1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
3	AND THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS
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6	INTERVIEW OF
7	DTD 2nd Sup
8	ASSISTANT SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE,
9	DONALD TRUMP PROTECTIVE DIVISION, U.S. SECRET SERVICE
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13	Room SD-342
14	Dirksen Senate Office Building
15	Washington, D.C.
16	Wednesday, December 4, 2024
17	1:07 p.m.
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25	On Behalf of Ranking Member Paul:



1	HSGAC Minority, Chief Counsel, Senate Homeland
2	Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
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5	On Behalf of Ranking Member Paul (continued):
6	HSGAC Minority , Investigator, Senate Homeland
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1	EXHIBITS:	

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PROCEEDINGS

HSGACM j ity: Good morning. This is the transcribed
interview of Witness, being conducted by the
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
Affairs and the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on
Investigations.

7 This interview was requested by Committee Chairman 8 Gary Peters and Ranking Member Rand Paul, as well as 9 Subcommittee Chairman Richard Blumenthal and Ranking Member 10 Ron Johnson, as part of the Committee's investigation of the July 13, 2024, assassination attempt on former 11 12 President Trump, and the U.S. Secret Service planning and security in advance of and during the events in Butler, 13 14 Pennsylvania, on July 13, 2024.

On July 25, 2024, Chairmen Peters and Blumenthal, and Ranking Members Paul and Johnson requested voluntary transcribed interviews with Secret Service agents, and on September 11, 2024, as well, with additional U.S. Secret Service individuals involved in the event, including Mr.

20 Witness

1

21 We are going to provide introductions of the offices 22 who will be conducting this interview today as well as 23 instructions on how we will proceed, and as we do that, 24 Witness, I would like to start with you and just ask that 25 you introduce yourself and your title, for the record, and



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1 So our plan for today is to try and go in HSGAC Minority 2 hour-long blocks. We will try and limit the number of people asking questions so you do not have to shoot back 3 4 and forth. If we have follow-up we will try and introduce that, as well. And we will plan, generally, to take a 5 6 break after an hour, but at any time should you need a 7 break we are happy to do so. If you need water, anything 8 like that, just let us know.

9 If our follow-up questions, if we ask a question that 10 is compound or confusing, please ask us to clarify and we 11 will be happy to do so.

12 The reporter is going to create a verbatim record of 13 what we discuss today, and with that in mind, as I am sure 14 you are familiar, please respond verbally because the 15 reporter cannot properly record a nonverbal response. Does 16 that make sense?

17

Witness : Yes, sir.

HSGAC Majority: During today's interview you are required to provide truthful answers to responses to questions. This includes questions in this interview by this Committee's staff. And as you may be aware, pursuant to U.S. Code 18 USC 1001, it is a crime to provide false, misleading, or incomplete answers to questions, including questions from staff. Are you familiar with this?



Witness : Yes.





HSGAC Majority: And is there any reason you would not be able to provide truthful answers today?

3 Witness : No.

HSGAC Majority : 4 Today's interview is being conducted 5 without prejudice. Should the Committee have follow-up 6 information, if we do need to follow up we will contact 7 counsel and arrange to do so. But we would ask, to 8 preserve the integrity of this investigation, that you not 9 relay to anybody outside of today's meeting the questions 10 we ask and the responses to those questions, to preserve the integrity of our investigation. Does that make sense? 11 12 Witness : Yes.

13 HSGAC Majority : Finally, today's investigation is being conducted in an open setting. We expect to be able to ask 14 15 questions that will elicit information that does not 16 implicate classified information. However, to the extent 17 that our questions do implicate information you know to be 18 classified, please just indicate that, and to the extent 19 possible, provide as complete an answer as you can with 20 publicly available information. Should the need arise, we 21 have the capability, and we can set up a classified setting 22 in which we can address those questions. Any questions 23 about that?

24 Witness : No questions.
25 HSGAC Majority : Do you have a statement?





1 Agency Counsel : Yes.

2 HSGAC Majority : Okay.

Agency Counsel: Thank you. The Secret Service and the 3 4 Department of Homeland Security have made available to the 5 Committee, consistent with requests from the Chairman, 6 information and records that would not be publicly This information and records covered under the 7 released. 8 Privacy Act, personnel and other personal privacy 9 information, for official use only, law enforcement sensitive records, and raw intelligence information. 10

While the Secret Service and the Department have made 11 12 this information and records available to the Committee, we 13 continue to assert that such information and any discussion 14 of such information is not intended for public disclosure. 15 The Secret Service and the Department are not waiving any 16 protections, and for the purpose of administrative 17 efficiency and to promote constructive dialogue during the transcribed interview, we are making this assertion at the 18 19 outset of the transcribed interview, to preserve all assertions of protection for public release or disclosure 20 21 over information or records used or discussed during the 22 transcribed interview.

The transcript and any other attachments are protected from dissemination to the same extent as the documents and information they are based on. Please consult with the



1 Secret Service and the Department prior to any public 2 release or disclosure. The Secret Service and the Department have not consented to and were assured that 3 4 there would not be any audio or video recordings of this 5 interview. The agency understands that the interview will 6 be transcribed by the court reporter, and that the court 7 reporter is recording for the purpose of assisting with 8 transcription.

9 HSGAC Majority: That is our understanding, as well. As per
10 past interviews, the only recording will be for the
11 purposes of creating the transcript. The Committee will
12 retain custody of the transcript. Counsels will be
13 provided access to that transcript, to make any actual
14 corrections afterwards.

With respect to the information we received today, it is the Committee's intent to make public information it learns as part of future hearings or reports, as the Committee has done in an interim report released publicly in September of this year, based on information we learned in this investigation, and we will do so moving forward, including based on information we learn today.

However, it is the Committee's practice, and the Committee engaged in this practice with respect to its first interim report, and I would expect that we would do so moving forward, in advance of making any non-public





information public, the Committee will provide you and your counsel with any information we relied on, based on today's interview, and provide you an opportunity in advance of making any information public, to make any factual corrections.

6 7

Witness : No.

8 HSGAC Majority: Do you have any other questions before we
9 begin today?

No, sir.

Do you have any questions about that?

10 Witness :

HSGAC Majority: We will, again, as I said, proceed for the next hour, and we will start with Chairman Peters' staff asking a first round of questions, and I will turn it over to my colleague now, HSGAC Majority, to begin.

15HSGAC Majority: Good afternoon, Witness.16Witness: Good morning.

HSGAC Majority: Thank you for being here today. We
appreciate it.

19 I would like to star by asking if you have taken any 20 notes, either before the rally, during the rally, or after 21 the rally.

Witness : I don't recall taking any notes before
 or after, or before or during, but personal notes after.
 HSGAC Majority : What do you mean by personal notes?
 Witness : I just want to document my experience.





I prepared the notes to assist my counsel with the recollections of events that happened that day.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. How long have you been with
Secret Service and in what positions?

5 : I have been with the Secret Service Witness 6 since January of 2009. I started off as a special agent in 7 the Miami Field Office. I transferred to the Fort Myers 8 Resident Office shortly after being in Miami for 9 approximately 1 year. I transferred to Washington, D.C., to the President's detail in August of 2017. I finished my 10 time on the President's detail in July of 2021, and took a 11 12 position with Mr. Trump's former detail beginning in July 13 of 2021 through current.

14 HSGAC Majority: What was your role with the Donald Trump 15 Detail?

16 Witness : I started off as a special agent. I was 17 a shift leader. And then in June of last year I was 18 promoted to ASAC.

HSGAC Majority: And does second supervisor, a role that
you perform, based on protective events as ASAC?

21 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority: Just a quick question going back to your notes. Did you provide those notes to Secret Service, or were those notes taken, or did you create those notes at the direction of your counsel?



1

2



 Witness
 : The notes taken after the event was for

 2
 my counsel.

HSGAC Majority : And you mentioned you were with the
Donald Trump Detail beginning July 2021. Is that correct?
Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority : How many events have you led, you know,
planned, before, either with the Donald Trump Detail or
prior, during your tenure with Secret Service?

9 Witness : You want to know how many sites I have 10 been involved with since my career started?

HSGAC Majority : Roughly, in general, if you could just walk us through approximately how many events you have secured before and in what roles, roughly how many times working advance as the lead agent or site agent or with the detail.

16 Witness : It would be hard for me to approximate 17 each role and how many times I have done those roles. But 18 I can tell you that I have been a site agent, I have been a 19 lead advance agent, I have been a second supervisor many 20 times. I don't know the exact number.

21 HSGAC Majority : Over 30?

Witness : Over 30 as a site agent, for sure. As a lead, probably less than 30. As a second supervisor, probably 30 or more.

25 HSGAC Majority : The Preliminary Survey for the July 13th



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.F**#7224.13** (800.367.3376) rally lists three Protective Division supervisors -- SAC
PIL , yourself, as well as Inspector <u>Campaign Supervisor</u>. And we
understand that Inspector <u>Campaign Supervisor</u> was shadowing you for
the purposes of training. What were your respective roles
and responsibilities among the three of you for the July
13th rally?

7 Witness I served as the second supervisor for : 8 that specific event. Part of my role is to be there to support the lead advance team, whether that is the lead 9 agent herself or himself, the site agent, assistant site 10 agents. Any questions they can't resolve on their own they 11 12 can call me on and I can provide direction to them, to 13 help, you know, whether it may be a problem with staff or with the local police department, which is typically 14 15 handled by the local field office, but they may ask me my 16 opinion on something.

You know, another responsibility of the second supervisor would be just as a -- you're a liaison to that field office from the detail.

HSGAC Majority : In your role supporting the advance team, is your role to support the lead advance agent as well as the site agent and other advance agents, or are you there to support the Donald Trump Detail agents?





1 days leading up to the July 13th rally? What support did 2 you provide?

Witness : Well, one specific example is the site agent called me about access control. She had a question about who could be backstage and that was unclear. And I provided her guidance on, you know, having those people name checked and where they needed to be.

8 HSGAC Majority: Did you have any involvement in the
9 planning for the July 13th rally?

10 Witness : Not specifically. Our operations team 11 would have notified the field office of the trip, and I 12 would have shared any information that I have, or had 13 received prior to the event, with the advance team, for 14 them to incorporate into their security plans.

HSGAC Majority : Did SAC Plice have any involvement in
the planning for the July 13th rally?

Witness : What do you mean by planning, I guess,specifically?

HSGAC Majority: Sure. So involvement in reviewing,
 approving, provide guidance or support on the security
 perimeter, identifying vulnerabilities, figuring out
 staffing, those types of things.

Witness : I wasn't too heavily involved in those things up until, you know, the day I had a briefing from the site agent, the lead, and the assistant site agent on





1 the 12th. So leading up to that my involvement in their 2 planning is minimal.

HSGAC Majority : Assistant Detail Leader Assistant Detail Leader also 3 4 traveled to Butler for the July 13th rally. Did he have 5 any role in planning for the Butler rally? 6 : Not that I can recall. Witness And how does the assistant detail 7 HSGAC Majority : 8 leader's role and responsibility differ from yours as the second supervisor? 9 10 I mean, if I can't resolve something I Witness : 11 can go to him, to have him liaison with staff at a higher 12 level, and he can provide, you know, hopefully, resolution 13 to something like that. HSGAC Majority : I am not sure I caught the answer to 14 15 your question about planning. Was SAC Plans involved in 16 planning at all for the July 13th rally? 17 Not in like -- no. Not really. : LES Witness 18 LES 19 LES . 20 HSGAC Majority : That day. 21 That day. Witness : LES 22 LES 23 LES LES 24 but as far as the items that you told me, he LES doesn't have much to do with that. 25





HSGAC Majority : You mentioned that if you needed 1 2 quidance on something you might go to the Assistant Detail Leader **DSAC**. What is your general chain of command within 3 4 the Donald Trump Detail? I report directly to DSAC DSAC . 5 Witness : 6 And he reports to SAC PI HSGAC Majority : ?

And who does Campaign Supervisor report to?

7 Witness : Yes, ma'am.

HSGAC Majority :

9 Witness : Campaign Supervisor is -- at the time was 10 assigned as part of a supplemental GS-15, because it was 11 during a campaign season so he was part of the campaign 12 supplement supervisor team. He is not assigned to the 13 Donald Trump Division permanently.

14 Witness : How long had he been training to become15 a second supervisor?

16 Witness : You know, I don't -- it is not something 17 you -- he has probably been a second supervisor before, so 18 it is not like you are training to become a second 19 supervisor.

HSGAC Minority: I see. And what was the reason then for him shadowing you on that day?

Witness : Because it was his first week assigned to the Donald Trump Detail, in the role that he was fulfilling, so we were just kind of getting him acclimated to what our former detail looks like because it is quite a



8

1 bit different than other former details.

HSGAC Majority: I see. So it is his first week within
the Donald Trump Detail, serving as a second supervisor.
So before he actually started in that role he first
shadowed you.

б

Witness : Correct.

7 HSGAC Majority : Okay. And I would like to get a better 8 sense of the typical career progression to working a Secret 9 Service protective event. Could you walk us through 10 generally what is required? Is law enforcement experience 11 necessary? How long does one generally remain in the field 12 and investigations before being promoted to working 13 protective events?

14 Witness : Those timelines can shift based on the 15 needs of the Service. And I can tell you my career track. 16 I did 8 years in investigations in our Phase 1, where you, 17 you know, you are going to work white-collar crime cases 18 and do protection, where you get experience as a site 19 agent, working on a shift, doing lead advances. You may be 20 a transportation agent one day. You may work as a protective intelligence agent another day. 21

That is all Phase 1 time, and like I said, I spent 8 years in that Phase 1 time, before moving to D.C., where I started my Phase 2 assignment, which is full protection. There are no more investigations in that time. During that





time it is more of the same. You are going to now do fulltime protection, which would be sites, leads, shift work, et cetera. And that is a 6-year commitment.

What was the rest of your question?

5 HSGAC Majority: You mentioned that timelines can shift 6 based on the needs of the Service. Have you seen those 7 timelines shift over the years that you have been in the 8 Service?

9 Witness :

4

: Yes.

10 HSGAC Majority: Have they been compressed? Can you talk 11 more about that?

Witness : I am not sure why they get compressed. But like I said, I did 8 years, and I think the current time frame is agents are spending 3 to 4 years in their Phase 1 time, which I believe historically was usually around 4 years before moving on.

HSGAC Majority: Have you heard of any Secret Service agents assigned to either POTUS or FPOSTUS shortly after graduating from the Academy?

20Witness: What do you mean by shortly? Do you21mean like --







1 you at all?

2 Witness : I think it just depends on how good, you 3 know, the agent is, how the experiences they may or may not 4 have had will help shape them.

5 HSGAC Majority: You mentioned you did 8 years in Phase 1 6 and then another 6 years in Phase 2. Compressing that 7 timeline into 3 years, in your view, and based on your 8 experience, does that compromise the ability of the agent 9 to be able to have the experience necessary to adequately 10 provide security for protectees?

I don't think so, and with a caveat. 11 Witness : It 12 just depends on where you are coming from. Like I came 13 from the Fort Myers office. It is a very small office with 14 four agents. We don't do a lot of protection. But like 15 our Miami office or our Chicago office or New York office, 16 basically all they do is protection. So the 3 years, they 17 have a lot of meaningful repetitions in those assignments.

So if they are coming from a larger office it is possible that they are more prepared. If they are coming from a smaller office, it may mean it could affect them. But, you know, I don't know their background or their skill set.

HSGAC Majority: Understood. So there are a number of
variables that are taken into account. Recognizing that,
is part of the compressed time frame due to staffing



1 shortages?

12

2 Witness : I can only assume that it is. I don't 3 work in the human resources.

HSGAC Majority: So specifically, I would like to talk
about the staffing for the July 13th rally. Who is in
charge of making the decisions within the Donald Trump
Detail to determine work schedules and assignments?

8 Witness : Our Operations Division works with each 9 shift leader on Mr. Trump's shift and Mrs. Trump and their 10 son.

- 11 HSGAC Majority : And who is that?
 - Witness : Barron Trump.
- 13 HSGAC Majority : No. Your operations shift leader.

Witness : PI [ph] is my operations whip.
HSGAC Majority : And he is the one who makes the
decisions about work schedules and assignments?

17 He liaisons with each shift leader, and Witness : 18 he each week he will put out a, like a needs to fill. This 19 is the upcoming trips we need to fill, and then he will work with the shift leaders until a predetermined date. 20 21 Usually it is Wednesday or Thursday that they need to have 22 their draft schedules in to him. And then he will, you 23 know, basically massage the schedule to make sure everything is covered, and any last-minute changes he can 24 25 just handle himself, before it is published on Friday





1 before midnight. 2 **HSGAC Majority**: And approximately how many shift leaders 3 are there? 4 LES Witness : So there is the -- Mr. . 5 Trump's detail has an **LES** shift. 6 Each one of those shifts has one shift leader and two 7 whips. 8 HSGAC Majority: Who was the shift leader for the July 9 13th rally? RAC CNOS Supplemnt [ph]. He was a CNOS 10 Witness : supplement, I believe, from -- I'm not sure what RAC office 11 12 he is in charge of, but he is a GS-14. HSGAC Majority : Did you have any concerns about the 13 assignments for the July 13th rally? 14 15 No. Witness : 16 HSGAC Majority : To your knowledge, how was the July 13th protective team selected from the Donald Trump Detail? Was 17 18 it based on experience? Availability? Something else? : You want to know about the advance team? 19 Witness 20 Is that what you said? 21 HSGAC Majority : Correct. Correct. 22 So the Donald Trump Detail only provides Witness Counsel 23 a site agent. The rest of the advance team, in our notification to the field we request what we need, and part 24 25 of that is the rest of the advance team. So it would have



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FORDEP0.22 (800.367.3376) been on the Pittsburgh office for that specific event, for them to fulfill the lead site assistant agent, you know, all the other protective intelligence. All the member of the advance team would have to come from outside of our detail.

6 HSGAC Majority: In the Independent Review Panel's recent 7 report they pointed out the significant lack of experience 8 of the site agent appointed to, assigned to the July 13th 9 rally. Were you aware of the assigned site agent's lack of 10 experience?

11 Witness : I knew she came from the Miami Field 12 Office. I know she had done prior sites for us 13 successfully. That is all I was aware of.

HSGAC Majority: Because of her lack of experience did you make any modifications in how you conducted your supervisory work?

Witness : I don't think I said she had a lack of experience. I just knew she came from the Miami office, which is a high-tempo protection office, and she had been with us, I believe, for a year, and had experienced many shift movements, many rallies as a shift agent, and had also successfully worked sites by herself.

HSGAC Majority: So you didn't have any concerns.
Witness: Not at the moment, no.

25 [Pause.]





1 So something that the Donald Trump : Witness 2 Detail had done to further educate and help agents be successful in the field. One thing that we have done is we 3 4 have created our own -- the operations team created a 5 PowerPoint that went over some administrative things that 6 they would experience on the road, how to deal with staff, how to complete correct diagrams, things to look for when 7 8 you are doing a site, liaisoning with local police, et cetera. More of just like a refresher on things that they 9 should have learned in the Academy and then through their 10 Phase 1 time. 11

12 So we provided that training to as many agents as we 13 could. I don't know if it was everyone, as I sit here 14 today. But it was a substantial amount of agents that went 15 through that. And that was something that we did, like I 16 said, to help them be more successful when they were out. 17 I know SAC **P** and DSAC **P** also brought in a rally 18 training center, people from our Academy, to help provide 19 training on shift movements, on emergency action 20 situations, first aid, et cetera. And those were things 21 that they went above and beyond to provide our agents.

HSGAC Majority: Is it accurate to say the Donald Trump Detail provided additional training on top of what Secret Service provides its agents?

25

Witness : Yes.



1	HSGAC Majority : And the PowerPoint training that the
2	operations team within the Donald Trump Division provided,
3	was that provided before the July 13th rally?
4	Witness : Yes.
5	HSGAC Majority : PII , I don't believe we have received
6	a copy of that, so I would ask that we receive a copy of
7	the PowerPoint and any other documents regarding the
8	training.
9	Witness Counsel : Understood.
10	HSGAC Majority : Thank you.
11	Our understanding is the Donald Trump Detail also
12	provided a C-UAS advance agent, or a C-UAS agent, for the
13	rally. Were you aware of that, as well?
14	Witness : Yes.
15	HSGAC Majority : We you aware of the C-UAS agent's lack
16	of experience?
17	Witness : He was provided experience before that
18	assignment.
19	HSGAC Majority : Could you say more about his experience?
20	Witness : Our Technical Security Division came
21	down to Mar-a-Lago. I don't know the date and time. But
22	they are the experts, if you want to say that, on the
23	equipment that Agent $\frac{C/UAS Advance}{Lead}$ was operating that day. They
24	showed us how to set it up. And this was just open to
25	everyone. It just wasn't specific to the few guys that run



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800.FOP2224.25 (800.367.3376) 1 that program for us.

2 So we all had a basic understanding of that equipment from them, from the Technical Security Division. And then 3 we also did like a, almost like a ride-along, like a police 4 officer would, for a new trainee, who would send out 5 б someone getting ready to go out on their own with somebody 7 that has already -- knows how to operate the equipment. 8 And I believe that C/UAS Advance Lead had that opportunity before 9 the Butler event.

HSGAC Majority: Was that training you just mentioned provided by the Donald Trump Detail at Mar-a-Lago, was that a 1-hour training, do you recall?

13 Witness : That sounds correct.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. So other than that training, the C-UAS agent had not received any other specific training related to C-UAS and related to the technical capabilities of the system.

18 Witness : I believe he also had the ride-along, if 19 you want to call it that.

HSGAC Majority : Oh right, okay. Can you explain how the Donald Trump -- you have touched on this a little bit, but if you could explain how the Donald Trump Detail operations, CNOS operations, and then Secret Service OPO, how do you coordinate among those offices for planning, responsibility, resource allocation for a protective event?





Or I guess to put a finer point on it, is there a hierarchy among those three? You know, is it ultimately up to OPO? Are there instances where DTD requests something but it is not received? How do you coordinate with CNOS? If you could speak to that.

6 Sure. So typically the advance team Witness : 7 would identify a need for something, and then they would 8 submit that request with a brief justification on why they 9 are requesting it. And then the Donald Trump Detail 10 operations section -- so the CNOS operations was kind of, I don't recall how long they had kind of been in the scene. 11 12 But typically we would put that request straight to OPO and 13 cc the Campaign Ops, the CNOS Ops section.

This campaign was a bit different because there had 14 15 not been another protectee with an existing detail running 16 for President. So CNOS Operations' function is set up to 17 provide an operations team for someone that has never had 18 protection, or doesn't have protection. So we were just 19 kind of working together. So that is why we would cc But DTD would typically go straight to OPO for a 20 everyone. 21 request.

HSGAC Majority: For campaign events, would DTD
Operations coordinate with Trump campaign staff, as well,
on how to secure events?

25

Witness : We work with staff closely.





1HSGAC Majority :And which staff from the Trump campaign?2Witness :For this specific event?3HSGAC Majority :Correct.

4 Witness : I believe the lead advance for the staff 5 was Campaign Staff Lead Advance , I believe is his name.

6 It appears that for some decisions, a HSGAC Majority 7 senior, more experienced agent from the local Pittsburgh 8 Field Office deferred to the site agent because she was a member of the Donald Trump protective detail. 9 Is this 10 standard protocol for experienced field office agents to give deference to the detail operations? 11 Is there a 12 hierarchy there? What I am trying to get at is are the 13 roles and responsibilities within the Donald Trump Detail operations and the field offices, are they clear in terms 14 15 of who has responsibility for what?

16 Witness : I think they are clear. I mean, I 17 guess, could you just give me a specific example?

HSGAC Majority: Does it make sense to give deference to
someone that is less experienced within the Donald Trump
Detail operations if you are a senior agent within the
Pittsburgh Field Office?

Witness : I think if it is -- if it is maybe like an administrative question, possibly. But if it goes to the heart of securing the venue, then no, it should be like a group, this is what we think we need.



HSGAC Majority: Understood. And you mentioned your involvement in the July 13th rally substantively started on July 12th, aside from responding to specific inquiries. Is that right?

5 I didn't hear the whole question. Witness : 6 You mentioned that your involvement in HSGAC Majority 7 the July 13th rally, and the planning for the July 13th 8 rally, aside from responding to specific requests from the 9 site agent or an advance agent, that it really substantively started on July 12th. Is that correct? 10 The advance started on July -- we 11 Witness : 12 notified the Pittsburgh Field Office on July 3rd. I 13 arrived on July 11th. My walk-through was July 13th, or 14 July 12th, and the event was July 13th.

HSGAC Majority: And was the July 12th walk-through kind
of your initial involvement in the planning?

Witness : It was the first time I saw the site.
HSGAC Majority : And before we get to that July 12th

19 walk-through, I would like to first understand one thing we 20 touched on, which is the organizational kind of roles and 21 responsibilities among the advance agents. So for the July 22 13th rally, who was in charge of determining the amount of 23 support needed from state and local law enforcement?

24 Witness : State and local relationships are 25 established by the field office. They work not just our



1 visit but every visit that is going to come through their 2 district. So we lean, as the detail, we defer to the field office to establish and come up with what they need to 3 4 secure, you know, how many police we would need for that venue or that event. 5 Because we don't have those 6 relationships, and we definitely don't want to burn those 7 relationships and then leave town, leave Pittsburgh with 8 sort of a mess.

9 HSGAC Majority : Understood. Would that be the lead
10 advance agent?

11 Witness :

: Yes.

HSGAC Majority: And who was responsible for determining
the amount of support needed from Secret Service?
Witness: There would have been a manpower walk-

14 Witness : There would have been a manpower walk-15 through with one of the supervisors from the Pittsburgh 16 office.

HSGAC Majority: Would that be the responsibility of the lead agent or the site agent to determine the amount of support needed from Secret Service?

20 Witness : I believe it is a joint effort to go 21 through how many post-standers you need, specific. I think 22 we might be mixing two things as far as how many police we 23 need and how my agents we need. Those are different 24 conversations, I think. Because we only request agents 25 from OPO. We don't request local officers from OPO.



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#72224.30

1 Who made the decision to send counter HSGAC Majority : 2 snipers for the July 13th rally? I received a phone call from SAC PI 3 Witness : to request our counter sniper team, and then it would be 4 5 approved. 6 Do you know what prompted this decision? HSGAC Majority 7 I received a -- not just me. Witness : It was 8 more of a, I think it was a group text message that just 9 said, you know, when you are out working your sites, if you 10 think you need our counter sniper assets please say something. It was kind of a broad, nonspecific 11 12 information. 13 HSGAC Majority : And that --14 And so that was like the night before, Witness : 15 and then SAC **Place** called me the next day and said, "Hey, 16 request counter sniper. It's already been approved. Ι 17 just need you to submit the paperwork." 18 HSGAC Majority : So the request for the counter sniper, 19 our understanding was submitted on July 9th, or approved on July 9th. Can you talk more about the text messages? 20 What 21 prompted the decision to send counter snipers? Was it 22 intelligence? Was it something else? 23 I believe it was intelligence driven. : Witness 24 It was --25 Why do you --HSGAC Majority



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1 Witness : The information I received was we have a 2 credible, long-range threat to Mogul, and it's by the 3 typical actors, is how it was kind of relayed to me, in 4 those broad terms. I kind of knew what people were talking 5 about, but this was not in a classified setting.

HSGAC Majority: Who did you receive that information
from?

8 Witness : I believe I received it from DSAC PI 9 HSGAC Majority : And is there a -- I don't want to get 10 into anything that is classified, and we can set up a 11 separate setting, but is there any additional information 12 that is classified related to the credible threat, that you 13 are aware of?

Witness : I have never received a classified
briefing on that information.

HSGAC Majority: To your knowledge, did Secret Service or any of the advance team change any of its planning after adding two counter snipers to its operations for the July 13th rally, based on this credible intelligence you mentioned?

Witness : So when I received the information, as I have described, I immediately called the lead agent, , and relayed to her in the same terms that I received them. And I also called the site agent, SteAgent , shortly after I had talked to Lead Agent. But





before I hung up with Lead Agent she made mention that she was going to request a local counter sniper, because at the time of that phone call with her, Secret Service counter sniper had not been approved yet.

HSGAC Majority: It was pending approval?

6 Witness : It was either pending or I was about to 7 submit it, you know, within the next -- it all happened 8 like within hours.

9 HSGAC Majority : Going back to roles and 10 responsibilities, who is in charge of determining the 11 perimeter of an event, the security perimeter, if an event 12 is outdoors? The lead agent? The site agent? Who is in 13 charge?

14 Witness : The site agent is ultimately responsible 15 They can reach that conclusion on what for their site. 16 those perimeters need to be within the lead agent and their 17 site counterpart and the local field office. But 18 ultimately the site agents are responsible for their site. 19 HSGAC Majority : And that would include determining the security perimeter? 20 21 Witness : Yes. 22 Did you have any involvement in HSGAC Majority 23 reviewing or approving any of the resource requests that the advance team submitted, so the Preliminary Survey, the 24

25 Manpower Request, the Site Diagram?



5



1 So all that information is submitted to Witness : 2 my operations team. It is not something I personally review until it is final. I think the manpower numbers and 3 4 what the lead advance team is requesting is my general Ops agents will liaison and call them and ask specifically what 5 6 they need. My agents are there to help get them all the 7 assets that they are requesting. So, you know, I may call 8 them and just ask for clarity on something so it can be either written better or give us the best, you know, 9 10 opportunity for approval. HSGAC Majority : Are there any supervisors that review 11 12 the Preliminary Survey, Manpower Request, Site Diagram, any 13 of those documents before they are finalized? 14 Witness : It is possible that the Pittsburgh 15 office reviewed those documents before they were submitted 16 to DTD Operations. 17 HSGAC Majority : And did DTD Operations review before 18 everything is submitted to OPO? 19 We do. We are reviewing for more : Witness 20 administrative, just things are in the same format, 21 misspellings, it ineraries match the latest it inerary being 22 published by staff, things of that nature. 23 Not a substantive review in terms of --HSGAC Majority 24 Witness We are not questioning why they have an : 25 agent here and not there, because **LES**



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1 LES 2 Right. But should there be a more HSGAC Maiority substantive review before the request is submitted to OPO? 3 4 Like I said earlier, there is a : Witness 5 supervisor manpower walk-through before that is submitted, 6 to make sure that they have the numbers that they want for their site. So when it reaches my operations team, a 7 8 supervisor from the local office has physically walked that site and seen where things are going to be. 9 10 HSGAC Majority: So let's talk about the LES walk-I guess before we get there, what training did 11 through. 12 you receive on how to conduct walk-throughs and approve 13 site plans? 14 : My training has been just my Witness 15 experiences. 16 HSGAC Majority : And before that walk-through -- what 17 time did it start? Was it in the early evening? 18 LES Witness : 19 HSGAC Majority : LES 20 Approximately. Witness : 21 Before you began that walk-through, what HSGAC Majority : 22 information did you receive, either from the site agent or 23 other advance members? What did you receive before, just to prepare for the walk-through? Did you review any 24 25 documents?



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1	Witness : I received a draft, LES
2	LES
3	HSGAC Majority : A draft of the Site Diagram?
4	Witness : Yes, Site Diagram, Preliminary Survey.
5	I don't recall if the Counter Sniper Report was in there or
6	not yet, but I eventually saw it.
7	HSGAC Majority : Did you review or receive the
8	Pennsylvania State Operations Plan or the Butler ESU
9	Operation Plan?
10	Witness : No. That is not something typically
11	that we include in our paperwork.
12	HSGAC Majority : Have you since seen those documents?
13	Witness : No.
14	HSGAC Majority : Could you walk us through so the
15	walk-through started LES just walk us through it.
16	Who was there? How did you conduct it? I understand it
17	started at the airport, but let's fast forward.
18	Witness : It actually did not start at the
19	airport. LES
20	HSGAC Majority : Okay.
21	Witness : But Lead Agent , had not been
22	feeling well on the 11th, going into the 12th, that
23	midnight. When I woke up I had saw that she had sent me an
24	email that said she was feeling unwell, had spent the night
25	in the ER. So I replied all to the email and just said,



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1 "Take care of yourself. Let's not worry about the airport." We can see it either later that evening or the 2 next day, prior to Mr. Trump's arrival. And that I would 3 go direct with Site Agent on setting up the walk-through 4 5 at her site. 6 HSGAC Majority: And so who was present at the walk-7 through? Was it you, Site Agent , and Campaing Supervisor 8 Campaing Supervisor ? Site Counterpart 9 Witness : And 10 HSGAC Majority : And Site Counterpart How did you evacuate the security perimeter during the 11 12 13 : So my walk-throughs I want to start at Witness the arrival/departure area. As a second supervisor, my 14 15 LES

16 So I want to see how we are LES ١. 17 In this case it was a tented arrival. And then arriving. I want to see the stage, assets around the stage, emergency 18 19 action from the stage, sequence of events, where our assets are going to be positioned in relation to each walking path 20 21 movement. That is where I am focused.

HSGAC Majority: And could you walk us through after that. So you are focused on the inner perimeter. Where do you then go from there to evaluate, you know, other threats and vulnerabilities to the site?



1	Witness : So when the walk-through started, Site Agent
2	Site Agent initially was telling me about some of the LES
3	LES et cetera. Initially I
4	stopped her and refocused her and told her that those are
5	important things but I wanted to start at the
6	arrival/departure area. So she took me there. We looked
7	at the tent, a large, LES
8	LES
9	She showed me where LES would be, and that after
10	arriving LES for an undetermined amount
11	of time and then proceed to a photo op area. I had asked
12	her what the push-pull scene was going to look like inside
13	the photo area, meaning where the guests were going to be
14	coming from or where are they going to exit. She wasn't
15	completely sure, so I offered my advice on where the lines
16	should stack and how they should exit.
17	And then I talked about how I wanted LES
18	LES
19	LES
20	So those are some of the finer details that I am
21	looking for and that I coached her on. And then we started
22	on basically the walking path to the stage. When I got to
23	the stage I noticed the first two-foot riser he took up on
24	to the walking path, you know, LES
25	LES , we just kind of stopped there and observed what



1 was around us. And I asked her what her plans were for 2 mitigation at the five o'clock. So we call our clock directions off of the front of the dais, and we work in a 3 4 clockwise position.

5 So I asked her what the plans were for mitigation at 6 the five o'clock, and I believe she provided some 7 The other agents were with her, as well, information. 8 during this walk-through, so it was either her or one of 9 the senior special agents that said there was a plan to 10 mitigate that with a large crane. There was a large crane with the American flag draped behind it, and that was the 11 12 plan, to mitigate that area, which seemed satisfactory to 13 me.

The five o'clock area? 14 HSGAC Majority

15 Yes, ma'am. Witness :

- 16 HSGAC Majority Would that be near where the water tower
- 17 was?
- 18 In that direction. Witness : Yes. 19

So that was to mitigation the water HSGAC Maiority :

20 tower vulnerability?

21 : Just threats at the five o'clock. Witness 22 And what about threats at the HSGAC Majority Okay. 23 three o'clock, which was the AGR building?

24 Witness : So as we continued I noticed the buffer 25 area, because again, I am concerned with the innermost





1 circle. So as we are taking this walk-through I can see that the bike rack that she had positioned was LES 2 LES I ended up walking it off, and it 3 was around **LES** . So I explained to her that the **F**S 4 5 LES because after you start putting press and speakers in that 6 7 area it can get tight on space. So we pushed that right side bike rack **LES** . That was the maximum we 8 9 could go with where the bleachers were pre-positioned. And then I worked my way around basically 10 counterclockwise from that position, and ended up she had a 11 12 set of stairs at the **LES**, which was not in line 13 with the dais. So part of my responsibility as the second 14 supervisor is I am looking at emergency actions 15 specifically, and to save any amount of time that I can 16 save on if we have to **FS** the stage. And when I say 17 **LES** I mean just go up on the stage and remove the 18 protectee, like we did. 19 HSGAC Majority : I'm sorry to interrupt you. I'd like to 20 focus on the discussions as it relates to the security perimeter and how the AGR building was covered. Did you 21 22 have discussions about scoping the security perimeter? Did

you talk about how that security perimeter, the middle
perimeter, the one outside the inner perimeter, would be
defined?



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1	Witness : Yes. We had those discussions after the
2	what I'm there for I'm concerned with everything,
3	right. I wanted to know the whole security plan.
4	LES
5	LES
6	LES . To the cars,
7	should we need to go there, LES
8	LES , things of that nature.
9	So I'll just finish what I told her to do there and
10	then I'll address what you're asking.
11	So I moved the set of stairs that was initially at
12	basically the back left of the stage, and I had them moved
13	to the front left of the stage, or the LES
14	LES , which would have made SAC PI stairs
15	directly in line with the podium, LES
16	LES .
17	But as far as the bike rack and things that we made
18	those changes, as far as the middle perimeter and the
19	concerns at the three o'clock, I addressed I asked what
20	the plans were at the three o'clock, and in that kind of
21	deer run area, I kind of called it. The initial site was
22	cordoned off by bike rack and then there was a deer run,
23	which is like 50 or so yards of green area, at the three
24	o'clock there.
25	HSGAC Majority : I'll just show you. I'll mark it as



Exhibit Number 1. This is the Butler ESU Operations Plan,
 but it's an aerial of the site.

3 [Exhibit No. 1 was4 marked for identification.]

5 Witness : Okay. So I was told that -- there was a 6 fence by the AGR building and those other buildings there. 7 That was a chain-link fence, and there was a secondary 8 chain-link fence, I believe it was outside of the bike rack 9 that staff had placed to define the site from that other 10 property. I was briefed that there was going to be uniformed police presence in that deer run area to help 11 12 secure those buildings and that green space area, and that 13 the police officers would be positioned on both sides of 14 the fence, meaning on the AGR side of the fence and in the 15 deer run area between the AGR side and the site.

HSGAC Majority: Can you mark with an X where your understanding was that the police presence would be positioned, where those post-standers would be?

19 Witness : I didn't ask specifically where they 20 would be standing. I just referred -- they told me that 21 there was going to be police officers there, and as a 22 second supervisor, it tells me that they've thought about 23 it and that they had a plan. And additionally, they said 24 that they had spoken to our counter sniper team and that 25 they felt that they were very confident they could cover





those buildings, you know, from where they were and in addition to where they were positioning the local counter sniper team.

HSGAC Majority : And when you say "those buildings," are
you referring to the AGR building, which is essentially
three buildings?

7

Witness : Yes, ma'am.

8 HSGAC Majority: What was your understanding, based on 9 the site walk-through, of how the AGR building would be 10 covered?

11 Witness : That area of the site, my understanding 12 was there would be a local counter sniper team at the AGR 13 area, right, as depicted on the diagram.

14 HSGAC Majority: Did you know whether the local sniper
15 team would be on the roof or in the building?

16 Witness : It's been my experience, since 2009, 17 that counter sniper teams are on roofs, so I didn't ask 18 that specific question.

HSGAC Majority : But when you learned there would be a local sniper team, your understanding was that they would be positioned on the roof of the AGR building. Is that correct?

Witness : Yes.
HSGAC Majority : And did you discuss line-of-sight
concerns at the Butler Farm Show ground?





1

: Yes.

Witness

HSGAC Majority: And could you specifically -- so our understanding is it's common to use physical barriers, like large equipment, trucks, in this case farm equipment potentially. What were the line-of-sight concerns that you discussed and what potential mitigation tactics did you consider using?

8 Witness : So at the five o'clock was the crane, 9 and then there was a John Deere tractor used at the nine 10 o'clock, and then specifically at the three o'clock there 11 was a red combine tractor that we utilized for that area. 12 HSGAC Majority : Could you mark where that red tractor

13 was?

14 Witness : It's in the pictures somewhere. Do you 15 have pictures from the day? I can circle it.

16 HSGAC Majority: So I'm showing you what's been marked as 17 Exhibit 2.

18 [Exhibit No. 2 was 19 marked for identification.] 20 HSGAC Majority : And these are redacted, but it's our 21 understanding that these are text messages either to or 22 from you. Do these look familiar to you?

- 23 Witness : They look familiar.
- 24 HSGAC Majority : And was this something that you sent?
 - Witness : It looks like somebody sent it to me.



25

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800.FOF72224.44 (800.367.3376) HSGAC Majority: Do you know who that would be?
 Witness: Possibly Site Agent . Hard to say with
 the redactions.

HSGAC Majority: And are these the -- is this the
equipment you're talking about, or is this something
different? It's difficult to tell with the redactions.
Witness : I don't see a picture from the three
o'clock.

9 HSGAC Majority : Okay. So let's talk about the three 10 o'clock line-of-sight concerns. Our understanding is that 11 Penske trucks were in the area and there was an offer to 12 use farm equipment to mitigate line-of-sight concerns. Is 13 that correct?

Witness : I was only aware of the farm equipment.
HSGAC Majority : Of the farm equipment. And what ended
up happening? Was the farm equipment used?

Witness : Yes, the farm equipment was used at the
three o'clock.

HSGAC Majority: And using Exhibit 1, could you put an X
on where the farm equipment was used, roughly,

21 understanding this is an approximation?

Witness Counsel: We don't have an overhead of the day of, that would actually show it. I mean, I'm sure he can do his best, but --

25 HSGAC Majority : This is, unfortunately, the only aerial





1 that we have of the site.

2 Witness : So the stage would've been approximately 3 like here. I would say it's in this area.

4 HSGAC Majority : And just for the record, ASAC PI is 5 marking the area to the, like in the rabbit run, the deer 6 run that you talked about, in front of the AGR building but 7 forward the crowd and not the stage. Is that accurate? 8 : Roughly. Witness The exhibit will speak for itself. 9 Witness Counsel 10 HSGAC Majority : So when you talked about farm equipment and using physical barriers, was there any objection to 11 12 using farm equipment? 13 Witness : No. I thought it was a good idea. 14 HSGAC Majority : So to your knowledge, no one objected to 15 using any farm equipment. 16 Not at the three o'clock. Witness : 17 Did anyone object to using Penske HSGAC Majority 18 trucks? 19 I wasn't aware there was Penske trucks Witness : 20 available. 21 **HSGAC** Majority: We've learned that the Trump campaign 22 staff denied the use of physical barriers, such as trucks 23 and farm equipment, because the barriers would, quote, 24 "block a press shot." Is this something that you've heard? 25 After the events I have heard that, but : Witness





not during the event. Had that been brought to my
 knowledge it would've been good information to have.

HSGAC Majority: So were you present for any of those
conversations on the day of the walk-through?

5 : I recall staff having hesitation at the Witness 6 nine o'clock. I wanted to use some line-of-sight 7 mitigation at the nine o'clock. There was a pond in that 8 area. And after some talking we just decided -- I felt 9 comfortable with an increased police presence in that area. 10 There were some outbuildings behind the fence line, and I was assured that there would be police officers in those 11 12 alleyways to mitigate that concern.

HSGAC Majority: Specifically with regard to the three o'clock, the AGR building vulnerability, and considering what ended up happening on July 13th, is it fair to say the line-of-sight vulnerabilities from the AGR building were not fully mitigated?

Witness : Yeah, I guess that's a fair statement.
HSGAC Majority : So to your knowledge, direct knowledge,
did the Trump campaign staff deny any requests to use
equipment or any type of physical barrier to mitigate lineof-sight vulnerabilities?

Witness : I was not aware of staff denying lineof-sight mitigation assets at the three o'clock. It was never elevated to my decision-making authority.





HSGAC Majority: Understood. And how about not specific to the three o'clock, but any line-of-sight issue within the venue?

4 Witness : Like I just testified to the nine 5 o'clock, that was it.

HSGAC Majority : That's it.

6

7 HSGAC Majority: Who ultimately has the authority to grant 8 or deny a request as it relates to security decisions? Can 9 a staff for a former President or current President 10 protectee make that decision, or is that ultimately up to 11 the Secret Service?

12 Witness : If it's a security issue it's up to us. 13 We may go back and forth with them, but if it's something 14 that we need, and it's not getting done at the current 15 level, that it needs to be elevated.

HSGAC Majority: Have you ever been involved in a discussion where staff for a protectee you were responsible for disagreed about a security-related decision?

Witness : I believe so. Yeah, I think so.
HSGAC Majority : With respect to this event, is that the
case, or no?

22 Witness : Did staff approach me about a security 23 issue -- is that your question?

24 HSGAC Majority: Yes, that's my question.

25 Witness : I don't recall them coming to me with a





1 security issue.

HSGAC Majority: And can you provide any details -- you said to your recollection you may have in the past been involved. To your recollection, can you provide any detail there?

6 I can't provide a specific site, but Witness : 7 things that will come up are where do we put the 8 magnetometers for a walk-through, can we have them here, or 9 we want them as close to the, you know, seating area so our quests don't have to walk as far, as an example. Whereas, 10 you know, from a security standpoint that's not a good 11 12 idea. LES , if we

13 can control it.

So that would be a typical conversation I may have with staff, or, "Hey, we're arriving on this side of the building because we like the way it looks," whereas I may push to have, if there's an option to arrive inside, I'm going to push for that.

HSGAC Majority: You just shared that ultimately the decision is up to the Secret Service when it relates to security. Within, then, the Secret Service, what is the hierarchy? For this event, for example, who was the senior official involved, either on-site or off, who ultimately had authority to make decisions about security, and can you delineate the line of authority on down?





Witness : I don't know that I can, who has ultimate authority. I guess it's just who has the facts, who has the problem that we're trying to solve.

4 There are several individuals, including HSGAC Majority : 5 involved in this event, with the "Special Agent in Charge" 6 title in their title. For example, you, ASAC, SAC of the 7 Pittsburgh office, SAC in the detail. To an outside person 8 that's confusing. Can you delineate the authority as it 9 relates to Special Agents in Charge among various Special Agents in Charge with that title, and who is above and 10 below them? 11

Witness : Certainly a Special Agent in Charge can make final decisions. It's their district. It's their detail. They can certainly make those decisions. I can also make a decision on security measures.

HSGAC Majority: Is the Special Agent in Charge of field office in a geography where an event is being held higher, in terms of whether there's a disagreement, than a Special Agent in Charge on a detail?

20 I don't know if there's --Witness : 21 It's not set out anywhere? HSGAC Majority: 22 Not that I'm familiar with. : Witness 23 And just understanding the make-up of the HSGAC Majority : Secret Service itself, in general, you are part of the, and 24 25 were at this time, part of the Donald Trump Detail. But





1 for protectees, in general, each protectee has a detail.

2 Correct?

3 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC M j ity: Be it the President or former President.
The details themselves are part of the Secret Service.
Correct?

7

Witness : They are.

8 Can you just explain, when you rotate to HSGAC M i iv 9 the detail, is there any distinction in operationally how you staff? Are you, in essence, kind of separate, if not 10 physically, from, say, a particular field office or the 11 12 rest of the Secret Service? What are the differences, to 13 the extent there are any, being on a detail as opposed to the other rotations you may do within the Secret Service? 14 15 When you're assigned to the Office of Witness : 16 Investigation, where is where you are in Phase 1, I mean, 17 you could be in a supportive role for any protectee, at any 18 one time. Outside of a few exceptions, when you're in a 19 Phase 2 assignment, assigned to a protectee, such as the President or former President, you are, the majority of the 20 21 time with maybe a few exceptions here and there, only 22 supporting that protectee. Does that answer your question? 23 In addition to that, what you've just HSGAC Majority : Yes. 24 explained, that your sole responsibility becomes the 25 protection for the protectee themselves, are there other





differences -- your duration, your geographic location, the way in which you communicate with the other aspects of Secret Service?

4 I don't completely follow your question. Witness : 5 HSGAC Majority : If you're on a detail and, therefore, your 6 responsibility for protection means you're going to be 7 staying with that protectee, so not in your field office, 8 in your instance in Florida, not at Headquarters, are there 9 distinctions in your job? So other than the responsibility you just identified, the primary responsibility of 10 protection, are there differences in how you would receive 11 12 training information, change in policy information, how you 13 would understand your next rotation, or anything 14 distinguishing what you do on a detail, as opposed to what 15 you do when you rotate to field offices or other parts of 16 the Secret Service?

17 : Policy changes are, you know, published Witness from our administrative officers, just like in the field. 18 19 That's been my experience. As far as rotating assignments, on a protective detail -- we'll take Donald Trump Detail 20 21 for example -- you may come to the detail on Shift 🖥 for 22 the former President, and at any time, it could be three 23 months, it could be longer, it could be shorter, you may be on the family section. I guess I'm trying to do my best 24 25 Is that what you mean? here.



1 Just trying to understand, if at all, Yes. HSGAC Majority : 2 the distinctions between various responsibilities an agent may have within the Service. 3 4 On the detail, is there typically a set duration of time you would serve in that position, and if so, what is 5 6 it? 7 Witness You mean how long would you serve on : your Phase 2 time? 8 9 Yeah. HSGAC Majority : 10 Witness : Typically it's six years. 11 HSGAC Majority : How long have you served? 12 I was assigned to the President's detail : Witness 13 in August of 2017, and I'm still doing protection. HSGACM j ity: Are you rotating to any new position or 14 15 staying in your current? 16 When I was promoted to ASAC, I run our Witness : 17 operations team now, and I have not rotated -- I guess, 18 what do you mean by like rotated out? 19 HSGAC Majority : Maybe I'm using the wrong terminology. But do you have any plans to leave the detail for another 20 21 position within the Secret Service? 22 : Not currently. Witness 23 We're going to break shortly. I just have HSGAC Majority : one more question, and we'll pick up with other lines of 24 25 questions. I'll want to return to questions related to the



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day of. You mentioned on the day of that you eventually
 had to LES the stage and remove the President, the former
 President, in a situation that involved a security threat.

I guess, question one, is the definition of **ES** the stage," meaning you're not just removing him; you're moving him because of a security threat?

7 Witness : Yes.

8 HSGAC Majority: Is that something you've ever done before?
9 Witness : No, outside of a training scenario.
10 HSGAC Majority: Okay. Let's take a break. We'll go back
11 on in a couple of minutes. Thanks.

12 [Recess.]

HSGAC Minority : HSGAC Minority , again with Ranking Member Paul. I'm going to start -- we'll jump around a little, so bear with me. And then HSGAC Mino will ask some questions.

So I just want to go back to the group text. You said you received the information about the threat or the counter snipers through a group text. Can you repeat that for me?

Witness : It was a text about if you need -- if you think you need counter sniper assets to be aware of them, like to not hesitate to, you know, request them. HSGAC Minority : And do you recall the day of that text? Witness : No.



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOF7224.54 (800.367.3376) HSGAC Minority: Just for the record, we don't have that text message. That has not been produced to us. I don't even think we have anything that looks relatively like it in redacted form. So we would just make that request again for all records to Secret Service.

So you're not quite sure. Do you recall if it was theday before the event? A week before the event?

8 Witness : I don't recall. It was around the time 9 of the --

HSGAC Minority: And do you recall who else was in the group text?

Witness : No.

12

13 HSGAC Minority : Was it folks from the DTD?

14 Witness : It would've been DTD, yeah.

HSGAC Minority: So we've been trying to get this timeline straight from communicating and doing TIs with other folks. So my understanding, and I'd like to hear if you were aware of this at the time so I'll just kind of give you what I've collected as my outline of this timeline of counter sniper assets going forward for Trump, and then you let me know -- I'll ask some specific questions after.

Based on testimony that we've received, sometime in the first week of July there was a discussion and some kind of determination that I guess was made by the Deputy Assistant Directors of the Headquarters level, that going





1 forward the Donald Trump Detail would have counter sniper 2 support at outdoor rallies, going forward. So that was, you know, testified to us that that happened sometime in 3 4 the first week of July, and it appears it was before July 5 5th, because that's when SOD was made aware of this 6 decision to implement it. 7 Is that something that you were aware of? 8 Witness : No. 9 HSGAC Minority Okay. And there was a rally in Doral on 10 July 9th. Is that right? 11 Witness : I recall that. 12 HSGAC Minority Were you there that day? Were you 13 working that event? 14 Witness : No. 15 HSGAC Majority : Okay. There have been reports No. 16 that, at that event, right before, that's when the Trump 17 campaign found out about certain credible threats to Trump. 18 Are you aware of that? 19 Witness : No. HSGAC Majority : 20 Okay. And then on that same day, July 21 9th, the Secret Service counter sniper was approved for 22 Is that right? Butler. 23 Witness : Sounds correct. 24 HSGAC Majority : Okay. So when you became aware of the 25 Secret Service counter sniper being approved for Butler,



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Witness : No.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. So your understanding was that
still individual events, you had to request it if you felt
a need.

7 Witness

3

: Yes.

8 HSGAC Minority: And that text message, do you feel like 9 that was communicating to you that this decision had been 10 made, that these assets were now available in the different 11 way that they were not available necessarily going 12 previously, if that makes sense?

13 Witness : No. I think it was just, the heart of 14 the information was if you think you need this, if our 15 agents need this at their sites, that they should now 16 request it, because previously it was not something that we 17 would get.

18 HSGAC Minority: Okay. So it was kind of like now you
19 can request it and it'll be approved?

Witness : Considered, maybe.
HSGAC Minority : Considered. So were there previous
requests that were made for counter sniper support that
were not approved?
Witness : I can recall one specifically.

25



HSGAC Minority

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Can you tell me a little bit more about



1 that?

2 Witness : Pickens, South Carolina. I don't know 3 the date. It was an outdoor rally Mr. Trump had, like in a 4 downtown setting. Buildings, you know, left and right on 5 the street there. A lot of line-of-sight concerns, being a 6 city setting, urban, or suburban, whatever, you know, a 7 city setting rather.

And we had sent out, on our own, the SAC and the DSAC, you know, advocated for this asset by sending out someone experienced to make a, you know, justifiable PowerPoint to present to the folks at Headquarters that can make these decisions. So they did that, and we submitted it, and it was ultimately not approved.

HSGAC Minority: I'll ask a couple of questions about that, but when you say "ultimately not approved," are things like explicitly denied, or is it just it's never answered or never approved in a formal way? Like how does that work in how it's communicated back down?

19 Witness : That specific incident, I don't know if 20 it was a verbal denial or an email, or if it was just left 21 untouched. I don't know.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And so you said there was a PowerPoint. Do you recall like what kind of justification was included in there? We don't have that document either, just for the record.









just have them request it. And if it was available sometimes we did get it, and then sometimes we didn't. I don't know exact number.

HSGAC Minority: And any of those, were they explicit
denials rather than just not fulfilled requests?

6 Witness : I believe so. 7 HSGAC Minority : Do you recall if all of the ones that 8 were not fulfilled were explicit denials, or if --

9 Witness : I don't recall.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And then so CAT requests. Any other requests for assets that were denied or not fulfilled?

13 Witness : We would request Uniformed Division 14 advance agents sometimes, and those were not granted. They 15 would still help us. They would still send Uniformed 16 Division personnel for screening, but they would put it 17 basically on the lead and the site agent to kind of figure 18 out what a Uniformed Division lead advance agent would 19 typically do, where to set up, power sources, you know, 20 kind of the normal check boxes. And they would be 21 available for, you know, phone calls if those people had 22 questions on if this was a good idea to put them here 23 versus there. But those were things that were kind of put 24 back on the detail to figure out.

25

HSGAC Majority: And what was the general feeling among





the agents on the detail about, I guess, what seems to be some kind of recurring theme of not getting all the assets that were requested?

Witness : We wanted the assets, so, I mean. I understand there are other variables in a plan, why things are not given. I don't know. I don't have the entire picture of, you know, the needs of every detail. But certainly we always wanted the assets. Mr. Trump's events were typically very large, and we felt like it would've helped our posture.

HSGAC Minority: Did former President Trump at the time have an elevated threat environment compared to other formers, in your opinion?

14 Witness : You'd have to ask the Protective 15 Intelligence Division, but he certainly had threats against 16 him.

HSGAC Minority: Is that something that the Protective
Intelligence Division would share with you all, as the
Donald Trump Detail?

20 Witness : I don't recall ever getting like a 21 verbal briefing from them, but they do put out some work 22 products. So I don't want to say never, but they do put 23 out work products. I don't know off the top of my head 24 exactly if it's comparing Mr. Trump's threat level to 25 another protectee.





HSGAC Minority : But, I mean, I think it's generally acknowledged that there was a heightened threat environment, I mean, especially given the decision in the first week of July, at the Headquarters level, to provide counter sniper support going forward.

6 Witness : Yes. 7 Okay. Do you have a security clearance? HSGAC Minority 8 Yes. Witness : 9 HSGAC Minority : What level? 10 Witness : Top Secret. 11 HSGAC Minority : SCI? 12 I believe so. Witness :

HSGAC Minority : Okay. Can you run me through, so you were the second supervisor at the time. You're the ASAC now. Can you run me through the leadership level of the Donald Trump Detail team with the names and the titles, just because I'm getting confused. So just for my clarification.

19 Witness : No problem. So ASAC is my title. 20 Second supervisor, think of it as like a position. Like 21 the site agent or the lead advance agent, second supervisor 22 is just my role for that trip.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. So there's the SAC. Can you run
me through the DTD leadership structure?

25



Witness :

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Sure. So you have a SAC, DSAC --



1 And the names, please. HSGAC Minority 2 SAC PI Witness : Sure. DSAC ASACs at the time would've been **DSAC** 3 DSAC . 4 ASAC , ASAC , and ASAC ASAC , ASAC . 5 ASAC . And that's the supervisor structure, and 6 then from there it goes to Special Agent.

7 Okay. And so the Independent, I think HSGAC Minority 8 sear Mind will correct me, but the Independent Review Panel 9 report, page 7. I'm not going to pass it around. I'm just going to read it for you. It talks about the intelligence 10 and what was shared prior to the event. And it says, "Both 11 12 the leader and the assistant leader of former President 13 Trump's personal detail had been read in on this intelligence," and it's referring to whatever the counter 14 15 sniper -- whatever intel was behind the decision to send 16 the counter sniper support for the Butler event. Not 17 specific to Butler, but just in general.

So you were not read in on any specific intelligence?
Witness : No.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. So who were the two people on DTD
that were read in?

Witness : I can assume. I don't know those specific, how they refer to them. I don't know. We don't use that language.

25 HSGAC Minority : Yeah.







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Witness : No.

3 HSGAC Majority: Has there been any after-action report 4 or anything that has been given to you all as the DTD, 5 going forward, for events going forward, based on the 6 situations that have occurred?

7 Witness : I don't know if they were -- I believe 8 there was something put out. I don't recall exactly who 9 published it. But, you know, I've tried not to read a lot 10 about exactly what happened, but I believe there was some 11 literature published.

HSGAC Minority: Knowing what I just told you, would you
feel comfortable having C/S Team Lead as the counter
sniper advance at another event?

HSGAC Minority: I have full confidence in our Counter
Sniper Division. They undoubtedly saved my life on July
13th.

HSGAC Minority: Would you want them to go and look around for long-range threats, full 360 and line-of-sight concerns from the positions of the counter snipers? Because, I mean, someone died.

Witness : I understand. It's certainly a learning point to take. But as far as their ability, they have my confidence.

25

HSGAC Minority : Just one last question from me on the





1 denial of requests or unfulfilled requests. Was there a 2 feeling among DTD that any of that was politically 3 motivated?

4 Can you repeat that? Witness : 5 On the denial of requests or the HSGAC Minority 6 requests that went unfulfilled, was there any feeling that 7 the reason why those assets were not provided was 8 politically motivated? 9 Witness : I have nothing to suggest that. 10 HSGAC Minority Were there any conversations among any 11 DTD individuals, that you participated in or you aware of, 12 about it potentially being politically motivated? 13 Witness : Not that I recall. 14 HSGAC Minority : Okay. I'll pass it to ISGAC Minori. 15 HSGAC Minority with Senator Paul's HSGAC Minority 16 office. What time did you arrive on July 13th, the day of 17 the rally? Witness : Arrive where? 18 19 **HSGAC** Minority: At the site, Butler fairgrounds. The motorcade arrived sometime in the 20 Witness : 21 evening, around, I think it was around 5. So I was at the 22 airport waiting for him to land. 23 And you came in on the motorcade? HSGAC Minority : 24 Witness : Yes, sir. 25 Okay. When you arrived, I understand a HSGAC Minority



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lot of moving parts, taking care of your protectee and the bubble around him. Did you take a look around the site as you're bringing him in and notice anything, specifically the line-of-sight mitigation things that you were told were going to be in place for you? Because I think it your testimony you've already confirmed that there were some concerns of the three o'clock, five o'clock area.

8 When you're there, did any of that catch your 9 attention?

10 Witness : So when I arrive, you know, I'm working the former President very closely, along with the SAC. 11 12 LES So when we 13 arrived I relieved SAC **PI** to go look at the stage area Site Agent, so I was inside a tent until he basically 14 with 15 took the stage. So I didn't really have the opportunity to 16 walk the site to make sure things were implemented as I was 17 briefed. 18 What was SAC **PI** going to the stage HSGAC Minority : 19 Site Agent to specifically look at? Were there some with 20 things that they were looking for? 21 So I brief SAC **P** the night before. Witness : 22 I suggested that he **LES** 23 LES 24 LES

So part of that is him going to check out how he's going to



25

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2	And then the rest is just the site agent giving him a
3	real quick you've got LES
4	whatever it is, LES
5	LES You know, LES , if
6	it already hasn't been. And that's it.
7	HSGAC Minority: So he was advancing the steps of the
8	former President before he took the stage, and they were
9	going over the emergency egress.
10	Witness : That's my I wasn't there when they
11	briefed him, but typically, yes.
12	HSGAC Minority : That's typically what they would do.
13	Correct?
14	Witness : Yes.
15	HSGAC Minority: Okay. Going back to your testimony on
16	meeting with Special Agent Plane , you pointed out multiple
17	things that you had to correct there.
18	Witness : Mm-hmm.
19	HSGAC Minority: Is that typical that you would have to
20	make that many corrections for, as you said, an experienced
21	agent, when you arrived, to make that many corrections?
22	Witness : I don't believe I called her
23	experienced. I just said she came from a high-trafficked,
24	you know, protection office with a lot of repetitions, and
25	that she'd been in our detail for approximately a year, I



1 think.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. So is that normal to go to a site and have that many issues, which sound to me like quite a few just right there, at the stage area, that you had to immediately deal with.

6 Witness : Mm-hmm. There's usually some adjustment 7 at each site that I want to see. But things like the bike 8 rack and the stairs should have been caught, in my opinion. 9 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Thank you. When you worked as a 10 lead or a site agent in your career, did you review the 11 local operations plans, ops plans?

12 Witness : No.

13 **HSGAC Minority**: Can you explain why?

Witness : That's how I was trained. I just wasn't -- that's not to say I didn't meet with the local law enforcement and go over exactly where they were going to be and what they were going to do. But as far as reviewing their paperwork, that's not something I would do.

HSGAC Minority: After July 13th, would you do that now?
Witness: I think it could be helpful.

HSGAC Minority: Because you've testified, and we've heard a lot of people testify that they assumed where the local -- and you even used the term "counter snipers" were going to be. But yet in their ops plan it's very clear that they were operating in a sniper role, which you, as an





experience agent, understand the difference between a
 sniper and counter sniper, that their operations were
 different.

So my point is, why are so many people just not
looking at the plan that locals were putting in place,
which would eliminate the ambiguity of who is doing what?
Witness : Like I said, I'm just not familiar with
doing it that way. That's not to say it's something we
shouldn't consider.

10 HSGAC Minority: Thank you. You mentioned your notes 11 afterwards. Did you note anything in there of what 12 failures you identified and how those could be corrected?

13 Witness : I think he testified that the notes 14 were prepared at the direction of counsel. We'd like to 15 protect that privilege, if that's okay with you.

16 **HSGAC Minority**: Absolutely.

Moving to the Donald Trump Detail training that you said that you all had, for <u>Site Agent</u> and others, that you all went above and beyond, giving them a refresher course, and you even talked about the C-UAS team getting the training they did, do you believe the one-hour training is sufficient to operate the equipment that <u>C/UAS Advance Lead</u> operated?

24 Witness : So that program was not -- it was 25 something that DTD saw a need for. It wasn't something





1 Headquarters, you know, gave to us. We developed that from 2 within our ranks to help secure our sites. And we provided the training that we thought was needed for someone to 3 4 successfully operate that equipment. And, you know, cluster and a second s C/UAS Advance did successfully operate that equipment that day. 5 6 It worked when former President Trump was on the stage. He 7 troubleshooted, you know, the problems he had earlier in 8 the day. But before we arrived it was working, and it was 9 being used, to my knowledge.

HSGAC Minority : Except during the time that Crooks was
flying his drone.

12 Witness : I've learned that after the fact. I'm 13 not sure that it would've been operational had it been 14 working anyways, because, you know, the -- what is it, the 15 FAA kind of sets the TFR times on when it will be 16 operational. So I'm not completely confident it would've 17 been operating anyways if there weren't issues.

18 HSGAC Minority: Were there any concerns raised by the 19 advance team that were not addressed?

Witness : Could you be more specific? HSGAC Minority : Any concern at all. When you do an advance you're looking for threats, you're looking for vulnerabilities, and you're creating mitigation procedures. Was there anything that was brought up that was not addressed, to your knowledge? I know you mentioned that




1 you didn't have time to see the, I quess, three o'clock 2 position because of your proximity to the protectee, which is understandable. 3

Witness : 5 HSGAC Minority : But to your knowledge, was there 6 anything there that was discussed in the advance process 7 that was not implemented on July 13th? 8 Witness : Not that I'm aware of. I recall one

Mm-hmm.

thing when we arrived. I had sent out 9 Campaign Supervisor 10 to inspect the **LES** , that we ended up I asked him to make sure it was clear, because I 11 using. 12 believe it was bike-racked off prior to our arrival, just

13

4

14 LES

LES

15 And so I sent him out there before former President 16 Trump took the stage, and it was, in fact, not open. So 17 Inspector **LES** made that open and clear, which ended 18 up being pretty critical.

19 HSGAC Minority : I only have a couple more questions and 20 I'll pass it over to my colleague.

21 You mentioned that you reviewed the Security Plan 22 before it went final, or did you review it after it went final? 23

24 Witness : It wasn't a review. It was just here's 25 our paperwork, and I looked it over prior to getting to the





1 site so Agent **P** could give me her briefing. 2 That's the last question I have, and HSGAC Minority I'll pass it to my colleagues. 3 Witness , thank you for your time 4 PSI Minority : 5 My name is I'm with Ranking Member today. PSI Minority 6 Ron Johnson's office. 7 I just want to go back to something that you discussed 8 earlier regarding the request denials or requests that were 9 made that were never approved, regarding the counter sniper. You mentioned that you didn't know the date, but 10 do you recall the year? 11 12 I don't. I can only guess. Witness 13 : Was it this year? PSI Minority I want to say it was 2023, but I'm not 14 Witness : 15 sure. 16 PSI Minority : And when a request is made and then 17 never approved or denied, is there a reason given for that? 18 It's usually like a vague, just can't Witness : 19 support it at this time. Nothing specific. 20 And is that usually shared verbally or PSI Minority : 21 via email, text? 22 Witness : It can be both. It's usually verbally 23 or preferably email. 24 **PSI Minority**: In this specific situation, do you know 25 who would've sent or received that type of communication?





1 Specific to Pickens? Are we still No. Witness : 2 talking about --To, I think it was the South Carolina 3 PSI Minority event? 4 Witness 5 : Yeah, okay. I wasn't in Operations -- I 6 don't believe I was in Operations at that time. So it could've been the second supervisor on that trip. 7 Ιt 8 could've been the SAC. It could've been the DSAC. Ιt 9 could have been all three of them. Do you know their names in this 10 PSI Minority : specific situation? 11 The SAC is **Plan**, the DSAC is 12 : Witness 13 DSAC I want to just quickly go back 14 Okay. : Witness 15 to your description of the counter drone equipment on the 16 day of the rally. I think you mentioned that it was your understanding that it was working early in the day and then 17 18 it wasn't. Is that correct? 19 Witness The opposite. : 20 Oh, okay. **PSI** Minority : 21 It wasn't working early in the day and Witness : 22 then it was working when the former President was at the 23 site. 24 Okay. I appreciate the clarification. PSI Minority 25 Now I want to touch on the text that you received regarding



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1 I don't recall. Witness : 2 Was this type of text typical? **PSI** Minority : I mean, like getting information 3 No. Witness : 4 I mean, it's -- not specifically, but the way like that. in which it was phrased was good. 5 6 PSI Minority : Is it your understanding that a 7 credible, long-range threat would be based on adverse 8 intelligence? 9 Witness : Yes. I want to share with you an exhibit 10 PSI Minoritv : that we'll mark as, I think, Exhibit Number 3. 11 12 [Exhibit No. 3 was marked for identification.] 13 It's coming your way. This is the 14 PSI Minority : 15 Preliminary Survey for the July 13th rally. So I'll give 16 you a moment to take a look at that. 17 Are you familiar with this document? 18 Witness : Yes. 19 **PSI** Minority : Could you turn to the last page, page Under the Intelligence section, do you see that, on 20 10. 21 page 10 of 10? 22 Witness : I see it. 23 It notes, "At this time no adverse **PSI** Minority : intelligence has been developed concerning this event. Any 24 25 adverse intelligence that may arise will be passed to all









800.FOF7259.78 (800.367.3376) 1 document to prepare to protect, to provide security at the 2 rally, that they would've been made aware of a credible, 3 long-range threat?

4 As I testified earlier, once I received : Witness 5 that I briefed the lead agent personally, and she runs, or 6 he runs, the advance team. How they disseminate that 7 information is, you know, outside of my capabilities. But 8 as far as what I'm looking at in front of me on the 9 Preliminary Survey, I don't see anything. I mean, there is a counter sniper team depicted on the Preliminary Survey, 10 and if you are familiar with working with a former detail 11 12 that may pique your interest on why we're receiving them. 13 But I don't see anything specific to your question.

PSI Minority : You brought up something that I want to get to regarding the actions that you took after receiving this information. I think you mentioned earlier that sometime after you received this text you took a phone call from SAC PIL about the counter snipers.

19 Witness : I believe I did, yes.

Do you recall when that occurred? 20 PSI Minority : 21 I believe the text was later in the Witness : 22 evening, and I don't know if I didn't receive it and read 23 it until that next morning. I don't recall exactly when. But I believe I received the phone call from SAC PI 24 25 you know, the next day from the text message.











1 about whether whatever credible intel he had, and I knew
2 enough that when he would say 'You're not going to tell me
3 over the phone,' because that's something classified."

So just to take a step back from that, did Lead Agent tell you that you need to call her supervisor about this information?

7

Witness : I don't recall that.

8 PSI Minority : Would that be something that you
9 would've felt the need to do, that in addition to calling
10 Lead Agent, and I think later you mentioned that you called
11 Site Agent , that you would also need to call Lead Agent
12 supervisor?

13 Witness : How I understand it and how I've worked 14 it as a lead myself, I never have received something quite 15 this, well, on this scale. But I work for my SAC, and if 16 get something that needs to be briefed to him, specifically 17 if I'm the lead advance on a large visit like this, it's my responsibility to brief my direct supervisor on what I've 18 19 learned, because I report to them. It's our district. So it was my opinion that she should have briefed her direct 20 21 supervisor.

PSI Minority : Lead Agent told us that you told her that there was credible intel and that you could not tell her as to why counter snipers were being assigned to the event.





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1 Sounds accurate. Witness : 2 Did she ask you why they are receiving PSI Minority : 3 counter snipers? 4 I don't recall she asked me Witness : 5 specifically, but I think it's possible. 6 **PSI Minority :** And did you tell her that you can't 7 tell her why they're receiving counter snipers, outside of 8 just there was credible intel? 9 If I did it's because I didn't receive -Witness : - I mean, I just showed you how I received the information, 10 so I just didn't have it. I relayed to her basically what 11 was relayed to me in the same kind of terms. 12 **PSI Minority**: Did you ever relay to her that there's 13 classified information regarding the reasoning behind the 14 15 receipt of counter snipers for the event? 16 Witness : I don't believe I did. **PSI Minority** : Did she ever ask if any information 17 18 regarding the use of counter snipers is classified? 19 Witness : The use of counter snipers? 20 Did she ever ask whether the fact that PSI Minority 21 counter snipers were going to be assigned to the even was 22 based on classified information? 23 : I don't think so. Witness 24 PSI Minority : Do you know whether Lead Agent 25 communicated to her supervisor any information about the



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1 used to work in the President's Operations Division, the 2 sitting President's Operations Division, when Mr. Trump was the sitting President. And I was assigned to the First 3 Lady's detail, all of her operations and logistics. And so 4 5 I had an old template on how to request counter sniper, 6 which was a Word document -- take a picture of what you're 7 looking at, get a distance, and a brief description on why 8 this would be an effective, kind of like we did for Pickens but this was in a Word document format. In an attempt to 9 10 set Site Agent up for a successful, you know, submission 11 of that.

And this is like before I knew we were getting the counter sniper asset, I sent that to her and kind of walked her through, hey, I need you to do this. I asked her to ask the local field office for a rangefinder so she could get distances from where the stage would be. And I sent her that document.

Now very shortly after I sent that document, maybe within the hour, I learned we were going to get counter sniper assets, and then I had my operations team reach out to <u>Site Agent</u> and say, "Don't worry about the Word document that <u>Witness</u> just sent you, because we're getting Secret Service counter sniper. That's part of their advance. They'll do this for you."

So I forget the original question, but --

25







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1 other agents working the event that day regarding the assignment of counter snipers to the event? 2 Witness : I contacted our operations team. 3 They're not assigned to the advance but I did let them -- I 4 5 believe it was CNOS Supplement. He was a CNOS supplement to our operations team, and I asked him to submit the 6 7 paperwork for that asset. That's all I can recall. 8 **PSI Minority** : And **CNOS Supplement** is in Operations, you 9 said? 10 CNOS Supplement : He's assigned to a field office. He was on a temporary assignment to our detail during the 11 12 campaign. LES 13 That's pretty LES standard. 14 15 **PSI Minority** : Okay. And when did you contact 16 CNOS Supplement? 17 I don't know the exact date or time but Witness : 18 it was basically as soon as I got the information that we 19 needed to request it. I didn't wait. PSI Minority : And maybe if you could just help us 20 understand the type of information you asked CNOS Supplement to 21 put together. Is it a document? Is it an email request? 22 23 It's an email. It would've been sent to : Witness Counter Snipers Operations Team, requesting a lead advance 24 agent for this rally. It was just an email. 25





PSI Minority: Does CNOS Supplement -- would someone need to specify how many counter snipers would be assigned to the event?

Witness : That's the function of the advance
counter sniper. So he's going to go out there, she's going
to go out there and determine we need X amount of teams to
cover the site.

8 PSI Minority : Did you make these calls on your
9 personal phone or was this your work phone?

10 Witness : I don't recall.

11 **PSI Minority**: Would it be typical for you to make 12 these types of calls on a personal phone as opposed to a 13 work phone?

Witness : It's whatever's close by, you know.
It's usually my work phone, but if I have a personal phone
near me it could be that. I just don't know. Typically I
would try and use my work phone.

18 PSI Minority : Okay. I do not believe that we have 19 received any call logs related to these communications. We 20 would like those.

Witness Counsel : I don't have access, obviously, to his personal phone, but I will coordinate with his attorney.
PSI Minority : Understood. I'm going to turn to the next exhibit, that I'll mark as Exhibit 4.

25

[Exhibit No. 4 was



1 marked for identification.] , I'll give you a moment to 2 **PSI** Minority : Witness take a look at this. Are you familiar with this email? 3 4 [Pause.] 5 : This is July 12th. I don't know if I Witness 6 was on this email or not. It doesn't refresh my memory at 7 all. 8 PSI Minority : And what is the reason why you can't 9 tell whether or not you were on this email? Well, it's redacted, and the FROM is 10 Witness : from the Protective Intelligence Division to someone on 11 12 DTD. 13 PSI Minority And you can't recall if this was sent 14 to you? 15 I don't recall. Witness : PSI Minority : For the record, this Committee did not 16 17 apply the redactions to this email. This email was 18 redacted by Secret Service or DHS. And just to give 19 context, the subject line of this email is "The arrest was 20 made," and it's sent from a redacted individual at Secret 21 Service to another redacted individual on the DTD. And 22 that person wrote, on July 12th, "Don't have many other 23 details right now, but the subject is in custody. Not expecting any press. Still sealed as far as I am aware." 24 25 Witness



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Yeah.

:

1 PSI Minority : And then it goes on. 2 I would just say that, you know, Mar-a-Witness : Lago is a dynamic place to protect. It's possible that --3 4 I don't know what this email is just talking about. I mean, it's dated July 12th and 13th, around and on the day 5 6 of Butler events, but I don't know that it's related. I'm 7 just putting that out there. 8 **PSI Minority** : Are you aware of an individual named 9 Asif Merchant. It doesn't sound familiar. 10 Witness : PSI Minority : 11 Okay. So just to be clear, you are not 12 aware of any arrest of an individual relating to the 13 protectee, or as a threat to the protectee, on July 12th? 14 I don't recall. : Witness 15 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Has anyone from DHS or Secret 16 Service instructed you not to speak with Congress? 17 No. Witness : 18 **PSIMinority** : I'm going to turn it over to my 19 colleague, PSI Minority . 20 PSI Minority : Hey, good afternoon. Thank you for being 21 So could we walk through, in more detail, once you here. 22 arrive at the Butler scene, what you did, what was your 23 role, and walk us through up to shots fired. 24 You want to know on July 13th from when : Witness 25 I arrived in the motorcade to shots fired.



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And then we eventually worked him to our final positions.

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5 And then President Trump began his speech. For about 6 four or five minutes he was giving remarks. The crowd was, 7 again, just very, very loud. And I recall that the 8 Hercules team, which is our counter snipers, came over the 9 radio and said, "The locals are working something at the nine o'clock, " and then they corrected themselves, 10 basically within the same breath, and said, "No, it's the 11 12 three o'clock."

13 And so I kind of had eye contact with SAC PI 14 We've worked many events together. And I noticed we both 15 kind of waited for an update on what that was, and we 16 didn't receive that update. And between the time we got 17 that information and, you know, a few seconds later, 18 really, I saw SAC PI tell Site Agent to go figure out 19 what was going on. I saw him like kind of motion her 20 offstage, and I knew what that meant. It's too loud for 21 her to hear anything, so she's going to go offstage and 22 figure out what's going on.

And by the time she left, you know, she was maybe gone 24 20 seconds or so, I heard the first -- no more radio 25 updates. The only radio traffic I heard that day was, that



I can be for certain on, was what I just testified to,
 about what our counter snipers put out over the radio. I
 recall that pretty vividly.

4 When I heard the first crack of the -- I didn't know 5 what it was at the time. What I'm about to explain is my 6 brain kind of processing three separate things in a matter 7 of a second or under. But when I heard the crack, July 4th 8 was not too long before that, and the first crack sounded 9 like -- I've got a nine-year-old and a five-year-old, and 10 they were throwing those little poppers in our driveway. And that's what it sounded like to me. I was like, that 11 memory was triggered immediately. 12

13 And then within that same kind of thought I was thinking maybe there's a heckler behind us with caps, and 14 15 you know, almost like one of those poppers that you'd shoot 16 off at, you know, New Year's Eve or something. That's what 17 it sounded like. And so I'm waiting for someone to tell me 18 what's going on behind me. And kind of during that last 19 thought there I heard the second crack, and just instinctively just didn't really think about much else 20 21 after that and went on and **IES** the stage. And as I was 22 running up I yelled, to the former President, "Get down. 23 Get down. Get down, " and kind of caught him as he moved to 24 the ground. And I recall just kind of holding him and 25 pushing him up towards the front of the stage





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2 as I could.

LES

And then I went to the ground with him. I didn't lay 3 on top of him, because I needed him to still be able to 4 5 breathe. So I just kind of just covered his head, neck, 6 and vital organs above his chest as best I could with my 7 entire body. You know, as I kind of caught him and moved 8 to the grown, PI , SAC, was also kind of zippering 9 in on his midsection and lower half, almost at the same I recall, you know, being over Mr. Trump, and I 10 time. asked him if he was okay. I said, "Sir, are you okay?" and 11 12 he said, "I think so."

And then I noticed a pool of blood forming in front of him as I was looking down on him. And <u>Campaign Supervisor</u>, I believe, gave me the white towel that you see in all the photos. He dropped it down onto me, and I recognized it as Mr. Trump's sweat, you know, the thing he cleans his face with at rallies. So I was familiar with what it was, and I immediately grabbed it and applied pressure to the wound.

And I initially had put it on his left ear, and then he corrected me and said, "No, it's my right ear." Almost his humor in that moment kind of reassured me that he wasn't really badly injured. He was alert. He was very calm, honestly. He was speaking clearly. So from a medical triage standpoint I felt like we were in good



1 shape.

2 And by then every agent was on the stage, and he was completely covered. And then at some point while we're on 3 4 the stage, it was either Special Agent or what I heard through my radio, or both -- I believe it was both --5 6 "Shooter down. Shooter down." And when we heard those 7 words, collectively, we pulled him to his feet and escorted 8 him off the stage, stage left, **LES** and 9 evacuated. Thank you. So going back to when you 10 PSI Minority : arrived LES , did the motorcade come down 11 12 Meridian Road into Brady Paul Lane? 13 Witness : I don't remember the names of the roads. 14 It was to the rear of the stage. LES 15 LES If you're in the 16 driver's seat, driving towards the arrival/departure, to 17 the left are some like residential homes, and then to the right is kind of an open, grassy area. And, you know, we 18 19 had talked about that area during the walk-through. 20 PSI Minority : As part of the motorcade, 21 LES 22 LES 23 LES 24 You're talking about **LES** Witness 25 LES





PSI Minority: Yeah, like the main arteries into the rally that day. Were there local cops enforcing, you know, you can't park your car on the side of the road?

4 I recall the local police having signage : Witness 5 up that said that there was no parking allowed on the 6 street. Now, there were residential homes also on that 7 street, so there were people in their front yards having 8 parties, excited for his arrival. But I do recall there 9 being like a DOT, you know, sign, specific for that event. 10 PSI Minority : And that would've been on Meridian Road, which is the route that goes behind the Farm Show? 11 12 Witness : Yes, sir. 13 PSI Minority : Do you know the exact time that you 14 arrived with the protectee on July 13th, what time that 15 was? 16 No. Witness :

16WitnessNO.17PSI MinorityWas it around 5:30?18WitnessSounds correct.

PSI Minority: Outside of the radio transmission from Hercules about the locals who were working something at the 9 a.m., and then they immediately correct to the 3 p.m., I just want to be clear. You working that day, you did not see any other type of commotion or any type of law enforcement working something, either inside the rally or outside the rally, from your vantage point?





Witness : I did not.

2 PSI Minority : Did you hear anyone say, quote, "On the 3 roof" before shots were fired?

Witness : I don't recall that.

5 **PSI Minority**: After the assassination attempt, and when 6 you had time to maybe review your phones, text messages, 7 was there any messages or phone calls you received in the 8 lead-up of shots being fired at 6:11 p.m. on that day?

9 Witness : No. I was in communication with Site 10 Site Agent all day, asking her how things were going, wanting status updates on, you know -- medical conditions 11 12 were one of the big threats that day. It was hot, large 13 crowd. Dehydration was an issue. So I like to pass that information along to SAC **Plan** and the staff coming in, 14 15 just to let them know, hey, you've got, you know, X amount 16 of people here, and we've had this many transports. Just 17 so they kind of know what's going on, on the ground. But I didn't receive anything outside of that. And C/UAS Advance also 18 19 let me know about his problems with the software.

20 PSI Minority : So reviewing your phones and text 21 messages, emails, you did not receive any images of Thomas 22 Crooks, be on the lookout, to any of your devices?

23

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: No.

Witness

24 PSI Minority : Did you at all receive images of the25 assassin after the event?



1 I've seen images of him after the event. Witness : 2 **PSI Minority** : Do you know if Thomas Crooks was on any federal, state, or local radar before July 13th? 3

I do not. Witness :

PSI Minority: 5 Did you interact with any other federal 6 agencies before, during, and after the event -- FBI, ATF? So Homeland Security Investigations 7 Witness : 8 supplemented us that trip, as post-standers. As far as 9 before, that would be my only -- and outside of Pennsylvania State Police, you know, they helped us with 10 motorcade things. I wasn't directly in communication with 11 12 them, but I recall them being there. Those are local 13 assets for that. That's kind of like before. You know, afterwards, obviously I've been interviewed by other 14 15 agencies.

16

4

Okay. It's 3:43, and I think we're going PSI Minority 17 to take a break.

18 [Recess.]

19 HSGAC Majority : We'll go back on the record and divide the remaining time that we have left. 20

21 So I'd like to go back and ask a couple of follow-up 22 questions about the line-of-sight issues we spoke about the 23 day prior to the rally. We've been told by members of the advance team that the campaign staff denied requests to use 24 25 physical barriers such as farm equipment and Penske trucks



1 to mitigate line-of-sight concerns. Should this

2 information have been elevated to you?

Witness : I recall using farm equipment for some line-of-sight. The Penske trucks, I did not have any awareness of. If those were denied I certainly would've like to have known about it.

HSGAC Majority: And does campaign staff have the ability
to overrule security decisions that the Donald Trump Detail
believes are appropriate?

10 Witness : No.

HSGAC Majority : And what specifically were you told about how the AGR building would be covered, on July 12th?

Witness : I was briefed that there would be police officers on the AGR side of the fence and additional police officers on the area in between the site and the AGR, as well as overwatch from Secret Service counter sniper and local counter sniper.

18 HSGAC Majority : Did you have any concerns with regard to 19 the coverage of the AGR building as a vulnerability to the 20 protectee?

21 Witness : No. The best counter snipers in the 22 world told me they had it covered, and I was good with 23 that.

HSGAC Majority : So for the walk-through, you were
 responsible for reviewing the in-person site security





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setup. Is that correct?

Witness : Say that again.

HSGAC Majority: During the July 12th walk-through, you
were responsible for reviewing in-person the site security
setup, to make sure that everything is adequate and
appropriate.

- 7Witness: I'm briefed on what it will look like on8game day, on the 13th.LES
- 9

LES

10 HSGAC Majority : Understood. According to the Independent Review Panel, they issued a report in 11 12 September, and in the report they wrote, "A senior agent 13 from the Trump detail tasked with reviewing in-person the site security setup in the run-up to the rally did not 14 15 engage in appropriate follow-up after a, quote, 'more 16 junior detail member'" -- improvising here -- "relayed generic information regarding how the AGR building would 17 18 supposedly be secured. That was not consistent with the 19 diagrammatic depiction of security resources in the site 20 layout diagram."

21

22

Are you familiar with this critique?

No.

Witness :

HSGAC Majority: Do you know who this critique is in
reference to?

25 Witness : No.





HSGAC Majority: Are there any other senior agents from
the Trump detail tasked with reviewing in-person the site
security setup in the run-up to the rally, aside from you?
Witness: It was me and Campaign Supervisor.
That's it from the Donald Trump Detail.
HSGAC Majority: And during the site walk-through, did

7 you discuss which buildings would be swept?

8 Witness : Every building inside the site would be 9 swept.

10 HSGAC Majority: Based on the unique layout of the Butler 11 Farm Show and the number of vulnerabilities on the exterior 12 of the security perimeter, should the AGR building have 13 been swept?

14 Like I said, I was briefed that it was : Witness 15 Think of a second supervisor walk-through. being covered. 16 You want to make sure that things have been thought of, and 17 if they haven't been thought of then how are we going to 18 fix that. The AGR buildings had been thought of, and their 19 plan was to have a uniformed presence there and counter 20 sniper overwatch. So from my perspective, it's okay. Like 21 I said, I'm concerned about the innermost circle, the 22 President's movements, and all the assets onstage, where 23 the cars are, posted capabilities, where can we go if we 24 have to **LES**

25

So when I'm briefed that those things have been





thought of and that there's police not just on one side of the fence but on both sides of the fence, and that we have overwatch from extremely capable people with advanced training on counter sniper, I feel okay with that.

HSGAC Majority: Moving forward to the day of the rally,
you mentioned you LES
LES And during that whole time were you positioned
in the tents behind the stage?

9 Witness : So when we arrived I was in the tents, 10 and then when Mr. Trump took the stage **LES**

11 **LES**

HSGAC Majority : Prior to your arrival at the rally site, were you aware there would be two Command Posts, so one Secret Service Security Room and then a state/local Command Post?

16 Witness : I was briefed on the 12th that it would 17 be a joint Command Post, or joint Security Room, which to 18 me means everybody that's going to be there has a seat at 19 the table, which would be what I'm accustomed to. So I 20 would have no reason to ask **LES** 21 Who briefed you on that? HSGAC Majority : 22 Witness I believe it was **P** : 23 And so your understanding, it was a HSGAC Majority 24 joint Security Room, that kind of





LES



1 Witness : Yes. 2 Full integration between local, state, HSGAC Majority : 3 and Secret Service.

That was my understanding. : Witness 5 HSGAC Majority Were you in direct communication with 6 any local law enforcement or state law enforcement that 7 day?

8 No. : Witness

4

9 HSGAC Majority : In the event a suspicious person is identified at a large rally site such as the Butler Farm 10 Show, whose responsibility is it to track down and confront 11 12 the suspicious person?

13 Witness : It depends on what we have available to In this specific instance, a protective intelligence 14 us. 15 advance agent or a site protective intelligence site agent 16 would be primary.

17 Were you aware that the counter sniper HSGAC Majority 18 response agent as well as the protective intelligence agent 19 were both looking for an individual, a suspicious individual, with a rangefinder? 20 21 Witness : I was not aware of that information.

22 Is that information that should have HSGAC Majority 23 been elevated to someone of your level?

24	Witness	:	Yes.
----	---------	---	------

HSGAC Majority :

25



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And I just want to confirm.



I know you







1 Is that information that the site agent HSGAC Majority : 2 should have been made aware of? 3 Witness : Yes. Do you know why the site agent was not 4 HSGAC Majority 5 made aware of that information? 6 Are you saying that it's a fact that she Witness : 7 I'm not aware if she was or was not. was not?

HSGAC Majority : Our understanding is that this 9 information was not relayed to the Secret Service advance individuals on the day of the rally. Is that information 10 that should have been relayed to the site agent, and if so, 11 12 to your knowledge where is the breakdown?

13 : Everybody should have been aware of Witness 14 that. It's critical information.

15 HSGAC Majority : And so the only radio traffic you heard 16 was the counter snipers over the radio that the locals were 17 working a three o'clock, a situation at the three o'clock.

18 : Correct. They said the locals were Witness 19 working something at the nine o'clock, and they corrected themselves and said three o'clock. 20

21 I'd like to go back in time and then go HSGAC Maiority 22 So going back in time, before you arrived forward in time. 23 at the rally site, our understanding is the C-UAS advance agents with the Donald Trump Detail testified that he told 24 25 you around 2 p.m. that the C-UAS system was down. Do you



8



1 recall that?

Witness

2

: Yes.

HSGAC Majority: What steps did you take to help him get
the system back up and running?

5 Witness : Well, he told me what he was doing. He 6 told me that he was in communication with the manufacturer 7 and TSD, which is -- that's the correct advice. He already 8 knew what to do.

9 HSGAC Majority: So from 2 p.m. until 4:33 p.m., the C-10 UAS system is down, which allowed Crooks to fly a drone 11 undetected for 11 minutes, beginning at 3:51 p.m. Did that 12 concern you at all, that the system was down for two-plus 13 hours?

14 Witness : That was the first time I had 15 experienced that it wasn't working. But it wasn't overly 16 concerning because Mr. Trump wasn't there yet.

HSGAC Majority: But at the same time, this would have been an opportunity to have a potential interaction with a potential suspicious individual, someone flying a drone around the site of a political rally prior to a former President speaking. Correct?

Witness : Had it been on, we're assuming that it would've been on and operational, yes, it would've been. If all those assumptions happen, that he's there and everything's working and the **LES**





1

2

LES

LES

that would've

3 been great information. It just simply didn't happen,4 though, you know, unfortunately.

5 HSGAC Majority : And so the C-UAS system being down is 6 entirely separate from the temporary flight restriction 7 zone. Correct? Those two things operate independently. 8 You can have a C-UAS system that can detect drones 9 independent of having a TFR zone. Correct?

10 Witness : Sure. The TFR is just a note that FAA 11 puts out. It's not Secret Service, you know --

HSGAC Majority: And our understanding is the C-UAS agent testified that he requested an extension for the TFR zone. He was concerned that the President might be speaking longer than 6:15, and wanted to make sure that the TFR covered the time in which he was on the stage. And he raised those concerns to you. Do you recall this?

Witness : I don't recall that.

HSGAC Majority: We've learned that the TFR, the request for a TFR extension, was denied without explanation. Were you aware of this?

22 Witness : He wanted to extent it beyond -- so not 23 before the rally but after.

24 HSGAC Majority : Correct.

25

18

Witness : I was not aware of the denial, and I





1 don't know who did that.

HSGAC Majority: And you weren't aware of the denial. Do you know where the denial came from? Did it come from Secret Service? Did it come from FAA?

5 Witness : I can only speculate.

6 HSGAC Majority : Only if you know.

7 Witness : I don't know.

8 HSGAC Majority : Okay. I'll turn it over to my colleague 9 for a couple of drone questions, and then we'll move 10 forward in time.

PSI Majority : Just to go over the issues with the drones again, because you had mentioned previously that you're not certain but you believe that C/UAS Advance Lead was part of, am I understanding this correctly, a group briefing, where the TSD went over how the equipment worked?

Witness : That's how I remember it.
PSI Majority : And then that there was also sort of a
ride-along that he potentially went on. Correct?

In general, in your role, making sure the protectee is covered, how do you see the role of C-UAS as, I guess, complementing your role?

Witness : I think it's an excellent program. It helps us complete our 360-degree protection of site by having that capability. So I think it's important.




PSI Majority : And so how often do you put thought 1 2 into whether all the pieces of a site are operational or functioning the way they're supposed to, or is that outside 3 of the purview of your responsibilities? 4 5 : As it relates to a drone? Witness **PSI Majority** : Sure. I mean, as part of making sure 6 7 that the security plan is complete and that everything is 8 working the way it's supposed to, how much thought do you 9 put into the C-UAS function? Witness : One, I want to make sure that we 10 actually have it because, like I said earlier, this wasn't 11 12 an asset that we always got. It's if our own division 13 could supply it. It wasn't like it came from TSD, which we 14 get now. We had TSD come down and train a couple of guys 15 that were willing to do it, and when we could we deployed 16 them. So it's an important asset, 17 LES **PSI Majority** : Sure. And you don't run the D.C. 18 19 office. I guess in retrospect, have you had a chance to read the Interim Report we put out? 20 21 Witness : No. 22 PSI Majority : It suggested that C/UAS Advance 23 fundamentally, from what we were hearing, fundamentally didn't understand how the equipment worked or how to really 24 25 be on how to plug the pieces together. Does that seem





1 concerning to you?

2

Witness : The equipment worked.

3 PSI Majority : I mean, yes, but that's a technical 4 distinction that kind of -- it didn't work until after the 5 assailant had used a drone to surveil the site. It didn't 6 work until four hours after it was supposed to work. So 7 saying that it worked is an incomplete statement.

8 Okay. I mean, he got it to work. Witness : He 9 did everything, I think, correctly to troubleshoot what he was experiencing. He called the right people. 10 And ultimately it worked. As I've said earlier, we can only 11 12 guess if it would've been operational when the drone was up in the air. We don't know that we would've been 13 operational with the C-UAS system. 14

15 **PSI Majority** : So, I mean, because I understand. Ιt 16 seems like one that -- again, this is not fully within your 17 purview, and I get that. But I guess just from the 18 perspective of your comfort in feeling that you have all 19 the assets you need in place, there is one aspect of the 20 training of Mr. **Plane**, but then also there's the aspect of 21 when he called tech support that it took multiple hours for 22 them to locate the experts necessary to actually figure out 23 what was going wrong. Does that raise any concerns, that it took so long for tech support to -- and that might be a 24 25 contracting issue, that might obviously go up the chain.





But just as a base level, does that concern you that it took that long for tech support, whatever contract they had with tech support, to work through those issues?

Witness
It would certainly be nice to have
immediate access to the experts.

6 Thanks. That's all I've got. PSI Majority : 7 HSGAC Majority : Excuse me. HSGAC Majority with 8 Senator Peters. I've got a couple of quick follow-up questions on what you were discussing earlier. One thing I 9 10 want to make sure I heard correctly. When you were speaking about your understanding of how the AGR building 11 12 would be covered, did you say that you were briefed that 13 there would be a uniformed police presence on both sides of the fence in that area? 14

15 : Witness Yes. 16 HSGAC Majority : And that was Site Agent ? 17 Witness Yes. : 18 When you say both sides of the fence, HSGAC Maiority 19 you mean that area in between the two fence lines as well

21 Witness : Yes. There was like a chain-link fence 22 and --

as the side where the AGR building was present?

HSGAC Majority: And do you recall anything more specific about, you know, what she said in terms of, you know, which state or local agencies would be providing that presence



20



1 and if there would be vehicles or uniformed patrol walking 2 around, or anything along those lines? 3 No. It was just there's going to be Witness : uniformed presence on both sides of the fence. 4 5 And that was a verbal briefing? HSGAC Maiority : 6 Witness : Yes. 7 And did you ever see any, you know, HSGAC Majority : 8 diagrams or other paper depicting where the uniformed 9 presence would be? 10 Witness : So I recall her diagram. It's pretty standard **LES** 11 12 LES 13 LES It's just to acknowledge that there is a presence there, I've thought about this, and it's going to 14 15 be covered. HSGAC Majority : And was your expectation that Agent PI 16 17 would've received more detail from your state and local partners about, you know, even if your diagram only showed 18 19 something high level, would you have expected Agent PI to have had a conversation with state or local partners 20 21 saying, you know, we're going to have X number of uniformed 22 officers on foot, X number of, you know, vehicles, and 23 here's specifically where they're going to be? 24 Witness : For the second supervisor walk-through 25 it probably would not get that granular.





HSGAC Majority: Okay. But when she was briefing you, saying, you know, there's going to be a uniformed presence on both sides, would you have expected her to be aware of a greater level of detail than what she conveyed to you, or you would have expected her to just, you know, hear from state and locals, we'll have some presence?

7 Witness : She told me that she actually walked 8 that area with the locals. So it was my understanding 9 that, you know, she had that rapport with whomever was 10 going to be there and where they were going to be 11 positioned and how many.

HSGAC Majority: And then did you become aware at any point, that day or after the fact, that there -- your understanding is that while there were patrol cars in between the two fences, there were not any uniformed officers patrolling the area on the AGR side of that second fence. Did you come to learn that at any point?

18 Witness : Not before the event.

HSGAC Majority: And is that unusual that, you know, what actually happened on the ground is different than what you were told and what the expectation would have been?

Witness : I'm sorry. Say that again. HSGAC Majority : You know, is that unusual -- I guess the question is you would expect, in your experience, have you had other instances where you were told this is where state











1 minutes, we know now that both the protective intelligence 2 agents and the counter sniper response team were actively engaged in looking for this suspicious individual and had 3 4 not made contact or, you know, interviewed him, detained 5 him. Is that something that you would expect any number of 6 agents with that knowledge to raise prior to a protectee 7 taking the stage? 8 I would've liked to have known all the Witness : 9 information before we took the stage. HSGAC Majority : Okay. And with all the other agents 10 working the event, were they aware -- would they have known 11 12 that -- would they have received any notice prior to the 13 President taking the stage where, you know --14 LES so 15 that agents could raise something if they had a concern 16 that was outstanding? 17 LES : Witness 18 LES 19 LES So that does happen. It did 20 I can't say for certain. It's just so automatic happen. 21 that it's something that I'm just --22 HSGAC Majority : LES 23 LES 24 LES 25 Witness LES



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2

LES

Now if they were scanning on their radio, **LES**

3 LES , they would've heard it. If they were not 4 scanning, then they wouldn't hear it.

5 HSGAC Majority : And is there a standard practice or 6 expectation that they should be scanning to follow those 7 movements?

8 Witness : They should be scanning -- we didn't 9 have Secret Service agents that day, though, so I can't 10 completely fault them. We had Homeland Security 11 Investigation agents, who are fine people, but they're not 12 Secret Service agents. And so that may not be something 13 they're totally familiar with.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. Got it. That's all that I have.
I'll turn it over to my colleagues. Thank you.

HSGAC Majority: Just a couple additional questions on the day of the July 13th rally. One thing I wanted to clarify is you initially, the day before, were briefed that there would be a joint Security Room with all the key players involved. Is that what you thought was happening on July 13th?

22

Witness : Yes.

:

Witness

HSGAC Majority: So you did not know that there were actually two Command Posts?

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I was under the impression it was one



1 joint Security Room.

2 HSGAC Majority: And moving forward to when shots were fired, I know you spoke about, in detail, your movements 3 4 and how you responded to protect the President. I want to ask a couple of specific questions about protocol. 5 When 6 you moved to cover the President to make sure he was 7 protected, what is the protocol to move the protectee off 8 the stage? Do you have to wait until you hear "shooter down"? Do you hold for a specific period of time? Could 9 you walk us through the protocol? 10

Witness : Sure. I'm not sure there's a specific set of rules. It's a very dynamic situation where multiple rounds are being shot. You've got counter assault team guys coming on the stage to set up a perimeter. For that specific day, once we heard "shooter down" we felt pretty good that it was an appropriate time to move.

HSGAC Majority: And in the event where you experience something like this but do not have counter snipers and may not hear "shooter down," would the protocol be -- maybe it's not a protocol, as you mentioned; it's dynamic, depending on the situation -- to hold with the CAT team, creating that barrier?

Witness : The question is in a hypothetical situation, if I didn't have counter sniper and the same events unfolded, the same thing happened but we just don't





1 have counter snipers. Is that your question? 2 HSGAC Majority : Yes. I don't know if any of us would be alive 3 Witness : 4 if we didn't have counter sniper. HSGAC Majority : And I guess one other question. So why 5 6 not move him off the stage immediately, considering he was shot? 7 8 Witness : One, I didn't know he was shot. Ι didn't know it was confirmed that he had been hit. I did 9 see blood but I didn't know how he was bleeding. And we're 10 11 behind cover. LES 12 LES agents on 13 top of him. Although we're exposed, we're still safe. So 14 it's instinct. 15 HSGAC Majority: Understood. So moving forward, why, as 16 you moved him off the stage, why -- I think there were a 17 couple of critiques of why waiting to let the President get his shoes, and why it let him expose himself to raise his 18 19 fist. I believe he left in his socks. 20 We Witness : 21 moved him off the stage as fast as we could. To me it 22 seemed textbook, to be quite honest with you. HSGAC Majority : So you have no -- I know this probably 23 24 all was a blur, but looking back there wasn't anything in







1 allow him to expose himself by, you know, raising his fist
2 up.

Witness : He didn't get his shoes. He left in his socks. And we moved him off the stage, shielding him with our entire bodies as we moved **LES** It was pretty textbook.

HSGAC Majority: And I'd like to ask a couple follow-up
questions. The Independent Review Panel report noted that
it is LES

10 LES 11 LES The panel found that while the 12 process enhancement by the Trump detail, and this is their 13 words, quote, "appears to have been well intentioned and sensible to improve the quality of site planning, it may 14 15 have inadvertently also contributed to the ambiguity 16 regarding overall site security ownership and leadership 17 responsibilities on the 13th."

18 Do you agree with this assessment?

Witness : I think the integration of our agents has been extremely well received by the field offices, from its inception up until recently, LES We're being given agents from the current President's detail for site advance work.

HSGAC Majority: I'm sorry. Could you say that again?

25

24



LES



1 Not right now. Like I'm talking within Witness : 2 the last few days, LES 3 4 We could still send one, but LES 5 honestly, the travel has been minimal since the election. 6 HSGAC Majority : Another critique from the panel was that 7 multiple experienced senior personnel from local field 8 offices tasked with advance work, quote, "failed to 9 properly develop the Site Security Plan in a way that was responsive to basic security planning principles." Do you 10 agree with this assessment, and if so, what needs to change 11 12 to ensure security planning is aligned with basic security 13 planning principles? Examples they included were, you 14 know, effective mitigation of high-angle line-of-sight 15 risks, effective flow of communication, integrating state 16 and local roles. Those are just a few examples. 17 : I think how we've responded after this Witness event, it would have been helpful then, just, you know, the 18 19 full complement of assets. 20 I'm sorry. Could you clarify that? HSGAC Majority : 21 What do you mean? 22 Like the counter sniper, counter Witness : 23 assault, a larger counter assault team, all the advance 24 personnel that go with those assets. LES 25 LES



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LES 1 Those **LES** pieces, you know, are there to help the site agent, as well, on 2 what they see from their training and experience on what 3 4 needs to be helped to secure that site. So having those things, having those kinds of assets for our detail 5 6 would've been helpful prior to Butler. 7 Would have a counter surveillance unit HSGAC Majority 8 have been helpful? 9 Yes. Witness : 10 HSGAC Majority Do you know why one was not requested? 11 Did you recommend that one be requested? 12 Witness : We did not request one. That never came 13 in from the advance team. I don't know if we ever got a 14 Counter Surveillance Division team prior to Butler, 15 Pennsylvania. It was not a standard practice. 16 HSGAC Majority : But given the unique nature of this site 17 and the threat that had recently come in against President 18 Trump, should a counter surveillance unit have been 19 requested? 20 It would've been helpful. Mr. Trump had : Witness 21 a lot of outdoor rallies. I mean, just because we were 22 outside at Butler was not really unusual. 23 HSGAC Majority: Are there certain, whether it's 24 cultural, institutional norms or customs within the Secret 25 Service that, you know, should be reevaluated as it relates



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to whether it's giving deference to inexperienced protective detail agent or the campaign staff, who do not specialize in security, or something else, based on your decade-plus of experience with the agency?

5 : I think if we, you know, we should Witness 6 definitely look at what's happening with a protectee that might be running for office versus, you know, a traditional 7 8 former President who may not be holding the types of events 9 that Mr. Trump was holding. They're very different, in my experience. So maybe some kind of evaluation on what could 10 be provided to those situations. Granted, this is the 11 12 first of its kind, so --

HSGAC Majority: Did you contribute to the final Site
Survey after the event?

15 Witness : No.

HSGAC Majority: Was there a final Site Survey, to your
knowledge?

18 Witness : It's standard practice to submit a final
19 survey. There should've been.

HSGAC Majority: I don't believe we've received a copy of the final Site Survey, so I'll just add that to our request list.

To your knowledge, have any Secret Service personnel involved in the July 13th event been removed from duty, reassigned, place on leave, or terminated?





Witness

1

: On DTD?

HSGAC Majority: Or anyone in a field office, anyone to your knowledge, whether it's within the detail or within a field office.

5 Witness : I know Agent PI has been put on, I 6 don't know what the exact classification of it is, but she 7 does not operate at work anymore.

8 HSGAC Majority: Have you received any disciplinary
9 actions or administrative leave from Secret Service after
10 the event?

11 Witness

: No.

HSGAC Majority: What happened at the July 13th rally was a near miss or what Secret Service refers to as an unusual protective event or incident. Are you aware, have you been involved in any event like this in the past, or are you aware of any events like this in the past?

17 Witness : No. I mean, 43 years ago was the last 18 time something basically like this happened.

19 To your knowledge, did anyone complete HSGAC Majority : LES 20 which is the **LES** LES 21 after this event? 22 I believe one was completed. Witness : 23 And I also don't believe we have HSGAC Majority : 24 received a copy of this. I would ask for that, as well. 25 To your knowledge, were there any Secret Service





1 protocols or policies that day that were deviated from or

2 not followed on July 13th?

Witness : Not that I'm aware of.
HSGAC Majority : Is setting up two command posts contrary
to Secret Service protocol?

6 Witness : I've come to learn that it is not 7 unusual.

8 The former and acting Director of the HSGAC Majority : Secret Service have both testified before Congress that 9 10 operational failures occurred that day. Do you agree that there were operational failures, and if so, please opine. 11 12 I believe communication was the biggest Witness : 13 learning point from this day. I think if we had the 14 communications with the appropriate people, information

15 flow, I think this gets avoided.

HSGAC Majority: To your point on communications, the SAC of the Buffalo Field Office, who ran the Security Room on July 13th, suggested that a second supervisor who had done the walk-through run the security post in the Security Room. Do you agree with that suggestion?

21 Witness : Absolutely not. I'm sorry. Basically 22 he wanted me to run the radios?

HSGAC Majority: I'm not saying you specifically. Moreso
a recommendation forward looking and how to improve
communications. I'm curious whether you --





1 Witness : I guess just be careful. Second 2 supervisors would not perform that function. So if he 3 wants a suggestion is to have additional people in the 4 security room --

5 HSGAC Majority : It should be someone else. It is not 6 within the role of the second supervisor, is what I'm 7 hearing you say. Is that correct?

8 Witness : That's correct. LES 9 HSGAC Majority : And last question before I turn it over 10 to my colleague. What changes, to your knowledge, has 11 Secret Service, including the Donald Trump Detail, 12 implemented since July 13th?

13 Witness : Say it again.

HSGAC Majority: What changes or reforms has Secret
Service, including the Donald Trump Detail, implemented
since July 13th?

17 <u>Witness</u>: Well, they've increased our -- we 18 basically have a similar style posture to the sitting 19 President, which is, you know, **LES**

Some of the larger -when it was possible they would send a **ES** agent to conduct the lead, instead of just the field office. I'm not saying that, you know, Agent **PI** was from a big detail so she had big detail time as far as doing advance work, but a change that happened after that was





agents that were on the sitting President's detail
supplemented our trips, and when they could, they would run
those trips if manpower allowed. So that was a positive
change, I thought.

5 HSGAC Majority : Just a few questions and I'll turn it over 6 to our colleagues. Who has the authority to remove a 7 protectee from the stage?

Witness : It's the Secret Service.

9 HSGAC M j Hy: Who, within the Secret Service, physically
10 in proximity to any protectee, is only going to be the
11 detail. Correct?

12 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority: So wouldn't it be only the detail that has the actual capability to remove a protectee?

15 Witness : From the stage, yes.

HSGAC Majority: So is there any communication prior to an event about responsibilities with respect to flow of information to details that is unique to information that needs to go to a detail?

20

8

Witness : I'm not sure I follow.

HSGAC Majority: You indicated in response to questions from my colleague, in at least three different instances, that there was information you would've liked to have known about in this event -- **LES**, the individual with the rangefinder, the individual lurking around.





1

: Okay.

Witness

HSGAC Majority: Among all of these pieces of information,
why would that have been relevant for you, as someone with
direct proximity to the President, to have?

5 Witness : Because in those instances that 6 happened, that information is critical to, one, maybe we 7 hold at the airport until this person is found. It just 8 gives us opportunities to make better decisions. That 9 information flow, you know, ideally would've went either to the lead agent or to the field office supervisor, you know, 10 to me in some form, whether it was through the lead or 11 12 whether it was through SAC **Plane**. It could've happened in 13 any one of those information flows.

14 So our Interim Report identified as one of HSGAC Majority : 15 the major failures, communications breakdowns themselves. 16 And among the changes you identified as having happened 17 since this event, I've not heard anything specific to 18 communications. So have there been any changes, or in your 19 opinion, should there be any changes specific to 20 communications that are relayed to individuals in direct 21 proximity to a protectee?

Witness : I change on how I receive the information. I mean, I think the plan is there. It just wasn't executed on the 13th.

25 HSGACMj ity: You stated earlier that on the 13th the



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1 former President arrived in , and that, in 2 your view, was a good thing. Is that accurate? 3 Witness : Yes. 4 And why is that good, in your view? HSGAC M j ity 5 : Because it covers where the protectee is Witness 6 exactly at. 7 And is it accurate to say that that's HSGAC Majority: 8 preferable, specifically for an outdoor event, because the 9 more coverage you have, the more he is blocked from public view until he is ready to be in public view, the safer it 10 11 is. 12 It's not specific to an outdoor. Witness : I've 13 worked plenty of indoor rallies where the **LES** 14 LES That's not uncommon. LES . 15 LES LES 16 HSGAC M j ity : Let me ask you a different question then. 17 Is an outdoor venue, in your view, as opposed to an indoor 18 venue, something that presents specific and, to some degree, greater risks than an indoor event? 19 20 Indoor events, in my opinion, are Witness : 21 preferred. They are easier to secure. There is less --22 what's the word I'm looking for? -- there's less things we 23 have to consider on mitigation, or they're defined by the interior of the building. 24 25 HSGAC Majority : Is one of the risks of an outdoor event





related to the ability, depending on line-of-sight concerns, or rather than ability, I should say, the threat of some firearm-related risk, unique to an indoor event, where there is greater certainty that all attendees will pass through a magnetometer?

6 I think that's true. There is a greater Witness : 7 certainty that all the attendees will pass through, for an 8 indoor venue, whereas an outdoor venue, long-range threats 9 LES you know. There could be long-range 10 threats at an outdoor rally that are outside of any 11 perimeter.

HSGAC Majority: And in your experience, and since you began up until today, has the risks of firearms and high-capacity magazines and firearms capable of longer range threats, has that risk increased for outdoor protectee events?

16 Witness : Rephrase the question, please. 17 HSGAC Majority : In the time in which you've been an agent, 18 is it in your view a greater threat with respect to long-19 range capabilities of certain weapons than when you began? 20 Witness I don't think so. : 21 HSGAC Majority : Why is that? 22 From my training and experience, from : Witness

23 when I came onto the job, there's always been weapons
24 capable of shooting at a long range.

25 HSGAC Majority: You mentioned an assassination attempt





1 hasn't happened in 43 years. In your time on the job, have you personally been involved in any event in which a 2 firearm has been discharged? 3 4 No. Witness : HSGAC Majority : 5 I'm going to turn it over to our colleagues. 6 HSGAC Minority with Senator Paul's 7 HSGAC Minority 8 office. I've got a few more questions for you. One is do 9 you know of any requests made by the Donald Trump Detail 10 for LES 11 **LES** that was ever denied? I know you use it now, but 12 was there ever a time that you remember you requested it 13 and it was denied? 14 Witness : I don't recall. 15 HSGAC Minority : I think you mentioned it a little bit, 16 but are you satisfied with the changes implemented since 17 July 13th? And the reason I ask you, you know, 18 unfortunately experience is the greatest teacher in 19 security, and you have a lot of it. And it appears you have a lot more left in you. So that's the question I 20 21 wanted to really put forward. Are these the changes that 22 you believe needed to happen, and what other -- I want to reiterate -- changes do you feel need to be implemented so 23 24 we don't repeat July 13th of 2024? 25 Okay. I do like the changes that Witness :





1 happened afterwards. I think they were beneficial. I 2 think there should be, you know -- I don't know what exactly it looks like, but some kind of assessment of just 3 4 because they're a former President doesn't exclude why they 5 should or should not get something. That should not be a 6 factor. It should be based on other things. Their status 7 as a former President should not have any bearing on if we 8 get campaign glass or don't get campaign glass, or things 9 that are normally associated with a sitting President.

HSGAC Minority : In our testimonies, and we've heard from C/S Team Lead, he had information at 1745 hours of the issue that was going on in the three o'clock. Did he have a means of communication to you or the other people on the shift? Could he contact you by radio or any other means to let you know that?

16 Witness : If I was at the site, my radio was 17 operational. I'm not sure. Were we at the site yet when 18 he would be contacting me?

HSGAC Minority : 1745 you said you were on-site. You
said you arrived LES
Witness : Okay. Then yes, he would've had the
means.

HSGAC Minority : And I'm just going to ask you this again. That is information you think should've been shared with you.





: Absolutely.

Witness

HSGAC Minority: Because you made the statement, the
best counter sniper in the world was there, the counter
sniper team.

5

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Witness : Yeah, their team.

6 But that best counter sniper team in HSGAC Minority 7 the world didn't ensure that the AGR roof was covered. But 8 let me finish. Site advance, Donald Trump Detail advance, counter sniper advance, and lead advance. My question to 9 you is, is that the responsibility of each of those 10 individuals to ensure that that line-of-sight or 11 12 vulnerability threat was mitigated, because it takes a 13 team.

14 Witness : You know, the way it was briefed to me 15 it was mitigated. The execution of that did not work.

16 HSGAC Minority I think that you're explaining what I 17 think we've heard from a lot of people. The process was in 18 place but people failed. Because you're in a position to 19 where you're relying totally upon the advance team for their diligence to provide that layered protection for when 20 21 you arrive. Because you mentioned that 22 you told them to pay attention to line-of-sight issues due 23 to the long-range threat that was brought to your attention. Should this have raised their security posture 24 25 and attention to detail to a higher degree?





Witness : I think so. I think it's part of the
 reason why I shared it.

HSGAC Minority : So you're probably familiar with the
Cooper's Code of Mindset Readiness, the Color Code,
Cooper's Mindset Readiness Color Code. Does security
posture change from time to time, and does that mindset
change based on intel or information that's being passed on
to you?

9 Certainly our readiness changes when Witness : certain information is passed to us, or not passed to us. 10 HSGAC Minority : And the last question I have. I quess 11 12 this is the downfall of being considered an Agent in Charge 13 in a supervisory role. I'm going to ask you this. Knowing 14 what you know now, and knowing that the roof of the AGR 15 specifically was compromised by Thomas Crooks, and 16 ultimately exploited by him, who -- and I'll just make it 17 easier for you so you don't have to -- what role is 18 responsible to ensure that that does not happen? 19 I believe candid and detailed Witness :

20 conversations have to happen during the advance on these 21 types of problems that were identified, because they were, 22 because I was briefed on how they were mitigated. It's 23 communication. It's liaisoning with your local 24 counterparts. It's walking the site. It's being at the 25 site.





HSGAC Minority : But what role, whether it's the site lead, who is responsible to ensure that that actually happens? It's great to have a plan, but someone has to ensure that that plan is enacted. What role -- because you've done it --

6

Witness : Mm-hmm.

7 HSGAC Minority : -- who is responsible for that, to
8 ensure that it is taken care of?

9 Witness : So ultimately the site agent is responsible for their site, and how they brief me, they 10 need to make sure it's implemented that way. Now there are 11 12 things we can do to make sure that happens. If I'm made 13 aware of it, I can help do that. But if I'm in the blind, 14 or if any other agents there don't know about it, then we 15 can't help get them to how we know they thought things were 16 going to be. If something's off, they need to raise that 17 issue.

HSGAC Minority : And I'll finish with that because that's the last thing I wrote -- intelligence is only good if disseminated properly for action. Would you agree with that assessment?

Witness : Yes, sir.
HSGAC Minority : Thank you for your time.
PSI Minority : PSI Minority . Did Thomas Crooks attempt
to enter the Butler rally?





1 I was never briefed on that. Witness : 2 What time did local law enforcement in PSI Minority the AGR building spot an individual with a rangefinder? 3 4 Like I said, I was never given that : Witness information. 5 I don't know.

6 We understand, through text messages, PSI Minority 7 that local law enforcement communicated with each other 8 that at about 5:16 p.m. Thomas Crooks was spotted with a 9 rangefinder, so nearly an hour before shots were fired. Do 10 you know how Thomas Crooks arrived in Butler, Pennsylvania? I wasn't briefed on Thomas 11 Witness : No. No. 12 Crooks at all until, you know, there's the media. But I 13 don't know.



16 PSI Minority : Were you briefed about where Thomas
17 Crooks' vehicle was ultimately parked, and that there was
18 IEDs in the trunk of the vehicle?

19 Witness : I don't recall a specific briefing, but 20 I had heard that information, you know, sometime after the 21 events, between then and now.

PSI Minority: What information specifically?
Witness: I recall somebody, I don't know who,
said he had like a clicker device on him. And I think just
from, you know, news outlets, that there were things in his









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12 Thank you very much for your time today. Witness : 13

This is going to conclude our interview. As I mentioned at 14 the beginning, while we've tried to be comprehensive, we 15 reserve the right, should we need to, to revisit any 16 questions, and we would ask that you not relay any 17 information we discussed today.

Before we conclude the interview, and I'll follow up 18 19 with the Secret Service, but in today's interview a number 20 of documents that I believe are responsive to our original 21 July requests for documents and information, which is not 22 specific to individual interviewees, I believe a number of 23 documents that are responsive to that request exist within 24 the custody and control of the Secret Service but have not 25 been provided to the Committee. I'd ask that you follow up





and ensure that those documents have been received. You
should have a notation of all of those. That includes,
without limitation, the PowerPoint training by the DTD, the
text messages that were discussed today, Witness
cellphone log, the final Site Survey, the Unusual
Protective Event document, and if there are others I'd ask
you to follow up with us and get back to us.

8 Of note, I do want to make reference to one document 9 that has been produced to us, that I believe is not exclusive to other relevant information. We received, as a 10 part of the ongoing productions, document with the Bates 11 12 Number 012892. And as our colleagues relayed during the 13 interview, this document is an email, and the subject title 14 of the email is "The Arrest Was Made," and the email date 15 is July 12, 2024, the day before the rally.

16 Based on information we have, including subsequent 17 requests from this Committee to the Department of Homeland 18 Security, this does not appear like it would be the only 19 document related to the arrest being referenced here. So we'd ask that Secret Service and Department of Homeland 20 21 Security review records within their custody and control 22 and ensure that we receive all responsive documents and 23 information, and would thank you for your additional efforts there. And Witness , thank you, as well, for 24 25 your time today and your counsel's time.





1	Thank ye	ou, ar	nd tha	at con	clude	es this in	terv	iew.	
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