct.
- 17 **HSGAC Minority**: Why?

18 Witness : Typically when we do a survey I won't 19 go to every single building that looks in on the event. 20 For instance, if you look 12 o'clock, basically -- I think 21 it's page 3 -- there are two different buildings there, 22 right there, the Mazda dealership as well as M&R Equipment. 23 That was page 3, sorry. I wouldn't go there, ask to see 24 their roof, get on top of their roof. These are threats 25 that we have identified, but we typically don't go to every



single threat building that looks in, and ask to go onto
 their roof and see the access for it.

3 HSGAC Minority: But you didn't have snipers, local 4 snipers, in that building. Right?

5 Witness : In the AGR --

6 **HSGAC Minority**: In the Mazda building.

7 Witness
8 yeah.

9 HSGAC Minority: So I guess you've done 15 advances, or 10 around, you said? Have you ever gone inside the building 11 or ever gone in the location where you have local law 12 enforcement snipers?

13 Witness : So typically, all the advances I've 14 done up to this point have been with POTUS, and when we do 15 those we are co-located with the local teams, meaning we 16 are in the same location while we work. This was one of 17 the first times that I've done DPD. It actually was the first time I covered a candidate, not an actual POTUS. 18 So 19 the rules were that we didn't have to actually co-locate 20 with them, and I was kind of figuring it out as going 21 through, or basically learning as I did it, that okay, you 22 guys are going to be located here. Professional courtesy. 23 I understand you guys are professional snipers. Tell me 24 where you're going to be, what you're looking at, and I 25 will show you where we are going to be and what we are



1 looking at. We'll come together and make a threat

2 assessment that covers all the alleys that we're looking 3 at.

4 HSGAC Minority: And when you say DPD, that's the Donald 5 Trump?

6 Witness : Donald Trump. Yes.

7 HSGAC Minority: Okay. But he had never received counter
8 snipers.

9 Witness : When he was President he had received 10 it, but to my knowledge, as a candidate, this was the first 11 even that he was given coverage.

12 HSGAC Minority: And did you ever work any advance when 13 he was President?

Witness : I'd have to look back. I want to say yes. I was definitely on the team doing second teams when he was like going to Mar-a-Lago or other events. I want to say I did at least one or two of his airport rallies, but I'd have to double-check to be sure.

19 **HSGAC** Minority: And you were co-located with the locals? 20 Yes. We always, with POTUS, you Witness : 21 always co-locate with the local assets, anything from the 22 local sniper teams, to if we work like -- sometimes we use 23 National Guard airports. We'll co-locate with those 24 If we use a military airport we'll co-locate with assets. 25 Whoever the local asset is, you will cothose assets.



1 locate.

HSGAC Minority: And you said that this was the first time that you'd ever worked an event for Trump when he was a candidate, right. Have you ever heard of counter snipers being assigned to any other candidate?

6 Witness So the Vice Presidents, for example. : 7 LES , typically. That'll be local police snipers will be covering that, as 8 9 They'll work in conjunction with the CAT, the well. 10 Counter Assault Secret Service, lead, and he'll actually 11 work in conjunction with where they're going to be, how 12 they place. So really **LES** , typically. 13 LES 14 Or they had some sort of LES . 15 circumstance of like it's a giant outdoor rally, we're 16 requesting CS coverage. Then we'll go work that. But 17 other than that, LES

HSGAC Minority: And have you ever worked any non-POTUS
events where you were the lead?

20 Witness : When we did United Nations, I will be 21 a team leader, or I've been a team leader for the past 22 three or four years, with high threat level countries, kind 23 of like Israel, Iran, countries that are deemed a high 24 threat. And you'll get assigned the TL, and you will 25 basically provide coverage on manpower basis of them while



1 they're here for a United Nations General Assembly. 2 HSGAC Minority: With their sniper teams? 3 Witness LES : , I believe. 4 LES 5 HSGAC Minority : And in that time when you were in 6 advance, for a non-POTUS, did you ever go inside the 7 building where the NYPD was located? 8 No. They be located -- not co-located, Witness 9 basically located by themselves. 10 **HSGAC Minority:** But during the advance? 11 : No, I would not. Witness 12 HSGAC Minority : Okay. When did you find out that there 13 was not going to be a Counter Surveillance Unit for the 14 event? 15 Witness : There's not Counter -- can you 16 explain? 17 **HSGAC** Minority: Was there a Counter Surveillance Unit at 18 the event? 19 Witness : Counter Surveillance. I know there was a PI team. As far as Counter Surveillance, I believe 20 21 them mean like the plainclothes Secret Service, kind of 22 like undercover? I was not aware if they or were not 23 there, to my knowledge. 24 HSGAC Minority : Okay. So I take it from your answer 25 you're not -- you don't typically work closely with Counter



1 Surveillance?

Witness : So we'll be -- they'll usually do like a manpower briefing, which they'll give a slide and they'll tell you what their basically identifiers are going to be, what they'll be wearing. And LES ,
ES That way, yep, that's

8 police. There's no questions about it.

9 But typically we don't. They'll reach out if they see 10 something that they think could be a long threat concern to 11 us, but typically they're kind of separate missions, I 12 guess. The same goal but they have their own area of 13 expertise.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And so, again, you were never in the building. You never looked out the window, you said. You couldn't say what the locals inside AGR could see or what they couldn't see. When did you tell anyone in Secret Service that?

Witness : Tell the Secret Service what?
 HSGAC Minority : Did you ever tell anyone in Secret
 Service that you didn't go inside the AGR building?

22 Witness : No.

23 HSGAC Minority: You've never told anyone from Secret 24 Service that?

25 Witness : No.



1 HSGAC Minority : So this is the first time that someone 2 from Secret Service is hearing that, in this interview? 3 Witness : I thought you meant for the advance 4 itself. I never told anyone for the advance that I did not 5 go into the AGR Building. 6 HSGAC Minority : In your interviews after that has not 7 come up? 8 : Oh, that's come up with -- yes, I've Witness 9 never been in -- that's a known fact with Secret Service. 10 HSGAC Minority: Okay. So Secret Service is aware. 11 Yes, that I have never been in the AGR Witness : 12 building. 13 HSGAC Minority : And when did you make them aware of 14 that? 15 After the actual event happened that Witness : 16 Saturday evening, my captain called me and went through all 17 my paperwork, kind of figuring out what had happened that 18 day. 19 HSGAC Minority : And your captain is -- is that --20 Captain Witness : 21 HSGAC Minority : Okay. 22 : Yeah, same person. And he just kind Witness 23 of went through everything. I don't know if the AGR

24 building came up in conversation that time, but we

25 definitely spoke about it when the FBI and Pennsylvania



1 State Police did an interview. We had two

2 representatives from Secret Service in that interview,

3 Secret Service, as well, and we definitely spoke about it 4 then.

5 HSGAC Minority: Do you recall who those two
6 representatives from Secret Service were?

Witness : I don't know their names. I'm sorry.
HSGAC Minority: Do you recall what division or -Witness : They were headquarters, but I don't

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And do you recall around what date that was? It doesn't have to be specific. A week later?

Witness I would say -- I was still on the administrative leave, so it was in that week, basically, a week after the event had happened.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And did you watch the -- did you watch Acting Director Rowe testify before Congress on July 31st?

20 Witness I actually was not -- I was on 21 personal leave, so I didn't watch it at all.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. Did you hear about his comments? Witness: I heard that he testified, or maybe "testified" is not the right word. But I heard that he was on the news, but I've been trying to distance myself from



10

know who they were.

1 the whole events on the news.

2 **HSGAC Minority**: So he testified during that hearing 3 about the local snipers that were posted in the AGR 4 building, and his quote is, "Their perspective from the AGR 5 building looking out, their responsibility looking left, 6 they should've been able to see." And he's referring to 7 the roof. Do you know why he would think that the sniper, 8 the local law enforcement snipers that were inside the 9 building could see the entire roof where Crooks was? 10 Witness : I can't speak for the director what he 11 meant by that, but I would assume that, like most capable 12 human beings, you can go up to a window and lean forward and see outside a window. I don't know if that's what he 13 14 meant or not, but that's what I would take that statement 15 as. 16 **HSGAC** Minority: So you said, "like most capable human 17 beings." Do you think that the local law enforcement that 18 were there inside the building were not capable? 19 Witness : I would hope they're capable. 20 Otherwise they shouldn't be on duty. But I would hope 21 they're capable, yeah. 22 HSGAC Minority : Okay. I'm going to turn it over to my 23 colleague.

HSGAC Minority : HSGAC Minority with Ranking Member
Paul. I'm going to try and hit a couple of things,



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1 quickly. Did you tell anyone, in Secret Service or 2 otherwise -- this is in the advance process -- that the 3 **LES** team, the local **LES** team, in the AGR 4 International building would have coverage of the AGR roof? 5 Witness : I did not tell them that the AGR б building team per se would have coverage of the roof, but 7 it was kind of expected that your police officers in your 8 area, you control over your immediate area. For example, 9 if something was happening in the barn underneath the post 10 I was on, I would expect me to be able to handle any 11 situation, whether it involved a sniper rifle or my pistol 12 or less-than-lethal means, that you're still a police 13 officer, even though you are part of the sniper team. 14 **HSGAC Minority** : But you never said that. 15 No, I never said that. Witness : 16 HSGAC Minority : What about the **LES** teams in the

17 horse stadium?

Witness : Those, because of when we originally spoke about the plan, they showed me their cones of fire, and one of their cones of fire did go over towards the AGR building. It basically went over the crowd towards the AGR building itself. So I extremely expected that they would have coverage of set area.

HSGAC Minority : But did you tell anybody that during
the advance process, particularly anybody in Secret



1 Service?

2 Witness : No. Typically when we do advances, 3 counter sniper, it's really -- I'm the system matter expert 4 on this long-range threats, the site agent. If they have 5 any questions or concerns they can, of course, come to me. б But it's kind of like -- a bad analogy would be if you went 7 to a mechanic and you said, "You fix my car," they can explain to you what they're going to do, and they 8 9 absolutely can, but sometimes they say, "You're the expert. 10 You're the mechanic. I just want it to run." That's kind of the system we have. 11

12 HSGAC Minority : Did the site agent or site agents come 13 to you with any concerns?

14 : No long-range threats or concerns. Witness Ι 15 did send them an email that had all the listing locations 16 of not only the Hercules teams for the Secret Service but 17 also the **LES** teams. And then on this actual Tactical 18 Survey that you guys received today, there are threats -- I 19 think it's the third block down -- and it lists all the 20 threat areas that are in the area. The buildings at three 21 o'clock, approximately (redacted) yards away, that's 22 referring to the AGR building.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. you mentioned the cones of fire from the teams in the horse stadium. Did they give you a copy of that, or they just showed you that in the in-



1 person?

2 Witness : No, they only showed that to me in 3 person, and that was helping to illustrate where their 4 teams were going to be located. I don't have a copy of 5 that.

6 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Who selected the other three
7 team members for this event?\

8 Witness : I believe it would be my CS Ops. The 9 same person who called me and told me I was going on the 10 team, they're in charge of scheduling for CS.

11 **HSGAC Minority**: Okay. That is not -- is that the 12 captain you referred to, or that would be somebody else? 13 Witness : That would be someone else, the 14 sergeant on the desk. There's typically a primary on the 15 desk and then like a secondary, basically off-hours, who if 16 you're doing an advance you can call them and tell them 17 this is what I need, this is what we're looking at, and 18 they help form, with the manpower we have, who is coming to 19 you, when they're coming to you, basically make it all 20 work.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. Did you tell them that you needed three other people, or you told them you needed more?

24 Witness : Before I'd left I said, "What are we 25 looking like in manpower?" And he said, "I've got two



teams already blocked out for you" -- that being three others including myself. He said, "If you need more, call back and I'll see what I can do on the schedule." And I said, "I haven't seen the site yet. Let me go down there, figure out where we need to be placed, how many teams we need, and then if I need any changes I'll let you know."

7 I didn't need any changes, so two teams was8 satisfactory.

9 HSGAC Minority : Okay. So you went into it knowing you
10 would have four people total, two teams of two.

Witness : Yeah. Going in you would have two, but if I need additional I could definitely reach back and they'd say, "Yep, we'll make it work," and they usually do. HSGAC Minority : Did you know who those other three teams members would be?

16 Witness : I found out probably, I think it was 17 Wednesday evening I found out when. Because not only do we 18 have to do logistics for this site, but like I said, other 19 team members are jumping to other sites, like Rehoboth 20 Beach or coming back for a different advance. So once they 21 have a rough framework of who is going where, I will learn, 22 and then I can put their names into the site lead for the 23 hotel, and if we need rentals, and it slowly gets thrown 24 together who is going where.

25

HSGAC Minority : Did you have any influence over who



1 they were?

Witness
I did not. We're all equally capable
of texts. Yeah.

4 **HSGAC Minority** : Is it typical for a supervisor -- I 5 think you said Hercules 1 C/S was supervisor on this -- is it б typical for there to be a supervisor on one of these trips? 7 : Ops does their best to basically have Witness a supervisor on every trip. Now with the amount of trips 8 9 happening, sometimes that doesn't happen, and then usually 10 it's a senior tech who gets kind of the supervisory role. 11 But Ops has actually done a very good job of having a 12 supervisor per trip. And typically what we'll do is 13 whoever the team leader is will work with the supervisor, 14 because I'm usually the first one to get information and 15 then relay it to him, and between the two of us we can come 16 up with a solution or disseminate the information.

HSGAC Minority : Is Hercules 1 C/S typically -- is he in your chain of command on a daily basis, or he was the supervisor for that day for this event?

20 So typically it could be any Witness : 21 supervisor from the team that's on the trip with you. But 22 luckily Hercules 1 C/S is actually my ranking official. 23 Basically I'll get like a quarterly ranking of are you doing a good job, what do you need to improve on. 24 He's actually my squad leader, as well. So I have a good 25



relationship with Hercules 1 C/S, as well. But that doesn't
 mean he's going to be the one sent. It could be any
 official on the team.

4 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Is it typical for the
5 supervisor to share a position with the lead advance agent
6 -- or lead advance officer, sorry. The team leader.

7 : Yeah, typically that's what they'll Witness It's not a hard rule. There are, I'd say, it doesn't 8 do. have to happen that way. Like I know if I have someone new 9 10 on the team who hasn't done advances yet, they could reach 11 out to me and say, "Hi. I'm trying to figure out how to do 12 this. Do you mind if I team up with you and you can walk 13 me through everything you've done," try to learn on the 14 job. That's definitely happened. But typically the 15 supervisor will go with the TL.

16 HSGAC Minority : Okay. So I guess, was it a conscious 17 decision on your part to share the position with Hercules I C/S, 18 or that was just the normal practice and you just followed 19 that?

Witness : It's kind of the normal practice. It would be expected. Also I had a good working relationship with ^{Herrows 106}, so it was an easy decision on my own.

23 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Did he make any changes to your
24 plan?

25 Witness : No. When they arrived that Friday



1 evening to drop off gear, I gave them a quick brief, 2 went through the paperwork and Logistics Sheet that we had. 3 He looked at it and he said, "Yep, everything looks good to 4 me." And I said I'd give him a walkthrough on Saturday, 5 the day of the event, and he said, "Okay. Sounds good." He 6 was there through all of it. He had no problems with 7 anything I did, and he didn't make any corrections.

8 HSGAC Minority : Was that your first discussion of this 9 event and this plan with him?

10 : I had reached out to him by cellphone Witness 11 beforehand, and I had mentioned that the local teams are 12 going to be not co-located with us. I explained, "Hey, 13 we're going to get their information, what they're wearing, 14 where they'll be, and all that. Are you okay with that? 15 It's not a POTUS trip." And he said, "Nope. I have no 16 issues with that as long as you get where they're going to be, what they're wearing, identifiers. I have no issues." 17 And I said, "Okay." 18

19 HSGAC Minority : Is Hercules 1 C/S the supervisor or in the 20 chain of command of any of the other two?

21 Witness I believe those two are in different 22 squads. So he's still technically a sergeant, but he's not 23 their direct supervisor at the time, yeah.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. Going back to the actual
engagement there on the roof, do you know why he was able



1 to see Crooks and you were not?

2 Witness : So when we were on the barn roof, the 3 farthest one away from the AGR building, Herewest or the 4 peak, the closest to the edge, and I was standing right 5 next to him, I quess closer towards the center of the barn itself. I'm not sure why Hercules 1 C/S was able to spot him first, б 7 but Hereigners did, and he did great work communicating, "I got 8 him." I knew exactly from our training that we've done in 9 the past what that meant, what he was doing. What he 10 needed from me was a wind call. I'm not sure why I couldn't see him first, or Heroues los saw him first, but I'm 11 12 happy Hercules 1 C/S did see him.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. But you were able to see Crooks
after he was shot, from your position.

15 Witness : Correct, yes.

HSGAC Minority : So to make sure I understood that right, you said he was closer to the front, what I would describe as the front of the barn, which was the end of the barn, closest to the stage.

20 Witness : Yes. Yes.

HSGAC Minority: So we've seen pictures of the other Hercules team and their position they were on. If you take the three barns together they were working on the inside slope of the north-most barn. Where you were you all on the roof of the southern barn?



1 Witness : We were basically mirrored of them, 2 on the -- I guess that would be the closest to the stage 3 section of the barn. Basically almost -- yeah, almost an 4 exact mirror, looking the opposite direction a lot, too.

5 HSGAC Minority : Okay. So somewhat -- this is a 6 question but I might phrase it as a statement -- it seems 7 like that would be a somewhat unnatural shooting position 8 to then have to turn -- the more natural shooting position 9 would be standing facing the upward slope of the barn roof 10 rather than downward.

11 Witness : So when the event did occur, it is a 12 sloped roof and we were kind of the, I quess you'd call it 13 the crown of the roof, most of the time. When Countersniper 14 went over the radio and told us that there's police 15 activity at three o'clock, both and I looked over, saw 16 what was happening, and then we repositioned ourselves so 17 that our tripod was on the center of the room, the peak, 18 and then we were standing on the, I guess, the farthest 19 edge that away from the AGR building. So we were facing 20 the AGR building.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. How often -- staying up on the roof -- let me go back to what I understood you to say earlier, which was you all basically were working a 180degree scene, so forward from the barns. And you took -this is, I guess, a question -- what I heard you say was



you had primarily a 90-degree wedge, and then who had the other? Did you and freedes ICS split up the 180 degrees --Witness : Yes. HSGAC Minority : -- from your vantage point. And would

5 it be the practice that the other team would've done the 6 same thing?

7 : Typically you would've done that, but Witness it's not a hard and fast rule, don't look on that other 90 8 9 degrees. Cross coverage at different angles is actually 10 extremely beneficial in these situations. It's more of we 11 were placed in that area, you're closer to it. That's kind 12 of you're leaning towards seeing what you need to see on that side. But it's not a hard and fast rule of we do not 13 14 engage that side, like don't look that side. No, not at 15 all.

16 HSGAC Minority : So again, in layman's terms here, 17 which -- using the clock positions -- which was your 18 primary wedge, if you will?

19 Witness : I'd say we were probably from the 9 20 o'clock to about the 12 o'clock, generally, off the front 21 of the stage.

HSGAC Minority : You were or the two of you were? Witness and myself. Heredes 10% and myself were basically looking at the 9 to the 12. We could look all the way to the 3 if we need to, but primarily that was kind



of our area of concern, the multiple buildings for
 threats areas that looked in.

3 **HSGAC Minority** : And the other team would have done --4 Witness : They basically would've done 12 to 3. 5 Again, not a yard rule, but that was generally the thing. HSGAC Minority : So how often would -- you know, and if 6 you could speak to Herrores 's timing on this, as well, please 7 8 do so, but if not at least for yourself -- how often during 9 that time that you were up there were you looking in the 10 direction, at the AGR roof, knowing that there's an obstructed view of the room from the H2 position, how often 11 12 were you all looking at that roof?

13 Witness : I'd say I was basically going through 14 every single threat area that looked in on the site. Not 15 really working in any like clock formation or anything, but 16 basically, see the AGR building? That's the closest 17 building. Let's start there. Do you see anything unusual, 18 anything that would look like a threat? No, okay. Move on 19 to the next building. Move on to the next wood line. I 20 can't give you an exact timeline of how much we did it, but 21 you're looking over there as much as you can. Basically 22 you want to be aware of all your surroundings, and anything that wasn't there for the **LES** you've been up there, that 23 24 looks new, basically.

25

HSGAC Minority : Had you worked with the other two



1 counter snipers before, defined and counter Sniper?

2 Witness : Yes.

3 HSGAC Minority : What was your opinion of them going 4 into this, their professional abilities and their 5 competence and their, you know, ability to do the job? 6 Witness : Just for the record, I'm the most 7 junior quy who was on this trip. All these quys are senior 8 to me and have been on the team longer than me. All of 9 them are fantastic shots, crack shots. They can call my 10 wind any day. I would 100 percent, no question, take their 11 word for it.

HSGAC Minority : Did they have any input for you once
they got to the scene, about any part of the plan?

14 : It's not unusual for senior techs to Witness 15 offer constructive criticism, or, hey, the next time you do 16 this, see if you can do XYZ, or something. At the time, 17 no. The guys were happy. It was a hot day. The guys were 18 getting ready to go out. They were in air conditioning. 19 There was no problems there. No constructive criticism, 20 no.

HSGAC Minority : Did they make you aware of their obstructed view of the roof of the AGR building once they got up to their position?

24 Witness : They did not, but I was aware of it 25 because I had seen both locations and I knew that they can



see parts of the threat area that I cannot see from H1,
 but I can see parts from H1 that they can't see from H2.
 So I was aware of it, but they did not reach out to me.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. Quickly I want to go to a
slightly different direction, back to the original
planning. You had referenced using satellite photos to
construct, or to do your initial look at the sites. Are
you -- when you do that, are you accessing -- are you using
publicly available satellite images?

Witness : We have a license through the Secret Service to use **LES** . Typically that's what we'll do. I'll just type in the address and then I'll take all the -- anything I don't want off of the labels, like the roads and stuff like that. Sometimes I'll leave roads, but I believe that's publicly available.

16 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Do you have access to any 17 nonpublic satellite images?

18 Witness : We do have a team in place. We're 19 starting to use -- I forget the name of it, but it's 20 basically much better satellite imagery. We use it for 21 NSSEs like the GRGs we utilize there. They are very nice, 22 in that you can zoom in and pixelation doesn't occur. They 23 are very in depth. I don't know the details of how long 24 that request takes or anything, but typically as long as

25 the **LES**

, whatever, works, we



1 don't use that.

2 **HSGAC Minority** : Is that commercially available

3 satellite imagery, or is that government?

Witness : That I'm not 100 percent sure on. I know we basically have to make a request to someone else in the Service to get the images for us, and then they send it back to us. So I'm not sure what program.

8 HSGAC Minority : Do you have access to, or do you know 9 if you have access to any of the classified government 10 imagery?

11 Witness I would -- I'm not aware of I have 12 access to it. I've never utilized it before, to my 13 knowledge.

HSGAC Minority: Just two quick questions before I pass it on to ^{HSGAC MINORITY}. You said -- so you were the most junior person that day. Is it typical that the most junior person do the advance?

18 Witness : No. Basically when you get on the 19 team, you pass the 10-week school, you're officially on the 20 Counter Sniper Team, but you won't do advances for at least 21 two years. You're just an equipment tech, which is kind of 22 you're in charge of equipment. From there you'll do three 23 domestics with basically a ride-along, they call it, where 24 someone who is advance trained will teach you, train you 25 through what they want to do. And your third one is a



checkoff of you basically do the entire advance by yourself. And if they see anything they would fix it, so it wouldn't be an issue, but they're grading you the entire time. So by three years usually you're advanced trained.

5 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And so, did you communicate at
6 all with the Counter Sniper Response Team that day?

7 Witness : Yes. When I originally arrived to the
8 site I took my paperwork --

9 **HSGAC Minority**: After the BOLO.

10 Witness : Oh, no. After the BOLO we did not 11 reach out to the CS Response.

12 **HSGAC Minority**: Why?

13 Witness : The events that occurred so quickly --14 CS Response is really for nonlethal threats. By the time 15 we had seen the individual shots had been fired, and the shots had been fired, and 16 then took reactionary measures. CS Response, I believe 17 they would have to go all the way -- because of the fence 18 line, they would have to go all the way around the event to 19 the road and come down to the AGR. We don't need them to 20 investigate. There are gunshots. There is a threat there. 21 So that's why we didn't contact them.

HSGAC Minority: And when did you receive the BOLO? Witness: I received a text message from the local, my local CS counterpart. I don't know the exact date. I'm sure it's on the text message. But I received a



1 text before the shots had fired. I'd have to look at

2 the time to give you an exact time.

3 **HSGAC Minority**: 5:45?

Witness : That sounds approximately right, yeah.
HSGAC Minority : And shots were fired at 6:11,

6 approximately?

7 Witness : Approximately.

8 HSGAC Minority: So that wasn't enough time to notify
9 Counter Sniper Response Team?

10 Witness : Yeah, when we originally were notified 11 of a suspicious individual with a rangefinder, that was 12 extremely suspicious, and we want PI to go investigate, 13 talk to them. We have to find said individual first. I 14 can't just say, "CS Response, go find this person." I can, 15 but we need to find him in order for them to speak to him. 16 HSGAC Minority: Did you notify PI, Protective

17 Intelligence?

18 Witness : PI actually reached out to me. I 19 believe it was the PI assist. She was on a golf cart, and 20 she was actually right on the fence line. She reached out 21 after the locals had sent me the text, asking if I was 22 tracking this information. I said, "Yep, we're already 23 looking for it," and she said, "Okay, if you see him, I 24 want to talk to him." I said, "Not a problem. We'll call 25 you direct." And then when I sent the email out to my team



1 with the information on the BOLO, I said, "Go to the 2 Security Room or go direct with a PI agent."

3 **HSGAC Minority**: So she notified you?

Witness : She knew that there was an event.
HSGAC Minority: And that was after the BOLO?

6 Witness : I received the BOLO originally from 7 the local team through text, and then immediately -- maybe 8 not immediately, but right after I got a call from the PI 9 agent saying she was looking for the individual as well. I 10 said, "I'm already tracking. We have an identification.

11 If we see him we will go direct with you."

12 **HSGAC Minority**: What time was that?

Witness : Between when the locals called me and -- or the locals texted me -- and the shots fired. So maybe 5, 10 minutes, at most, after the locals texted me. HSGAC Minority: And she called you on your work or your personal phone?

- 18 Witness : My work cellphone.
- 19 HSGAC Minority: Okay.

HSGAC Minority : HSGAC Minority , Senator Paul's office.
I've got a lot of questions and little time, so I'm going

22 to hit them quick if you don't mind.

23 On you day of July 13, 2024, were you considered to be 24 in a supervisory role?

25 Witness : I was a team leader, so slightly a



1 supervisor.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. Since you could not co-locate with said counter sniper teams, as you normally do, should that have enhanced your measures to ensure that the AGR was covered, other areas covered, and more importantly, that communications was properly instituted? Because you already knew there was a breakdown in communication just from not being co-located. Am I correct?

9 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Minority: Were there any enhanced measures taken since now you're working -- that they are not cohabitating or co-locating with you?

: So we had cellphone as a primary form 13 Witness 14 of communication -- not great but better than nothing -- as 15 well as typically when we do these events we have a local 16 law enforcement representative in the Security Room with 17 us, using our radios. That way anything happens, they can 18 communicate through them. It's not ideal, and at the time, 19 but this is better than nothing, and this is the first time 20 we were doing --

HSGAC Minority: Lag in communications is a major issue when you're dealing with counter sniper observations and things in that measure. Correct?

24

25

Witness :

HSGAC Minority: Okay. So when you said that you

Correct.



normally -- a normal operator, a normal person that's capable would walk to the window, be able to walk to the window, look left and right, and see the AGR building. Correct?

5 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Minority: Is that something you all train to do б 7 often when you're placed in a sniper hide, as a counter 8 sniper, to make yourself visible to the people out and look 9 left and right, and put your head out the window to look? 10 Witness : So Secret Service is different from the majority of snipers, I would say. We want to be overt, 11 12 not covert. We want to be seen. We are a deterrent. We want people to see us and say, "There's snipers looking 13 14 right at us. I don't want anything to do with them." If 15 I'm a bad guy, I want them to see me.

16 HSGAC Minority: But as you just stated, locals are
17 probably different.

18 Witness : They probably are trained, or they
19 have a different mindset.

HSGAC Minority: And you know that because you've trained with them before, you've been around them before, and you've worked with them and you understand that mindset. Correct?

24 Witness : yes.

25 **HSGAC Minority**: Okay. Thank you.



1 So would you consider 135 yards to be close or a 2 long-range threat? 3 Witness : For our weapon that we utilize we **LES** 4 LES 5 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Also, did Herc 1 have a better б opportunity to see the AGR roof, or did local ESUs, in 7 their normal sniper hide positions, not up against the 8 window looking, as you stated they could have. But knowing 9 in your experience where you would position yourself, 6 to 10 8 feet within the building, trying to stay back, would they 11 have a better ability to see the AGR roof or would Herc 1 12 have a better visibility of the AGR roof? 13 Witness : It would depend. Because it was a 14 pitched roof, it would depend really on how the individual 15 we were trying to see was coming up. There's also the 16 other **LES** team in the horse stadiums that also should have been able to see him if we were looking from that 17 18 area. 19 **HSGAC Minority**: What was your distance from your sniper location, Herc 1, to the AGR building? 20 21 I believe it was just under 200 yards. Witness : 22 **HSGAC Minority**: What was the distance between **LES** 1 23 and the AGR building? 24 : Which team of LES Witness 1? 25 HSGAC Minority : That was the one that you said was in

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1 the horse building.

2 Witness : That would be probably 500 yards, if 3 not closer.

HSGAC Minority: So you're telling me here, and
everybody here, that your team was almost half the
distance. So help me understand that. Would you have a
better observation of it since you're less of a distance -200-plus, 250 yards closer?

9 Witness Ideally, yes, but if it's a pitched 10 roof, we could be right on top of it and we wouldn't see 11 it.

HSGAC Minority: Correct. But they were also seeing
the same pitched roof you were.

Witness Well, the angles would've been different. I don't know. Maybe they had the pitched roof or not.

HSGAC Minority: Which brings me to the next thing, this picture that you took. I think it's already been entered.
And we've talked about your grid that you created. Angles.
Observation. It's the one that you had the AGR, the AGR
International, and the Brinkels farmhouse on. Do you have
that, page 4?

23 Witness : Yeah, page 4.

HSGAC Minority: Would you be surprised if your Herc 2
could only see India-Juliet 12? That's as far as they were



1 limited to see on the AGR building?

Witness
That would make sense from their -from that tree in their line.

HSGAC Minority: Would you want to know that information from your team leader during the advance, before you got to the roof to set up **LES** before you were to go operational, or you were going operational **LES** before the former POTUS arrived. Is that information you would want from your team leader?

10 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Minority: And you never gave that to your team.
Witness No.

13 **HSGAC Minority** : Why?

Witness : There were multiple threat areas looking into the site. I didn't give them ideas on every single threat area. I didn't run down --

HSGAC Minority: But you just said that you would've
like to have had that information had you been in that
place.

Witness : OH yeah, with 20 -HSGAC Minority : Were there any other -Witness : Knowing exactly what happened that
day, I would love to know that information.
HSGAC Minority : Were there any other areas at the
Butler Farm Site rally exploited by an assailant to take



1 shots into the crowd, other than the AGR roof?

2 Witness : Not that I'm aware.

3 **HSGAC Minority**: Okay. A couple more questions. When 4 we talk threat mitigation, you probably heard the terms 5 means, motive, and opportunity, a threat triangle, that we б control, or hopefully can control. So the means, Crook had 7 a gun. The motive, he had a desire to hurt. Of those 8 three elements, the one that you had immediate control over 9 with your team -- and not just you, so don't get me wrong. 10 It was a whole team of advance personnel, people on the 11 site. You will have a large group of people working. The 12 one element of that triangle that you all had the 13 opportunity to mitigate was opportunity. Am I correct?

14 Witness : That sounds correct.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. So when you see this, what was done, in your opinion -- well, not your opinion. Just give me fact -- to specifically mitigate the threat of Crooks getting on the roof of the AGR building and, in fact, taking shots at approximately 18:11 hours? Specifically?

20 Witness : So I did not specifically see it, but 21 using the overhead that was provided, I saw the post-22 stander's location, those stars, basically showing the 23 areas that the local law enforcement or post-standers would 24 be. I would hope that that would be -- if you saw someone 25 who matched the description of a BOLO, you would point it



out. In addition, you see the two teams on the roof of the barn who are sniper teams. You can see their sniper rifles. You see that as maybe not a deterrent, but it definitely would make you think twice about any actions you had against the President. Not to mention the rest of local law enforcement, all of the protective detail that was there.

8 **HSGAC Minority**: So I've got two more things. Director 9 Rowe made a statement after a question was made to him, why 10 the position, including the Secret Service security zone, 11 was not -- the AGR building was not included. The 12 Director's response said, "That's a question I've asked, 13 Senator. I've been there, and I've walked it, and I have a 14 hard time understanding why. What I saw made me ashamed. 15 As a career law enforcement officer and 25-year veteran 16 with the Secret Service, I cannot defend why the roof was 17 not better secured."

My question to you is, do you feel the same way? My question to you is, do you feel the same way? Miness I can only explain what I saw that day. I saw an individual get on the roof with a gun. Well, I didn't see it, but I saw afterwards the individual on the roof with a gun, and he has close range to the protectee.

HSGAC Minority: So my final two questions. Number one,
we talk about mitigation. I've always heard the term, the



1 best way to get out of a chokehold is don't get in it. 2 You keep going to the moment that he was on the roof. I'm 3 trying to have an understanding of what could have been 4 done, what, more importantly, should have been done to 5 ensure that Crooks never, ever, ever got in a position to б the shot. And again, that I remind people that we lost a young man, Cory Comperatore. We can't lose the fact that 7 8 if we just get focused on, you know, what we did, we need 9 to be thinking about what we did not do.

10 So I'm going to ask you this. Are these the only 11 photos that you took that entire visit at Butler Farm, that 12 we were provided?

Witness I have the photos that made it into the actual grids themselves, I think Exhibit 1. I also have the photos that we have attached that were from the ground, that I didn't like the line of sight for them.

HSGAC Minority: Do you have any understanding that every photo that you took on the grounds have been turned over to the Secret Service. Am I correct?

20 Witness : Yes. We utilized the OneDrive, yes.
21 It's all on there.

HSGAC Minority: Gotcha. And the last question I have. Is this the only notes that you took for the entire visit, in your advance process for July 13, 2024?

25 Witness : Yeah, the only handwritten notes I



1 had.

HSGAC Minority: That's all I have. Thank you so much.
HSGAC Minority: Any non-handwritten notes?
Witness: The printed ones you guys have. They
have all information. Those are the only notes that I
have, yeah.

7 HSGAC Majority: Okay. Let's take a break.

8 [Recess.]

9 HSGAC Majority: Witness , thank you 10 again for taking the time. I want to talk about a 11 suspicious person, generally. What is your responsibility 12 as a counter sniper when there is a suspicious person 13 reported in the crowd, whether it's within this perimeter 14 or outside the perimeter of these events?

15 Witness : Typically, the first thing you want to 16 do is get eyes on them. If you can see them, what are they 17 doing, what's making them suspicious. Is it their 18 demeanor? Do they have a piece of equipment with them 19 that's making them suspicious? What is the reason that we're bringing attention to this individual, and once we 20 21 get eyes on it then we can kind of assist as much as we 22 can. We really can't do much as far away as we are, but if 23 the situation was to turn into a violent or life 24 threatening, potentially we'd take action. That's a lot of 25 factors in coming to that decision.



HSGAC Majority : 1 I believe we're on Exhibit 5. Is 2 that right? I'm marking a document as Exhibit 5, that I'm 3 handing you. [Exhibit No. 5 was 4 5 marked for identification.] **HSGAC** Majority: You had mentioned earlier that you б 7 received a text message. You estimated it roughly around 8 5:45. If you take a look at this document, it's starting at 9 Bates 1411. If you turn to the second page, Bates 1412, 10 this is a text message from July 13th at 5:45 p.m. It 11 says, "Kid learning" -- I imagine that may have meant to 12 have said kid leaning or lurking, but it says -- "Kid 13 learning around building we are in, AGR, I believe it is. 14 I do see him with a rangefinder looking towards the stage. 15 FYI. If you want to notify SS snipers to look out. I lost 16 sight of him." Is that the text message you were referring

17 earlier that you received?

18 Witness : Correct.

19 HSGAC Majority: And if you turn to the next page, the 20 next three pages, you'll see it contains pictures of 21 Crooks. Did you receive those pictures, as well?

22 Witness : I did, yes.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. Do you know who else received
this?

25 Witness : No. It was only a text message



between me and , the local officer sniper. I did take that information and disseminate it to my CS teams within Hercules, the counter sniper teams with Secret Service.

HSGAC Majority: If you turn to Bates 1416, it looks like
this is your reply at 5:45. You said, "Roger. I'll notify
team on AGR side." Was that your reply?

8 Witness : Correct, yes.

9 HSGAC Majority: So what team did that refer to you
 10 notified?

11 Witness : So Hercules 1 C/S was basically with me 12 at H1. Hercules 2 was on the opposite barn, close enough 13 that if we yelled we probably could've spoke. But I'm not 14 going to yell this information to them, so we sent an 15 email. So basically Hercules 1 and Hercules 2. The rest of 16 the CS teams.

HSGAC Majority: I see. So side referred to the barns that you were at. You weren't talking about sending it anyone who was over closer to the AGR building.

20 Witness : Oh, no, yeah, Hercules team. Sorry. 21 HSGAC Majority : Understood. Thank you. And then in 22 that same exhibit, if you turn to Bates 1417, I believe 23 this is the BOLO you were referring to, but I just to 24 confirm. It looks like this was sent July 13th, 5:52 or 25 5:53 p.m. Same text about kid learning or lurking around



1 the building they were in, etcetera, and it has the same 2 text that was in the text message. So is that the BOLO you 3 were referring to earlier?

4 Witness : That is the email I sent to my team 5 first.

6 HSGAC Majority: Okay. And 5:52 -- does that sound 7 right? Do you remember when you sent it?

8 Witness : Yeah, that's about correct, yes. 9 HSGAC Majority : And again, you sent it to the three 10 other counter snipers?

11 Witness Correct. Through email, through the 12 work phones.

13 **HSGAC Majority**: Okay. I appreciate it.

14 So you learned, at 5:45, about this suspicious person 15 with a rangefinder over by the AGR. That was the first 16 time you learned about that?

17 Witness : Correct.

18 HSGAC Majority: What was your understanding, at that 19 point, about how this suspicious person was being handled 20 and by whom?

21 Witness : It sounded like from the text message 22 that was sent to me from the local sniper that they found 23 him with a rangefinder. That's the part that's being 24 suspicious. That is definitely suspicious as far as the 25 Secret Service is concerned. Apparently they had lost



sight of him. They were looking for him. The pictures helped us identify what the individual looked like. He potentially had the bike and backpack with him. Basically that they lost him but they were trying to find him, and now we're also going to be on the lookout for him.

6 **HSGAC Majority**: Were you aware of any developments in 7 the search for a suspicious person?

8 <u>Witness</u> : No. This is all the information I received at the time. My PI, the Secret Service PI, he did 9 10 reach out to me through my work cellphone. Actually, when 11 she called I was able to see her. She was on a golf cart, 12 basically on the fence line between the AGR building and in 13 the site, by the crowd. And she basically said, "Are you 14 tracking this individual with a rangefinder?" I said, 15 "Yep. Already got the information from the local team. 16 We're looking for him." She said, "Excellent. If you see 17 him, I want to speak to him." I said, "Not a problem. 18 I'll disseminate."

19 **HSGAC Majority**: And who was that?

20 Witness : The PI, one of the PI agents at the 21 site. I'm not sure of the name. Only the number flashed 22 up on the screen. But she identified herself as the PI. 23 Person of interest, I believe.

HSGAC Majority: And you had discussed earlier the
Counter Sniper Response Team. Can you walk through who has



the authority or responsibility to actually deploy that team? In other words, to give them direction to go look or investigate something?

Witness : So any of the members of CS that were present there that day, we can all go over the radio. He would be on the post-standard channel. We also disseminate the cellphone number as well as his post number.

8 Typically, we like to use a radio. That way, other people 9 are aware of what we're doing, what we're sending. But if 10 radios are being difficult and/or there's just a lot of 11 traffic, the cellphone is always an option too.

HSGAC Majority: And I think you said earlier that it's your understanding that CS Response Team was not sent to look for a suspicious person after this BOLO.

15 Witness : That is correct. No on the CS side, 16 that I'm aware of, sent the CS Response to go look for this 17 individual.

18 HSGAC Majority: Are you aware of whether the CS Response
19 Team was sent by anyone to go look for this suspicious
20 individual?

21 Witness : I'm not aware of him being tasked by 22 anyone else.

HSGAC Majority: If the CS Response Team -- and again, my understanding is this is one Secret Service special agent plus a local police officer. Right?



1

Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority: If that CS Response Team was indeed sent to look for this suspicious person, should you have known that?

5 It would have been beneficial to know Witness : б because if we did need a detailed hand for this event, or 7 even a separate event, if he's on the opposite side of the complex it's going to take time to get there. But it's not 8 9 out of the ordinary that the CS Response Team is utilized 10 to go talk to individuals that are suspicious. Usually CS is the one who sends them, but it's the CS Response. 11

HSGAC Majority: And I think you said earlier that you didn't send CS Response out to look for this person because that was the job of PI to first find the person and then CS Response would go investigate. Is that right?

16 Witness : No. It would be more we need to find 17 the individual first, or someone needs to find the 18 individual, and then we can send PI to go interview them. 19 CS Response, it would be very difficult for me to call him 20 and say, "Find this person. When you find him go talk to 21 We have better line of sight. We are elevated. PI." We 22 are looking into the crowd. The last known location was 23 the AGR building. That's outside the site. We are basically going to find him. If we find him, then we can 24 25 go direct to CS Response, or we would just go direct to PI



1 and cut out the middleman.

But if we found him, and he was sitting underneath a
tree, not doing anything, not talking to anyone, CS
Response would be an excellent category for that.

5 **HSGAC Majority**: You said earlier that the presence of a 6 rangefinder in a suspicious person report is extremely 7 suspicious. So could you walk us through why not you, for 8 lack of a better term, all hands on deck, and called out 9 the CS Response Team to help in the search for the 10 suspicious person with the rangefinder?

11 Witness : So a rangefinder is suspicious. 12 However, it's not illegal. People have them all the time. 13 They go to golf ranges, and they'll use rangefinders there. 14 It's a little weird to be having it at an event like this, 15 an outdoor event. That's mostly why it's suspicious, and 16 we want PI to go interview them. They are specialists that 17 would do this interview and talk to him, figure out does he 18 have any ill intention towards the protectee or is he 19 simply someone who just wanted to know the distance, no ill 20 intent at all. Those are possible, but we definitely -- it 21 seemed suspicious at this time.

HSGAC Majority: You mentioned earlier the radio call by Counter Sniper about the locals working something at the three o'clock, about 200 yards out, is that when you recall his radio alert being?



1

Witness : About, yes.

2 HSGAC Majority: It's my understanding that Secret 3 Service used different radio channels -- I'm not sure if 4 that's the correct term, channel, frequency -- Channel and 5 Channel and possibly others. Do you recall which channel 6 that alert from **Counter Sniper** was sent out over? 7 : So we typically, there are three Witness channels that CS would monitor itself. Channel is a tactical 8 9 channel, so we would talk to CAT there, or we would talk to 10 other CS teams. Channel and Channel those are like the shift 11 itself, or potentially the post-standers. Like basically 12 all the agents standing around.

I assume he put it out over the post-stander channel, because he went with Security Room in the beginning. I remember him saying that. So I assume it was on the poststandard channel. And I know when because I was too far away from him to really hear if it didn't go through to him.

HSGAC Majority: So then you were on the post-standard
channel, and that's why you were able to hear him?

21 Witness So I actually operate ES different 22 radios, and I have a feature on the radios where I can 23 scan, and I can prioritize different channels however I 24 deem fit. Typically, the way the CS will operate is we 25 have three channels we need to listen to. Both CS



technicians will operate on the tactical channel, and then the other radio, one will do the shift and one will do post-standers. So between the two of us we have all channels covered. We should at least be able to hear, and between the two of us be able to listen to all channels at once.

7 HSGAC Majority: Understood. In terms of that CS
8 Counter Sniper alert about the locals working something at three
9 o'clock, I think you said earlier, in terms of the time
10 that went out, you didn't have the exact time but you think
11 it was seconds to minutes, at most, before shots were
12 fired. Is that right?

Witness : Yeah, close to minutes. Because when it went out, we had some time, and myself, to turn ourselves to face the AGR building, as well as to turn our guns. And then it kind of felt like we were looking for anything, this individual, but really anything out of the ordinary, of why police were reacting the way they were, and then shots rang out. So minutes, I think.

20 HSGAC Majority: Did Counter Sniper or anyone else send out a
21 second alert about locals working something at the three
22 o'clock?

23 Witness I remember the original radio 24 transmission I heard was the locals were working a 25 situation at the three o'clock. There may have been



1 another radio transmission that I didn't hear or I 2 missed. But I distinctly remember that, because that's what made me, myself and Herrores 10%, turn to face the AGR. 3 4 **HSGAC Majority**: Do you recall whether that possible 5 second radio transmission was subsequently different at all 6 from the Counter Sniper ' first one? 7 : I really only remember the first one, Witness so I wouldn't be sure about the possible second. 8 HSGAC Majority: When you heard this alert, again, if 9 10 shots were fired at 6:11 and it was sometime between 6 and

11 6:11 p.m. --

12 Witness : Mm-hmm.

HSGAC Majority: -- when you heard that alert, did you associate that alert about locals working something at the three o'clock, about 200 yards out, with the BOLO and text you had received roughly 15 minutes earlier, about the same location?

18 Witness : Honestly, at the time, no, I didn't 19 associate the two. What we heard was gunshots, and I 20 wasn't sure if maybe it was behind the building, police had 21 shot someone, someone had shot at police. I actually 22 didn't realize they were shooting at the stage and there was an individual on the roof until told me, "I got 23 24 him." Until that second I wasn't sure. You know the sound 25 of gunshots but I wasn't sure what was happening.



HSGAC Majority: And totally understanding, you know,
the difficulties in the moment, but did the fact that the
BOLO and the text message from roughly 15, 20 minutes
earlier contained a report of a rangefinder not factor into
how you received and reacted to that Counter Sniper alert?

6 Witness : We definitely want to look out for 7 someone with a rangefinder, a disturbance of the police over on the AGR side. We had no reason to believe someone 8 was on the roof, so that really wasn't on the -- in my mind 9 10 at the time. But realistically I thought there was 11 something happening basically on the ground on that side, 12 either behind the building or we couldn't see anything in 13 front of the building, facing the stage, I guess.

HSGAC Majority: Did you, at that point or any other point, consider relaying down to the shift detail any information that they could consider whether to take the former President off the stage?

18 Witness : Until gunshots rang, we had nothing 19 concrete of, hey, do not let the protectee come out yet. In 20 the same situations, if you see a man with a gun or shots 21 fired, something along those lines, you will. I'll go 22 direct to the shift on their radio channel and say, "This 23 is Hercules 1. We're working a situation, a potential man 24 on a roof with a qun. Keep the protectee inside the 25 limousine." And there will be no questions asked and



1 that'll happen. Until this point, though, I did not
2 have that information. We didn't know what we were looking
3 at.

HSGAC Majority: You said earlier that you turned your
attention, you and your partner, Hercules 1 C/S , turned your
guns toward the AGR. That was after you received Officer
Counter Sniper ' radio alert. Is that right?

8 : Yes. He said police were working a Witness situation, and when we looked, just plain eyes, no optics 9 10 or anything, you could see police running towards the 11 building with their hands on their pistols. I think one 12 actually had a pistol facing towards the ground, out of a 13 holster. That's a pretty big deal for us, so immediately 14 we turned and faced our guns towards the threat area. We 15 didn't know what was happening, but it seemed pretty 16 serious, especially with the locals' response.

HSGAC Majority: And understanding that you don't have exact times about when you received that **Counter Shiper** alert, but does that mean if you received that alert roughly minutes before shots fired, then that meant that you were directing you attention toward the AGR for a matter of a few minutes before shots were fire?

Witness : Yes. That would be correct.
HSGAC Majority: In that time, when you were pointing
your weapon towards the AGR and looking in that direction



1 in the minutes before shots fired, were you ever at your 2 scope as opposed to your binoculars?

3 Witness : So we had many different options that 4 we use to help us see what we're looking at. The rifle was 5 on my tripod, and I was utilizing the scope. We get up to 6 **LES**, which is extreme magnification. It's almost too 7 much, especially for this situation. You could dial it 8 back to about 10 and you could -- it really hyper-focuses. 9 It's better to actually kind of get out of your scope and 10 kind of see the whole picture, and then if you see 11 something that demands you look closer, then get down on 12 the scope and look into it. But we were utilizing the 13 scopes, as well.

14 I actually was looking around the entire perimeter of 15 the building. It was kind of weird because there were 16 individuals still watching, like citizens still watching 17 the speech that was current. People were walking around, 18 not a care in the world. They looked very relaxed. But 19 there were police running, guns out, and then there were a 20 couple of people just running away from the AGR building, 21 that looks like citizens, I quess you would say, just 22 normal people. So something was wrong. We didn't know 23 what. But there was a lot going on in that moment. The 24 police were the main identifier that something bad was 25 happening.



1 HSGAC Majority: When did you see citizens running 2 away from the building? 3 Witness : Basically, after Hercules 1 C/S and I had turned 4 to face towards the building, I noticed that there was a 5 weird combination of people. They were just listening to б the speech, looked like nothing was happening, no reason 7 for concern. But there was also individuals running away from the AGR building. It's possible they were just 8 9 running away, I guess, but I felt like they were running 10 away from the AGR building. 11 So immediately -- well not immediately -- between the 12 time of me looking, me and Herrows turning facing the AGR 13 building and shots being fired. 14 **HSGAC** Majority: Roughly how long before shots were fired 15 did you see them running away from the building? 16 Witness : It was -- it would be -- seconds. It 17 felt like it was happening very quickly. 18 HSGAC Majority: Did you or anyone else send out any 19 radio alerts about that? 20 : No. We were still trying to figure out Witness 21 what exactly was happening. It's good to communicate and 22 want information out in the air, but you also don't want to

23 put "fat" out on the air, basically, of -- you don't want

24 to say the same thing -- we're still watching police

25 activity at three o'clock. Okay, we know that. If you



don't have an update, stay off the air. Someone may
 need the air for actual information.

3 HSGAC Majority: And backing up in terms of the scope,
4 you said you were, at least at some point, looking through
5 your scope in the direction of the AGR. Did you use your
6 scope at any point prior to that during the day, looking
7 around the venue?

8 Witness : Yeah. When we first get up there we 9 have something called a LES 10 LES

LES

LES

11

12

there. I turned it on just to get the current environment reading around, and when you look through your scope you can see everything you need to see. There's a little screen above it. Yes, when we were prepping to go -- when we were on post and prepping to get ready I would utilize the scope, as well.

HSGAC Majority: So when you were directing your attention towards the AGR, and some of that time you looked through the scope, was that an indication of a threat level, or was that merely for the purpose of the technical capability of the scope?

24 Witness : I would say it is getting in the 25 position of -- I want to be comfortable when I shoot. I



1 want to get in a position I need to. So if I can set it 2 up in the general vicinity of where the threat is coming, 3 and then I can take my head away and I can look through my 4 eyes. If I see a threat, I am a thousand times faster just 5 putting my head back down on the cheek butt and taking the б shot as opposed to getting up, putting my gun down, 7 figuring out what I'm doing. It's something we do in 8 training, basically, to be ready but you're not taking the shot yet. You're giving yourself the best advantageous 9 10 position to take the shot, if necessary.

HSGAC Majority: So in other words, you were anticipating possibly having to go to your weapon and it was a relatively heightened sense of alert for you as opposed to the previous, you know, X number of hours. You were simply scanning the crowd for threats?

Witness : Yes. When we saw police officers with their hands on pistols, that was kind of a, I don't know, orange alert. Not red when you see a gun, but somethings happening that requires police to have guns.

20 HSGAC Majority: And you didn't receive any other 21 information over radio or otherwise at that point, before 22 shots were fired?

Witness No. Yeah, once shots were fire, I don't recall hearing anything over the radio. It's possible It went over and I completely missed it. It's



very possible. But I do not recall anything on the
 radio.

3 **HSGAC Majority**: And you were never made aware, before 4 shots were fired, that anyone was on the roof nor that the 5 suspicious person was armed. Is that right? б Witness : No. I had no information. 7 **HSGAC Majority**: At any point before shots fired were aware of any discussions or deliberations about potentially 8 9 taking former President Trump off the stage? 10 Witness : Not to my knowledge, no. HSGAC Majority: At any point that day did you receive 11 12 any reports about any suspicious person? 13 Witness No. There were no PI alerts or : 14 anything like that. No. No other suspicious activity. 15 HSGAC Majority: Is that pretty common to get zero, or 16 maybe just one suspicious person report of an event this 17 big?

18 Witness : Typically, it really depends on the 19 event sometimes. There are so many, like five in a row. 20 It's hard to keep track of other times. They'll be nothing 21 over the radio. There will be no suspicious event.

The main talk on the radio for this event, leading up to the event, was basically if medical services were needed, people were falling out just because of the heat. That was basically a call on the radio the entire time.



HSGAC Majority And when shots were fired, you were
looking in the direction of AGR with your partner, Hercules 1 C/S
, right?

4 Witness : Correct.

5 HSGAC Majority : Can you walk us through again how many 6 shots you recall hearing before Hercules 1 C/S fired? 7 : I distinctly remember hearing three Witness shots. That was definitely bullets or gunshots. And 8 9 immediately started hunting for the source. I didn't know 10 the individual, was he shooting at the protectee or was 11 behind the building, anything like that. I was just trying 12 to find where.

I actually -- I kind of remember during the event, I thought I saw snow for a second, and at first, I thought, I got heat exhaustion. Oh well. But then I realized later, talking to the FBI, that I guess a spare bullet had hit one of the hydraulic lines of the TV screen and it was spraying on us at the time. I had to clean my gun off later. But that's beside the point.

So I distinctly heard three shots, and then I remember saying, "I got him," and then from there on I don't remember hearing anything except -- I gave a wind call, and I remember -- I seem to remember 's shot, because I'm familiar with the sound of our rifle.

25 HSGAC Majority: Tell me more about what you observed



1 when you thought the snow ended up being the hydraulics.

2 When did that happen?

3 Witness : So when that happened, I think it was 4 after the fact. So I remember we stood up, and I remember 5 seeing the -- it almost dried on the edge of, the left side б of my rifle, the barrel as well as the scope. It kind of 7 looked like when you spray like Lysol in like a weird, dried out liquid. It was on the watch screen, as well. 8 And I remember looking at Hereis , wondering what it was. 9 10 a didn't respond to me about it, though. I don't even 11 know if he heard me.

12 But it was weird because it's the middle of August, or 13 July, whatever it was, the middle of summer, and it's very 14 hot out. Snow should not be coming down. That may have 15 been after the fact that I noticed it, after Heroles ICS had taken 16 his return shot, and we stood up, and basically was 17 figuring out what to do from there. I think that was the 18 time I realized, what is this falling from the sky? 19 **HSGAC Majority:** But do you recall noticing it before

20 Hercules 1 C/S fired?

21 Witness : Not really. It's possible it was 22 happening, but we were pretty dialed into the scope, and 23 basically trying to figure out who or what was happening, 24 if the shooter was shooting, what was happening, basically. 25 I didn't even -- I thought about it after the fact. When



he got up there was still a sizeable crowd standing below us. I didn't notice them at all during the whole shooting phase, basically, that what they were doing, if they were around, anything.

5 **HSGAC** Majority: You mentioned that you later cleaned the 6 hydraulic liquid off your weapon. Do you have any idea 7 whether that hydraulic had any effect on you being able to 8 see properly, looking through your scope, or potentially 9 being able to fire the weapon in sync with Hercules 1 C/S ? 10 Do you know if that hydraulic had any effect on his ability 11 to see, either with his eyes or through his scope, or 12 whether it affected the ability to use his weapon?

13 Witness : I don't think it affected us in any 14 way. It was more something I just noticed. We actually 15 have something -- it's basically from the front of your 16 scope you put it. It looks like a **LES**. It's 17 basically made to stop sunlight from hitting you, if you 18 were aiming into the sun. I believe that would stop 19 anything from reaching the optical side of the scope. So I 20 don't think it affected him whatsoever in performing any 21 actions with his weapon. It was more something I noticed, 22 and I thought it was odd. And then mentioning it to the 23 FBI, they mentioned what they believed happened, and it 24 made sense at the time.

HSGAC Majority: And when you heard the three shots



25

1 fired, could you tell what direction they were coming 2 from?

Witness : Yes. They were definitely, the AGR building area, that side of the, I don't know, outdoor rally. It was coming from that area, but I couldn't pinpoint exactly where from, but it was definitely that side. So that's what we started looking for.

8 HSGAC Majority: And you never fired your weapon that
9 day. Correct?

10 Witness : I did not.

HSGAC Majority: Did Hercules 1 C/S fire his weapon only one time?

13 Witness : To my knowledge he only fired one 14 time. We have bolt-action rifles, so one shot and you need 15 to basically realign the bolt. I actually picked. He told 16 me, asked me to pick up the shell casing and hand it to 17 him, which I did. So only one.

18 HSGAC Majority: Did you see the effect of Hercules 1 C/S
19 's shot? In other words, could you see whether Crooks
20 was hit by Hercules 1 C/S 's shot?

21 Witness I did not see the impact. When we 22 train, it would've been great if I could see the impact, 23 because I could tell, either through trace or through 24 impact, if he had missed or not missed. But I did not see 25 the impact. I didn't get on the target until after the



1 fact, and I had to get off my scope, look where was 2 aiming, got back on my scope, and was able to find, what I 3 assume is the target.

4 HSGAC Majority: Have you since received confirmation
5 that Herouss 1 CS hit Crooks?

6 Witness : I've been told that decreases is hit him. I 7 don't know if that's true. I don't know -- I didn't see it 8 so I can't tell you if that is true or not. I trust decreases 9 is a good shot, though, so I would imagine that's true. 10 HSGAC Majority: Did decreases tell you what he has heard. In 11 other words, did decreases tell you that he believed he had hit 12 Crooks?

13 Witness : When the shot happened, when he said, 14 "I got him," I told him the wind call, and then after that 15 were basically down. We were watching the individual, and 16 when I finally found him he was not moving. He was not 17 responsive. So I went over to the Security Room and I 18 said, "Security Room be advised, we have one down on the 19 rooftop at three o'clock off the stage." I didn't get a 20 response but they could've responded and I just didn't hear 21 it.

I basically -- and then to check my fire, because he could see local SWAT teams there on night vision goggles and a helmet, coming with ladder. And told to check fire, no blue on blue, and then we watched them walk



1 across the roof and put the flexicuffs on the

2 individual.

HSGAC Majority: Was there ever a radio alert that the 3 4 shooter was down?

5 I said, "Shots fired on tango," but I Witness : б didn't say the target was down because honestly I didn't 7 know if he was down. I wasn't really sure that he was not 8 going to move until they put the flexicuffs on him, and he 9 didn't move an inch. They basically moved his entire body. 10 **HSGAC** Majority: Did you hear anyone else say, over the 11 radio or otherwise, that the shooter was down?

12 I don't recall hearing that on the Witness : 13 radio, no.

14 HSGAC Majority : It's our understanding, just based on public videos, that the shift detail that was surrounding 15 16 former President Trump on the stage after shots fired 17 verbally said, "Shooter down." You can just hear that on 18 the mic pickup from the rally. Do you have any 19 understanding of how they came to that knowledge or 20 understanding?

21

Witness :

No.

:

22 **HSGAC Majority:** At any point did you observe, including 23 hear or see, any other law enforcement officer fire their 24 weapon that day?

25

Witness

I personally did not see anyone else

1 shoot or fire any weapons that day, except for the former of the

HSGAC Majority: You don't recall hearing any other shots
fired besides Hercules 1 C/S and Crooks?

4 Witness : I feel like there may have been more 5 shots after Crooks' original three shots, but I don't know. б They didn't -- a lot was happening at the time, and 7 honestly I can't remember clearly what happened. But I 8 distinctly remember the three beginning shots, and then I 9 remember Herouss 's suppress shot, which sounds different than 10 I'm used to. Other than that, it's possible, but I can't 11 tell you for certain what happened.

12 HSGAC Majority : Have you since received confirmation 13 that another law enforcement officer did fire their weapon? 14 No. I've received no confirmation. : Witness 15 **HSGAC Majority:** I want to shift gears and talk about 16 communication. You talked about the different radio 17 channels. So you were at least, if not on a channel, you 18 were scanning channels, including Channel Channel and what 19 else?

20 I think it was Channel Channel and Witness : 21 Channel 22 **HSGAC Majority:** Were you on primarily one? 23 Witness Technically, Channel will be used for : 24 other TAC teams, so I will make one of my radios be there, 25 the channel for TAC teams, Channel And then typically I'll



be either on post-stander or I'll be on the shift radio channel. I think that day I was on post-stander. At least I started on post-stander. I'm sure I changed it during the day.

HSGAC Majority: Did you use a cellphone to communicate?
Witness : Yes. I had my work cellphone, and
that was our primary communication with the local sniper
teams.

9 HSGAC Majority: Is that standard? Why not use radios to
 10 communicate with them?

11 Witness : Typically when we co-locate when 12 working POTUS we'll co-locate with them, and then it's 13 through word of mouth and then they'll utilize their radios 14 to communicate with other entities in their organization. 15 This was my first time doing DPD, and we didn't have -- I 16 didn't have their radios.

HSGAC Majority: So it's standard for a counter sniper, when you're up in position, it's standard to be able to use a cellphone in addition to radio, and you're not limited to only using a radio?

Witness : Yes. Typically, we email. They'll do everything from movement router, which is basically the protectee when he lands, when he takes off from one place, when he arrives at another site. We're also utilizing LES which is a program that's kind of like a LES



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEPO (800.367.3376) LES , and it has our LES our LES and it shows you where other LES are on that day. Yeah, utilizing your work cellphone is, that's pretty normal.

HSGAC Majority: So in terms of the local counter snipers
in the AGR building, your only communications link to them
was via cellphone? There were no radios exchanged, either
they having your radio or you having theirs?

8 : No. They mentioned radios on that --Witness 9 what would it be? -- the Thursday I did the walkthrough. 10 They mentioned they had a brand-new radio system put in 11 place. It was very expensive. They were very proud of it. 12 I said, "That's fantastic. We'll go with that." And the 13 no word about it on Friday. That Saturday, the day of the 14 event, when I went and did a face-to-face with them, I 15 brought with me, shook their hands and said hi. I 16 handed off my paperwork. That way they were aware of how 17 we operate. They mentioned if I went over to the Police 18 Mobile Command Unit that I could try to get some radios. 19 That way we could be on it. I said, "Absolutely. That 20 sounds great. Thank you."

21 And then we went back to start getting my equipment 22 ready, but the Secret Service radios, we were having 23 interference on our channels. I think we had to change our 24 channels twice, to finally get to a channel that didn't 25 have any interference occuring. And unfortunately I was



busy figuring out -- I made a list of priorities, what's the best thing. I need to have coms with my agency. I can get coms with their agency but we didn't have time. We went onto the roof, because we have to go up **LES** prior to protectee arrival. So we didn't have time to grab those radios.

HSGAC Majority: So the plan to get in contact with them
was via cellphone, text, or email. Is that right?
Witness : Yes. Cellphone is basically what
we've been using the entire time. Text if you need to but
call is immediate. And that was the plan as of the day,
that Saturday, that morning.

HSGAC Majority: Did you ever have any challenges or issues with using that mode of communication?

15 Witness : Radios are preferred. They're 16 instantaneous. But they didn't have our radios. We didn't 17 have their radios. It would've been great if I had gotten 18 to CP and see if they had radios for us, but I didn't have 19 time. I was working with my own issues, my own radios.

HSGAC Majority: Did anyone else with the Secret Service counter snipers have any direct line of communications to the state or locals?

Witness Not to my knowledge, no. I mean, they had paperwork, and my logistics had point of contact for the Butler, the local sniper team that I had been



1 utilizing. But other than that, no.

2 HSGAC Majority : Is it your understanding that Secret 3 Service radio communications are generally recorded? 4 Witness : Generally, I think they're encrypted 5 and are recorded. I think WHCA does, the White House б Communication Agency, like in military. Particularly 7 they'll travel with POTUS, which I'm used to traveling with. I don't know if they were here for DPD. I'm not 8 sure. This is my first DPD advance. 9 10 HSGAC Majority: Are aware of any events that you've 11 participated in as a counter sniper when the radio 12 communications were not recorded? No. Typically, I think they're always 13 Witness 14 recorded. Basically, I know that WHCA, when they do, when 15 they are doing an advance for themselves, they'll actually 16 check every room LES , the 17 route to the rooms for radio coms. And they'll advise that 18 there's a certain section, like an underground tunnel that 19 doesn't have good communications be advised. To my 20 knowledge, I guess, they record it, but I'm not sure. 21 **HSGAC Majority:** Sorry. They were recorded that day, at 22 the rally? 23 Witness : Oh, I don't know. I don't know, 24 actually. 25 HSGAC Majority : Did you use your personal cellphone that Scheduling@TP.One

www.TP.One

800.FOR.DEPO (800.367.3376) 1 day?

2 Witness : I didn't have my personal cellphone 3 with me.

4 HSGAC Majority : I believe we're at Exhibit 6. I'm going 5 to hand you a document I'm marking Exhibit 6. 6 [Exhibit No. 6 was 7 marked for identification.] HSGAC Majority : 8 This is starting Bates 1484. These 9 appear to be a description of personal cellphone logs and 10 then attached in later pages are the actual cellphone logs. 11 Are these yours?

12 Witness : Yes, these are mine. I sent this to 13 the Secret Service on my personal cellphone.

HSGAC Majority: And on page 1484, it looks like you wrote in this email from August 5th that you attempted to call 6:20 -- I imagine that was 6:20 p.m. -- it says, "I believe I attempted a call (redacted) while still on the barn roof. He did not answer." Was that 6:20 p.m. on the 13th?

- 20 Witness : Yes, yes. That would be p.m. 21 HSGAC Majority: Do you know who that was that's redacted 22 there, who you attempted to call? 23 Witness : Yes.
- 24 HSGAC Majority: Who was that?
- 25 Witness : Am I allowed say?



1

MR. Witness Counsel Yeah.

2 Witness : Okay. It was from the other 3 team, the other team on page 2.

HSGAC Majority: Why did you attempt call ^{Heredes 2 Cos} with your
 personal cellphone?

6 Witness : I believe I attempted to call on my 7 work phone and no answer, so I attempted personal phone, 8 and no answer again. I could see him physically, and I 9 could see -- I was calling and he wasn't making any motion 10 to answer his cellphone. So --

11 HSGAC Majority: Did you first try to contact him over 12 the radio?

13 Witness : No, I did not.

14 HSGAC Majority : Why not?

Witness : We can go over the radio, but this is typically -- in the heat of the moment, everything that was happening, I just wanted to call him and say, hey, what are we doing? Can I send you guys to the hospital? Can you not? What's the next plan, basically. I didn't think of using the radio. I used the cellphone.

HSGAC Majority: And that's common to use a cellphone in that situation -- well, obviously this is an unprecedented situation, but it's common to use a cellphone to contact your other team members during events?

25 Witness : Yeah. If I can't get ahold of you on



1 my work phone I'm going to try your personal, and then
2 basically I'm going to yell to you, "Hey, answer your
3 phone," if I can. But I was just trying to get in contact
4 with him.

5 HSGAC Majority: But I mean in terms of in lieu of using 6 the radio, is it because you didn't want to block radio 7 traffic for this communication?

8 Witness : No. It's not so much that I didn't 9 want to clog up radio. Radio coms, it felt like I was 10 tired trying to figure them out, how to use them, answer 11 them. I knew cellphones, you clicked the button, you hold 12 it to your ear, you're going direct to that person. I 13 wasn't trying to not clog up radios or anything.

HSGAC Majority: And likewise the calls that you
mentioned in this email, at 6:45. What were the reasons for
using your personal cellphone for those calls?

17 Witness : So at 6:45 he called me back. I 18 assume he saw the missed message. He called me back, and 19 that's where he kind of said, "Hey, what are we doing 20 next?" And I was still kind of focused in on, I don't 21 know, what do we do next? And then he said, "We can send 22 teams to the hospital?" and I said, "Yep. You guys go to 23 the hospital." It kind of got back into the, okay, 24 incident command. What are we doing next? That was the 25 6:45 call.



HSGAC Majority: Okay. You mentioned some issues with
 -- I forget the term you used, but bleed-over from other
 frequencies.

4 Witness : Interference.

5 HSGAC Majority: Interference. Did you have any to her 6 communication challenges that day, whether it was radio, 7 cellphone, or otherwise?

8 Witness : My personal phone was getting kind of 9 sketchy getting text messages. It was odd where I would 10 look at it, and I would hold it, no messages, and then all 11 of a sudden I would get three message all at once. So it 12 felt like there was a delay there. My work phone seemed to 13 be working fine. It appeared to be, at least. And then 14 yeah, that was the cellphone use I noticed.

HSGAC Majority: Does the orientation of your Secret
Service radio ever affect its signal? So if you point it
in a certain direction, including down, does that ever
affect the signal or reception of the radio?

19 Witness : You know, I'm not actually sure. I've 20 never tried it. Typically, when you use the radio, though, 21 you push the key on the side so it has to be facing up. I 22 guess you could find a way to hold it down. But typically, 23 it's always antenna up.

HSGAC Majority: So you didn't have that problem that
day, with the orientation of the radio affecting signal?



1

Witness

: No, I did not.

HSGAC Majority: Have you ever had issues with the signal from your Secret Service radio being affected if you are within a certain physical proximity to someone else with a radio, such as your partner?

б Witness Yes. I have noticed -- I don't know : 7 if it's in our heads or it's an actual thing, but I have 8 noticed if you're next to two, like if me and this 9 gentleman next to me was on the radio, if we had the same 10 channel on, whoever's radio has a little bit louder volume, 11 it seems like all communication will go through his radio, 12 and your radio will get nothing. I don't know what that 13 is, but I have noticed that on a couple of occasions.

14 HSGAC Majority: Did that happen that day? Do you recall 15 experiencing that?

16 Witness : No. I mean nothing -- I don't recall 17 it happening. It may have, but I definitely recall it 18 happening in the past. That is a very common occurrence, 19 especially when you're close with someone, which we 20 typically, the CS team will operate that way.

HSGAC Majority: Do you know if that concern has ever been raised on, up the chain in the Secret Service about that challenge?

24 Witness : I'm not sure. I know it's something 25 that has happened in the past, and typically if you're



close enough that your radio is going to grab their frequency or feed, or whatever it is, usually on CS, at least, I'm close enough that I can listen to their radio and hear what they said, or I can say, "What did he say?" and they'll relay the information to me. I don't know if it's been passed up to higher-ups.

7 HSGAC Majority: Have you discussed that challenge with
8 your team members?

9 Witness : It's something we're aware of, but you 10 just make it work. It's something that happens. Sometimes 11 it happens. Sometimes it doesn't. And it's hard to 12 recreate when you want to show someone.

13 **HSGAC Majority**: Understood. I appreciate it. I've got 14 a couple clean-up questions. My apologies if I jump around 15 topics. Did you receive any state or local law enforcement 16 plans in the advance planning, the leadup to the rally? 17 Witness : As far as planning, I met with the 18 locals on that Thursday. And when they showed me around, 19 where they were going to post, I took a physical picture of 20 one of the plans that they had -- if I can find it. It's 21 like an overhead picture. Basically, I didn't receive it. 22 I took a picture with my work cell phone, and that's the 23 only copy I had of it. But that was -- between that and 24 word of mouth of them indicating where they were going to post CS teams as well as local TAC, that was the only plan 25



1 I had with them.

HSGAC Majority: Apologies. Did you say that that photo
was included in -- the packet staring on Bates 1490.

4 [Pause.]

5 Witness : I'm not sure where it is. It's 6 literally a screenshot. The agent is holding it like 7 almost like a platter. I think it's Site Agent , or she 8 was right next, holding it, and it's a screenshot of one of 9 the individuals. It's the locals' plan for how they 10 thought the event was going to occur.

11 It was a very early plan, but it had like where the 12 magnetometers would be, where the post-standers should be 13 on location.

14 HSGAC Majority: Do you recall what local agency created 15 it?

16 Witness : Typically, I would always speak to 17 with Butler ESU. I'm not sure if he created it or his 18 agency created it. But that was who I was kind of -- once 19 I got a point of contact with the locals, that was who I 20 kind of steered with and stayed with. That was my point of 21 contact.

HSGAC Majority: Do you usually obtain a local law enforcement plan for rallies, or events like this? Witness: Typically, when we do this, Secret Service will make the plans and I'll get copies of that.



And then when we're posted, co-located with the local teams, I'll give them copies of my paper, the overhead grids that I made. But no, I don't think that they send any information our way. Maybe there's basics of like, hey, can you give me a slide of what you guys look like in uniform, a very basic picture, what they're going to bring, your capabilities, that type of information.

8 **HSGAC Majority:** And can you walk us through your work schedule in the approximate week leading up to the Butler 9 10 event? Do you recall where you were, how much you worked? 11 Witness : I don't recall by memory. Typically, 12 we'll either be working the White House roof or we'll be 13 traveling with different protectees. Before the events at 14 Butler, it would always POTUS. After the events at Butler, 15 we picked up the **LES** as well as, from **LES** basically. 16 Our work has tripled overnight, it feels like. But before 17 Butler I would've given you an accurate description of what 18 I did personally. We're definitely working, but I can't 19 remember where.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. In terms of co-locating with the local counter snipers, I understand what you said earlier about you usually co-locate. You don't always, such as the U.N. events with NYPD. If you had co-located at the 7/13 rally, how would that have worked? Were you envisioning them being on barn roofs with you and Hercules 2?



1 Yes. So the way I depict the site, Witness : 2 I chose anywhere the LES , our main 3 concern is the protectee line of sights, so I would've been 4 in the barn. If there was no local sniper support at all, 5 somehow, I still would've picked the locations on that б I assume if I was not there, or the CS teams for barn. 7 Secret Service were not there, the local teams would've had 8 the same positions they had.

9 But ideally if they were co-located with us on the 10 barn roof, that's more eyes, the same location, but also 11 communications with our radio as well,

12 **HSGAC Majority**: And I think you had mentioned earlier 13 about rules regarding co-location. Are there any written 14 policies, quidelines, procedures, or rules about whether, 15 how, and when to co-locate with local counter snipers? 16 Witness : I don't know if there's written rules 17 or procedures. It's just kind of an understood rule, as we 18 typically do cover **LES** that during **LES** you co-locate 19 with locals. If the 🍱 is in town, and she's doing an 20 event, typically it's the **LES** is there alone by 21 themselves, and they're coordinated through the Counter 22 Assault on the Secret Service side. Secret Service sniper 23 teams rarely have any, at all, to be involved. So really 24 we're only there for **LES** So it's usually -- it doesn't 25 come up frequently, I would say.



HSGAC Majority: So clearly, you know, looking back on this event, clearly the former President was shot at. Former Director Cheadle testified before Congress that there were Secret Service failures. Acting Director Rowe testified before our Committee that there were failures. Do you agree that there were failures?

7

MR. Witness Counsel -- answer that.

8 Witness : I only know what I saw and I 9 experienced that day. I don't know what the rest of the 10 Service did, the post-standers, HSI that we were utilizing, 11 the local agents that were there. From what I saw, from 12 the Hercules position, they saw the enemy on the roof and 13 they took the shot, and they neutralized him.

HSGAC Majority: Sure. Fair enough. Leaving aside for the moment who had what responsibilities, at a macro level, do you agree that the former President getting shot therefore implied that there was some failure somewhere?

18 Witness : Ideally, if I could, and I was doing 19 sniper advance, we'd have him in a cement box in a basement 20 and there would be no line of sights. There would never be 21 any sniper possible outcomes at all. That's not ideally. 22 Outdoor events, that's going to happen. That's normal. 23 There are threats that come with those.

I think the Secret Service, you do your best every day to try to reach our goal, our mission statement. Yeah.



HSGAC Majority: But I think the Secret Service mission statement is a bit more explicit, right? Maybe this is a colloquial term but the Secret Service has frequently referred to its own mission as a zero-fail mission. Is that your understanding?

6 Witness : Yes. That's correct.

7 **HSGAC Majority**: So again, is it fair to say, at the 8 macro level, that leaving aside who may have failed, there 9 was some failure that allowed the former President to be 10 shot.

11 Witness : Possibly.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. Understood. Do you have any
 understanding of what those failures were?

14 Witness : Not really. Basically, from the CS 15 perspective and what I saw that day, that's all I can 16 really speak to as a fact. When we saw the individual on 17 the roof, we took action. I'm not sure what anyone else in 18 our agency, outside our agency saw after that.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. But in terms of the ability of Crooks to even get into that position, understanding that you and Hercules 1 C/S reacted after he shot his weapon, he being Crooks, in terms of Crooks ability to get onto that roof in the first place. So do you accept that you and Hercules 1 position had the line of sight to AGR, which was one of the key ways that the AGR line of sight



vulnerability was mitigated. So what was the breakdown
in that mitigation plan? If your key mitigation plan as
the advance lead for counter snipers was to mitigate the
AGR roof and line of sight was by having your position,
Hercules 1, why did that not prevent Crooks from being able
to get onto that roof?

7 Ideally you would have a perimeter set Witness : up that he couldn't even get to said building. Obviously, 8 9 something happened. The individual was able to get to the 10 building. He was also able to get into the roof. He was 11 able to get into position, and he was able to take the shot 12 at the protectee. We could see the roof. Obviously, it's 13 a slanted roof. But we were positioned, saw a light of 14 sight, all the threat angles that were coming in.

If he stayed on the other side of the roof where we couldn't see him, he wouldn't be able to take a shot. But as soon as he exposed himself, we would be able to see him.

18 But you said earlier that after you HSGAC Majority : 19 identified AGR as a threat or a vulnerability, the 20 mitigation plan was not to include it in the security perimeter, preventing unauthorized persons from getting 21 22 there. Rather, my understanding is your mitigation plan 23 was to have Hercules 1, you and Hercules 1 C/S , have a line 24 of sight, in addition to **LES** in the horse barn, and 25 post-standers around the AGR.



So is the plan to mitigate the AGR building was not to lock it down within the perimeter. It sounds like you're saying that one of the key mitigation efforts was your own line of sight. So do you have any idea what the breakdown was, if that mitigation point did not succeed in stopping crooks from getting into that position?

7

Witness

: In --

MR. Witness Counsel Could you speak to **LES** role a 8 9 I mean, do you know anything about what -little? 10 Witness : I know where they were positioned. I 11 know where **LES** team was located, what they could see 12 across the horse barn. But as far as what everyone else 13 did, I can only speak to what I did and saw. He got onto 14 the roof. That, yeah.

HSGAC Majority: Do you have any lessons learned for yourself, personally, for the CS team, or the Secret Service team writ large?

18 Witness : Basically, document everything. Send 19 everything through the work phone. Send emails, texts, 20 chats, anything. Talk to the locals. Have a paper trail 21 of everything. Just basic things that you probably know 22 when you're starting, but until you go through an incident 23 or something you don't realize how important it is.

HSGAC Majority: I appreciate you answering my questions
 and I turn it over to my colleague.



1 **PSI Majority** : Thank you again for joining us 2 today. A couple quick questions for you, and we may have 3 gone over this a little bit. Could you tell us again what 4 the role of the Counter Sniper Team is? 5 : WE help mitigate long-range threats to Witness 6 our protectee and protect the site. 7 **PSI Majority** : And is overwatch any part of that role sometimes? 8 9 It can be, for NSSEs. We'll conduct Witness : 10 more of an overwatch capacity. But typically, when we're 11 working with **LES** I think **ES** percent of the time it's 12 **LES** threat. 13 **PSI Majority**: You used an acronym there. Could you 14 tell us what that was? 15 I'm sorry. Which acronym? Witness : 16 PSI Majority : NSSE. 17 Witness : Oh. The National Special Security 18 Event, I believe it stands for. The Secret Service is 19 tasked with providing protection for those, as well. 20 **PSI Majority** : Was there any overwatch function 21 performed by your team on July 13th? 22 : For those, where there is a protectee, Witness 23 really, my main concern, or the Counter Sniper Team's main 24 concern is the protectee. Yes, if we can take action to 25 help assist the public, law enforcement, anyone else that



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEPO (800.367.3376) 1 can come into threat of danger down there, absolutely we
2 will take that. But priority number one is the protectee
3 on the ground.

4 PSI Majority : Got it. And so, you know, I -- a couple of years ago I went to a Nationals baseball game. 5 б Fully packed house. We were in the third inning. And my 7 friend pointed across the way and he was just like, "Get up. We've got to go." And I didn't know what was 8 happening. And I've never seen 40,000 leave a stadium so 9 10 quickly. There had been a shooting in the parking lot, and 11 I saw cops sprinting. Within a matter of like 60 seconds the stadium was empty. And it turned out to be a gang 12 13 shooting the parking lot.

14 I guess my question is, you know, I'm not a law 15 enforcement expert, but when I see cops sprinting with a 16 gun out, I immediately know something is wrong. And so I 17 quess my question is when you're looking at the AGR 18 building, and you see cops closing in on a location with 19 weapons out, you see attendees running away, can you tell 20 us why, with the protectee on stage, that information was 21 not communicated to the Security Room?

Witness : By the time we -- the Hercules team, that I, as an individual, was up there, and saw there was an individual on the roof, shots had already been fired, basically the shooting had already taken place, and



had already taken a shot in return. As far as communicating that with the Security Room, I think had started, "Hey, something's happening at the three o'clock." I think after that communication kind of fell through of getting constant. But I also think it was because it was a dynamic movement. No knew what was happening until it was happening.

8 **PSI Majority**: Well, you said by the time you knew 9 there was a shooter on the roof, he was already done. You 10 communicated that Hercules 1 C/S took the shot and said --11 basically announced that they had taken a shot.

12 Witness : Mm-hmm.

13 PSI Majority : Then you looked and saw the shooter. 14 But you said prior to that you, for some period of seconds 15 or minutes, you saw police officers closing in on the 16 location, attendees running away. Again, as a civilian, I 17 mean, how often do you see events, are you at events, where 18 you see police officers, guns out, closing in on a 19 location, attendees running away? Is that a common 20 occurrence at the events that you have been counter snipers 21 for?

Witness : Typically, when you see that, it means something is happening. And when we see that, you've got to remember, I'm responsible for every round that comes out of my rifle. So just because you see something, or you see



what looks like a person or an individual, I'm not only responsible for what I'm shooting at, I'm also responsible for what's behind my target. So if I see an individual in the crowd, and he has a gun, I could shoot him, but I use a very high-powered rifle. If that round goes through him and it impacts the three people behind him, I'm technically still responsible.

8 So you've got to keep in mind it's a high dynamic 9 situation. There's a lot happening. I wish we were 10 perfect and never made mistakes, but sometimes in the heat 11 of the moment you're doing the best you can, and you're 12 trying to do your job, and you do it the best you can.

PSI Majority : Understood. We spoke to a number of people prior to this, and heard different things about different kinds of perimeters. And my understanding is there's a perimeter directly around the protectee. Am I understanding that correctly?

18 Witness : Oh, you said at the perimeter make a
19 bubble.

20 Bubble, yeah. PSI Majority : 21 Witness : Yeah. 22 And do you know who's responsible for PSI Majority : 23 that bubble? 24 : Typically it's the shift. Witness They're 25 inner bubble, the closest to the protectee.



PSI Majority : So if there was an imminent threat to the protectee, who, in this instance, would that be communicated to?

4 : Once we knew there was a shooter, in a Witness 5 perfect world, you have the decision, you can take the б shot, take out the shooter, which did, or you have the 7 go on the radio, and radio there's an active shooter. In a split-second decision time it took to realize there 8 was a shooter, I probably would've made the same decision 9 10 to neutralize that shooter. And then if I could've gone on the radio, "Shooter on the roof," after a while, but not 11 12 immediately, it would've been great. But if you go over 13 that, the shift can get on top of him, get him out of the 14 situation, get him in the limo, something, I guess.

PSI Majority : So short of knowing there's an active shooter, are you saying there's no role for notifying the shift or any lead agent that there is a threat, or that there's a threat situation.

Witness : We can articulate. We need to explain to the shift, or the lead, what do we see? Why are we concerned? What's the distance? What's the -- we need to tell them why. We can't just say, "Hey, keep him in the vehicle." They're going to ask questions. The protectee is going to ask question. It would have to be explained what's happening.



At the time, the last information we heard was an individual with a rangefinder. All right. That's a problem. We want to go check this out. All right. We've got police running to it. Maybe the same, probably the same incident. Hopefully not but maybe. And then once the shot that fired, arguably it's too late, but that would be a great time to go over the air.

8 **PSI Majority**: So our notes show that the protectee 9 took the stage at 6:03.

10 Witness : Mm-hmm.

PSI Majority : And the text message we looked at shows that there was a text message about the rangefinder at 5:45. So about 18 minutes between the two. And you told me that your PI told you that they were looking for this -- they were looking for this suspicious individual. Witness : Yes.

17 PSI Majority : So in that 18-minute interval, is 18 there a reason that you didn't communicate that threat to 19 the Security Room or to the lead agent?

20 Witness : PI reached out to me and told me that 21 they were looking for the same thing that we had been 22 notified with. PI is kind of the subject matter expert on 23 interviewing -- I don't want say -- basically individuals 24 of interest to the Service. Now, they could be a threat or 25 they could be just a misunderstanding, something confusing



1 that doesn't make sense. That's their realm. That's
2 where they get to determine that.

The PI reached out to me. They're the subject matter expert. They know what they're doing. I could've gone over with the radio to the Security Room. It never hurts. More information is more. But I didn't at the time. It was a high dynamic situation. I was more concentrated on trying to find the individual through our optics than doing anything else.

10 **PSI Majority**: So just a little bit of clean-up. Did 11 you have any role putting the Security Plan together for 12 the event?

13 Witness : For the counter sniper side and where 14 we would be located, as well as coordinating with the local 15 teams, where they would be situated. Other than that I 16 don't have much input into the perimeter or anything like 17 that.

18 PSI Majority : But as far as putting up physical 19 boundaries to block line of sight, would you be consulted 20 on that, or is that something --

21 Witness : I've done that before, at different 22 sites. A lot of people don't realize this is -- for line 23 of sight it's like a blocking vehicle. In order for a 24 blocking vehicle to be effective it would have to be 25 extremely close to the protectee, almost probably where



1 that stands -- where the people were sitting would be 2 located. Because if it was up against the fence that was 3 there, you'd have to double check, but I assume with the 4 angle and the further you get from the protectee, it's not 5 blocking anything. It would block people on the ground -б don't get me wrong -- but as far as from a building or 7 something, it's all the angles game, and it's part of what 8 makes the job very difficult.

9 PSI Majority
 So you weren't involved in consulting
 10 on that, for this.

11Witness:No.

Witness

12 **PSI Majority** : Okay.

13 Witness : I've been called in before for other,
14 but not for this.

15 **PSI Majority**: But not for this one. You mentioned 16 that the counter snipers had just been involved in an event 17 in D.C. that involved being on the roof for 14 hours in the 18 hot sun.

19

Mm-hmm.

:

20 **PSI Majority** : Do you recall if Hercules 1 C/S was one of 21 those individuals who'd been on that assignment?

Witness I don't think he was but I'd have to check. He's also our equipment sergeant, so he's in charge of procuring equipment, making sure it's all serialized, making sure we have what we need when we do missions like



1 that. I'd have to double check to see if he was out on 2 the roof for those days. It's possible, but I'd have to 3 double check to be sure.

4 **PSI Majority**: Okay. Did you do the walkthrough with
5 local law enforcement the day of?

6 Witness : We did a walkthrough on the Thursday 7 before the event, and then I also did a walkthrough -- or 8 not a walkthrough. I did a face-to-face meet with the 9 local snipers at the horse stadium on the day of the event. 10 No walkthrough that day.

11 **PSI Majority**: But not the security briefing. I 12 think there was a security briefing with more than just the 13 snipers that morning of the event.

14 I was not there for that, no. Witness : 15 PSI Majority : So I guess just to come back to my colleague HSGAC Majority guestion of what failures there were. 16 17 You know, the protectee survived but just based off of 18 Crooks having faulty aim. And a man did die in the stands, 19 and others were injured. Do you feel that there was a failure from the counter snipers' perspective to mitigate 20 21 this?

Witness From my perspective, as being a counter sniper, I believe we did our job. We did our job well. When we found the target, we neutralized the threat.

25

PSI Majority :

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Do you think that a flow of

1 information of the threats that you were seeing could've
2 bought more time?

Witness 3 I don't understand the question. 4 PSI Majority : If you had have communicated to the 5 rest of what you were seeing develop, of seeing the crowd б movement and the police close on the AGR building, do you 7 think that could've bought more time to potentially 8 mitigate the threat, pull the protectee off the stage, take 9 additional action?

10 Witness Potentially. I guess you could've, 11 should've, would've, maybe this will happen, maybe that 12 won't, all day. Maybe an airplane will land in the field 13 and we'll have to deal with that. There's a lot of 14 could've, maybe it would've been better.

My main mission that day, as soon as they told me who we were looking for, get on the optics, try to find them. Because if we can't find him, we have nothing to go for. If there's another threat, we've got to find that too. Communications is important, but doing the actual counter sniper job is our main priority.

21 PSI Majority : Thank you. I'll turn it over to my
22 colleagues in the minority.

23 PSI Minority : I'd like to go off the record for a 24 moment.

25 [Recess.]



PSI Minority : Okay. We'll go back on the record now. Witness , my name is PSI Minority . I'm with Ranking Member Ron Johnson's office. Thank you for your time today.

5 Does Secret Service counter sniper need permission6 before firing a shot?

7 Witness : This is actually something we address 8 in our police meetings when we do advances. We do not 9 operate off like a green light or red light situation. We 10 operate utilizing the Secret Service Use of Force Policy, 11 just like regular agents and regular UD.

12 PSI Minority : On the day of the July 13th rally, did 13 any Secret Service counter sniper request permission before 14 firing at Mr. Crooks?

Witness : No. We do not operate that way.
 PSI Minority : How many shots did Secret Service
 counter snipers fire at Crooks?

18Witness: To my knowledge, one shot was fired.19PSI Minority: How many bullet wounds did Mr. Crooks

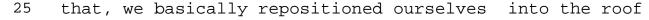
20 have?
21 Witness : That I'm unaware of. I did not see.
22 PSI Minority : How long did Hercules 1 C/S have Mr. Crooks

23 in his sights before firing?

24 Witness : Mere seconds. Typically, the way we 25 train was once you have the target in your sight you become



1 the shooter. Ideally, I would be able to see the same 2 target, and I would give him a wind call. After my wind 3 call, it's up to take the shot when he's ready. I 4 would say at the same time, "I got him," center, send it, 5 qunshot. So four seconds, five seconds, at most. 6 **PSI Minority** : And you would say that that is typical? 7 : Yes. When we qualify, we qualify up Witness **LES** , and I don't know if it's policy, but 8 to typically we'll fire 9 , LES 10 LES . So that sounds about right. 11 **PSI Minority** : And as soon as the shot was fired did 12 you see Mr. Crooks get hit? : I did not. I actually had to come off 13 Witness my weapon and out of the scope, look at mext to me and 14 15 figure out where he was aiming, and then I was able to 16 align and find the target that he had. 17 **PSI Minority** : I want to go back to the moment where 18 you and Hercules 1 C/S repositioned themselves, just so I 19 understand. That was following an alert that you received 20 on the radio? Witness : Hercules 2, Counter Sniper , put 21 22 over the radio that the police were working some sort of 23 situation at the three o'clock off the stage, the direction of the AGR building. Herewasters and myself, once upon hearing 24





1 was angled to the far angle, and turned toward the AGR 2 roof. And once we saw police moving, that's when we put 3 our rifles into the tripods, basically.

4 PSI Minority : And up until that point, was it your
5 understanding that Hercules 2 was primarily responsible or
6 focused in on the AGR area?

7 Witness : They were definitely watching that 8 area, but Hercules 1 was also surveying the area. We break 9 it down to help make it manageable, but that's by no means 10 a Do Not Cross line or Do Not Look that Way. Both teams 11 were both looking at that area.

PSI Minority : As you turned to face AGR and maybe in the moments following our receipt of that radio call, did you have any concern or thoughts that Hercules 2, the one that had been primarily focused on the AGR area, had an obstruction in their sights?

17 Witness I knew they had an obstruction, and I 18 actually favored to the right side of the building, where 19 the obstruction was. After the fact I found out I was 20 going way too far right, but I did favor right. I did 21 acknowledge that they did have an obstruction to the roof.

PSI Minority : Once you had turned and repositioned yourself, did either you or Hercules 1 C/S notify any individuals in Hercules 2 that you were now focused in on AGR?

25 Witness : We did not notify them, but when they



went over the radio, the distance would probably be from the far side of this room to the far side of that room, close enough you probably wouldn't want to yell, but you could, but you can see each other. As soon as he went over the radio we both, and I, turned, and we had all focus on that building, around that building, trying to figure out what was happening.

8 **PSI Minority** : And approximately what time was that? 9 **Witness** : I don't know the exact time that 10 **Counter Sniper** went over the radio with that information. It 11 would be after I'd already received the text from the 12 locals, after we had already received the PI phone call. 13 So 6-ish, but that would depend. I don't know the exact 14 time.

15 PSI Minority : And then you mentioned that you saw law 16 enforcement there. You mentioned that you saw some law 17 enforcement -- we touched on this earlier -- some law 18 enforcement with their guns drawn.

19 Witness : Yes. Uniformed police officers 20 running in the direction, basically to the right of the 21 building, around the building, out of our line of sight, 22 honestly.

PSI Minority : So why not, in that moment, send a signal or a radio call, saying, "Do not let the protectee on the stage," or if the protectee was already on the



1 stage, take him off?

2 Witness : At that time we didn't know what we 3 were working with. Obviously, police are running towards a 4 situation. That could be anything from a medical situation 5 to potentially a man with a gun or some sort of violent б situation. We didn't know what we were having, and I 7 didn't have enough to go over the radio with the same exact 8 communication of "the police are working a situation at the 9 three o'clock." We know they're working. What are they 10 working on? We don't know. We're trying not to clog the 11 radio.

PSI Minority : Understood. You mentioned you saw
someone with their gun drawn.

14Witness: Mm-hmm.15PSI Minority: That seems like an extremely serious

16 situation, more than just looking for a suspicious person.

17Witness:Yes.

18 PSI Minority : It seems like a major elevation of a 19 threat level. Correct?

20 Witness : That's why we placed our rifles in the 21 tripods and started searching through the rifle scopes 22 themselves.

PSI Minority : But beyond that, is that not enough to say we have something imminent happening here, if their guns are drawn and we need to ensure the safety of the



1 protectee?

Witness
Potentially. It definitely is
elevated. We're trying to figure out what's happening.
It's happening very quickly. It's a very dynamic
situation. But --

6 **PSI Minority**: Did the thought even cross your mind 7 that you should inform someone to keep the protectee from 8 going on stage, or, if he was already on stage, take him 9 back? Did that thought even cross your mind?

10 Witness : The thought did not cross my mind. It 11 was more find out what's happening, figure out what's 12 happening. Can we help? Can we take action?

PSI Minority : And as you're facing the AGR building now, exclusively at this moment, it sounds like. Correct? Witness : Correct.

16 PSI Minority : Are you seeing local law enforcement 17 inside of the AGR building?

Witness : I do not recall seeing local law enforcement inside the AGR building. We knew they were present in that window, the local CS team. I don't recall seeing them in the window. But I wasn't looking specifically for them. I was trying to look for anything, what's happening, basically.

24 PSI Minority : Could you communicate directly with the 25 local law enforcement inside of the -- let me be more



1 specific. Could you communicate directly with the local 2 counter sniper teams inside of the AGR building? 3 Witness : No. We had basically a middleman of 4 my point of contact, who was over at the horse stadium, who 5 was in contact with the AGR -б **PSI Minority** : So your only form to communicate with 7 those local snipers was an indirect form of communication? 8 Witness : Cellphone. Correct. 9 I'm sorry. Could you say that again? PSI Minority : 10 Witness : Cellphone. Correct. PSI Minority : 11 Did you ever see the local counter 12 snipers stick their head out of the window? 13 Witness : I do not recall seeing that, no. 14 **PSI Minority** : Was that concerning for you, that there 15 was a situation near the AGR building and local counter 16 snipers had not stuck their head out the window to 17 potentially take action? 18 Witness At the time I didn't even notice it.

19 It didn't even cross my mind. Looking back, that is 20 interesting. At the time, though, I didn't even think 21 about it, no.

PSI Minority : Given your professional background, would that be a wise thing to do, that in the moment of an imminent threat, or a potentially heightened level of security risk --



1

MR. Witness Counsel He's looking for threat.

2 PSI Minority : I'm just asking about -- I'm asking --3 I'm asking about his professional experience. I'm asking 4 about his professional experience. Let me finish the question so you know how to respond. In your professional 5 6 experience, when dealing with an imminent threat, if you 7 are inside of a building, and that's your position, would it be smart to stick your head out the window and look 8 9 around?

: Now, when we started this I did 10 Witness 11 highlight the location of the local teams in the window, as 12 to what they were wearing. I honestly wouldn't want to 13 stick my head out of a window if I knew a threat was 14 coming. However, at the same time, if I was local police 15 and I have a chance to stop it, I don't think that would be 16 -- I don't think I would be considering, these snipers are 17 looking at me. I don't want to do anything. I don't think I would be thinking about that. 18

PSI Minority : Only in this hypothetical, only if you
 saw something that you would immediately take action on.

21 Witness : Right. If I saw something I would 22 want to take action, yes.

PSI Minority : Because otherwise, you would run the
 risk of, I think what you called blue-on-blue.

25 Witness : Yeah. Friendly fire.



 1
 PSI Minority : Friendly fire. Okay. Why was

 2
 Hercules 1 C/S

 taking notes after the shooting?

3 Witness : Typically, this is the first time that 4 Hercules or the Secret Service Counter Sniper Team has had 5 to take a shot at someone. We really don't know what was 6 going to happen. But we do know, in the moment, we kind of 7 forget things. You start to forget. Thing get a little 8 hazy. It's a high-stress moment. I believe he reached out 9 to our captain. I don't know who else he reached out, 10 potentially a lawyer or something, and he was told, hey, 11 take notes. Take notes. Make accurate notes, because 12 things can get fuzzy. Maybe you listen to somebody else 13 tell a story and it gets fuzzy. I think he was just trying 14 to cover his bases. He's smart.

15 **PSI Minority**: So from your perspective he was trying 16 to memorialize what had just occurred?

Witness : No.
PSI Minority : He was not trying to -Witness : Memorialize it?
PSI Minority : -- memorialize it in terms of a record

21 in real time.

22 Witness : Oh, then yes, yeah, a record. 23 PSI Minority : Understood. I want to go back to 24 something that you just mentioned regarding the Secret 25 Service's history of having to take this type of action.



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1 think you mentioned that this was the first time 2 something like this had happened? 3 Witness : Yes. 4 PSI Minority : Can you clarify -- it is? Okay. 5 To my knowledge that the Hercules Witness : б team, the Counter Sniper Teams for the Secret Service has 7 had to take a shot at someone and actually hit a would-be 8 assailant. I'm sure there's been assailants and 9 assassination attempts before, but this is the first time 10 that the Hercules team has had to take action. 11 PSI Minority : And when you say "this Hercules team," 12 can you clarify? 13 Witness : The Secret Service Counter Sniper Team 14 take action. 15 **PSI Minority** : Understood. Why were you placed on admin leave? 16 17 Witness : I believe it's the same as if a local 18 police officer discharges his weapon in the line of fire. 19 Regardless of it was a justified shoot, it was an 20 unjustified shoot, they need to go through all the details. 21 I believe typically you're just put on admin leave until 22 they can figure out what happened. And I think that was 23 this case of, hey, you've been through a lot. This is a 24 potentially traumatic experience. Let's give you some time 25 to breathe. Just take some time. And I appreciated it.



PSI Minority : Were any of the other Secret Service combatant commanders that were on duty that day also put on admin leave?

Witness : To my understanding, yes. They had
different levels of admin leave or time off. That's to my
understanding, yes.

PSI Minority : Was Hercules 1 C/S put on admin leave?
Witness : I believe so. The majority of the
reason is I believe the FBI took possession of his sniper
rifle, so he couldn't really work without his rifle.
That's the majority of the reason, I think, besides he was
the one that took the shot.

13 PSI Minority : And why did they take possession of his 14 sniper rifle?

Witness
15 Witness
16 evidence, I assume.

17 **PSI Minority**: You mentioned earlier on the topic of 18 collection of evidence that you picked up the --

19 Witness : The casing?

20 PSI Minority : -- that was fired from Hercules 1 C/S 's gun 21 or weapon. Correct?

Witness : Correct. On the rooftop. Yep.
PSI Minority : What did you do with that?

24 Witness : I handed it to Heroues 10%, and then I saw

25 him insert it into his pocket. He made note with the FBI



that it has my thumbprints or fingerprints on it, which
 I appreciated at the time.

3 PSI Minority : And any awareness of what happened 4 after that?

5 I know we had a sergeant from D.C. Witness : 6 come up, way after all the events. POTUS -- or Candidate 7 Trump had already left on the airplane. We had a sergeant come up from D.C. and he basically did a property 8 9 verification, to make sure all equipment was accounted for, everything that Harden had. And then I believe that went to 10 11 the FBI, who then took pictures of him, took all of the 12 information, took the rifle, to my understanding.

13 **PSI Minority**: I want to turn to what we'll mark as 14 Exhibit 7, and we'll walk that over to you right now. 15 [Exhibit No. 7 was 16 marked for identification.] 17 PSI Minority : This is a snapshot from a video taken 18 by James Copenhaver at approximately 6:08 p.m. on July 13, 19 2024. And I'll give you a moment to just take a look at 20 it.

You may or may not know, sir, but Mr. Coperhaver was one of the victims at the rally that day, who sustained gunshot wounds. And he reportedly captured this video of what appears to be movement on the roof of the AGR building. It's circled in red here. The video, obviously,



you can appreciate the movement a little better. And
 it's at 6:08 p.m.

3 So my question regarding this exhibit is, at 6:08 4 p.m., were you facing the direction of the AGR building? 5 Witness I 'm not sure what time we faced. It 6 was after Counter Sniper put over the radio call that action was 7 happening over there that we turned. I don't know the 8 approximate time. I hope -- I don't know, yeah.

9 PSI Minority : But was Hercules 2 facing the AGR
10 building at 6:08 p.m.?

11 Witness : They should've been facing that area, 12 but they were taking in the entire area. They could've 13 been facing anywhere in a 180-degree angle. Both teams 14 were up observing. I don't know exactly where, but they 15 were both up observing.

16**PSI Minority**: Did you see movement on the roof of the17AGR building separate from when you saw Mr. Crooks' body?

18 Witness : I did not, no.

19 PSI Minority : I want to go back to Exhibit 3. That's 20 the one of the site diagrams. And I want to turn your 21 attention to page 2.

Witness : Yep.
PSI Minority : Under the category that's labeled
"Assets."

25 Witness : Yep.



PSI Minority : You might see, five rows down, it indicates "Two 2-man local CS team, elevated 4 o'clock and 8 o'clock, barn roof."

4 Witness : I see this, yes.

5 **PSI Minority**: As far as your understanding goes, on 6 the day of the rally, was that the accurate location of the 7 local counter sniper teams?

8 Witness I don't think so. Four and 8 o'clock 9 -- 4 o'clock would've been off the stage. It's closer to 10 3. I'll give them a little leeway. Maybe 3 o'clock is 11 closer for one of the teams. Eight o'clock? Again, that's 12 a little off. They're generally the right directions, but 13 the clock position seems a little off.

PSI Minority : Well, it says barn roof, right?
Witness : Oh, the barn roof would've been not
local. It would've been us, the Hercules teams.

17 **PSI Minority** : Right. So this is not accurate.

18 Correct?

19 Witness : No, this is not. Well, 4 and 8. The 20 clock positions are a lot better. But yeah, it's not local 21 CS. This would be Hercules teams.

22 PSI Minority : Did you contribute to this site diagram 23 at all?

24 Witness : This one I did not. This is probably 25 made by the site agent, I assume, or the overall lead.



PSI Minority : Did you ever send information to the site agent that reflected this piece of information that is not accurate?

Witness : So I did send an email that consisted
of all the teams, to include both CS teams of Hercules as
well as the local CS, and our approximate clock locations.
It's not uncommon for people who don't usually do our job
to get a little confused, the clock position, but this does
appear like this is a slight mix-up.

PSI Minority : Prior to -- well, I don't know if "slight mix-up" is the right characterization. This is a security planning document regarding the location of counter snipers, which obviously played a pivotal role on the day of the rally. Correct?

15 Witness : Correct.

16 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Prior to the change of having 17 Secret Service counter snipers at the event, do you know if 18 this would've been the location of the local snipers? 19 Witness : To my knowledge. When I got there on 20 Wednesday and I saw the site for the first time, I chose 21 the barn location. And from there I reached out to the 22 local CS through phone. And when I explained to them where 23 we wanted to post, I offered to co-locate and they 24 They said they had already picked out their declined.

25 locations, which are the locations they ended up utilizing.



1 So to my knowledge it wouldn't make sense that this was 2 their original posting locations. 3 **PSI Minority** : I want to go on to what I'll mark as 4 Exhibit 8. 5 [Exhibit No. 8 was б marked for identification.] 7 : And we're walking this down to you PSI Minoritv right now. And just let me know if you'd like me to 8 9 describe or if you want a moment to read. 10 Witness : I'll read real quick. 11 [Pause.] 12 Oh, I'm familiar with this email, yes. Witness : 13 **PSI Minority** : Okay. So this is a reported Secret 14 Service counter sniper email that was sent on July 29, 15 It was reported on by Susan Crabtree on July 30, 2024. 16 2024. You mentioned that you are familiar with this email? 17 Witness : I saw this email before, yes. 18 How did you see this email? PSI Minority : 19 Witness : Through my work phone. Through email. 20 You received this email? PSI Minority : 21 Witness : Yes. 22 When did you receive the email? PSI Minority : 23 Witness : I don't remember the exact date. Ι 24 know I was on personal leave, and I looked at my work phone 25 at the end of the day, and I saw this group of messages.



1 **PSI Minority** : To clarify, when you say "group of 2 messages," was there more than one of this type of email? 3 Witness : I'm sorry. I saw, like on an iPhone 4 you see clusters of emails. I clicked it and then I saw 5 this as being one of the messages that was in the phone. 6 **PSI Minority** : So are you saying that people had 7 replied to this email and that created the cluster? 8 Witness : It's possible that they replied, but more a group of emails, like all the notifications that you 9 10 had. This was one of the emails that I saw that I noticed. 11 **PSI Minority** : Understood. Did you read this email 12 when you received it? 13 : I did read through it, yes. Witness 14 And what was your reaction to it? PSI Minority : 15 Witness : I read it, and decided, okay, and put 16 my phone down. 17 **PSI Minority** : Was there anything in this email that 18 you thought was not accurate, or anything in this email 19 that you agreed with? 20 : I believe it's all his personal Witness 21 thoughts, the individual who wrote it, what they feel, 22 their opinion. I don't want to make any statement on that. 23 **PSI Minority** : Do you share any of this individual's 24 opinions or thoughts? 25 Witness I think it's all up to him. It's what :

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Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEPO (800.367.3376) he wrote. I don't know if I share or disagree, agree
 with any of it.

3 PSI Minority : One of the lines is, "The technicians 4 who worked on 7/13/24 in Butler, Pennsylvania, did their 5 job with their hands tied." Do you agree with that 6 statement?

7 Witness : I do not recall my hands being tied. 8 PSI Minority : It goes on to say, "Secret Service 9 supervisors knew better, and the foot soldiers working made 10 the best of a bad situation that resulted in a civilian 11 death and a near miss of the protectee, and our technician 12 shooting and killing the suspect."

Do you agree that Secret Service supervisors knew better and the foot soldiers working made the best of a bad situation?

16 Witness : I believe my supervisors are part of 17 the team. Most of our supervisors were actually 18 technicians before they became supervisors, so they've had 19 boots on the ground and they've seen situations. They've 20 worked in my shoes before. I believe they do the best of 21 their ability and they are capable leaders.

PSI Minority : The individual who sent the email also wrote, "The Agency needs to change. If not now, when?" Do you agree with that statement?

25

Witness : I think every agency needs to evolve



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 is perfect.

3 PSI Minority : Do you think Secret Service needs to 4 get better?

5 Witness : I think everyone needs to get better -6 - Secret Service, every agency, FBI, Secret Service, NSA. 7 If there's an agency, they can get better.

PSI Minority : Do you feel particularly, after the
event of July 13th, Secret Service needs to get better?
Witness : I think any incident, good or bad, we
can learn from that incident, and we can do better to stop
bad things from happening in the future, and we can do
better with the things we already do good.

PSI Minority : Do you still have this email?
Witness : I'd have to look. I imagine it's
probably in my mailbox.

17 **PSI Minority** : But you haven't checked?

18 Witness : Once I saw it, I scrolled through, and 19 then the messages just keep going down as you get new ones. 20 So I assume it's still in my inbox.

PSI Minority : Has anyone from Secret Service or DHS
 instructed you not to speak with Congress?

Witness No. I was told that our Agency is doing full cooperation with Congress and the Senate, and that was it.



1

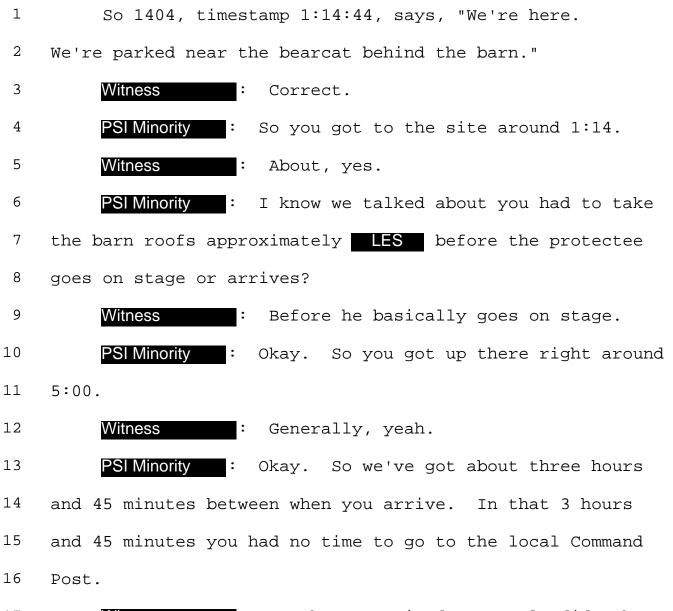
PSI Minority : I'll turn it over to my colleague,

2 PSI Minority

3 PSI Minority : Witness , I want to go back to 4 talking quickly about the local radios. I just want to 5 make sure I understand correctly. The plan was for you to 6 pick up local radios from the local command post on the day 7 of the rally?

8 The day of the rally I went and met Witness : 9 with local CS, and they mentioned that I could go to the 10 Command Post and pick up local radios. That sounded 11 fantastic, and I was on board with it 100 percent. 12 However, once I noticed there were problems in my own radio 13 I decided I needed to work on that priority before I could 14 go on and fix another one. And then it just so happened at 15 the time that have to go up 16 I didn't have time to go pick those radios up. protectee. 17 **PSI Minority** : Okay. I want to pass around Exhibit 9. 18 [Exhibit No. 9 was 19 marked for identification.] 20 **PSI Minority** : And I know we talked about this. Up at 21 the top, the text messages with the locals. So I want to 22 just flip to 1404. And again, the names are redacted. Our 23 understanding is that this is your text message with the 24 local sniper. We didn't apply the redactions, of course. 25 Secret Service applied the redactions.





17 Witness : So when I arrived, not only did I have 18 my CS team a walkthrough on the stage, show them the threat 19 angles, make sure they knew how to get up on post with the 20 ladders. I then had to go over to the Security Room, brief 21 the Security Room radio operator for Secret Service, make 22 sure they had our paperwork, they knew how we operated, we 23 were on the right channels. Then I had to go brief CS 24 Response and make sure they were capable, they had our paperwork, they knew what we were doing, they knew how we 25



1 operate and what radio channels we would be one.

2 From there I went back, grabbed the paperwork, went 3 and met with the local team at their spot in the horse 4 stadium, had a face-to-face with them. I'm not sure on the 5 approximate time on that. I met with them, and that's when 6 they mentioned to try to go grab the radios. I said, 7 "Absolutely. Sounds great. Thank you." From there I went 8 back to our vehicles, started getting my gear ready, and 9 that's when I heard the radio chatter that protectee was in 10 a motorcade. I had a mini-freakout that we don't have any 11 time. We've got to go. I find out it's interference from 12 another protectee. The protectee was not on the ground 13 yet.

14 So I had to figure out what problem was going on with 15 our radios. We had to figure out what channels we were 16 going to use. I think they changed twice beforehand, until 17 we confirmed these are the channels we were going to be 18 utilizing when we actually go up.

19 PSI Minority : Did you consider sending one of our CS 20 teammates while you were working on the radios, to the 21 local Command Center, to get radios?

22 Witness I did not consider. That would've 23 been great. I did not at the time.

24 PSI Minority : Okay. I want to jump forward a little
25 bit to the text messages. I know we talked about, I



1 believe it's Exhibit 5, the text message and email 2 regarding the suspicious individual at the AGR building. 3 Witness : Yes. Which page? 4 PSI Minority : Just generally I want to talk about 5 So you got that text message around 5:45. Correct? those. б Witness : 5:45. Correct. 7 PSI Minority : You're up on the roof with Hercules 1 C/S , standing next to him. Do you know him the text 8 9 message? 10 : Yes, I mentioned it to him, "Hey, Witness 11 we've got a BOLO." And then I said, "instead of you trying 12 to look in the sun at my little cellphone I'm going to send 13 it to everybody through email." Okay. 14 **PSI Minority** : Do you have a communication with 15 Hercules 1 C/S at that point, "Hey, we just got a BOLO. 16 Should we alert the Security Room?" 17 Witness : I was more, "Hey, we got a BOLO. We've 18 got to see if we can find this guy. He's got a 19 rangefinder." 20 **PSI Minority** : Okay. 21 Let's start looking for him. Witness : 22 From there I'm trying to make their email. I send the 23 email a few minutes later. That's when the PI agent 24 reached out to me, and notified me that she was also aware 25 of the situation. Great. Okay. You're the one. This is



your area. Long-range threats is my area. This is your
 area. You're telling me you're already tracking it?
 Perfect. All right. Let me see if I can find him for you.
 PSI Minority : You just mentioned the rangefinder,

5 right. You're an expert. I'm sure you shoot quite a bit.
6 You have a rangefinder. Rangefinder is used to gauge the
7 distance from a target, generally, right?

- 8 Witness
- : Correct.

9 PSI Minority : So that sort of amps up the suspicious
10 level here, of no need to have a rangefinder if you're not
11 ranging a target.

Witness It is suspicious, not illegal, and people have them at golf ranges. This is not a golf range, so it's a little suspicious.

15 PSI Minority : Got it. So understanding that, I think 16 you said once the PI engages you guys disengage a little 17 bit and are not as focused on the AGR building. Is that 18 right?

19 Witness Repeat the question.

20 **PSI Minority**: Once the PI is engaged, you think 21 that's their responsibility to go look for this guy. Is it 22 off your plate then, a little bit, or --

Witness No. We're still trying to find him, because we're elevated. Odds are we're going to see him, or maybe a local officer, maybe a post-stander is going to



see him. Somebody is going to find this guy, hopefully.
We have a good chance with our optics that we can really
get distances and see things from a distance. Our greatest
asset is that we can see things further than most people,
just standing on the ground with no optics.

6 **PSI Minority**: But you don't shift your focus to the 7 AGR building. And correct me if I'm wrong, because I 8 believe you testified earlier you only shift your focus to 9 the AGR building after **Counter Sniper** sends out the, hey, 10 we've got folks running around the ground.

11 Witness : The email stated that he was around, 12 last seen, I guess, around the AGR building, so we started 13 looking in that area. We have no idea how long that was 14 ago, where he was. We kind of have a description from the 15 picture. That's enough to go off of. We'll try to find 16 him. But as far as shift all attention to AGR, that was on Counter Sniper ' radio, we turned guns, basically, towards the 17 18 building.

PSI Minority : So again, I touched on this briefly,
but Counter Sniper and the other officer who was
stationed in the Hercules 2 position, their sort of cone of
responsibility -- I know you talked about you guys will
divide it, right left is the primary responsibility -- that
was that AGR side.

25 Witness : Yes. They were in looking in this



general area, taking it all, but obviously that's like a sector that they were focusing on.

PSI Minority : I know we touched on the line of sight issues there. Our understanding is it was a pretty significant line of sight issue from that roof. Does that line up with what you understood. Could they see the entirety of the AGR complex from where they were at on the roofline?

9 Witness
 10 side of the building from their vantage point.

11 PSI Minority : Where the shooter was ultimately 12 located?

13 Witness : Where the shooter was, yes. 14 PSI Minority : Could they see the roof line that we 15 talked about, that the shooter used to traverse to get to 16 where his location was?

17 Witness : Oh, in the video? I'm not sure. 18 PSI Minority : I'm talking about the images we showed 19 you earlier, where he walked across there. Could they see 20 back to that?

21 Witness : They probably could not see that from 22 their vantage point.

PSI Minority : So for the Secret Service teams, only Hercules 1, yourself and Hercules 1 C/S , would've had a line of sight to be able to see that roof line and where the



1 ultimately was located.

Witness
For Secret Service yes, not including
the local teams.

PSI Minority : Okay. The purpose of the Security
Room, is it to receive information and broadcast it out
from the locals? I know you said there was a local who was
in the Security Room.

8 Witness : That's my understanding, that it's 9 kind of the brain center for that site. It's a great to 10 meet because most post-standers know where that location is 11 going to be. It's where they're going to have information 12 come in and then they're going to disseminate it to 13 everybody else in that area.

PSI Minority : Got it. And they would be disseminating information to you, the Counter Sniper Units, as well.

17 Witness : Yeah. That's why I go and brief them 18 beforehand and make sure we're on the right radio channels. 19 They can use our TAC radio channel, or they can use post-20 stander. Whatever they want, we'll answer and we're there. 21 Everybody knows Hercules -- that's CS. We will answer.

PSI Minority : I want to introduce Exhibit 10.
 [Exhibit No. 10 was
 marked for identification.]
 PSI Minority : And it's coming around. Apologies.



1 So this is a transcript of an interview with the 2 Pennsylvania State Police officer who was in the Security 3 Room, co-stationed with Secret Service. It appears it was 4 an interview done by Pennsylvania State Police as part of 5 their investigation. So I want to have you flip to page 7. 6 And the numbers are at the top.

7 Witness : Numbers are at the top? Oh, page 5?
8 Okay.

9 PSI Minority : So about halfway down that page, 10 **PSP Site Liaison** [ph] is relaying that he received a call 11 from the local officers about the suspicious individual at 12 17:44. If you flip over to page 8, it states, at the top, 13 "I mentioned it to the Secret Service agent about the guy 14 with the rangefinder, SAIC Buffalo ." Do you know who SAIC Buffalo is? 15 Witness 16 I do not know that name. : 17 PSI Minority : Did you speak with anybody in the

18 Security Room on the day of the rally?

19 Witness I spoke with an agent working the 20 radios right there. I didn't ask for his name.

21 **PSI Minority** : Our understanding is that was

23 Witness : Oh, okay.

PSI Minority : So did anybody from the Security Room

25 relay out any information to you that they had been



22

24

informed at 17:44 -- I know it's about a minute before you get the text message from the locals -- that they were aware there was a suspicious individual with a rangefinder at the AG building?

5 Witness : From the radio or Security Room? I do 6 not remember getting any information.

7 **PSI Minority** : If you had gotten the information from the Security Room as well the text message from the local, 8 9 would that have sort of amped up the suspicion level for 10 you of saying, okay, our guys are aware of this, locals are 11 aware of this. Everybody needs to be looking for this guy. 12 Witness : I don't think hearing it from my 13 Security Room would've elevated the potential suspicious 14 nature. He's still a gentleman with a rangefinder, we 15 don't know anything about. We don't know where he is. It 16 would've been great to hear it over the radio, like 17 multiple forms of communication, but I did not. I don't 18 think it would've changed the level of attention it 19 required, I guess is the word.

20 **PSI Minority** : Got it. Let's look forward a little 21 bit. Let's go to page 10. And I know we talked about CS 22 response further down that page, starting at there, it 23 seems to be saying that he gave the description of the 24 individual along with his location to another Secret 25 Service agent, ******. I believe that's **C-UAS Advance Lead**, who was



1 the drone operator. Did you interact with C-UAS Advance Lead 2 that day?

3 Witness : I did not, no.

PSI Minority : Okay. Our understanding is that after
C-UAS Advance Lead got this communication, he relayed that to the
Counter Sniper Response Team and deployed the Counter
Sniper Response Team. Were you aware that the Counter
Sniper Response Team was deployed by C-UAS Advance Lead to look
for this individual?

10 Witness I was not aware. Typically, that's 11 not how CS Response works. We weren't utilizing it at that 12 very second. That's not typical, I would say, with what 13 I've worked before with POTUS sites.

14 PSI Minority : So if Counter Sniper Response Units are 15 deployed, should the Counter Sniper Teams be made aware 16 that they have been deployed?

17 Witness : Yes. At the very least, let us know. 18 That way if I need them to deploy or something I'm seeing 19 that they're not already being utilized, basically.

20 **PSI Minority**: Would the deployment of the Counter 21 Sniper Response Team in a way that was outside the norm, 22 raise any additional suspicions or raise any concerns on 23 your end?

24 Witness Maybe not concerns with the actual 25 individual they're sending them to, but concerns with why



are you utilizing my asset? I don't have an issue if you contacted with me, maybe it would be coordinated. But I now -- I can't utilize that asset if I needed to, for some reason. More of that kind of concern.

5 PSI Minority : Got it. And nobody communicates to 6 you. Nobody in the Security Room says, "We're deploying 7 this." CONSTANT INTERPORT Never says anything. The Counter Sniper 8 Response individual doesn't radio into you and say, "Hey, 9 I'm being deployed"?

10 Witness I did not hear anything over the 11 radio.

12 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Let's flip forward a little 13 more. Let's go to page 17. So let's go to the bottom of 14 that, and it says, "At 18:09," -- at that last paragraph 15 it's the last three sentences. "At 18:09, I received another call from Butler ESU Commander saying that they guys was 16 17 discovered on top of a roof and they had officers below 18 him, meaning municipals, not troops, that they couldn't 19 like figure out how he got up there to access." 20 Were you aware, on the day, that at 18:09 an 21 individual was identified on top of the roof? 22 Witness : I was not, no. 23 **PSI Minority** : Okay. So if you flip over to page 18, 24 at the bottom there, again, **PSP Site Liaison** says that this



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was relayed to the Secret Service. And again he says, "It

would be would be would be shown, like, you know, it was like we're in the room and I'm like moving fast." So he's talking about communicating that to shown. Were you aware that the Secret Service Security Room, on the day of the rally, was made aware that an individual was on the roof?

6

Witness : I was not, no.

7 **PSI Minority**: Okay. This is two minutes before first 8 shots are fired. If a report was made of an individual on 9 the roof of the AGR two minutes before shots fired, what 10 actions would you have taken, had you received that 11 information?

12 Witness : Individual on a roof? We would 13 definitely try to get eyes on. We would probably -- at 14 this point we don't know what he's doing, but individual on 15 the roof is definitely suspicious, borderline that's a 16 hazard. We don't know what's happening. We're probably 17 going to send local units -- not CS response, but we're 18 going to send local police up there to figure out what's 19 happening, what's his intentions. If he's just trying to 20 get a better view of the event that's happening, is he's 21 trying to take pictures, or does he have nefarious actions 22 in mind.

Witness : So let's go back to page 17 real fast, because what **PSP Site Liaison** is saying here is that it's "the guy." So "the guy" presumably meaning the suspicious



individual who had been identified with the rangefinder.
Had you heard from the Security Room on the day of the
rally that the individual who had been identified with a
rangefinder and was suspicious was on the roof of the AGR
building, what actions would you have taken?

б Witness : That's now no -- he hasn't been seen 7 with a visible weapon. Regardless, a gentleman on the 8 roof, unauthorized, with a rangefinder is just -- there are 9 so many things going wrong and out of control that we need 10 to stop what's happening. Protectee needs to stop. If 11 they're outside the limo, get him out. If they're inside 12 the limo, keep him there. We need that entire building 13 locked down. We want to know who he is, what's he doing, 14 everything.

PSI Minority : So just so I'm clear, if this communication had been relayed out from the Security Room it essentially would've been lock down, get this protectee off stage.

19 Witness : As far as CS is concerned, I've got an 20 individual on the roof, unknown, extremely close -- I've 21 got to know what he's doing up there. If he's just 22 somebody that wants better view, all right. We've got to 23 get him down and talk to him. That's fine. If he's got a 24 gun, he's got a bomb, he's got a drone, he's going to throw 25 a Molotov cocktail, something --



1

PSI Minority : He's got a rangefinder.

2 Witness : -- he's got a rangefinder -- you can't 3 hurt someone with a rangefinder if you throw it, but that 4 doesn't mean that he's not planning to use it for something 5 that can hurt someone. So we've got to get up there -б some police secret agent -- someone's got to get up there 7 and talk to him, figure out what's happening.

8 : And you had mentioned the protectee PSI Minority before too. So are you pulling the protectee -- or are you 9 10 recommending, from your position, "Get the protectee off 11 This is too suspicious"? stage.

12 Witness If I can see a gentleman or an : 13 individual on the roof, he's laying prone, I can't see if 14 he does have a weapon or he doesn't have a weapon, I've got 15 him in my reticle. I'm probably calling and saying we're 16 holding things up until we can get somebody over there to 17 figure out the situation, deescalate it, basically.

18 **PSI Minority** : And clearly no call like that was made 19 that day.

20 I did not receive anything through the : Witness 21 radio.

22 **PSI Minority** : Okay. So fair to say that there was a 23 significant security failure of information that was 24 relayed from the Security Room out to agents?

25 Potentially, it sounds like we did not Witness :



1 receive the communication that we needed.

2 **PSI Minority** : Okay.

HSGAC Minority: We have a couple follow-ups. You
mentioned the shell case.

5 Witness : Yeah.

б **HSGAC Minority**: When was that provided to the FBI? 7 : I believe later that evening, after Witness 8 Trump had already left the airport, he had flown out, the 9 FBI came to us at the airport. We were standing by. And 10 that's when they did a full breakdown of everything, they took pictures of what was wearing, all the equipment 11 12 he had, everything. So it was that evening, so that 13 Saturday.

14 **HSGAC Minority**: And they collected it?

15 Witness : I believe so, yes.

16 HSGAC Minority: Okay. And were your fingerprints found 17 on anything else?

18 Witness : I never -- they shouldn't have been, 19 but I never received any word that they were or were not. 20 HSGAC Minority: Okay. Were you aware of a threat that 21 was communicated to the Security Room at 11 a.m.?

22 Witness : 11 a.m.? No.

HSGAC Minority: Were you aware of any threats that were communicated to the Security Room the day of?

25 Witness : Not to my knowledge, no.



HSGAC Minority: When you were assigned to the event and you were told that this was the first time that a candidate was receiving counter sniper support, did you ask why?

5 Witness My Ops, my sergeant, he basically 6 mentioned it was an outdoor rally, and that kind of -- I 7 put 2 and 2 together of there's probably long-range threats 8 here. That makes sense. I didn't ask any further 9 questions.

HSGAC Minority: Are you aware that most of Trump's campaign rallies are outdoor rallies? In fact, he had one on the day that you found out, in Doral, Florida?

Witness He loves doing airport rallies, where he just gets off the plane, does a rally at the airport, and gets back on the plane. He loves outdoor rallies.

16 HSGAC Minority: But he had never received counter
17 snipers support for those.

18 Witness : As the candidate, yes.

HSGAC Minority: Right. So that didn't -- so you didn't
ask any other questions about why you were being sent.

21 Witness : Typically I know we do it by manpower. 22 POTUS is our main priority. And then I don't know how they 23 decide, the VP gets it over a candidate, or -- yeah, I 24 don't know how that works.

25 HSGAC Minority: Were you ever told there was a credible



1 threat to Trump and that's why counter snipers were

2 being sent?

3 Witness : No, I was not briefed to that.
4 HSGAC Minority: Were you ever briefed about any threats
5 to candidate Trump?

6 Witness : Besides the text message about the 7 gentleman with a rangefinder who ended up shooting at him? 8 No, there were no briefings.

9 HSGAC Minority: Have you ever been briefed on threats to
 10 any protectee when you've been a lead, team lead?

11 Witness : Typically they'll give you threats. 12 Maybe not threats like an assassination attempt, but "Hey, 13 there's going to be a large protest here. They are known 14 to get violent, domestic disturbance." Stuff like that. 15 We'll get briefed on potential threats. But I did not 16 receive one for this.

17 **HSGAC Minority**: And you worked then the DNC?

18 Witness : I did, yes.

HSGAC Minority: Did you receive any briefings about
 potential threats to the --

21 Witness : We did. The Free Palestine group. 22 There were multiple protests that were going to basically 23 come around. I was in the United Center. They were going 24 to basically march around. And they had two different 25 demonstration spots. Actually, the first day there they



broke through the anti-scale fencing, and that was a
 security breach.

3 **HSGAC Minority**: And who briefed you?

Witness : My PL for the sniper side. They
basically would -- I believe they get the information from
PI, and they relay it to me, of anything that happens.
HSGAC Minority: And, I mean, as the Counter Sniper Team
lead or just a counter sniper at an event, do you believe
that you should be informed of threats?

10 Witness : Yes. I would like to know what's 11 happening, potential threats. Even if they're verified, 12 yes, I want to know.

HSGAC Minority: And would that impact how you either go about making the Security Plan in your advance role or where you're positioned, what you're looking for?

16 Witness : It wouldn't so much -- we still want 17 to have 100 percent coverage, or as close as we can get to 18 it, while doing protection with line of threats to the 19 protectee. However, I would definitely brief my team 20 members and say this is what they're tracking, this is the 21 possibility. We always bring our A game, but just be aware 22 of this is happening today.

HSGAC Minority: And you mentioned a drone threat earlier in your discussion with PSI Minority, that if you saw, you would be looking for what the suspicious person had in addition.



1 So a drone, if he had a drone on him?

Witness
Drones are not allowed at the sites.
I think the Secret Service has drones, but that depends on
the site. But did we see one?

5 HSGAC Minority: When were you made aware that the drone
6 detection system was not operational that day?

7 Witness : I was not made aware of it. I was
8 not.

9 HSGAC Minority: Is that something that you would've
10 expected to be made aware of?

11 Witness : It would've been nice to know there 12 was no drone coverage or anything like that. However, no 13 drones were report that they had been spotted in the area 14 or anything like that, along those lines. And mostly what 15 we would do is I would give you the size, direction, is it 16 capable of carrying a payload, and I would give it to the 17 Security Room. That's how much I can help with drones, 18 basically.

19 HSGAC Minority: And is this the first time you're 20 hearing that the drone detection system was not 21 operational?

22 Witness I did not have any interaction with 23 the CUAS on the Secret Service side.

24 HSGAC Minority: Is this the first time you're hearing 25 about it, that I'm telling you right now?



1 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And then did you communicate with anyone on any encrypted chats, like Signal or anything, about the event?

5 : About the event? Witness No. б **HSGAC Minority**: About anything related to July 13th? 7 Witness : We did have a Signal chat with the 8 guys on CS, that basically was like, hey, just questions. 9 Where are we going to eat? What time do you want us there? 10 Stuff that, hey, I'm going to send an email with all logistics. Give me time. Guys want to know so they can 11 12 make their own plans. An offline chat.

13 HSGAC Minority: Did you provide that to the Secret 14 Service?

15 Witness : No, I do not have that.

16 **HSGAC Minority**: Why?

Witness : They did ask for the Signal chat.
 HSGAC Minority: So they only asked for -- what did they
 ask you for?

20 Witness : They asked me if I made any phone 21 calls during the actual event on my personal phone that 22 wasn't on the Secret Service phone. That's what I 23 provided.

24 HSGAC Minority: Did you Signal with anybody else that 25 day, July 13th?



1 Witness : That day, no. It probably was just 2 with them. We usually use it when we go overseas, and 3 that's just how the team -- it's easiest to communicate 4 offline that way.

5 HSGAC Minority: And did you communicate with anyone
6 prior to the event, anyone else, on Signal?

7 Witness : We have different group chats with 8 guys on the team you're friends with, but nothing involving 9 the events of that day.

10 HSGAC Minority: Did you have any Signal messages with 11 Hercules 1 C/S?

12 Witness I could look at it, but he would be in 13 the group chat, but I don't think I had any individual. 14 I'd have to look again.

HSGAC Minority: And have you communicated with anyone in the group chat or individual chats on Signal since the event?

18 Witness : Yes. I basically asked them how are 19 you guys doing? What's up? What are you hearing? 20 Anything happening on your end? Do you guys need help? 21 How's your families?

22 HSGAC Minority: Have you provided those to the Secret 23 Service?

24 Witness : I have not, no.

25 **HSGAC Minority**: Do you still have them?



1 Witness : I do.

HSGAC Minority: Will you provide them to the Committee.
If the Secret Service -- they basically, if they allow it.
HSGAC Minority: I'd just like to say on the record that
we formally request all Signal messages, and we would
request that the Secret Service would request that of all
individuals who were at the event or had any role in
planning the event.

9 MR. Agency Counsel We have to stop. I mean this isn't --10 MR. Witness Counsel Unless you want to continue another day. 11 HSGAC Minority : I mean, I think you all had something 12 like 40 more minutes than we've had on this side today. So 13 I've got some follow-ups here. I know that's not their 14 problem, but it's our problem.

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do you have any last-minute 16 questions you want to ask on the record?

17 HSGAC Minority : I've got, yeah.

MR. Witness Counsel Well, I mean, I'm flexible. I want to make sure that we fulfill our obligations to Congress. That's not the issue. It's just the next six or seven I unfortunately have a hard stop. I have meeting probably from two to three. I'm available after that.

HSGAC Minority : Let me see if I can do this in five.
MR. Witness Counsel Excuse me?

25 HSGAC Minority : Let me see if I can do this in five.



1 I'll cut out some questions.

2 How did you and your partner decide who would take
3 which spot at your position up on the roof?

Witness : Typically I work with the supervisors.
It's not a hard rule, but that's just the easiest one.
From Hercules 1 I thought I could see more, so I put myself
and my supervisor there.

8 **HSGAC Minority**: Okay. In the Hercules 1 position, one 9 of you would've had to have been on the, I guess, the 10 south, and one of you would've have to have been on the 11 north, or I guess east-west. How did you decide who was 12 going to be there?

13 Witness : Typically we went as close as we could 14 to the stage, and we both kind of situated there. It 15 wasn't a decision of who did what. Got there first, 16 so he was closer to the edge, and then I was next in.

HSGAC Minority : What do you mean he got there first?
Witness : When we climbed up the ladders, would be adders, was the first one off the ladder. He walked to the edge.
I was the second one up the ladder. I just put my stuff down next to him.

HSGAC Minority : So he chose that position, and you naturally had to go the other way because there was nowhere to go.

25 Witness : I've got more roof.



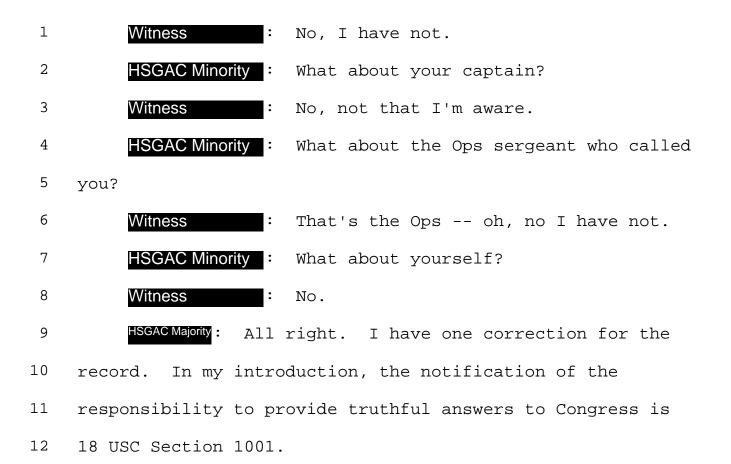
HSGAC Minority : You said -- what I heard you say was that you had shifted your position -- this going into when things were unfolding there -- you had shifted your position too far to the right. Did that mean that you did not have a line of sight because of obstructions to where Crooks was?

7 No. Basically when I originally heard Witness : it, that they were calling out the roof, I originally went 8 9 far right because I knew Hercules 1 couldn't -- Hercules 2 10 couldn't see that area. It ended up he was kind of -- I 11 don't know how you would describe it -- in the center of 12 the roof area, that roof that he was on, so I'd kind of 13 gone too far looking that way. It wasn't catastrophic, by 14 any means, easy to fix, but that's where I originally went. 15 **HSGAC Minority** : So for clarification, did you move 16 yourself, your body, to the right, or --17 Witness : No. I just tilted my bipod with my

18 right foot.

19 **HSGAC Minority** : Okay. Did anyone else in any way 20 influence the positions that you chose for Hercules 1 or 2? 21 Witness : No. It was 100 percent me. 22 HSGAC Minority : Have you ever heard or seen, I guess, in any form or fashion, any of the other three counter 23 24 snipers who were present that day in any way express a 25 negative view of President Trump?





With respect to the counsels' involvement today, our Committee attempts to honor common law privileges.

With respect to our respect for documents and information on July 24th, you should see Schedule A attached with that, which includes Signal. So these would be responsive documents, and we'd expect them to be provided.

This will conclude today's interview. I want to thank you very much for your time with us today, and I want to thank counsel.

23 [Whereas, at 1:57 p.m., the interview was concluded.]
24

25



USSS Counter Sniper Team Lead, Hercules 1 - August 28, 2024

Committee Errata

Page	Line	Correction
78	13	Add "there" before "are"
78	14	Strike "obstruction" and replace with "obstructions"
80	25	Strike "was" and replace with "were"
103	7	Strike "/"
108	24	Strike "Where you were" and replace with "Where were"
114	17	Strike "do" and replace with "does"
199	19	Strike "our" and replace with "your"
200	8	Strike "know" and replace with "show"
209	23	Strike "Witness" and replace with "PSI Minority"
213	17	Strike "snipers" and replace with "sniper"
214	17	Strike "then"