

Stenographic Transcript
Before the

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

INTERVIEW OF
Site Protective Intelligence Agent
SENIOR SPECIAL AGENT, U.S. SECRET SERVICE

Thursday, November 14, 2024

Washington, D.C.

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1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2 COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
3 AND THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS
4
5

6 INTERVIEW OF

7 **Witness** [REDACTED]

8 SENIOR SPECIAL AGENT, U.S. SECRET SERVICE
9
10
11

12 Room SD-342

13 Dirksen Senate Office Building

14 Washington, D.C.

15 Thursday, November 14, 2024

16 2:07 p.m.
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1 APPEARANCES:

2
3 On Behalf of the Witness:

4 [Witness Counsel], Counsel

5 [Agency Counsel], Deputy Chief Counsel, Secret Service

6
7 On Behalf of Chairman Peters:

8 [HSGAC Majority], Chief Counsel/Chief Investigative Counsel,
9 Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
10 Committee

11 [HSGAC Majority], Senior Investigative Counsel,
12 Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
13 Committee

14 [HSGAC Majority], Senior Investigator, Senate Homeland
15 Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

16
17 On Behalf of Ranking Member Paul:

18 [HSGAC Minority], Chief Counsel, Senate Homeland
19 Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

20 [HSGAC Minority], Investigator, Senate Homeland
21 Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

22
23 On Behalf of PSI Chairman Blumenthal:

24 [PSI Majority], Counsel, Permanent Subcommittee
25 on Investigations

1 APPEARANCES (continued):

2
3 On Behalf of PSI Ranking Member Johnson:

4 [REDACTED], Staff Director, Permanent Subcommittee
5 on Investigations

6 [REDACTED], Chief Counsel, Permanent
7 Subcommittee on Investigations [Virtual]

8 [REDACTED], Deputy Staff Director, Permanent
9 Subcommittee on Investigations

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EXHIBITS:

1) Manpower Request	5
2) Secret Service Site Map	7
3) Overview of Site Diagram from Butler ESU	27
4) Pennsylvania State Police Operations Manual	31
5) Text message from [Witness] to [C/S Response]	38
6) Text message from [Witness] to [PSP Counterpart]	38
7) Image of three people on golfcart at Butler rally	75
8) Transcript of Trooper [PSP Counterpart] July 23, 2024, interview with Pennsylvania State Police and FBI	75
9) Text message from [C/S Response] to [Witness] 6:09 p.m.	128

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 HSGAC Majority: Good afternoon. This is the transcribed
3 interview of [Witness], being conducted by the
4 Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
5 Affairs and the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on
6 Investigations.

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

15 On July 25, 2024, Chairmen Peters and Blumenthal, and
16 Ranking Members Paul and Johnson requested voluntary
17 transcribed interviews with U.S. Secret Service personnel,
18 and again, on September 11, 2024, renewed those requests,
19 including for Secret Service Agent [Witness]

20 We will introduce ourselves for the record so you can
21 understand the offices who will be asking questions today,
22 and then we'll ask for introductions for counsel, as well.
23 And with that, I will pause and actually ask if you would
24 start and introduce yourself with your name and your
25 current title.

1 **Witness** : My name is **Witness** ,
2 **Witness** . I'm a Senior Special Agent with the United
3 States Secret Service in the **LES** Office.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : And I'll ask if your counsels will now
5 introduce themselves.

6 **Witness Counsel** : Yes. **Witness Counsel** , and I represent
7 Special Agent **Witness** .

8 **HSGAC Majority** : This interview is being conducted, as I
9 mentioned, by four offices, and we'll introduce ourselves
10 so you can understand the staff reach of the offices who
11 will be asking questions.

12 My name is **HSGAC Majority** . I'm the Chief Counsel and
13 Investigative Counsel for Chairman Peters. I'm joined by
14 my colleague, **HSGAC Majority** , Senior Investigative
15 Counsel, and **HSGAC Majority** , Senior Investigator.

16 And I'll turn it over to Senator Blumenthal's staff.

17 **PSI Majority** : **PSI Majority** , Counsel for Majority
18 Staff, Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

19 **HSGAC Minority** : **HSGAC Minority** with the Office of
20 Senator Rand Paul. **HSGAC Minority** will be in shortly.

21 **PSI Minority** : Good afternoon, **PSI Minority** . My name
22 is **PSI Minority** . I'm Staff Director for Ranking Member
23 Johnson. I have **PSI Minority** here, who is our Deputy
24 Staff Director, and virtually we have **PSI Minority** from
25 our officer, who is our Chief Counsel. Thank you for being

1 here.

2 HSGAC Majority : And apologies. We are also joined by
3 HSGAC Majority for Chairman Peters' office, who is the
4 Deputy Chief Counsel for the majority.

5 The reporter is going to create a verbatim record of
6 what we discuss here today, and with that in mind, as I'm
7 sure you are familiar, please respond to the questions we
8 ask verbally because the reporter will not be able to
9 properly record a nonverbal response. Do you understand?

10 Witness : I do.

11 HSGAC Majority : The interview is being conducted in an
12 unclassified setting, and so if the questions call for any
13 information that you know to implicate classified
14 information, please state that for the record, as well as
15 the reason you understand the question to implicate
16 classified -- a response that will require providing
17 classified information. Once you have clarified, to the
18 extent possible, please respond with as much unclassified
19 information as you are able to do so, to respond to the
20 question, and if need be, we are able to adjourn and can
21 address any information in a classified setting should that
22 need arise. Do you understand?

23 Witness : I do.

24 HSGAC Majority : It's the Committee's practice to honor
25 valid common law privilege and claims as an accommodation

1 to a witness when those claims are made in good faith and
2 accompanied by a sufficient explanation, so that the
3 Committees can evaluate the claim. When deciding whether
4 to honor these privileges, the Committee will weigh its
5 need for the information against any legitimate basis for
6 withholding it. The interview today is occurring without
7 prejudice to any future discussions the Committee may
8 request, and we reserve the right to do so in the future
9 should we need to.

10 If you need to take a break during today's interview,
11 we will be happy to accommodate you, but our plan is to
12 generally ask questions for an hour, break on the hour, and
13 provide an opportunity for a break. Should you need any in
14 advance please just let us know.

15 If you have any questions about what we are asking, or
16 if the question we have asked is confusing, please just ask
17 us to clarify and we'll be happy to do so.

18 You are required to answer questions before Congress
19 truthfully. Do you understand?

20 **Witness** : I do.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : This also applies to questions posed by
22 congressional staff in an interview, and specifically 18
23 USC Section 1001 makes it a crime to make any materially
24 false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or
25 representations in the course of a congressional

1 investigation, and this statute applies to your statements
2 in today's interview. Do you understand?

3 [Witness] : I do.

4 [HSGAC Majority] : Is there any reason that you would be
5 unable to provide us today with truthful answers to our
6 questions?

7 [Witness] : No.

8 [HSGAC Majority] : We would also ask that you not speak about
9 what we discuss in this interview with anyone outside of
10 the room, in order to preserve the integrity of our
11 investigation. And we also ask that you not remove or make
12 any copies or photographs of the exhibits.

13 Do you have any questions?

14 [Witness] : None at this time.

15 [Agency Counsel] : [Agency Counsel], Deputy Chief Counsel,
16 Secret Service. We just want to go on record that the
17 Secret Service and DHS made available to the Committee,
18 consistent with the Chairman, information and records that
19 would not ordinarily be released publicly. This
20 information and records fall under the Privacy Act,
21 personnel and other personal privacy information, for
22 official use only, and law enforcement sensitive records,
23 and related statutes.

24 While the Secret Service and the Department have made
25 this information and records available to the Committee, we

1 continue to assert that such information and any
2 discussion is not intended for public disclosure.
3 Additionally, we are not waiving any protections under
4 these statutes. And just for purposes of the constructive
5 dialogue, we are making this assertion at the outset of
6 this interview.

7 And finally, the transcript and any other attachments
8 are protected, we feel, from dissemination to the same
9 extent as the documents. And also the Secret Service and
10 the Department were assured that there would be no video
11 recordings or audio recordings of today's interview, of
12 course with the exception for purposes for the court
13 reporter.

14 We appreciate it. Thank you, HSGAC Majority

15 HSGAC Majority: And per our prior interviews I will
16 reiterate the Committee is bound by Senate and Committee
17 rules, and we will be bound by those rules here. We
18 intend, as we did with our interim report, to have a public
19 report at some point in the future, and we will rely on
20 nonpublic information we learn, including in today's
21 interview, as part of any future report.

22 And as is the Committee's practice, and as was the
23 practice in the first interim review, in advance of making
24 any nonpublic information public it is our practice and our
25 intent here to provide any individuals who provided that

1 information with the opportunity to review such
2 information for factual accuracy in advance of any effort
3 to make that information public.

4 With respect to any recordings, it is our
5 understanding there will only be a recording made of the
6 interview today for the purposes of transcribing the
7 interview itself, and I just the other offices, and it is
8 their understanding, seeing their affirmation, all of the
9 offices have agreed. And with that, if there are no other
10 questions, we will begin.

11 **Agency Counsel** : We appreciate it.

12 **HSGAC Majority** : We will begin the first hour
13 [inaudible]. I'm with Chair Peters' office. As **HSGAC**
14 mentioned, we will begin the first hour by us asking **Majority**
15 questions, and then I'll turn it over to my colleague, **[REDACTED]**
16 **HSGAC Minority** [sic].

17 I'd like to start by asking a few background
18 questions. How long have you been with the Secret Service,
19 and in what positions?

20 **Witness** : Twenty-one years, as a special agent.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : Can you describe what roles you
22 fulfilled during those 21 years, whether it be advance
23 roles, other types of protection details?

24 **Witness** : I was hired in 2003, the Fresno
25 Resident Office, as a criminal investigator Special Agent.

1 I was in the Fresno office for approximately 10 years,
2 doing criminal investigations and protection work. I was
3 then transferred to the Carter Protective Division, where I
4 worked as a shift agent, shift leader, and when I left the
5 Carter Division in 2019, I was an acting Assistant Special
6 Agent in Charge. Primarily I was Mrs. Carter's detail
7 leader.

8 I then transferred to the Phoenix Field Office in
9 2019, and I became a Senior Special Agent. Then I resumed
10 criminal investigations. In 2020, I took over the
11 protective intelligence investigations for the Phoenix
12 Field Office, as what we would call a backup, which is a
13 non-supervisory GS-13 position.

14 In 2022, I was assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task
15 Force at the FBI in the Domestic Terrorism Squad. I left
16 the Phoenix Field Office in August of 2024, and transferred
17 LES [REDACTED] LES [REDACTED] office, where I'm currently stationed.

18 HSGAC Majority : Why were you assigned to a rally in
19 Pennsylvania when you're based out of Phoenix, or when you
20 were based out of Phoenix at the time?

21 Witness : So for the 2024 campaign,
22 approximately a year in advance all field agents are given
23 a solicitation to list a number of preferences for campaign
24 assignments. My number one preference was as a jump team
25 leader. A jump team leader for the campaign is a post-

1 stander who is assigned a team of post-standers. In this
2 instance, HSI special agents were used to supplement Secret
3 Service for post-standing assignments. So my role for the
4 campaign would be for a three-week rotation. Myself and a
5 team of other agents would travel from site to site and
6 stand post for whatever event we were assigned to. And
7 that was how I became assigned to the rally in Butler on
8 the 13th.

9 HSGAC Majority : And you mentioned you transferred to the
10 LES office in August 2024. Why did you LES
11 LES after Phoenix?

12 Witness : My husband was hired to coach at
13 LES , so I volunteered for a transfer.

14 HSGAC Majority : What was your assignment for the July
15 13th Butler rally, and when did you learn of that
16 assignment?

17 Witness : On approximately July 10th I received
18 an email notification that I had been activated in my role
19 as a jump team leader. I believe ta that time I was told -
20 - and I would have to go back and look at the records to be
21 certain -- I believe at that time I was told I would be
22 traveling to Pittsburgh for President Trump's rally. I
23 also received logistics for travel, a list of names of HSI
24 agents that would be assigned to me for that particular
25 assignment. And then I traveled on the 12th, I believe, to

1 Butler, where I met my team.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : Our understanding is that in addition to
3 serving as jump team leader you also served as the site
4 protective intelligence agent for the July 13th rally. Is
5 that correct?

6 **Witness** : Yes.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : First, I'd like to understand the roles
8 and responsibilities of the respective positions. What
9 were your roles and responsibilities as a protective
10 intelligence agent?

11 **Witness** : So as site protective intelligence
12 agent is one of the standard posts that are assigned at a
13 protected venue. There are a certain number of posts that
14 are common among all sites. This is one of them. A site
15 protective intelligence agent would be a roving post, not a
16 fixed post, and they would be responsible for responding to
17 any unusual or threatening individuals that would be
18 encountered in the site. For example, if someone were to
19 approach the main magnetometer screening area and make an
20 unusual or a threatening statement, in theory that person
21 would be detained and a site PI team would be called to do
22 an interview.

23 **HSGAC Majority** : And was there only one site protective
24 intelligence agent for the Butler rally?

25 **Witness** : There was.

1 **HSGAC Majority** : And our understanding is that there
2 were three jump teams for the Butler rally. Is that
3 correct?

4 **Witness** : Yes.

5 **HSGAC Majority** : Actually, let me first introduce as an
6 exhibit, this is the Manpower Request. I'll mark it as
7 Exhibit 1.

8 [Exhibit No. 1 was
9 marked for identification.]

10 **HSGAC Majority** : And if you turn to page 2, the top page
11 of the Manpower Request -- are you familiar with this
12 document?

13 **Witness** : Not this document, no.

14 **HSGAC Majority** : Oh. Take a moment and review it. I'm
15 just going to ask, on the second page, about the post-
16 standers in the top section. Is this a document you're
17 familiar with? Not this specific one but Manpower
18 Requests.

19 **Witness** : In general, yes.

20 HSGAC Majority : And at the top of page 2, under the
21 section that says Post-Standers, it lists total USSS, LES
22 other federal agencies, LES so total post-standers LES I'm
23 wondering if you can help us understand the distribution
24 here. So our understanding is there were three post-
25 standers, or excuse me, three jump teams, each with one

1 post-stander from Secret Service, so that's three, and
2 then five HSI agents on two of the jump teams, and six HSI
3 agents on one of the other jump teams. Where are the other
4 three Secret Service positions?

5 **Witness** : The other three post-standers were
6 from the Secret Service post-standing pool of investigative
7 field agents. So for example, had this been a presidential
8 rally or a non-campaign event, post-standers would come
9 from all over the United States, from Secret Service
10 offices, from their INV roles as criminal investigators.
11 So three of these post-standers were from the field, and
12 also were Secret Service agents.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : And are jump team leaders and jump team
14 agents always post-standers?

15 **Witness** : Yes.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : Who determined how many jump teams were
17 needed for the July 13th rally?

18 **Witness** : I don't know. The jump teams would be
19 -- the post-standers would be requested. A number would be
20 submitted, this is how many we're requesting. And then
21 someone else would make a determination on where those
22 bodies would come from, if they would be jump teams or if
23 there were bodies within district, where it says out of
24 district, non-district, or in-district. If there were
25 people available from the Pittsburgh area, they would be

1 selected first to stand post, due to proximity. So it
2 really could come from whoever was available.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : And aside from your particular role as
4 jump team leader for Jump Team 3 as well as the site
5 protective intelligence agent, which was a roving position,
6 were all of the other jump team positions post-standers or
7 were they roving?

8 **Witness** : They were all post-standers.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : I'm showing you what I'll mark as
10 Exhibit 2, which is the Secret Service Site Map Diagram.

11 [Exhibit No. 2 was
12 marked for identification.]

13 **HSGAC Majority** : Is this the document you saw in advance
14 of the July 13th rally?

15 **Witness** : Yes. This would've been included in
16 the site post briefing.

17 **HSGAC Majority** : Does this document indicate where the
18 post-standers, where the jump teams were positions?

19 **Witness** : No. It doesn't have post-stander
20 positions. The positions for PD, that's local law
21 enforcement. It doesn't have the individual Secret Service
22 and HSI post-standers.

23 **HSGAC Majority** : Do you know where those three jump teams
24 were stationed throughout, for the rally?

25 **Witness** : To a degree.

1 HSGAC Majority : Are you able to just mark to give us -
2 -

3 Witness : There were some that I was not
4 familiar with, the exterior vehicle checkpoints. I never
5 encountered those agents, or I didn't post them up. I can
6 tell you approximately where people were that I
7 encountered, but I --

8 HSGAC Majority : Sure. If you could just walk us through
9 approximately.

10 Witness : So there would've been one agent at
11 the arrival/departure area --

12 HSGAC Majority : Okay.

13 Witness : -- which is another standard post at
14 every site. That would've been in the area of where the
15 motorcade had staged. There would've been an agent at the
16 Hold Room, which is another standard post. That would've
17 probably been at this other orange X, just beyond the
18 motorcade. There were **LES** agents, what we call "dais
19 agents." They would have been staged right and left. The
20 dais is another general post that you would see at any
21 venue.

22 There were, I believe, **LES** agents at the press riser,
23 which was in the crowd area. There was an agent in a
24 vehicle post, by a pedestrian gate.

25 HSGAC Majority : And so for each jump team, these agents

1 are located throughout, not all in a singular area.

2 **Witness** : No.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : Or in a concentrated area.

4 **Witness** : All three jump teams were at this
5 venue with the exception of one jump team leader who was at
6 the airport. Everybody else was here at this site.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : And were any jump teams located or
8 positioned near the AGR building?

9 **Witness** : Not that I'm aware of, no.

10 **HSGAC Majority** : Is it common to serve as both the
11 protective intelligence agent and a jump team leader?

12 **Witness** : For the campaign -- the Protective
13 Intelligence site PI assignment is a post-standing
14 assignment, so it would be a post-stander, and it's common
15 at every site. For the campaign, those assignments
16 Protective Intelligence site PI, is typically given to a
17 Secret Service agent rather than an HSI agent, because of
18 the nature of our threat investigations. That's not an
19 investigation that they conduct. They wouldn't have the
20 experience for conducting those interviews, so that
21 typically goes to a Secret Service agent, which is a jump
22 team leader.

23 **HSGAC Majority** : What I'm trying to get at is, is it a
24 resource issue why you fulfilled both roles, or is it a
25 common practice?

1 **Witness** : No. I would be standing post
2 regardless, and being a jump team leader. So I could've
3 been in the Security Room. I could've been at a fixed
4 post. I could've been the CS Response. For this
5 particular event I happened to be site PI. But it was
6 common for the jump team leader to do any manner of those
7 posts.

8 **HSGAC Majority** : And did your responsibilities as a site
9 PI, were they at all hindered by also serving as a jump
10 team lead?

11 **Witness** : I wouldn't say hindered, no. But I
12 was operating in both capacities at the same time.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : And I think you answered this but just
14 to make sure, were there any other site PIs there that day?

15 **Witness** : No. Not that I'm aware of.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : And so, you know, for the 15,000-plus
17 people that were there, and the vast area that needed to be
18 covered, you were the only one tasked with responding to a
19 report of a suspicious individual. Is that correct?

20 **Witness** : Myself and then there was a CS
21 Response Agent, a Counter Sniper Response Agent. He would
22 --

23 **HSGAC Majority** : What's the difference?

24 **Witness** : Yeah, he would have a similar role.
25 However, he would be addressing individuals specifically

1 called out by the Counter Sniper Team, whereas I would
2 respond to anything reported suspicious, be it by local law
3 enforcement, post-stander, attendee, Security Room,
4 uniformed division officer. The counter sniper response
5 agent would be primarily coordinating with the Counter
6 Sniper Team to respond to things that they saw.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you have any involvement in the
8 planning for the rally?

9 **Witness** : No.

10 **HSGAC Majority** : What documents did you review in advance
11 of and in preparation for the rally?

12 **Witness** : The documents that I received via
13 email from the advance team, logistics and site post
14 instructions, site post log, and then there would've been
15 the diagram.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you review the post-stander map from
17 the Pennsylvania State Police Department?

18 **Witness** : No. I didn't receive that.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you review any of the local
20 operational plans from Butler ESU?

21 **Witness** : No. I didn't receive any of those.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you go to the Butler Farm Show
23 grounds prior to July 13th?

24 **Witness** : I did not.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : Who was in charge of advance planning

1 for the Butler rally?

2 **Witness** : The site agent from the Trump detail.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : And I apologize if I asked this and I
4 forgot your answer, but who was responsible for determining
5 where the Secret Service post-standers would be positioned?
6 Is that the site agent?

7 **Witness** : That would've been the site agent,
8 yes.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : How does the security perimeter
10 generally affect your responsibilities and duties as a site
11 protective intelligence agent?

12 **Witness** : So my primarily responsibility and
13 duties would be within the site itself. That's not to say
14 that I could not respond to something outside the site. I
15 have done that in the past, and that does happen. However,
16 it is typically, for example, an exterior police post,
17 let's say, would encounter someone outside the site that
18 would be suspicious or unusual to the degree that they felt
19 the Secret Service needed to respond. Then they would call
20 for a site PI or someone within the Secret Service to
21 respond to that. That's not something that I would
22 initiate myself outside the site. I would have to be
23 called by someone outside of the site to respond to
24 something. My primary responsibility is within the site,
25 the crowd, the attendees, and the immediate stage and area.

1 HSGAC Majority : Did you have any concerns about the
2 perimeter on July 13th?

3 Witness : I did not.

4 HSGAC Majority : With an area as large as the Butler Farm
5 Show grounds, with an event that garnered so many
6 individuals, in your view is it, you know, realistic to
7 cover that wide, that vast amount of area? Is that
8 reasonable? Is it effective? Do you think there should be
9 more site PIs?

10 Witness : I felt confident that I could respond
11 to anything that needed my attention. It would have been
12 beneficial to have more, but I didn't feel like I could not
13 do my job effectively with what I had.

14 HSGAC Majority : And given the security perimeter -- and
15 we'll get to this in more detail -- but in this particular
16 instance, on July 13th, you were called to respond to a
17 suspicious individual outside of the perimeter. Is that
18 correct?

19 Witness : I was.

20 HSGAC Majority : And did the fencing and any other
21 obstacles that might have been present, did that impede at
22 all in your ability to respond to find the suspicious
23 individual?

24 Witness : It did. The immediate perimeter was
25 encased. We were surrounded by a chain-link fence. When

1 we attempted to go to the area where the individual was
2 reported to be, we were stopped at the chain-link fence and
3 there was a locked gate. Had I been able to go further at
4 that time I would have. There was about a 20-yard grassy
5 area and then a second chain-link fence, and the individual
6 was reported to be on the other side of that second fence,
7 in an industrial area.

8 I went as far as I could go physically, and I visually
9 inspected the area, and I didn't see the person. The
10 reporting parties didn't have a visual on them at that
11 time. I didn't feel comfortable, given that the program
12 had begun and that President Trump was en route, I didn't
13 feel comfortable leaving the venue to go look for somebody.
14 I was relying on other means to locate and detain this
15 person before responding.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : And we'll go through in detail the
17 search for the suspicious person. But did you ever leave
18 the security perimeter?

19 **Witness** : I did not leave the venue itself, no.

20 **HSGAC Majority** : And when you say "the venue," you're
21 talking about the security perimeter where attendees had to
22 go through the magnetometers, correct, and the fenced-in
23 area.

24 **Witness** : When I went to look for this person
25 was behind the stage, behind the barns, through the parking

1 lot, all the way to the chain-link fence, as far as I
2 could go in the golf cart that I had. To go any further to
3 look for this person I would've had to get in a vehicle and
4 leave the venue and drive on a public road outside the Farm
5 Show property to look for this person. So I went as far as
6 I could, within the fencing of the Farm Show.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : Going to the morning of July 13th, did
8 you attend the 10 a.m. briefing that day?

9 **Witness** : I did.

10 **HSGAC Majority** : How did you learn of your state PI
11 counterpart?

12 **Witness** : I had received an email prior to the
13 13th from the Protective Intelligence advance, providing me
14 a name and contact information for the State Trooper that
15 would be assigned to assist me.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : And who was that State Trooper?

17 **Witness** : **PSP Counterpart**

18 **HSGAC Majority** : And when did you meet with Trooper

19 **PSP Counterpart**

20 **Witness** : The morning of the 13th, after the 10
21 a.m. briefing.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : Did Trooper **PSP Counterpart** have a radio for
23 state and/or local communications?

24 **Witness** : He did.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : For which ones? For state? For local?

1 **Witness** : He had his issued radio for
2 communications with Pennsylvania State Police, who had a
3 presence in the Security Room.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : And one other thing that happened the
5 morning of the 13th. I'm happy to pull the document if you
6 don't recall. But I'm curious if you recall getting an
7 auto message of one of the jump team members being out of
8 the country. Do you recall that?

9 **Witness** : Yes. The original list of names that
10 I was given included an individual who had been replaced.
11 His replacement hadn't been included in that first email
12 distribution list. I got into contact with him prior to
13 the event, and used his contact information, and we
14 resolved the issue.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : So you were not down a jump team member.

16 **Witness** : No. He had been replaced. I just
17 wasn't given the name of his replacement, and his
18 replacement had been left off the email distribution list.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : Understood.

20 **Witness** : He was there, though.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : Okay. Turning to the search for the
22 suspicious individual, when did you first learn about the
23 suspicious individual with a rangefinder? Or when did you
24 first learn about the suspicious individual?

25 **Witness** : Myself and Trooper **PSP Counterpart** at the same

1 time. We were together. We received information that a
2 suspicious person, a person had been observed outside the
3 venue, along the fence line, with a rangefinder.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : Where were you when you learned this
5 information?

6 **Witness** : We were in the stage left area.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : So I'm showing you what's been marked as
8 Exhibit 3.

9 [Exhibit No. 3 was
10 marked for identification.]

11 **HSGAC Majority** : And this is an overview of the site
12 diagram from the Butler ESU. I have copies. One moment.

13 [Pause.]

14 **HSGAC Majority** : Here we go. Have you seen this document
15 before?

16 **Witness** : I have not.

17 **HSGAC Majority** : So looking at this document, is this an
18 accurate depiction of an aerial depiction of the Butler
19 Farm Show grounds and the event venue on July 13th?

20 **Witness** : It is.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : Could you mark with pen where you and
22 Trooper **PSP Counterpart** were when you first learned of the
23 suspicious individual?

24 **Witness** : Okay.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : If you can just put an X.

1 **Witness** : Okay.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : So it looks like you are directly in
3 front of the barn that is furthest away from the AGR
4 building.

5 **Witness** : The stage was here, and we were in the
6 stage left area.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : Stage left. And who did you learn this
8 information from?

9 **Witness** : Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and I received the
10 information at the same time. I can't recall if it was via
11 radio or cellphone. There were also uniformed Pennsylvania
12 State Patrol officers in the area. We learned at that time
13 a local tactical team, Pennsylvania State Patrol, reported
14 somebody outside the fence line for the event with a
15 rangefinder. Myself, Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and one of the
16 uniformed troopers then decided to respond to that tactical
17 team's position.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : So a Pennsylvania State Police officer
19 informed you and Trooper **PSP Counterpart**

20 **Witness** : There were a number of us standing
21 around in the same area talking, working on crowd control
22 in that immediate area. We were having some issues with
23 crowds spilling outside of the bike rack area. So we were
24 lined up along that area to contain the crowd.

25 It was passed to me through Trooper **PSP Counterpart**, and it

1 could've been through the radio, as well. I don't recall
2 exactly how I heard. I have an earpiece in one ear where
3 I'm getting radio traffic, and I'm communicating face-to-
4 face and hearing things through my other ear at the same
5 time. We both received the information at the same time
6 and decided to respond.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : And approximately what time did you
8 first learn about the suspicious individual?

9 **Witness** : At approximately 5:40.

10 **HSGAC Majority** : 5:40?

11 **Witness** : It could've been a little earlier. I
12 would say between 5:30 and 5:40, in that area.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : And what exactly did you learn about the
14 suspicious individual?

15 **Witness** : That was it. There was a suspicious
16 individual outside the venue, along the fence line, with a
17 rangefinder.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : Did that raise, the fact that the
19 suspicious individual had a rangefinder, did that raise the
20 level of suspicion or threat, in your view?

21 **Witness** : It's what I would consider unusual or
22 suspicious. There were a number of pedestrians or
23 onlookers along that fence line, I would say approximately
24 10 to 12. They were not visible from the stage left area.
25 Until we responded to that area where the tactical team

1 reported seeing this person, I had no idea there were any
2 people along that fence line. When we went over there,
3 there were a number, as I said, a number of public lined up
4 along the fence line.

5 **HSGAC Majority** : And in terms of the location of the
6 suspicious individual, was it communicated to you where
7 approximately he was seen?

8 **Witness** : Initially it was communicated along
9 the fence line, outside the venue. Until we responded to
10 where that tactical team was positioned, who was reporting
11 the information, I did not know where that area was.

12 **HSGAC Majority** : Why not? Was it because you didn't have
13 a map, or was it because --

14 **Witness** : It was described as the fence line
15 outside the venue.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : Not --

17 **Witness** : It could've been anywhere.

18 **Witness** : Not with sufficient specificity.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : Yes. It could've been anywhere. We
20 first needed to get to where the reporting party was to
21 then determine where this fence line was where this person
22 was seen.

23 **HSGAC Majority** : And during this time did you receive a
24 photo of the suspicious individual?

25 **Witness** : Not at this time, no.

1 HSGAC Majority : And when you first learned about the
2 suspicious individual, our understanding is that, or what
3 did you do with this information when you first learned
4 about it?

5 **Witness** : As far as with the information, or
6 what did I do?

7 **HSGAC Majority** : What did you do when you learned that
8 there was a suspicious individual with a rangefinder
9 outside the fence line?

10 **Witness** : Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and myself and a
11 uniformed Pennsylvania State Trooper, we got on the golf
12 cart that we were using and we drove over to the area where
13 the tactical team was positioned, that reported the
14 information, and looked for the individual.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : And was that a Post-Stander 5?

16 **Witness** : It wasn't a Secret Service fixed post.
17 It was a Pennsylvania State Patrol post.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : So I'll show you what's been marked as
19 Exhibit 4, which is the Pennsylvania State Police
20 Operations Manual.

21 [Exhibit No. 4 was
22 marked for identification.]

23 **HSGAC Majority** : Have you seen this document before?

24 Witness : Not on that day, no.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : Not on that day. But since then?

1 **Witness** : I would've in previous interviews.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : Would that document --

3 **Witness** : I --

4 **HSGAC Majority** : Would that document have been helpful to
5 have in advance, specifically referring to the map of where
6 the post-standers were, on page 4?

7 **Witness** : It would have been helpful to know
8 where the local law enforcement posts were, yes.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : And was it Posts 4 and 5 on the
10 Pennsylvania State Police Operational Plan Page 4 where you
11 went with Trooper **PSP Counterpart**

12 **Witness** : Yes. There was a local tactical team
13 there, and there was also a uniformed trooper with a marked
14 unit parked just outside of the chain-link fence and chain-
15 link gate that was locked.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : And what did you learn, if anything,
17 when you were at this post?

18 **Witness** : Nothing actionable. They repeated the
19 information, there was a suspicious individual with a
20 rangefinder. There was limited physical description. I
21 believe he was described as a white male with long hair.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : Who relayed this information?

23 **Witness** : The tactical team and the uniformed
24 trooper at Post 4.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : The State Police.

1 **Witness** : Yes.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : Not local police.

3 **Witness** : No. The local tactical team that was
4 staged in that area. So Posts 4 and 5, we spoke with the
5 officers there.

6 **HSGAC Majority** : And that's the State Police posts.

7 **Witness** : Yes.

8 **HSGAC Majority** : And so you learned this information at
9 approximately 5:30 or 5:40 --

10 **Witness** : In that area.

11 **HSGAC Majority** : -- in that range. But our understanding
12 is you did not call Special Agent **Intel Advance Lead** until 6:05. Why
13 wait that amount of time to inform him?

14 **Witness** : At that time we had a limited physical
15 description. The individual was not in the area. No one
16 knew where this person had gone or where they were. It was
17 vague, at best. At that time, while we were looking for
18 them, I noticed a couple of uniformed police cars with
19 markings in that industrial area. I asked Trooper **PSP Counterpart**
20 to reach out to those officers, find out who was over
21 there, see if they had seen this person, look for this
22 person.

23 I also noticed the counter sniper teams on the roof.
24 I called the Counter Sniper advance, asked if any of his
25 counter sniper teams had seen this person. They did not

1 know where this person was. I instructed him if they saw
2 him to call me and that I would respond and interview this
3 person. There was no more information to pass at that time
4 other than what was already known by the Security Room and
5 had already been passed. I had no additional intel.

6 **HSGAC Majority** : How did you know -- did you hear at all
7 this information being relayed on the Secret Service radio?

8 **Witness** : Trooper **PSP Counterpart** had communication with
9 the Pennsylvania State Patrol representative in the
10 Security Room. I don't remember specifically communicating
11 with the Security Room. I know that from his end he was
12 getting information from the Security Room. The
13 understanding was they were aware of the situation. I had
14 no further intelligence than what was passed to me.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : Given how big the Butler Farm Show
16 grounds were, did it ever occur to you to call this
17 information in to the Security Room so that others could be
18 made aware of the suspicious individual and keep an eye out
19 for him?

20 **Witness** : Again, at the time I was under the
21 understanding that the Security Room had the information,
22 being that it was being relayed to my partner and to me.
23 None of the other posts in the area, that I was aware of,
24 had a visual to the fence line. There were interior posts,
25 but there were risers that would've blocked line of sight

1 from the stage posts. Same for the people on the press
2 riser. There weren't any other posts that would've had a
3 visual of this area. It was that far removed.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : Were you at all privy to the local radio
5 communications that day?

6 **Witness** : I was not. It was being relayed to me
7 through my partner, my counterpart.

8 **HSGAC Majority** : So at 5:42 p.m., a Butler ESU commander
9 radios out, and this is on their radio channel, PD Ops 4,
10 and he says, I quote, "Just an FYI. We had a younger white
11 male, long hair, lurking around the AGR building. He was
12 viewed with a rangefinder, sighting the stage. He was up
13 against the building. I believe he was looking up at us
14 and he walked around the side of the building. We lost
15 sight of him. There was a bike with a large backpack
16 sitting beside it. It's parked in the rear of the
17 building. That wasn't there earlier."

18 Would this information have been helpful for you to
19 hear?

20 **Witness** : It would have. I did not hear it. I
21 did not know Butler ESU was out there that day. The only
22 local law enforcement agency I was aware of was the
23 Pennsylvania State Police.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : You were not aware that Butler ESU was -
25 - could you say that one more time?

1 **Witness** : I was not aware Butler ESU was out
2 there supporting the visit.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : What was your understanding of how the
4 AGR building was covered?

5 **Witness** : I had no understanding of where the
6 AGR building was, what it was, or how it was covered. That
7 was not briefed to me.

8 **HSGAC Majority** : When you learned that the suspicious
9 individual with the rangefinder was near the AGR building,
10 did you go to the AGR building?

11 **HSGAC Majority** : It was never reported to me that this
12 person was near the AGR building. I was never briefed on
13 the AGR building or where it was located. All I was
14 briefed on was the site itself, and the only intelligence I
15 received was a suspicious person along a fence line with a
16 rangefinder. The AGR building was never mentioned
17 specifically.

18 [Pause.]

19 **Witness** : And so I'd like to go through just where
20 we left off. Initially you learned of the suspicious
21 individual with a rangefinder when you were stage left.
22 You then traveled on the golf cart with Trooper **PSP Counterpart** to
23 Pennsylvania State Police post-standers 4 and 5. You then
24 learned, at that time, a little bit more information, a
25 description of the individual. At that time did you

1 receive a photo or any other information?

2 **Witness** : Not at that time.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : Okay. so what did you do from there?

4 **Witness** : Once I concluded my phone call with
5 the Counter Sniper Advance agent, and Trooper **PSP Counterpart**
6 finished his phone call asking for local support in looking
7 for this person, we got back on the golf cart and we were
8 in the process of returning back to the stage left area to
9 resume crowd control. When we got to the parking lot
10 behind the barn, Trooper **PSP Counterpart** advised that his vehicle
11 was parked in that lot and volunteered to get in his truck
12 and drive the fence line outside the venue, looking for
13 this person. I agreed that that was a good use of our
14 manpower. The uniformed trooper and I then continued back
15 to the stage left area, and Trooper **PSP Counterpart** broke away, got
16 in his vehicle, and was driving the exterior fence line,
17 looking for the individual that had been reported.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : And what did you then do?

19 **Witness** : I went back to the stage left area to
20 resume crowd control.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you inform either the Command Post
22 or the Security Room at any point that you then stopped
23 looking for the suspicious individual?

24 **Witness** : I did not, my team, meaning that
25 Trooper **PSP Counterpart** was still looking. There was no one visible

1 at that time. I wouldn't say that we stopped looking.
2 There was nothing further to be done in that area for me,
3 unless this person had been located and detained for
4 questioning. I was not in a position to leave the venue to
5 go look for this person.

6 **HSGAC Majority** : And can you estimate around what time
7 this was when you returned back to, you mentioned stage
8 left, to do crowd control?

9 **Witness** : I'd say approximately 5:45, a few
10 minutes after. We were in that area with the Posts 4 and 5
11 for I would say 10 to 15 minutes.

12 **HSGAC Majority** : I think it might be helpful, let me show
13 you some text messages which might be helpful in terms of
14 putting times --

15 **Witness** : Okay.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : -- on these things, because I know it's
17 been a while. So I'm showing you two sets of text
18 messages. One is Exhibit 5 and then the other will be
19 Exhibit 6. And the redactions you will see on these
20 messages were not applied by us but Secret Service.

21 [Exhibits No. 5 and 6 were
22 marked for identification.]

23 **HSGAC Majority** : So if we could first look at the text
24 message that has, I believe it's Exhibit 5.

25 **Witness** : Mm-hmm.

1 HSGAC Majority : Who is this text message between?

2 Witness : The first message?

3 HSGAC Majority : Yes.

4 Witness : I believe that was from me to Special

5 Agent Intel Advance Lead

6 HSGAC Majority : And it says here 3:07 p.m. Is that just
7 because of the time change, it really should be 6:07 p.m.?

8 Witness : Yes.

9 HSGAC Majority : So at 6:07 p.m., you text a photo to
10 Special Agent Intel Advance Lead Do you recall where you got this
11 photo?

12 Witness : I believe I got it from Special Agent
13 C/S Response who was the counter sniper response agent.

14 HSGAC Majority : And when did you run into Special Agent

15 C/S Response

16 Witness : After I had returned to the stage left
17 area from looking for the person outside the venue.

18 HSGAC Majority : And was this an intentional connection?
19 Did you write to Special Agent C/S Response and ask to consult
20 with him?

21 Witness : No. He was in that area, assisting
22 with the crowd control.

23 HSGAC Majority : Were you aware that Special Agent

24 C/S Response was also looking for this individual?

25 Witness : Not until I spoke to him.

1 **HSGAC Majority** : And talk about that communication.

2 **Witness** : When I responded back to the stage
3 left area I encountered him. We shared information. We
4 basically had the same information, a vague physical
5 description of a person outside the venue, along a fence
6 line, with a rangefinder. He then advised he had received
7 a photo of this person, and he shared it with me via text
8 message, and then I passed that to Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and to
9 Special Agent **Intel Advance Lead**

10 **HSGAC Majority** : And so this was at 5:52. At 5:52,
11 Special Agent **C/S Response** said he texted you a photo of the
12 suspicious individual. Why wait so long to share it with
13 Special Agent **Intel Advance Lead**

14 **Witness** : I don't believe it was that long. I
15 don't know how long the picture would have taken to go out
16 once it was being sent. Once I received it I sent it.
17 There was no intentional delay.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : But it was 15 minutes from the time you
19 received the photo from Special Agent **C/S Response** And just
20 for the record, I don't know that we've received this text
21 message where Special Agent **C/S Response** sent a text to
22 Special Agent **Witness** I could be wrong, but I think
23 that's probably from Special Agent **C/S Response** TI.

24 **Witness** : I don't recall it being 15 minutes.
25 That seems long to me. I believe it was a shorter time

1 frame.

2 HSGAC Majority : And in this text message, Intel Advance Lead
3 responds, "Command Post PSP Trooper said he may be walking
4 toward the Sheetz." Why didn't you go toward the Sheetz at
5 that time?"

6 Witness : At that time I didn't know what the
7 Sheetz was. I'm not from Pennsylvania. I was unaware that
8 was a gas station. I learned that after the fact. I
9 didn't know where it was, well outside the venue I later
10 found out. The assumption among those of us that had been
11 looking was that this person was probably leaving the area.

12 HSGAC Majority : And turning to Exhibit 6, you then
13 shared that information, "Command Post PSP Trooper said he
14 may be walking toward the Sheetz." Is this with your
15 Pennsylvania State Police counterpart, Trooper PSP Counterpart

16 Witness : No. What happened here was Special
17 Agent Intel Advance Lead and I were texting each other at the exact
18 same time. That's actually information he's passing to me.
19 My text is in the green, and that was from him to me. They
20 came in --

21 HSGAC Majority : At the same time.

22 Witness : -- at the same time, I think within
23 seconds, so his appeared first.

24 HSGAC Majority : Understood. But going to Exhibit 6 --

25 Witness : Okay.

1 HSGAC Majority : -- this is text messages. It's
2 redacted, but our understanding is it's with Pennsylvania
3 State Trooper PSP Counterpart Correct?

4 Witness : Yes.

5 HSGAC Majority : And you then relayed the information
6 that Intel Advance Lead shared with you about going toward the Sheetz
7 with Trooper PSP Counterpart Correct?

8 Witness : Yes.

9 HSGAC Majority : So when you go back to -- it was likely
10 -- I wanted to show you those just to get a better
11 understanding of timing. So can you estimate when
12 approximately you then went back to stage left? It must've
13 been around 6:00 and not 5:40?

14 Witness : Possibly. I think maybe 5:40 was when
15 we were initially looking for them. I got the pictures
16 shortly after we returned to the stage left area.

17 HSGAC Majority : Okay.

18 Witness : I can't give you an exact time.
19 Again, it's been four months. But it sounds right. It was
20 minutes, I would say less than five minutes after we got
21 there we had the photo.

22 HSGAC Majority : And at this time did you hear at all
23 that the individual was near the AGR building?

24 Witness : Again, I was never told where the AGR
25 building was or what it was. All I had was a fence line,

1 which I observed to be near an industrial area. I did
2 not know that was the AGR building or what any of those
3 buildings were.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : And at that time, when you decided to go
5 back to crowd control, knowing that you're the only
6 protective intelligence agent who is tasked with looking
7 for suspicious individuals, and that there is a suspicious
8 individual somewhere on-site, that local police officers
9 lost sight of for over 20 minutes, why did you not inform
10 anyone that you stopped your search?

11 **Witness** : So the person was not inside the site.
12 They were outside the site, in a public area where people
13 were gathered. I never stopped searching. I had no
14 additional intelligence. I had no additional information
15 on where to look or how to encounter this person. The
16 stage left area was a large section of the crowd that was
17 being contained with bike rack. The people in this crowd
18 were taking apart the bike rack and spilling into a walkway
19 with direct access to the motorcade. Had that crowd broken
20 through that bike rack completely, they could have
21 overwhelmed the motorcade. They were also within throwing
22 distance of the stage.

23 Based on the information I had, which was a suspicious
24 individual with a rangefinder looking at the stage outside
25 the venue, I had no more information. The person was not

1 detained. They were not visible in the area. Other
2 people had the information and had a better vantage point
3 than I did.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : And when you say other people, who?

5 **Witness** : The counter snipers on top of the
6 buildings had a better vantage point of that area than I
7 did. I was on foot, at a fence line, approximately 25
8 yards away from where the person was spotted, and they were
9 no longer in the area. They were no longer visible. Had
10 they been detained, had they been stopped, I would have
11 left and interviewed them. I was not in a position to
12 leave the venue and to conduct a search for this person at
13 that time.

14 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you inform Special Agent **Intel Advance Lead**
15 that you stopped your search?

16 **Witness** : Again, I wasn't stopping a search. I
17 needed more information. I needed a location. This person
18 had to be detained for me to be able to respond to them.
19 My job is not to leave the venue and search for people. My
20 job is to interview people with a suspicious interest, with
21 an unusual interest, or someone that's making a threat.
22 Yes, this person's behavior was suspicious. I'm not in a
23 position to leave the venue and to go look for this person.
24 My responsibility is a post-stander within the protected
25 site.

1 **HSGAC Majority** : So what did you do to make sure that
2 the Secret Service Security Room and the Secret Service
3 personnel who were tasked with making decisions about
4 keeping the President on and/or off stage, made sure that
5 this individual was actively being looked for and others
6 were aware that there was a suspicious individual?

7 **Witness** : The Security Room, it was my
8 understanding at that time the Security Room was aware of
9 this person, being that they had passed information to
10 people who had shared that information with me. I was
11 among the people who had responded to look. I was not
12 initiating any of this. I was responding to information I
13 was being given, along with other people. I was not in a
14 position to provide any additional intelligence. I had
15 nothing else to contribute to the search. I was waiting
16 for more information. Had anything else come, I would have
17 responded in kind.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : And is there any protocol for protective
19 intelligence agents when you're in this type of position,
20 where, based on what you're saying, you are unable to leave
21 the security perimeter but know that there is a potentially
22 dangerous individual that needs to be confronted? What are
23 you supposed to do?

24 **Witness** : At this point it was never
25 communicated that this person was dangerous. Yes, it was

1 unusual that someone would be using a rangefinder to look
2 at the stage. The information that Butler ESU put on the
3 radio, that wasn't known until after the fact. That was
4 never passed to me. I never received it. There were a
5 number of people on that fence line doing any manner of
6 things that could be considered unusual. I observed a
7 woman on horseback with a flag, riding up and down the
8 fence line.

9 Yes, this was unusual. Yes, it was concerning. But
10 again, had this person been detained or stopped, had
11 someone who had seen this person asked them to stand by and
12 then called for specifically Secret Service to interview
13 them, I would have gone and interviewed them.

14 **HSGAC Majority** : But your role was to confront and
15 interview individuals. Correct?

16 **Witness** : Within the site. Outside of the site,
17 I am not roving outside the security perimeter looking for
18 people. I had 15,000 people inside. Any manner of threat
19 can develop inside these events. That's my primary
20 responsibility.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : Would you characterize your search for
22 the suspicious individual with the rangefinder as urgent?

23 **Witness** : At that time, based on the information
24 I knew, it was not urgent. I was concerned. There was
25 never any mention of a weapon or any direct threat. The

1 only concerning information was the rangefinder at that
2 time.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : And to your knowledge, who else was
4 involved in searching for the suspicious individual?

5 **Witness** : Pennsylvania State Police.

6 **HSGAC Majority** : And in your view, was Secret Service's
7 search for the suspicious individual sufficiently
8 coordinated?

9 **Witness** : There were no Secret Service personnel
10 outside the venue looking for this person that I was aware
11 of. Myself and Special Agent **C/S Response** would have been
12 tasked to respond to somebody had they been located or
13 detained. Being that the person was in an unknown
14 location, not visible, there was nothing to respond to.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you hear the Secret Service radio
16 alerts about the locals addressing a 3 o'clock issue 200
17 yards out?

18 **Witness** : I did not.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : Why not?

20 **Witness** : They were passed on a different
21 channel. The post-standers were operating on one channel,
22 and the detail operates on a different channel. So that
23 was communicated on a radio that I was not privy to.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : And before shots were fired, were you
25 ever made aware that there was someone on the roof?

1 **Witness** : Prior to the shots being fired,
2 there was information passed, I believe it was verbally,
3 among those of us in that area, that someone was spotted on
4 the roof of the AGR building. This was the first time I
5 heard the AGR building addressed by name. Prior to that
6 statement, I had no idea what the AGR building was or where
7 it was located, and at that time I did not know what it was
8 or where it was located.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you consider putting that
10 information out on the radio, that there was someone on the
11 roof of the AGR building?

12 **Witness** : That information was being
13 communicated through my counterpart, Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and
14 the Pennsylvania State Police. It had been passed to them
15 through their coms. It was my understanding that that was
16 originating in the Security Room, through the Pennsylvania
17 State rep in the Security Room. So my understanding was
18 they were aware.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : But there's someone on the roof of a
20 building that's 200 yards from where the President is
21 speaking. It did not occur to you to put that out on the
22 radio, since you had not heard it out on the radio?

23 **Witness** : Again, I didn't know where the
24 building was or what the building was. So I have no idea
25 what the AGR building is or where it's located. I had no

1 more information. I was asking State Police at that time
2 what is the AGR building and where is the AGR building. I
3 had no other information. It was my understanding this was
4 being communicated through the local police rep in the
5 Security Room. I did not put any additional information on
6 the radio because I didn't have any additional information.
7 While we were trying to determine this location and what
8 this building was, that's when the shots rang out.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : Understood. I'll turn it over to my
10 colleague.

11 **Witness** : Thank you.

12 **HSGAC Majority** : Special Agent **Witness** my name is
13 **HSGAC Majority** . I'm on Senator Peters' team with the
14 Committee.

15 Just following up on my colleague's questions about
16 the perimeter and your role, have you ever been instructed
17 that you're not allowed to leave the security perimeter
18 other than you as a PI agent?

19 **Witness** : No.

20 **HSGAC Majority** : Is there any policy, that you are aware
21 of, prohibiting you as a PI agent from leaving the security
22 perimeter at an event?

23 **Witness** : No. There is not.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : So what gives you the understanding that
25 you should not be leaving the security perimeter?

1 **Witness** : There was not an understanding that
2 I should not be leaving. The issue was there was nothing
3 specific I am responding to. There was nobody to be
4 interviewed. There was nobody to contact. If I had
5 stepped up to that fence line when I had first gotten the
6 information and seen that person, I would have gone to that
7 person and tried to make contact with them. They were not
8 visible, and I had no other information other than a vague
9 physical description.

10 **HSGAC Majority** : But forgive my confusion. Wasn't that
11 your job? In other words, wasn't it on you to go find that
12 person?

13 **Witness** : Not necessarily, no. My primary
14 responsibility is the site itself and the crowd in the
15 site. If the person had been visible, if I had seen them
16 or if they had been detained and they were calling for
17 someone to come interview them, this is something the
18 Secret Service needs to respond to, this is something they
19 need to question, I would have responded. There was
20 nothing to respond to at that time other than a description
21 of a person that was no longer in the area.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : What gave you the impression that they
23 were no longer in the area?

24 **Witness** : They were not visible, to anyone.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : So you didn't know where they were.

1 **Witness** : No.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : So you didn't know positively that they
3 were no longer in the area.

4 **Witness** : I knew they were no longer anywhere
5 visible that I could respond to. I did not feel at the
6 time I was in a position to leave the venue, go to an
7 industrial area that I was unfamiliar with, and to conduct
8 a search for this person.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : So just to clarify, not knowing where
10 someone was gave you confidence that they were not in a
11 certain area?

12 **Witness** : Not knowing where they were gave me
13 confidence in I needed to wait for more information before
14 I left the venue to contact them.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : Understood.

16 **Witness** : If there's no one to see or interview,
17 I did not feel comfortable leaving the venue to wander this
18 area looking for someone.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : Have you ever left the security
20 perimeter at a previous event?

21 **Witness** : I have.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : For what reasons?

23 **Witness** : There were a number of times, and one
24 specific time there were a group of protesters, a crowd,
25 gathered outside of a venue, and we had intelligence from

1 local police one of the protesters was armed legally,
2 under their clothing. And I walked across the street from
3 the venue to get a better visual on the post-stander, a
4 better physical description. They were visible from the
5 venue. I walked across the street, got a good visible
6 description and a look at the person, should something
7 happen.

8 **HSGAC Majority** : But in this case, as you've said, you
9 felt that it wouldn't have been appropriate for you to
10 leave the security perimeter to look for this suspicious
11 person.

12 **Witness** : No. Being that I would have had to
13 get into a vehicle, drive completely off property, onto a
14 public road, into an area I was unfamiliar with, and look
15 for a person I had a vague physical description of, the
16 crowd itself was a bigger threat at that time, I felt. I
17 needed more information. I needed a picture. I needed a
18 physical person to talk to.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : Well, when my colleague was first asking
20 you about the search for the suspicious person, you said
21 that initially you encountered the fence and it was locked,
22 and that if it hadn't been locked you would've gone out
23 further to look for the suspicious person.

24 **Witness** : Yes.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : So explain the difference now why you

1 initially said you would've gone further outside the
2 security perimeter if the gate hadn't been locked, but now
3 you're saying that you were prohibited, or at least it was
4 your understanding that you shouldn't have left the
5 perimeter.

6 **Witness**: If the gate hadn't been locked I
7 would've crossed that 20 yards of grass right up to the
8 fence line, face-to-face with those people, and I would've
9 engaged them, "Hey, did you see somebody over here? What
10 did they do? Where did they go?" I would've continued
11 along. Being that I had to go and get in a vehicle and
12 then drive outside a fence line to the other fence line to
13 conduct those interviews while the program was beginning,
14 when the protectee was en route, staying inside the site
15 felt like the bigger priority to me at the time.

16 **HSGAC Majority**: Understood. I appreciate it. I'm going
17 to turn it to my PSI majority colleague for some brief
18 follow-up.

19 **PSI Majority**: Hi there. Just a couple of questions,
20 Special Agent **Witness** In radio communications referring
21 to the AGR building, do you recall was it primarily local,
22 like Pennsylvania State Police making these references, or
23 were there Secret Service personnel also using the term
24 "AGR building"?

25 **Witness**: The first time I heard the term "AGR

1 building" was when someone was reported to be on the roof
2 of the building. I had never heard that term, the name of
3 the building, prior to that. The Pennsylvania State Police
4 in the immediate area that I was communicating with did not
5 know where the building was located. We were trying to
6 determine that as we got the information.

7 **PSI Majority** : And are you aware, or do you recall if
8 any briefing materials that you received ahead of this
9 event labeled or identified the AGR building?

10 **Witness** : The first time I heard the term "AGR"
11 was the report that someone was on the roof.

12 **PSI Majority** : Okay. Thank you very much.

13 **Witness** : You're welcome.

14 **HSGAC Majority** : Just one follow-up question, or a couple
15 of follow-up questions. Our understanding from an
16 interview of Trooper **PSP Counterpart** is that he did not have a
17 Department radio on him at the time. Was that something
18 that you were made aware of?

19 **Witness** : I do not recall. I believed he did
20 have a radio. I knew he had communication with his agency.
21 I assumed it was via radio.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : You did not know that he may have not
23 had a radio on him.

24 **Witness** : No.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : And did you experience difficulties with

1 cellphone service that day?

2 **Witness** : I did not.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : And I believe we are nearing the hour,
4 so we will take a five-minute break and then resume with
5 our colleagues from Ranking Member Paul's office.

6 **Witness** : Okay.

7 [Recess.]

8 **HSGAC Minority** : Thank you. I'm **HSGAC Minority** of
9 Senator Rand Paul's office. I've just got some questions
10 that we've come in with and then multiple follow-ups, just
11 on what we've heard, from what you've already testified on.

12 First of all, can you go back and just kind of clarify
13 when you first got a notification of that suspicious
14 individual, later known as Thomas Crooks. Give me a kind
15 of a timeline when you first heard that, that there was a
16 suspicious person in that area.

17 **Witness** : The specific times obviously are a
18 little foggy being that it's been four months. Between
19 5:20, 5:45, in that area, it was communicated to me there
20 was a suspicious person seen outside the venue, on a fence
21 line, with a rangefinder. That was all the information I
22 had. I responded to the area of where the reporting party
23 was, to follow up with them, and try and establish a visual
24 of where this person was, who this person was.

25 **HSGAC Minority** : Where was that area that you responded

1 to? I think you've told us it was in the area of post, I
2 think she showed you --

3 **Witness** : 4 and 5.

4 **HSGAC Minority** : -- 4 and 5.

5 **Witness** : To the stage right area there were
6 bleachers, tall bleachers. It was behind those bleachers,
7 right up along the interior fence line where it cordoned
8 off the property of where we were in the venue.

9 **HSGAC Minority** : Did you get to speak with the person
10 who made the report?

11 **Witness** : I spoke with the local tactical team
12 that was stationed there, and I also spoke to the uniformed
13 State Trooper that was posted right outside, on Post 4. I
14 spoke to both of them, and they said the same thing, a
15 person on the fence line with a rangefinder. There was a
16 vague description, and I believe it was white male, long
17 hair, younger. And they were no longer visible. They were
18 no longer in a position where we could make contact with
19 them.

20 **HSGAC Minority** : Who sent you there? Who dispatched you
21 there?

22 **Witness** : I wasn't dispatched by anyone. I was
23 given information that this was being reported, through --

24 **HSGAC Minority** : From who?

25 **Witness** : My counterpart, **PSP Counterpart**, through

1 the uniformed trooper, "Hey, we've got a report of a
2 suspicious person outside the venue with a rangefinder."
3 And I said, "Okay. Let's go check it out." Where are we
4 going, who is reporting this. The tactical team in this
5 area. So we responded to that area and spoke to the
6 tactical team.

7 **HSGAC Minority**: And can we clarify what your role was.
8 You had, it looked like, two roles. But primarily what was
9 your primary role that day, as a PI or as a post-stander,
10 jump team leader? What was your primary role?

11 **Witness**: So the site PI, Protective
12 Intelligence Team, is a post-stander. It's not a fixed
13 post. So it's a roving post throughout the venue. My
14 primary role was to engage and counter anybody with an
15 unusual interest in the protectee, anybody making a threat.
16 For example, if somebody in the crowd were to make a
17 concerning statement and another attendee were to report
18 that to a post-stander, they would call for a site PI team.
19 I would respond, who made the concerning statement. I
20 would go talk to that person, "Hey, what did you say?
21 What's going on? What is the intention behind this
22 statement?" Anything within the venue and outside of the
23 venue, if there is a person or issue to respond to.

24 For example, on a previous site, in Phoenix, Arizona,
25 for the First Lady, we had someone attempt to gain access

1 to a site by producing a fake credential. I was the site
2 PI team for that venue. The person was spotted outside the
3 venue with a group of protesters. I cross the street to
4 the corner where they were standing, made contact with
5 them, identified them, questioned them regarding their
6 intention, what they did, and I later generated a report
7 regarding that contact.

8 If this person had been visible outside the venue and
9 I had been able to make contact with them and do a field
10 interview, I would have. They were not in a position where
11 I could see them to do that, locate them to do that.

12 **HSGAC Minority** : Have you ever been sent to a suspicious
13 person at any event and you had to go look for them?

14 **Witness** : No. Any time that I would be sent to
15 respond to somebody it would be somebody that was in a
16 known location or that was being detained for interview.

17 **HSGAC Minority** : So you've never found someone
18 suspicious on your own that was not detained. You've only
19 interviewed people under the PI role after they've been
20 detained.

21 **Witness** : No. I have contacted and interviewed
22 people in venues that I deemed to be suspicious or unusual.
23 For example, after this incident I was the site protective
24 intelligence agent at a JD Vance site, and an individual
25 wandered up to different areas within the stage location.

1 He appeared to be checking out security perimeters,
2 trying to determine a way to gain access, get closer to the
3 stage. I followed this individual. I questioned the
4 individual, "Why are you here? Where do you live? What is
5 your intention to be here today?" He was just curious.
6 That's something I determined on my own, within the venue,
7 to be suspicious.

8 So that's something you can develop through observing
9 the crowd. At this venue it was a very large crowd. It
10 would be difficult to navigate the crowd should somebody
11 make a threat or an overt action towards the stage. So I
12 was very concerned about the crowd itself and how I would
13 navigate that crowd should something happen with someone
14 inside of it.

15 **HSGAC Minority**: So when you talk about suspicious
16 people, and that is one of the roles that you had, to
17 either, if you observed them yourself to go to them and
18 question them, or if you were sent under the device of
19 someone else then you would interview them, we've heard
20 from other people that the person was suspicious but they
21 weren't threatening. What do you look for, for a
22 suspicious person? What are you looking for? Because
23 we've talked about the rangefinder. With the information
24 you were given for Mr. Crooks, does that rise to the level
25 of suspicion?

1 **Witness** : The rangefinder is unusual. That's
2 not something you would see very often. Is it threatening
3 in itself, alone? No. I think it's important to
4 understand here, at no time was there ever a mention of any
5 weapon, in any intelligence that I received. The only
6 unusual bit of information that was ever passed was the
7 rangefinder itself.

8 **HSGAC Minority** : So how many suspicious person calls did
9 you respond to, that you were sent to that day?

10 **Witness** : This was the only suspicious call that
11 I responded to. The first call for a site PI response was
12 at the main mag checkpoint earlier in the day. There was
13 an attendee and a volunteer who were waiting to be screened
14 that got into a verbal altercation. Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and I
15 responded. We spoke to both parties involved, determined
16 that it was nothing that we needed to be concerned with,
17 with regard to a threat to the protectee, and we allowed
18 the uniformed State Police to handle it.

19 There was another report of a mother in a crowd who
20 had a child. She believed someone in the crowd had
21 inappropriately touched her child and was calling for a
22 response. We responded to assist with that, determined
23 that was also something uniformed State Police needed to
24 address on a local level.

25 There were several missing children, several medical

1 callouts. As far as an unusual activity or suspicious,
2 this was the first that I responded to.

3 **HSGAC Minority** : And if I understand you correctly, that
4 is your priority, as your assignment --

5 **Witness** : It is.

6 **HSGAC Minority** : -- that day. Correct. Because we've
7 heard reports from other people within the Secret Service,
8 and maybe even the Acting Director, that you all responded
9 to multiple calls of suspicious persons. And I just wanted
10 to clarify that you had not. That was not things you had
11 responded to. Correct?

12 **Witness** : I personally did not respond. This
13 was the first suspicious person that I responded to.

14 **HSGAC Minority** : So did you have direct contact with
15 people within the HSI that were there on the scene? Were
16 they on a channel that you could communicate with them?

17 **Witness** : The HSI post-standers were on the
18 post-stander radio channel, and I was able to communicate
19 with them through the radio.

20 **HSGAC Minority** : Did you broadcast anything during the
21 day on the radio?

22 **Witness** : I don't recall. I don't recall
23 anything specific. I know there were several calls for
24 relief at posts. That could've been communicated through
25 the radio. I believe the response up to the main mag

1 checkpoint for the verbal altercation with the attendees
2 was communicated via the radio. I don't recall initiating
3 any traffic with intelligence I had to pass.

4 **HSGAC Minority** : And you mentioned that you didn't
5 specifically know anything about the AGR building or where
6 it was at. But there was talking of a suspicious person,
7 and as you just said, was taken to the general area of
8 where that report was at. Correct?

9 **Witness** : Yes. What was passed to me was it was
10 a person on the fence line, outside the venue.

11 **HSGAC Minority** : The general area of where that building
12 ended up being.

13 **Witness** : There were a number of general public
14 gathered along that fence line, and they were reported to
15 be with those people, along that fence line. That's what
16 was reported to me.

17 **HSGAC Minority** : So at some point during the day you had
18 worked and met up with, on a couple of occasions, with
19 Special Agent **C/S Response** who was working as the counter
20 sniper response agent. And at one point, as we were told,
21 and I think you even mentioned it too, that you all were
22 both actively looking for this suspicious person. Am I
23 correct?

24 **Witness** : Yes. We had both received a report of
25 the person. We had similar descriptions and intelligence

1 to share. And we had both responded and looked for this
2 person, yes.

3 **HSGAC Minority** : And Sergeant **C/S Response** told us that at
4 some point he was told to go back to the dais stage area
5 and stop looking. Do you know who would've told him that?

6 **Witness** : I don't know. I know he was in the
7 dais area with me, helping with crowd control.

8 **HSGAC Minority** : As you were standing, or meeting with
9 the person who had reported that out to the fence line
10 area, you never heard him told to go back to the crowd
11 control position?

12 **Witness** : When I was with the tactical team in
13 the stage right fence line area, Special Agent **C/S Response**
14 was not in that area with me. I didn't encounter him until
15 I returned over to the stage left side.

16 **HSGAC Minority** : And you testified earlier that you
17 never went outside the, I guess for better, to
18 quote/unquote, "inner perimeter" at any time during that
19 day. Am I correct? While the rally was going on, because
20 I know you had to come and traverse in and out.

21 **Witness** : The farthest I got was that fence line
22 and locked gate.

23 **HSGAC Minority** : Let's go back to when you first got the
24 cellphone picture of Mr. Crooks. What time was that?
25 Because you first heard about him at around 5:20 to 5:45,

1 and I'm not going to hold you to specific times.

2 [Witness] : Yeah.

3 [HSGAC Minority] : I understand. But what time did you
4 receive the photo of Mr. Crooks?

5 [Witness] : I sent the photo at, the timestamp on
6 this is 3:07, so it would've been prior to that, maybe a
7 minute or two before that.

8 [HSGAC Minority] : So was that 6:07?

9 [Witness] : Yes. I would've received it a minute
10 or two before that.

11 [HSGAC Minority] : So 6:00, 6:07?

12 [Witness] : Yes.

13 [HSGAC Minority] : Okay.

14 [Witness] : I received it, and then I forwarded
15 it.

16 [HSGAC Minority] : Okay. Did your counterpart receive, or
17 do you know that he received a photograph before you did?

18 [Witness] : Trooper [PSP Counterpart]

19 [HSGAC Minority] : Trooper [PSP Counterpart]

20 [Witness] : I sent him a photograph, the one that
21 I received. I don't know if he received one before that.

22 [HSGAC Minority] : But you had not seen any photograph
23 until that time that it came across your --

24 [Witness] : Yes. That was the first I saw.

25 [HSGAC Minority] : Okay. I think that our colleague asked

1 a few questions a while ago about your decision to stay
2 within the inner perimeter or leaving, and it is my
3 understanding that you are the one that makes that
4 decision. Am I correct? You specifically, no one.
5 There's not a policy that says you have to stay here. You
6 didn't have a supervisor to coordinate your movements. But
7 you, individually, are able to make that decision.
8 Correct?

9 **Witness** : Yes.

10 **HSGAC Minority** : And you made a decision based upon what
11 you called vague description of the individual, and you
12 felt like that it was not enough information to leave the
13 inner perimeter because of a, I think you used the term
14 "crowd control issue" that was taking place close to the
15 bike rack.

16 **Witness** : Had there been somebody detained to
17 interview, I would've left to do that. That would've been
18 my primary function is to contact and interview this
19 individual. Absent them in custody or in sight, where I
20 could contact them, that's my primary function as
21 protective intelligence is to gather intelligence from that
22 person. If there's not a person to gather intelligence
23 from, my function is not to go look for people.

24 **HSGAC Minority** : Were you aware of any U.S. Secret
25 Service assets that were leaving or left the inner

1 perimeter to search for Mr. Crooks?

2 **Witness** : I was not aware, no.

3 **HSGAC Minority** : Did you think that -- let me rephrase
4 that. Knowing that your agency is the lead over all
5 security, did you make a conscious decision not to ask
6 someone from your agency or to make sure? I know we talk
7 about, I think you mentioned assumptions that the radio
8 room or the Security Room was broadcasting things out. But
9 since your role is to follow up on suspicious persons, I'm
10 trying to understand why you, specifically, did not ask for
11 someone within the Secret Service to go outside the fence
12 to search for that individual in partnership with the local
13 and/or state agencies.

14 **Witness** : That's not something I would ask for.
15 That's not something in my role that I would be tasked with
16 asking. My job, as a site PI person, assigned to stand
17 post at the site, is the site itself. The only time I
18 would leave the site would be to contact somebody that has
19 been stopped, had been detained, that I had stopped and
20 detained because I determined this was someone who needed
21 to be interviewed. Absent a physical body to gather
22 intelligence from, there was no reason for me to leave.

23 **HSGAC Minority** : So if they would've found him you
24 would've went.

25 **Witness** : Yes.

1 **HSGAC Minority** : So which I guess leads me to the next
2 thing. Did you hear anything over the radio that day, on
3 whatever channel you were monitoring, that you said the
4 other HSI and post-standers were listening to, did you hear
5 anyone, including the Security Room, give a dispatch of
6 this BOLO, Be on the Lookout, or ATL of this individual?

7 **Witness** : No. Nothing specific regarding this
8 individual over the radio.

9 **HSGAC Minority** : Are you allowed to get on the radio and
10 relay that information? Since your job is to interview the
11 individual, help me understand why I wouldn't use the
12 resources out there to help locate the individual so I
13 could then henceforth interview the individual, is my
14 question.

15 **Witness** : I understand your question. What I'm
16 trying to think of is how to explain this. The posts
17 inside the venue that I had contact with, none of them,
18 absent myself or Special Agent **C/S Response** were in a
19 position to see this area or to respond to this area.
20 Myself and Agent **C/S Response** we were roving posts. If
21 anyone were to leave the venue or to contact this person,
22 had they been available for contact and interview, it
23 would've been myself or Agent **C/S Response** We were in
24 contact with each other. I was receiving information that
25 was coming from the Security Room via the State Police. My

1 understanding was that the Security Room was up to date
2 on the information. I had nothing additional to pass, to
3 put this description out to the post-standers. Yes, that
4 would've been an option, but they would not have been in a
5 position to assist in locating this person. They were at
6 fixed posts with fixed responsibilities.

7 **HSGAC Minority** : I must be missing something, because if
8 I'm at Point A, and you said that you couldn't see in the
9 area they are, but I've got other people that are spread
10 out.

11 **Witness** : They were not in a position to see it.
12 The two gentlemen on the stage could not see the AGR
13 building from where they were standing.

14 **HSGAC Minority** : So how many people were on that
15 channel?

16 **Witness** : All of the post-standers assigned to
17 the --

18 **HSGAC Minority** : How many?

19 **Witness** : Let's see. How many did we have out
20 there. Approximately **LES**

21 **HSGAC Minority** : Then again, I think that question I
22 have is **LES** eyes are better than one person. If I can't see
23 it but yet I need to locate this person to interview, I'm
24 having a hard time understanding why if you didn't
25 personally hear it on the radio why we would assume that

1 the other people heard it on the radio, why you, in your
2 role, would not ask the other individuals, "This is the
3 information we have. If you locate this individual please
4 let me know so I can come and interview them." Because as
5 you've testified, you did not know where he was at, so
6 that's the benefit of a radio is to broadcast that out for
7 other people, other standers. So maybe you can help me
8 clarify that, on why that would not be helpful.

9 **Witness** : Again, the other posts inside the
10 venue did not have a vantage point to see where this person
11 had been reported.

12 **HSGAC Minority** : But you testified earlier you did not
13 know where he was at, at this point now.

14 **Witness** : I knew he was outside the venue. I
15 knew that he was not inside the venue.

16 **HSGAC Minority** : How did we know that?

17 **Witness** : Because he was seen outside the venue,
18 in that area. To get into the venue he would've had to hop
19 fences. He would've had to traverse the parking lot, the
20 backstage area, where there were police posts. He would've
21 had to go through the magnetometers to get into the venue.
22 And again, I had a vague physical description of a white
23 male with long hair. There were 15,000 people there. I
24 didn't have a photo at this time. I had no intelligence
25 other than a white male with long hair, outside the venue,

1 with a rangefinder. I could have broadcast that, yes. I
2 did not feel anybody else was in a position to respond or
3 to assist in locating this person at that time, other than
4 myself and Agent **C/S Response**

5 **HSGAC Minority** : Did your counterpart, as I think you
6 said, got in his own work vehicle and left and went outside
7 the fence. Am I correct?

8 **Witness** : Yes.

9 **HSGAC Minority** : Did you overhear or know of anyone that
10 told him if he leaves outside the fence that he cannot get
11 back in?

12 **Witness** : I did not hear that, no.

13 **HSGAC Minority** : If he was told that if you leave you
14 can't get back in because that's where the motorcade is
15 going to be at, you never overheard that conversation at
16 all?

17 **Witness** : No.

18 **HSGAC Minority** : Would you understand why a uniformed
19 trooper would be told that?

20 **Witness** : My counterpart was no in uniform. He
21 was in a business suit. I don't know who told him what.
22 When he got in his vehicle he broke away from me, so I
23 don't know who he spoke to after that.

24 **HSGAC Minority** : And you made a decision not to go with
25 him.

1 **Witness** : I did.

2 **HSGAC Minority** : And go back to the stage, based upon
3 what you said was a crowd control concern?

4 **Witness** : Yes.

5 **HSGAC Minority** : Which goes back to your primary issues
6 was the suspicious person. Could you have got in the
7 vehicle and rode with him?

8 **Witness** : I could have. At that time, based on
9 the information we had, I felt we were better served to
10 split up. If he saw the person, if he encountered them, he
11 could detain them and I could respond to his area. The
12 crowd that we had breaking through the bike rack, who
13 would've had direct access to the motorcade at that time, I
14 felt was the bigger threat. If that crowd had broken
15 through the bike rack they could've overwhelmed the road
16 and approached the motorcade area.

17 **HSGAC Minority** : So when you went back to protect the
18 bike rack area, did the presence of your one person prevent
19 them from overtaking that route?

20 **Witness** : I was there. We had uniformed
21 Pennsylvania State Patrol there. We'd even called over the
22 EOD, the explosive -- it was basically an all-hands-on-deck
23 area. We needed people along this bike rack line to
24 control the crowd and keep them back from the bike rack.
25 My intention was if this person was located and that it was

1 passed to me, I would immediately respond and conduct an
2 interview. At the time that I split from Trooper **PSP Counterpart** I
3 did not feel there was any more I could do to locate and
4 assist with this person. He volunteered to go look. I
5 thought that was the best use of our resources. He would
6 continue looking. I would go back over to this area and
7 keep an eye on the crowd. Should he make contact, we would
8 reconvene and I would conduct an interview.

9 **HSGAC Minority**: When you were notified at 5:20,
10 somewhere 5:20, 5:25, 5:30, of the suspicious person, I
11 think you've told us that you received multiple, I guess,
12 recurring accounts of the individual and updates, other
13 people asking. Is it normal to, once you have a,
14 quote/unquote, "suspicious person" for, I don't know, the
15 reports just keep coming in a little quicker, a little more
16 often, with a little more detail? And I guess my question
17 to you is, was there a growing sense of urgency in all the
18 things that you heard. They're focusing so much on one
19 individual out of 15,000 people. Did an alarm bell not go
20 off and say we may need to ratchet up our search pretty
21 quick for this guy?

22 **Witness**: When I got the initial report that
23 there was someone outside the venue with a rangefinder, I
24 was concerned. I responded immediately. There was no more
25 information for me at that time. In observing the area I

1 saw two marked units, police cars. One of them was
2 Butler County. At that time I asked Trooper [PSP Counterpart] "Do we
3 have uniformed officers in this area?" I didn't know. I
4 asked him. He said, "I don't know. Let me check." He
5 gets on the phone and he's making contacts.

6 So at that time my action is let's get some people
7 over here looking for this guy. I asked my counterpart to
8 reach out to local police. Let's get people mobilized to
9 look and find and contact this guy. I also thought how
10 else can we look to see where this person is. That's when
11 I reached out to the counter sniper advance agent, "Hey,
12 have your guys seen anybody?"

13 This is the first I'm hearing of this. I don't know
14 this person has been in the area for all this time prior.
15 All I know is, as far as I know this is the first we've
16 heard of him. I don't know that he's been seen before
17 this. I'm doing everything I can to get as many eyes on
18 this area as I can.

19 Once I have exhausted those options, and I now know
20 people are looking for this person, I'm going to go back to
21 my original area of concern, which I was working on prior
22 to this coming up. Trooper [PSP Counterpart] offered to join the
23 search. I thought that was a great idea. Again, I was
24 already concerned with the crowd control prior to this.
25 I've got as many assets as I could possibly drum up,

1 looking for this person. Someone find this person and
2 detain them so I can interview them. Everybody's working
3 on this.

4 So I go back to the problem I was working prior. That
5 was all I knew at the time. There was no other
6 intelligence other than what I've told you -- someone on
7 the fence line, with a rangefinder, limited physical
8 description. I later get a photo, which I passed. And then
9 I get into that someone is on a roof of a building that
10 I've never heard of, in an area I don't know, trying to
11 mobilize to go figure out where this building is. And then
12 the shooting starts.

13 So I did as much as I could with what I had at the
14 time.

15 **HSGAC Minority** : And the radio, you never, on your
16 channel, heard anything about a person on a roof. That
17 never came across.

18 **Witness** : I heard that someone was on the roof.
19 I can't tell you if I heard it through my radio, which was
20 in one ear, or if I heard it verbally through the other
21 area. But the information was passed to me that someone
22 was on the roof.

23 **HSGAC Minority** : And that was when you all were standing
24 next to the stage, stage left --

25 **Witness** : Yes.

1 HSGAC Minority : -- with that conglomerate of
2 individuals that you were talking about?

3 **Witness** : There were a number of us in that
4 area, watching the crowd. It was passed to me either via
5 radio or verbally. I can't tell you which one. And we
6 were in the process of determining where this building was,
7 what this building was, and how can we get there when the
8 shooting started.

9 HSGAC Minority : I think that's all I have at this
10 point, and I'll pass it to my colleagues.

11 [REDACTED] : [REDACTED], my name is [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]. I work for Ranking Member Ron Johnson. Thank
13 you for your time today. I'm going to go ahead and hand
14 you, or my colleague will hand you Exhibit 7, and to save
15 on time, Exhibit 8.

16 [Exhibits No. 7 and 8 were
17 marked for identification.]

18 **PSI Minority** : Exhibit No. 7 is an image of three
19 individuals on a golf cart during the July 13, 2024, rally
20 in Butler. The image is a snapshot of a video posted on
21 YouTube that was recorded by a rallygoer at Butler on July
22 13th. And I know that it is not a clear image, but if you
23 are able to, could you please first answer whether or not
24 that is you in this photo?

25 **Witness** : It appears to be.

1 PSI Minority : There appears to be three
2 individuals. Two are seated inside of the golf cart, and
3 one individual is standing, I guess, on the back of the
4 golf cart. And it looks like the individual that is
5 driving, is that you?

6 Witness : It would have been. I was driving the
7 golf cart that day.

8 PSI Minority : Could you identify the other two
9 people?

10 Witness : The person in the back, that would've
11 been Trooper PSP Counterpart my counterpart, and then the person to
12 the right appears to be in uniform, so that would've been
13 the uniformed trooper that we grabbed to come assist us
14 with the search.

15 PSI Minority : Do you know his name?

16 Witness : I don't.

17 PSI Minority : Is it Corporal PSP CPL

18 Witness : That sounds right. It was told to me
19 in another interview. I didn't recall on my own his name,
20 no.

21 PSI Minority : Okay. Earlier today you mentioned that
22 Trooper PSP Counterpart was in business attire.

23 Witness : Yes. I would say business attire but
24 I remember now I was in a buttoned-down shirt. Our dress
25 for the day was neat casual. So typically it would be a

1 business suit, but he didn't have a coat on.

2 **PSI Minority** : Thank you for the clarification.

3 Actually, before I turn to the next exhibit, just generally
4 speaking about golf cart use that day, besides the golf
5 cart that you were using, did you see other golf carts in
6 the area?

7 **Witness** : It was passed to me through the site
8 assist agent that she had secured three golf carts for our
9 use. So I was using a golf cart, I was also sharing that
10 golf cart with Agent **C/S Response** and then the site assist
11 agent had a golf cart. I believe one of the Trump staff
12 personnel had a golf cart. So we were sharing the golf
13 carts throughout the day.

14 **PSI Minority** : Did you ever see a golf cart go outside
15 of the immediate secured perimeter, specifically near the
16 AGR area?

17 **Witness** : Did I?

18 **PSI Minority** : Yes.

19 **Witness** : No. No.

20 **PSI Minority** : Were you ever made aware of a golf cart
21 in that area?

22 **Witness** : No.

23 **PSI Minority** : Okay. I'm going to go ahead and move
24 on to Exhibit No. 8. That was the transcript that was
25 handed to you a moment ago.

1 **Witness** : Okay.

2 **PSI Minority** : This is Trooper **PSP Counterpart** July
3 23, 2024, interview transcript with Pennsylvania State
4 Police and FBI. It's a 14-page transcript, and I'm not
5 going to make you go through every single page. But I want
6 to begin, if you wouldn't mind flipping to page 3 of the
7 transcript.

8 **Witness** : Okay.

9 **PSI Minority** : On page 3 of the transcript, at the
10 bottom, Trooper **PSP Counterpart** states, "I had my cellphone and I
11 was with **Witness** She had the radio for the Command Post."
12 Then the questioner asks, or states, "Okay. So the Secret
13 Service agent you're with would've been able to be in touch
14 with Command Post," and on the next page Trooper **PSP Counterpart**
15 responds, "Correct."

16 You mentioned that you had a radio that day. Is that
17 correct?

18 **Witness** : Yes.

19 **PSI Minority** : Was that radio connected to the Command
20 Post?

21 **Witness** : We were operating on the same channel.
22 The Security Room agent for Secret Service has the ability
23 to communicate with the post-standers on their dedicated
24 channel, as well as the detail on their dedicated channel,
25 and special teams.

1 **HSGAC Majority** : **PSI Minority** I apologize for interrupting,
2 but can you clarify, when you mentioned Command Post, are
3 you speaking about the Butler ESU Command Post or the
4 Security Room?

5 **PSI Minority** : Thank you for the clarification. I am
6 quoting directly from this transcript, which describes
7 Command Post as written. So I'm not sure what Trooper
8 **PSP Counterpart** may be implying here.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : But I just want to make sure it's clear
10 for the record. The next two lines, the question is, "Was
11 she able to be in touch with the County Command Post or
12 just the Secret Service Command Post?" **PSP Counterpart** "I believe
13 Secret Service Command Post."

14 **PSI Minority** : Okay.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : I just want to clarify because it's
16 always confusing.

17 **PSI Minority** : I appreciate that, **HSGAC Majority** Thank you.
18 So this is the Secret Service Command Post that you
19 had your radio --

20 **Witness** : Yeah. We refer to it as the Security
21 Room, but there can be confusion between the two.

22 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Okay. And did Trooper **PSP Counterpart**
23 ever ask you specifically who you would be in contact with
24 on the radio? How did he know what Command Post you were
25 in contact with?

1 **Witness** : We were in and out of the Security
2 Room, so I believe -- and I'm speaking on my belief here --
3 that he knew I was in contact with the Secret Service
4 Security Room. I'm assuming that's what he knew.

5 **PSI Minority** : And you might have addressed this
6 earlier, but did you contact anyone on the radio?

7 **Witness** : Throughout the day, in general?

8 **PSI Minority** : Yes.

9 **Witness** : There was radio traffic passed. As I
10 said before, there would be a call for us to respond to an
11 area. We would put on the radio, "Yes, we're responding,
12 en route." I was in and out of the Security Room so I
13 would've communicated from the Security Room via radio if I
14 was in response to a call for response.

15 **PSI Minority** : I want to turn to page 5 of the
16 transcript.

17 **Witness** : Okay.

18 **PSI Minority** : On page 5, Trooper **PSP Counterpart** states,
19 "Corporate **PSP CPL** Trooper **PSP Trooper** and then the Secret
20 Service agent" -- that's the quote in there -- that those
21 people were with Trooper **PSP Counterpart** when he was made aware of a
22 suspicious person, later identified as Mr. Crooks. Can you
23 tell us again how you were made aware of Mr. Crooks?

24 **Witness** : I received word, along with Trooper
25 **PSP Counterpart** that there was someone reported to be along the

1 fence line, outside of the venue, with a rangefinder. I
2 cannot tell you specifically who told me that or how it was
3 communicated. It was communicated to both of us. And we
4 decided, as a team, this is something we need to respond
5 to.

6 **PSI Minority** : You mentioned you can't recall who or
7 how, but is it your recollection that you received this
8 information at exactly the same moment as Trooper **PSP Counterpart**

9 **Witness** : I do believe that I received the
10 information from my local counterpart, with the
11 understanding this is being passed through the Pennsylvania
12 State Police to the Secret Service.

13 **PSI Minority** : And we've been through this several
14 times, but your best approximation is sometime between 5:30
15 and 5:40. Is that correct?

16 **Witness** : Yes.

17 **PSI Minority** : Also on page 5, a little further down,
18 Trooper **PSP Counterpart** describes the actions he took when learning
19 about the suspicious person, later identified as Crooks.
20 He stated, quote, "There were two undercover vice members
21 that were outside of the event. They were staged at the
22 Sheetz. I contacted them immediately by phone and told
23 them to head over to the AGR building."

24 Were you aware of vice unit members at the Butler
25 rally on July 13th?

1 **Witness** : I am aware now. I don't recall at
2 the time that I was aware there were undercover units
3 outside the venue. I've since learned that, but at the
4 time I don't recall knowing that.

5 **PSI Minority** : Did you see Trooper **PSP Counterpart** contacting
6 anyone shortly after learning about the suspect?

7 **Witness** : I asked him to reach out and find out
8 if we had any assets with local police in that area, to go
9 look for this person.

10 **PSI Minority** : Did you see him do that?

11 **Witness** : I saw him on the phone, yes. I
12 assumed he was calling for that assistance. I didn't
13 monitor his conversation. We didn't debrief afterwards.

14 **PSI Minority** : And he never mentioned to you the
15 substance of that conversation?

16 **Witness** : I don't recall what his response was.
17 I am assuming if he had people responding to look that he
18 would've communicated that, and I would've said, "Okay,
19 great." I don't recall the specific conversation whether
20 or not he told me that.

21 **PSI Minority** : At what point did you learn, after the
22 fact, that there were these vice units?

23 **Witness** : It could've been in one of my first
24 interviews. And again, at the time that he was one the
25 phone, I was also on the phone with the counter sniper

1 advance agent, asking the same thing. We were both
2 contacting our separate agencies, asking for resources to
3 locate this person. So I don't know that we -- we both
4 asked for resources to look. I don't know that we
5 debriefed and compared notes afterwards. This is my fifth
6 interview. At some point in one of the previous interviews
7 it was communicated to me that these teams were out there.
8 I don't recall knowing that at the time.

9 **PSI Minority** : Were you ever made aware of whether the
10 people that he contacted, whether any additional support
11 went to the area where this suspicious person was?

12 **Witness** : At the time, I was under the
13 impression we had Secret Service and local people looking
14 in the area. Nothing more specific than that. And by
15 Secret Service people I mean the counter snipers were
16 aware, from their elevated position, that they could see
17 the area, not that we had dispatched anyone to the area.

18 **PSI Minority** : Trooper **PSP Counterpart** in this transcript,
19 says that he told these vice unit members to head toward
20 the AGR building. Had you and Trooper **PSP Counterpart** discussed any
21 specific location where additional personnel would need to
22 be deployed?

23 **Witness** : Nothing specific, no.

24 **PSI Minority** : And again, and I know that you
25 mentioned this a few times during our discussion today, you

1 did not hear anything about the AGR building until around
2 the time shots were fired. Is that correct?

3 [Witness] : That was the first time I heard "AGR"

4 --

5 [PSI Minority] : Okay.

6 [Witness] : -- that day.

7 [PSI Minority] : I want to go to page 6 of the
8 transcript. At the very bottom, Trooper [PSP Counterpart] states, "So
9 the Secret Service officer was with me. She knew that I
10 was sending my two UCs over. I was also going to go over.
11 I had her and Corporal [PSP CPL] drove me to my undercover
12 truck, which was parked in the Farm Show grounds."

13 You mentioned earlier that you did not know at that
14 time that he was sending undercovers over. Do you know why
15 Trooper [PSP Counterpart] had the impression that you did?

16 [Witness] : I don't recall. He could've told me
17 that. I don't remember the conversation. As I said, I was
18 on the phone at the same time, having another conversation.
19 He could've told me and I could've forgot. I don't recall
20 the specific conversation.

21 [PSI Minority] : And you did mention earlier about
22 driving Trooper [PSP Counterpart] to his truck. Did that occur?

23 [Witness] : Yes.

24 [PSI Minority] : What time was that?

25 [Witness] : After the initial report and the phone

1 conversations. So it was anywhere between 5:45 and 6,
2 somewhere in there. It took a few minutes to drive from
3 where we were located over to the parking lot, and then
4 offload him and then drive back over to the other side of
5 the stage.

6 **PSI Minority** : What did Trooper **PSP Counterpart** convey to you
7 that he would do once he got to his car?

8 **Witness** : He was going to drive the fence line
9 and look for the person.

10 **PSI Minority** : Did he offer you to join him?

11 **Witness** : I don't remember him offering, no.

12 **PSI Minority** : Would it have been appropriate for you
13 to join him?

14 **Witness** : No. I think I started earlier that at
15 that time I felt it was a better use of our resources for
16 him to do that and for me to go back and work the problem
17 that I was concerned about initially with the crowd
18 control. Also, the fact he was getting ready to take the
19 stage, at that time, based on what I knew, the biggest is
20 that that's in closest proximity, which was the crowd. I
21 needed to be in a position where if something came up from
22 the crowd, be it a threat or a physical attack, that I
23 could respond. I would not have been able to respond from
24 a vehicle on a fence line.

25 **PSI Minority** : At the point that you dropped off

1 Trooper [PSP Counterpart] at his truck, had you already contacted

2 Mr. [C/S Response]

3 [Witness]: Not yet. I didn't contact him until
4 after I resumed my position at stage left.

5 [PSI Minority]: At approximately what time?

6 [Witness]: It would've been right before he sent
7 me the photo, so around 6.

8 [PSI Minority]: And did he tell you where he was
9 located, Mr. [C/S Response]

10 [Witness]: I don't know where he was located. I
11 don't recall. I don't recall where he was located prior to
12 that. I know when I got back to that area he was there,
13 and we had a conversation.

14 [PSI Minority]: He was where, exactly?

15 [Witness]: In the stage left area.

16 [PSI Minority]: So did you call him or did you just
17 talk to him face-to-face?

18 [Witness]: I spoke to him face-to-face. He was
19 there, in that area. We were together when the shooting
20 started.

21 [PSI Minority]: Okay. And was that the first time that
22 you had an interaction with Mr. [C/S Response] about the
23 suspicious person?

24 [Witness]: That I recall, yes.

25 [PSI Minority]: Okay.

1 **Witness** : I don't remember talking to him
2 before that about it.

3 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Then just to clarify something,
4 you mentioned earlier that you had called counter sniper.
5 Was it counter sniper advance?

6 **Witness** : The advance agent, yes.

7 **PSI Minority** : And who was that?

8 **Witness** : His name has been told to me, but for
9 whatever reason I cannot remember it.

10 **PSI Minority** : Is it Mr. **C/S Team Lead**

11 **Witness** : That sounds right, yes. It's been
12 told to me several times. It's not sticking.

13 **PSI Minority** : Okay.

14 **Witness** : I got my paperwork on my phone. I
15 pulled up the site advance information that had been passed
16 out to the post-standers. I believe his name and number
17 was on the site post log. So I opened that document,
18 looking for his contact information, so I could reach out.

19 **PSI Minority** : what time did you contact him?

20 **Witness** : This would've been when we were over
21 in the stage right area, near the ESU team, looking for the
22 individual. So when Trooper **PSP Counterpart** was on the phone,
23 trying to find local support, I called him for the elevated
24 support, for eyes on that area.

25 MR. **PSI Minority** And if you wouldn't mind stating again,

1 what did he convey to you?

2 **Witness** : The did not know where he was. I
3 believe at that time -- and this is my recollection -- I
4 believe at the time they were aware that someone had been
5 in the area with a rangefinder, but they had lost sight or
6 they didn't know where he was. He may have told me that
7 there was a photo. I don't know for sure. I don't recall
8 for sure. But we communicated, if they saw this person
9 again, if they had a location they would call me and I
10 would respond to that location to make contact and
11 interview the person.

12 **PSI Minority** : So you did not learn any more
13 information than what you had already known, that there was
14 a suspicious person outside the venue.

15 **Witness** : Yeah. At that time I had no
16 additional intelligence.

17 **PSI Minority** : Along the fence line, outside the venue
18 along the fence line.

19 **Witness** : That was all I knew at that time.

20 **PSI Minority** : Did Mr. **C/S Team Lead** confirm that
21 information?

22 **Witness** : I recall that he was aware that a
23 person had been sighted in the area with a rangefinder. I
24 believe he communicated that he was no longer visible to
25 them, that they had lost him or they didn't know where he

1 was. And my communication was if you see him, call me
2 and I'll respond.

3 **PSI Minority** : So was it your understanding that they
4 had, themselves, seen him, as well?

5 **Witness** : I believe so, and this was a telephone
6 conversation I had four months ago. I believe that was
7 communicated. I can't tell you verbatim what was said.

8 **PSI Minority** : I want to go to Exhibit 5, that was
9 handed out earlier. It's the text messages between you and
10 **Intel Advance Lead** .

11 **Witness** : Okay.

12 **PSI Minority** : It begins with, let's see, the first
13 one, Bates 7851, 7852, and so on. I just wanted to follow
14 up on a comment you made earlier about cell service. You
15 mentioned earlier, I believe, that you didn't have any
16 problems with cell service. Is that correct?

17 **Witness** : No. After the shooting I had a couple
18 of text messages that I had tried to share that photo with
19 a couple of individuals and it didn't go through. I
20 believe there was a lot of cell usage at that time on the
21 towers. But during the event I didn't have any issues with
22 my phone.

23 **PSI Minority** : Okay. so Bates number 7853 and 7854,
24 just for the record, show an image of Crooks being sent,
25 and if you take into account the time difference it would

1 probably be around 8:14 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. on July 13th.

2 **Witness** : Yes.

3 **PSI Minority** : And both these messages are not
4 delivered.

5 **Witness** : Which is interesting, because these
6 messages were sent to the Security Room agent and the
7 special agent in charge of the FBI. I was in a face-to-
8 face conversation with the two of them after the event.
9 The Security Room agent and I were briefing the SAIC for
10 the FBI, and I shared the photo with both of them. They
11 received the photo. But on my phone it showed that it
12 hadn't gone through. I may have tapped on it and resent.
13 But they did receive the photo from me.

14 **PSI Minority** : And what were the names of those
15 individuals?

16 **Witness** : I don't know the name of the
17 Pittsburgh FBI SAIC. **SAIC Buffalo** was the Security Room agent. I
18 don't recall his last name at this moment.

19 **PSI Minority** : **SAIC Buffalo** ?

20 **Witness** : That sounds right, yes.

21 **PSI Minority** : In Exhibit 5, the top left corner
22 image, with Bates number 7851, it appears that **Intel Advance Lead**
23 wrote to you, "Command Post PSP trooper said he may be
24 walking towards Sheetz." Did you ask anyone where the
25 Sheetz is located?

1 **Witness** : That message came in concurrently
2 with the other message. I don't recall at that time asking
3 anybody where or what Sheetz was. I know I passed that
4 information to Trooper **PSP Counterpart** At this point, with the
5 photo, there was more concern, so it was more just getting
6 information out as quick as possible and not necessarily
7 trying for myself to define where this was.

8 **PSI Minority** : Wouldn't it be important for you to
9 know where the suspicious person was going?

10 **Witness** : It would. Being that I was not in a
11 position, I was now in the stage left area, I wasn't
12 anywhere near anything. I mean, this is something that I'm
13 putting out to people that are in a different location than
14 me, looking, specifically Trooper **PSP Counterpart** I guess it
15 could've been important, but as far as I knew it wasn't
16 part of the venue. It wasn't in my immediate area. It's
17 not like he's in the stage right area, where I could've
18 responded.

19 **PSI Minority** : But you didn't know where the Sheetz
20 was located.

21 **Witness** : I didn't know what the Sheetz was. I
22 didn't know it was a gas station. I found that out after
23 the fact.

24 **PSI Minority** : I want to go to Exhibit 6, that was
25 handed out earlier. You mentioned before that these are

1 text messages between you and Trooper **PSP Counterpart**. Is that
2 correct?

3 **Witness** : Yes.

4 **PSI Minority** : On Bates 7885, you wrote, "I wish I had
5 more time." I'm sorry. Oh, "I wish we had more time." Do
6 you see that on there?

7 **Witness** : Yes.

8 **PSI Minority** : What did you mean by that?

9 **Witness** : I was apprised of the fact that from
10 the time we got the photo and we actually now knew who we
11 were looking for -- and again, prior to this very vague
12 physical description -- now we have a photo, so that
13 ratchets things up a notch. From the time we got the photo
14 to the information someone was on the roof of the AGR
15 building to the time of the first shot was fewer than 10
16 minutes. There was not enough time for us to respond to
17 this area. We were actively trying to find out where the
18 AGR building is.

19 I have since learned that this person was spotted
20 earlier in the day, and I wasn't even notified. If I had
21 had a chance to talk to this person prior to then, if we'd
22 had this information earlier in the day, I could have made
23 contact. I could have interviewed this person and perhaps
24 disrupted this. And by the time we got the information to
25 the shooting there was not enough time for us to find and

1 locate and interview this person.

2 **PSI Minority** : What was the earliest time that you
3 now know that Mr. Crooks was identified?

4 **Witness** : I believe it was said earlier in our
5 discussion today that it was around 4:20, 4:26, that he was
6 first observed by Butler County. Is that accurate? I
7 think that was what was said today.

8 **PSI Minority** : I don't recall anyone saying that.

9 **Witness** : Ma'am, you said the Butler County ESU
10 reported, very first reported lurking, Crooks was lurking.
11 It was like 4:20 was the time you said, or 4:26.

12 **HSGAC Majority** : That PD Ops 4 radioed out at 5:42 p.m.

13 **Witness** : 5:42 p.m. Okay. So then I believe it
14 was news reports then it would have been earlier in the day
15 when he was first seen. I guess what I learned was a local
16 police officer was being relieved and was going home, and
17 was on his way to his car, and he first saw who we later
18 learned was Crooks, in the area, acting strangely.

19 **PSI Minority** : So based on what you heard through
20 public reporting is what made you think that law
21 enforcement was actually aware of him much earlier than
22 when you were made aware.

23 **Witness** : Now. At the time of this text --

24 **PSI Minority** : Is that correct?

25 **Witness** : Yes, that's correct. Now that's what

1 I know to be true. At the time of this text message I
2 was referring to the fact that by the time we had a photo
3 and got reports of someone on the roof, to the shots, it
4 was fewer than 10 minutes. And we would have done more if
5 we'd had more time.

6 **PSI Minority** : And this text message was sent on July
7 14th?

8 **Witness** : Um --

9 **PSI Minority** : I'm just basing that on Bates 7884.

10 **Witness** : Yes, it appears to be. Well, I don't
11 have a date on 7885.

12 **PSI Minority** : 7884?

13 **Witness** : 7884 is a different message.

14 **PSI Minority** : Okay.

15 **Witness** : I don't see that text in that message.
16 Are they --

17 **PSI Minority** : It appears the way that this was
18 produced --

19 **Witness** : Okay. I see now, from the time on the
20 -- yeah, that would've been the following night, following
21 the conclusion of my interview with the FBI.

22 **PSI Minority** : So it's your understanding that the
23 following day there were already public reports --

24 **Witness** : No. That's my understanding now. At
25 that time I was only referring to that time window. I had

1 not seen any news reports at that time.

2 [PSI Minority] : Okay.

3 [Witness] : I was referring to the 10 minutes that
4 we had from the photo to the shots.

5 [PSI Minority] : Okay. Then let's go to the next text
6 message, which it appears to be Trooper [PSP Counterpart]'s response
7 to you --

8 [Witness] : Okay.

9 [PSI Minority] : -- which is, quote, "Yes, I've played
10 that whole thing back so many times. Why did we not know
11 that this guy was rangefinding the stage until 30 minutes
12 after the fact? My guys were on him when he shot, and they
13 would've got him if we knew that. I truly believe and now
14 that."

15 So Trooper [PSP Counterpart] is saying that you did not know
16 about Crooks rangefinding until 30 minutes after the fact.
17 So based on what you said is that you learned about him
18 rangefinding sometime between 5:30 and 5:40. It appears
19 that Trooper [PSP Counterpart] is saying that people knew about that
20 30 minutes prior to that, which would've been approximately
21 5:00, 5:10.

22 [Witness] : Mm-hmm.

23 [PSI Minority] : Is that your understanding?

24 [Witness] : No, and this was the day after the
25 fact, so he could've gotten that information from any

1 number of sources I wasn't privy to. I personally was
2 not following news coverage or any other information at
3 that time. I was off all social media and news coverage.
4 I wasn't following anything. So I don't know where he got
5 that information from.

6 **PSI Minority** : Do you have any understanding today
7 where he got that information from?

8 **Witness** : No. I have not spoken to him about
9 it.

10 **PSI Minority** : When did you receive information about
11 someone on the AGR roof?

12 **Witness** : Shortly after I got the photo text
13 messaged to me.

14 **PSI Minority** : And how did you receive that
15 information?

16 **Witness** : I can't remember if it was via radio
17 or verbal. It was communicated to me and other individuals
18 in my immediate area that we were getting reports from
19 local police of someone on the AGR building roof.

20 **PSI Minority** : Was there any mention that that
21 individual on the AGR roof had a gun?

22 **Witness** : No.

23 **PSI Minority** : Has anyone from DHS or Secret Service
24 instructed you not to speak with Congress?

25 **Witness** : No.

1 **PSI Minority** : And final question. You mentioned
2 earlier about exterior vehicle checkpoints. Is that
3 correct?

4 **Witness** : Yes.

5 **PSI Minority** : What are those?

6 **Witness** : It's my understanding -- and again, I
7 was not present when these posts were up, so to speak, when
8 they were posted -- it was my understanding there were four
9 exterior posts with agents paired up with a vehicle, in a
10 raid vest, in a vehicle checkpoint exterior area.

11 **PSI Minority** : What time did you --

12 **Witness** : A vehicle checkpoint is to stop
13 vehicle traffic from coming through a road or whatever
14 access point has been identified.

15 **PSI Minority** : Understood. What time did you leave
16 the venue following the shooting?

17 **Witness** : It was around midnight.

18 **PSI Minority** : Did you receive any reports about a
19 vehicle containing explosives?

20 **Witness** : At some point I did. It was passed to
21 me. I can't tell you exactly through -- I know I was in
22 contact with the Tactical Security Division advance agent
23 in and throughout the night after the shooting, and he
24 communicated that there were some devices. At one point it
25 was communicated to everybody that there was going to be a

1 controlled detonation of some device, but I didn't have
2 specific information.

3 **PSI Minority** : And what time?

4 **Witness** : I don't recall.

5 **PSI Minority** : Did you receive this information
6 verbally or via email, text?

7 **Witness** : I believe it was verbally.

8 **PSI Minority** : And who told you this?

9 **Witness** : It could've been anyone in the
10 Security Room or the TSD advance agent. I'm not sure.
11 There were a number of people around at this point.

12 **PSI Minority** : Okay. I think we're at the end of our
13 hour, so we'll go ahead and take a five-minute break.

14 **Witness** : Okay.

15 [Recess.]

16 **HSGAC Majority** : We're back on the record at 4:38. So
17 thank you again for taking the time today. In the
18 remaining time we'll split our time in half, so Senator
19 Peters' office and Senator Blumenthal's office will ask
20 questions first, the next 30 to 40 minutes, and turn it
21 over to our colleagues, Ranking Member Paul and Ranking
22 Member Johnson.

23 I'd like to follow up on a few things my colleagues
24 asked. You mentioned that your primary function as
25 protective intelligence agent is to interview individuals

1 to figure out what they're going to do and potentially
2 divert a threat. If that is the case, then whose job,
3 whose role within Secret Service, is it to actually look
4 for the suspicious individuals, once they are identified,
5 to search for them?

6 **Witness**: The best way I can answer this is the
7 counter sniper advance agent and the counter sniper team,
8 they have a response agent. In my past experience in
9 working as a counter sniper response agent if they see
10 something that is concerning to them they would call that
11 agent, reach out for them direct to respond and check that
12 out and report back. That would be one function of that
13 agent's job, to respond to anything that they call out, for
14 further investigation.

15 The protective intelligence agent doesn't have that
16 responsibility to that specific degree, in that there's no
17 one other than local law enforcement, outside or within the
18 venue, other post-standers, attendees, that would see
19 something and call for a response. So there's not an
20 overwatch dispatching us so much as people saying, "Hey,
21 there's something here with me. Come respond." Does that
22 answer your question?

23 **HSGAC Majority**: So it seems like there's still a gap,
24 given that we know Special Agent **C/S Response** the counter
25 sniper response agent, was actively looking for the

1 suspicious individual. You mentioned you did everything
2 you could within the security perimeter but also felt that
3 you had to get back to crowd control. And your state
4 counterpart was also actively looking for this individual.

5 So during this whole time, whose responsibility is it
6 to assess the evolving situation and determine whether
7 there is a threat, whether it is safe to put President
8 Trump on stage? Who is responsible for that? Where is the
9 gap? Where is the breakdown?

10 **Witness**: I understand your question, and I
11 think given what we knew at the time, that there was never
12 any intelligence about a weapon of any kind, the only
13 concerning piece of intelligence was the rangefinder, at
14 that time. As a physical body to interview, it would not
15 have been my responsibility. Had I contacted this person,
16 had this person been available for interview, had I
17 developed further intelligence that suggested the presence
18 of a weapon or an immediate threat, that's something I
19 would have passed to the PI advance agent, to the Security
20 Room, and I would have relied on them to pass it to the
21 detail or to anyone else that needed to know.

22 Absent that information, there's not really a specific
23 person that would make that determination, absent of a
24 physical person to assess. Does that make sense?

25 **HSGAC Majority**: Yes.

1 **Witness** : Okay.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : And you did not relay to the Security
3 Room or advance protective intelligence agent that you had
4 essentially stopped your search and went back to crowd
5 control. Correct?

6 **Witness** : No, I didn't pass that to anyone.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : And so to your point that there really
8 isn't anyone that's tasked with this responsibility of
9 tracking and ensuring that threats of suspicious
10 individuals are sufficiently followed up on, should there
11 be a dedicated role for a protective intelligence agent
12 that is not dual hatted as a jump team lead?

13 **Witness** : That's a difficult question to respond
14 to. I can tell you that every city, every site, every
15 location you go to is different and unique in what assets
16 are available from a state and local level, in addition to
17 what assets are available from Secret Service. It depends
18 on the size of the venue, you know, a number of things.

19 The presence of that undercover vice team that was
20 there that day, that Trooper **PSP Counterpart** contacted, you know,
21 that would have been an asset. And again, I don't know, in
22 these minutes when we're all -- we're discussing after the
23 fact, I don't know where Crooks was at that time. He
24 could've been in the building. He could've been on the
25 building. It's all speculation on my part. But had that

1 team been able to encounter him, located him and detain
2 or question him, that would've certainly raised all of the
3 information straight up the chain, I believe, in speaking
4 after the fact.

5 I think we've established I didn't know that asset was
6 deployed that day and that they were actively looking. I'm
7 glad they were. And I believe Trooper [PSP Counterpart] -- you know,
8 of course I'm going to delegate, reach out to local people,
9 get someone looking. I'm not going to follow up on that
10 and verbatim question, who did you speak to, who's looking.
11 We're all making phone calls in this moment, trying to get
12 someone to find this person. That's certain an asset,
13 having that team looking, those eyes on.

14 For the protective intelligence agent to do that, I
15 think it takes away from their primary responsibility, is
16 to gather intelligence from people at the site, determine
17 what level of threat. Yes, I did look, but again, it
18 wasn't my function to leave the venue to go search this
19 person out.

20 [HSGAC Majority]: Let me ask you this. Would having a
21 countersurveillance unit have been beneficial in this
22 particular situation?

23 [Witness]: Yes, I believe it would've been
24 beneficial.

25 [HSGAC Majority]: Why?

1 **Witness** : For that same function. And this
2 is my understanding. I'm not trained in
3 countersurveillance. I don't operate those units. My
4 understanding of countersurveillance it would've been
5 similar to that vice team that was described. They
6 would've been in plain clothes. They would've been moving
7 outside the venue. They would've been in a better position
8 to look for this person. They don't typically operate
9 within the venue. They typically operate outside of the
10 venue, is my understanding.

11 **HSGAC Majority** : And what training do you receive as a
12 protective intelligence agent?

13 **Witness** : So the training that I received was
14 part of the criminal investigative training, the Secret
15 Service training at the John J. Rowley Training Center. We
16 have a protective intelligence section of training which
17 covers the investigations, threat investigations as a
18 whole. That was my initial training.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : When was that?

20 **Witness** : When I went through training in 2003.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : And do you receive any continuing
22 training or, you know, any other training since then on
23 protective intelligence?

24 **Witness** : As far as the role of a site PI person
25 as a post-stander or as --

1 **HSGAC Majority** : I mean, that's 20-plus years.

2 Technology has evolved.

3 **Witness** : But I was also running, at that time,
4 in Phoenix, I was running all of our protective
5 intelligence investigations. I was also on the JTTF. I
6 have extensive experience with protective intelligence.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : So my question more generally is do you
8 think there is sufficient training as it relates to
9 protective intelligence and sufficient ongoing training for
10 agents like yourself that commit to service with Secret
11 Service?

12 **Witness** : With regard to the functions that I
13 was fulfilling that day and what I was doing, I think there
14 was adequate training for that. I don't think any
15 additional training could have been provided to avoid this
16 situation with regard to what I was tasked with that day.
17 Does that make sense?

18 **HSGAC Majority** : Yes. And in addition to the gap in
19 communication, which I know we've discussed, and Trooper
20 **PSP Counterpart** did not have a local radio and there were issues
21 with Secret Service communications, as well, it sounds
22 like, in this particular instance -- correct me if I'm
23 wrong -- there is a gap in a role really here. Is that
24 also accurate?

25 **Witness** : I can say that, in retrospect, looking

1 at that day, I would have liked to have known all of the
2 local assets that were available that day. I would like to
3 have known that there was a team inside that building. Had
4 I known that and had I known Trooper [PSP Counterpart] or someone in
5 the Security Room had communication with them, I would've
6 requested that that team look for this person. Perhaps
7 intelligence could've been shared sooner. I didn't know
8 that at the time, and I wasn't in charge of setting that
9 up. I could only respond to what was told to me.

10 [HSGAC Majority]: I just have another question about that
11 day, because it sounds like there were a number of things
12 going on, and you mentioned the crowd control that you felt
13 like you really needed to be present for. Did you respond
14 to any medical emergencies, as well? Our understanding is
15 it was a very hot day and there were a number of medical
16 emergencies.

17 [Witness]: I personally responded to several.

18 [HSGAC Majority]: When you say several, over 10? Under
19 10? Over 15?

20 [Witness]: Between 5 and 10.

21 [HSGAC Majority]: Between 5 and 10. And is that part of
22 your role either as a jump team lead and/or protective
23 intelligence agent?

24 [Witness]: It is not.

25 [HSGAC Majority]: And did responding to those medical

1 emergencies interfere with your primary duties as a
2 protective intelligence agent?

3 **Witness** : I do not believe they did. I would
4 not have diverted from my duties had I been called to
5 respond to a protective intelligence call. I would not
6 have stopped responding in order to render aid to somebody
7 in the crowd. At the time that I rendered aid I was not
8 tasked with anything else in that moment, and I observed
9 someone in a medical emergency situation and was in a
10 position to assist.

11 **HSGAC Majority** : I'd like to ask a couple of questions on
12 intelligence, both before the event as well as at the
13 event. Do you usually receive intelligence in advance of
14 an event, as a site protective intelligence agent and/or a
15 jump team lead?

16 **Witness** : Typically, as a site PI agent, there
17 is some sort of intelligence briefing provided by the PI
18 advance agent.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : And did you receive that in advance of
20 the July 13th rally?

21 **Witness** : I did not.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : Do you know why not?

23 **Witness** : I don't.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you ask Special Agent **Intel Advance Lead** about
25 it?

1 **Witness** : I did not.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : For the July 13th rally, did you receive
3 any intelligence in advance relating to President Trump or
4 the event itself?

5 **Witness** : I did not.

6 **HSGAC Majority** : For the July 13th rally, did you receive
7 any intelligence in advance related to Iran?

8 **Witness** : I did not.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : Were you aware of any intelligence or
10 threat information that led to Secret Service counter
11 snipers being sent to the July 13th rally?

12 **Witness** : I was not aware, no.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : I just want to follow up on a few prior
14 questions. When you answered earlier about staffing
15 questions you mentioned that certain roles, you believe,
16 the Secret Service is better positioned to fill among the
17 protective intelligence role. When you returned to the
18 stage left and thereby left the local law enforcement
19 officials to continue to search for the individual, is
20 there a Secret Service role, you believe, that should have
21 been fulfilled, or some asset, some training that Secret
22 Service possesses that local law enforcement do not, that
23 should have been in place to continue that search?

24 **Witness** : No. At that time, the primary
25 objective was to locate and detain this individual. That

1 could be effected by anyone in law enforcement.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : With respect to the search that continued
3 when you returned to stage left, did it ever get
4 communicated to you that this individual was seen running?

5 **Witness** : No.

6 **HSGAC Majority** And when you were at stage left, returned
7 to stage left, up until the time that you heard shots
8 fired, did you reach out to any of your communications to
9 get an update, an assessment, on whereabouts location,
10 detention of the individual?

11 **Witness** : When I returned to the stage left area
12 I had a verbal conversation with Special Agent **C/S Response**
13 I received the text message photo. I passed the text
14 message photo. That was when the information about the
15 moving towards the Sheetz was communicated. The next piece
16 of information that I received was that someone was on the
17 roof of the AGR building. When I received that information
18 I was unaware it was the same person. It wasn't
19 communicated the same person with the rangefinder was on
20 the roof. When I received the information about the person
21 on the roof I processed that as a new problem. I did not
22 follow up on the search for the individual. I was now
23 trying to locate and address the individual on the roof.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : So prior to the information you received
25 about the individual on the roof, when you're still aware

1 of the fact that the individual you were trying to
2 identify had not been identified, does that piece of
3 information, the duration of time in which you are looking
4 for somebody, not able to find that person, factor into the
5 assessment you make about the threat level?

6 **Witness**: The fact that we couldn't find them,
7 does that factor in? I believe, and I recall at the time,
8 with the information the person is moving towards Sheetz, I
9 recall now that I believed Sheetz was a street. I didn't
10 know it was a gas station. I thought it was a street. At
11 the time, I was operating under the assumption that that
12 person was leaving the venue, or was leaving the area,
13 rather. The fact that we couldn't find them I actually
14 thought was a mitigating factor. I think the hope at that
15 point is that this person has moved on. And then with
16 someone on the roof, okay, now we've got a new issue to
17 address. That's not to say that I was more concerned or
18 less concerned. The level of concerned maintains. And
19 again, we're talking minutes in processing time here.

20 **HSGAC Majority**: So correct me then if I'm wrong, but based
21 on what you said, the duration in time in which somebody
22 that you're trying to identify and look for, the duration
23 of that time when you have not found somebody, does factor
24 into your assessment of the threat level, and in this case
25 that duration, coupled with the information you received

1 about where you believed he was heading, away from the
2 event, the way in which that assessment went was threat
3 level down, not up.

4 **Witness**: Not threat level down. Threat level
5 remains the same. We continue what we're doing. We
6 continue looking. And also, at the same time, I know
7 there's some concern about my presence in the stage left
8 area doing crowd control. The way site PI operates, in my
9 understanding, training, and experience, you need to be in
10 relatively close proximity to the protectee. For example,
11 if a threat emerges from the crowd you need to be able to
12 immediately respond to that. A threat from outside the
13 venue, from an elevated position, is not something I'm able
14 to respond to on foot, in the venue, as an intelligence
15 response agent.

16 So at that time the threat level doesn't go down. It
17 still remains the same. But there are additional areas of
18 concern, mainly the crowd, access to the motorcade, and now
19 someone on the roof.

20 **HSGAC Majority**: And just to fully understand --

21 **Witness**: I just want to say that she never
22 testified that there was a, quote, "threat level," end
23 quote. She never said that, and I don't believe that she
24 believed that there was.

25 **HSGAC Majority** So to further --

1 **Witness** : Let's just use the right phrasing.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : So to further probe this line of
3 questioning then, during that time the duration does go
4 into your assessment of the individual you are searching
5 for. Is that correct? I will set aside the question of
6 the level, and whether that level rises to the position of
7 threat versus suspicion. But that is one of the factors,
8 the duration of time.

9 **Witness** : If they're not seen in the area
10 continuing the behavior, they're still a concern because
11 they could return. They could be anywhere in the area.
12 So, of course, you're still looking for them, and you
13 wouldn't stop until after the visit, I suppose, when
14 everything is done. I'm not really understanding what
15 you're trying to get at here. It's still a concern the
16 entire time. That doesn't ever change. The fact that
17 they're not seen, to me it doesn't affect the level of
18 concern at all, in one way or the other. I mean, you're
19 still concerned, but the fact that they're not in the
20 immediate area, is certainly better because they're not
21 visibly attempting to access the site of the protectee.

22 **HSGAC Majority** : That's what I'm trying to get at --

23 **Witness** : Yes.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : -- assessing whether the situation you're
25 addressing is better or worse. Your answer is it was

1 better, based on the information you had.

2 **Witness** : Yes.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : The number of years of experience you've
4 had, for the events you have worked during that experience,
5 have you ever been at an event where there was an
6 individual who had been identified as a threat and not
7 suspicious?

8 **Witness** : Yes.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : And can you describe that?

10 **Witness** : I was a protective intelligence
11 advance agent for the visit of the Vice President to
12 Phoenix, Arizona. Months prior there was a protester along
13 the motorcade route who threw an unknown liquid substance
14 at the motorcade. She struck several Phoenix police
15 officers on motorcycles. She then fled the area. I was in
16 the motorcade so I continued with the motorcade to the next
17 site and assisted with hazmat and decon. The site
18 protective intelligence advance agent, or site agent, post-
19 stander, the PI person at that site, with local police,
20 after we left, was able to locate and contact that person.
21 That person was arrested and then taken to a local
22 precinct, and I later interviewed them.

23 **HSGAC Majority** : My follow-up question was whether that
24 person was detained. You said she was.

25 **Witness** : She was detained, arrested, and

1 interviewed by Secret Service and Phoenix PD.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : And in your experience have you ever been a
3 part of an event where an individual was determined to be a
4 threat but was not detained, to your knowledge?

5 **Witness** : Not to my knowledge, no.

6 **HSGAC Majority** : Prior to July 13th, have you ever been at
7 an event, working at an event, where shots were fired?

8 **Witness** : No.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : Prior to July 13th, have you ever been at
10 an event where the threat level didn't rise to the occasion
11 where shots were actually fired but there was a dangerous
12 weapon identified?

13 **Witness** : At a previous Trump rally, again, this
14 is in Mesa, Arizona, we had a person go through a
15 magnetometer screening with a weapon in her purse. She had
16 a firearm in her purse that she claimed to have forgotten
17 about. She had forgotten it was there. She was denied
18 entry and asked to leave the venue, and she left the venue
19 with the weapon in her purse. And legally owned and
20 stored. And she cooperated and left the venue. She was
21 identified. We ran checks.

22 There are certain states where open carry is allowed.
23 I was working shifts with President Carter in downtown
24 Plains, Georgia, and we had an individual walking around
25 the event we were attending with a weapon in plain sight,

1 holstered on his belt.

2 So yes, I've encountered dangerous weapons. I forget
3 what the question was.

4 HSGAC Majority : You've answered it --

5 Witness : Okay.

6 HSGAC Majority : -- whether or not you've ever been involved
7 --

8 Witness Counsel : You're good.

9 Witness : Okay.

10 HSGAC Majority : Last question from me and I'll turn it over
11 to my colleague, HSGAC Majority Have you ever learned after the
12 fact that you were at an event where a weapon was present
13 that was not identified during the event?

14 Witness : Not that I'm aware of.

15 HSGAC Majority : Going back to the issue of the medical
16 emergencies, you responded to 5 to 10, you said?

17 Witness : Yes.

18 HSGAC Majority : Did any of those medical emergencies
19 come up after you learned of the suspicious person?

20 Witness : They did not.

21 HSGAC Majority : Okay. At any point that day, whether it
22 was before the event started, you know, during planning
23 briefings or walkthroughs, or during the event, informally,
24 did you ever communicate or convey to other Secret Service
25 personnel or any state and local law enforcement the

1 importance of communicating via radio?

2 **Witness** : Did I? No.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : You didn't, either in a briefing or
4 informally, talk about the importance of communicating via
5 radio?

6 **Witness** : Not that I recall, no.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : Okay. You said when shots were fired
8 you were at stage left. Is that right/

9 **Witness** : Yes.

10 **HSGAC Majority** : Did you observe local law enforcement
11 fire their weapon?

12 **Witness** : I did not.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : Have you since learned that local law
14 enforcement did fire their weapon, at Crooks, that is?

15 **Witness** : I read in media and like general
16 reports that Secret Service did. I don't remember hearing
17 or reading specifically local law enforcement did, no.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : Okay. That's all I had. I'll turn it
19 over to my colleague from PSI majority.

20 **Witness** : Nothing from me. Thank you.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : I just have a few more follow-up
22 questions. You've been with Secret Service for over 20
23 years at this point. Can you describe your general
24 schedule, hours, and travel, and if that has changed at all
25 in the past, since you've joined, for better or for worse?

1 **Witness** : So when I joined the Secret Service
2 George W. Bush was in office. Social media did not exist.
3 So most of the protective intelligence and the threat
4 investigations we conducted were letter writing in nature,
5 not a lot of online or posted threats. So from that
6 aspect, with the evolution of the internet and social
7 media, the amount of threats that we investigate, the
8 number of threats towards our protectees, in my experience,
9 has increased significantly. The number of protectees
10 since that time have increased significantly, which affects
11 our travel, which affects the number of people that we use
12 to secure venues.

13 So I would say there's been a steady increase in the
14 amount of travel, in the size, prior to the election of
15 President Trump. I do not recall any time prior to that
16 doing outdoor rallies of this nature with this amount of
17 frequency. It is my personal opinion, my experience, that
18 he's the first protectee to hold rallies of this nature on
19 a regular basis. And it's been my experience they are very
20 difficult to secure, due to the sheer size and number of
21 attendees.

22 With the presidential campaigns evolving as they have
23 since 2003, even this campaign compared to the last has
24 been a much more stringent pace. This previous rotation I
25 was on I traveled for four weeks straight. Prior to that I

1 was at the U.N. for 11 days. Prior to that I was
2 traveling for three weeks. Prior to that was the Butler
3 incident. There's very little down time during campaign
4 year.

5 In a non-campaign year, as I said the number of
6 protectees have increased, so the protective travel
7 increases. The protective intelligence cases increases.
8 To give you an example, after the July 13th rally I was
9 home with my family for approximately a week. During that
10 time, because I was a protective intelligence person for
11 Phoenix, I believe we got half a dozen threat cases in
12 those seven days, just in our district alone, directed at
13 former President Trump.

14 **HSGAC Majority** : What do you mean by received half a
15 dozen threat cases? You mean --

16 **Witness** : Notifications from our headquarters,
17 Protective Intelligence Division, that persons in our
18 district had threatened to kill President Trump, and that we
19 needed to conduct a preliminary investigation, six in seven
20 days.

21 **HSGAC Majority** : And that is also part of your job
22 responsibilities.

23 **Witness** : That was part of my responsibility in
24 addition to traveling for the campaign.

25 So that changed. It's constantly evolving, the pace.

1 As I said, the number of protectees, the evolution of
2 the internet, it's certain made things more challenging
3 than they were 21 years ago.

4 **HSGAC Majority** : To your knowledge, have any Secret
5 Service personnel involved in the July 13th event been
6 removed from duty, reassigned, placed on leave, or
7 terminated?

8 **Witness** : To my knowledge, some agents were, and
9 I don't know the terminology, but were working from home,
10 that were removed from travel and campaign duties.

11 **HSGAC Majority** : Have you received any disciplinary
12 actions, either telework duties, administrative leave,
13 anything else, from Secret Service after the event?

14 **Witness** : I have not.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : What happened at the July 13th rally was
16 a, quote/unquote, "near miss" or what Secret Service refers
17 to as a, quote, "unusual protective event and incident."
18 Are you familiar with that terminology?

19 **Witness** : I've heard it before.

20 **HSGAC Majority** : Are you aware of any other such events
21 in the past?

22 **Witness** : That I personally was involved in?
23 No.

24 **HSGAC Majority** : Any that you were not --

25 **Witness** : Historically, I'm aware. The

1 assassination attempt on President Reagan.

2 **HSGAC Majority** : But during your tenure?

3 **Witness** : During my tenure, I believe there was
4 the shoe-throwing event with George Bush. Someone removed
5 a shoe and threw it at him. So, for example, the protester
6 throwing the unknown substance at the VP, that would be
7 also an unusual incident or protective -- the terminology
8 they used, forgive me. I'm getting tired.

9 **HSGAC Majority** : That's okay. Were there any, to your
10 knowledge, Secret Service protocols or policies on July
11 13th that were either not followed or deviated from?

12 **Witness** : Not that I'm aware of.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : I know it's been a few months, and
14 you've had time to reflect on what has happened. And the
15 former and acting Director of the Secret Service have both
16 testified before Congress that operational failures did
17 occur that day and there has been our investigation and our
18 report, and I know a House report as well as the
19 independent review panel report. Based on your experience,
20 you know, from the past, since 2003, with the Service, and
21 the expertise that you've garnered since then, what is your
22 assessment of what failures occurred on July 13th?

23 **Witness** : I think, as I've spoken to earlier,
24 for me personally, with my role that day, I wish I had more
25 knowledge of the number of local and state assets that were

1 there. I wish I had known all of the teams that were in
2 place and what their roles were. I understand why I wasn't
3 briefed on that at the time.

4 Knowing now what we know now, I think it's more
5 important, and I think it's worth noting, going forward
6 after that day, I have found myself in a position, as a
7 Security Room agent. I have been assigned that role as a
8 post-stander. And I have taken it upon myself to speak to
9 any local assets that are in that room with me and ask who
10 is here. I want all of the assets, everyone that is here,
11 do you have communication with all of them. I think that
12 was something that could have been better that day, knowing
13 the number of assets we had and being able to communicate
14 with all of them. If we had gotten information when Crooks
15 was first spotted, I feel like we could have disrupted the
16 event, either through an interview or removal or detention
17 of him. Again, hindsight is 20/20, but I think that
18 certainly would have helped.

19 **HSGAC Majority** : And based on your experience, both that
20 day but also your over 20 years of service, there have been
21 a number of reforms proposed and also Secret Service has
22 announced reforms itself. In your review, are those
23 reforms that Secret Service has announced so far sufficient
24 to address the problems that occurred on July 13th?

25 **Witness** : I think they're ongoing, and I think

1 they're evolving. I have seen some adjustments with
2 regard to radio communication and support for cellphone
3 communication that I think are important. I think it's
4 going to continue to evolve and change, now that the
5 campaign is, for the most part, over, and we go forward
6 with new protective strategies.

7 **HSGAC Majority** : Is there anything else you'd like to
8 share specifically with regard to reforms or challenges in
9 implementing them that you think we should be aware of?

10 **Witness** : I think it's clear through the number
11 of conversations we've had today regarding my concern with
12 crowd control in that stage left area, and I said this to
13 another group, and I'll be brief. When you have a crowd
14 the size of 15,000 people, I would compare that day to an
15 outdoor concert. If anyone has been to an outdoor concert
16 in a large field with several thousand people, there's
17 generally some kind of asset that is there for crowd
18 control, as far as getting people into their seats, out of
19 their seats, making sure they don't go to restricted areas.
20 I think that would have been an asset that day, if we had
21 had someone dedicated specifically to that. For example,
22 medical callouts, verbal altercations at the checkpoint.

23 And I think personally that it's incumbent on the host
24 committee, campaign staff, or the venue to provide that, to
25 ask Secret Service to essentially do crowd control in

1 addition to responding to threats, which I'm not saying
2 we were asked to do that that day. But that's the biggest
3 threat is the human factor. When you have 15,000 people in
4 a venue, it's a concern. And I think going forward if
5 we're going to be hosting rallies of that size we need some
6 sort of assistance with that, so we can focus on the
7 protectee.

8 **HSGAC Majority** : Understood. And so you just talked
9 about crowd control. You talked about the changing threat
10 landscape and also the changing technological landscape
11 that has increased the number of threats, and the roles of
12 Secret Service agents and what they're expected to do and
13 how they're expected to respond.

14 Is there anything else that we haven't asked about
15 that you think should be addressed or you want to bring to
16 our attention today?

17 **Witness** : Not at this time, no.

18 **HSGAC Majority** : Thank you. I'll turn it over to my
19 colleague, Mr. **HSGAC Minority** [sic].

20 **HSGAC Minority** : Thank you. This is **HSGAC Minority** ,
21 Senator Paul's office, back again, and I've just got a few
22 questions. You talked about hindsight is 20/20, but isn't
23 that the purpose of security and advance, to plan for the
24 unforeseen?

25 **Witness** : It is. However, you can't anticipate

1 every threat. No one is omnipresent, is all-knowing.

2 You can plan for everything that you can, and some things
3 are out of your control.

4 **HSGAC Minority** : Were you given the opportunity to
5 review the local ops plans?

6 **Witness** : I was not.

7 **HSGAC Minority** : Are you allowed to look at those?

8 **Witness** : I can't imagine I wouldn't be. It's
9 not something that's typically provided to the post-
10 standers.

11 **HSGAC Minority** : The only reason I ask that is because
12 you've repeated multiple times you wished you would've
13 known. You wished you would've known. There was an
14 opportunity to know, and it was within those operations
15 plans. And that's a question I just can't understand,
16 because we've even heard testimony from the lead counter
17 sniper that didn't review the local operations plans. Is
18 that normal?

19 **Witness** : I don't know what their protocol is.
20 I know they're not typically provided to the post-standers.

21 **HSGAC Minority** : Do you think that's something that
22 would be nice, moving forward, that we offer to them, to
23 look at? Because it would've helped you, I think. Am I
24 correct?

25 **Witness** : It would've helped me, I think. That

1 would be helpful going forward.

2 **HSGAC Minority** : I just want to clarify a couple of
3 things and I'll it along to them. I think we've covered
4 almost everything that I'm looking for today.

5 We had a little discrepancy because I think you said
6 that the counter snipers were looking for suspicious people
7 too. Am I correct, is that's what they were looking for?

8 **Witness** : And again, I'm not a counter sniper.
9 I can't speak to what their directive is. I've worked in
10 the counter sniper response position, and I have responded
11 to things like, "There's someone along the fence line in
12 this area that's supposed to be restricted. I want you to
13 respond and find out who that is." I have done that as a
14 counter sniper response agent. It's been my experience
15 that's part of their function.

16 **HSGAC Minority** : The only reason I ask is because under
17 the testimony from Special Agent **C/S Response** he said that the
18 PI's job was to look for suspicious people, and the counter
19 sniper's job is to look for threats. And I know it sounds
20 like minutiae, but there is a difference between suspicion
21 and a threat. And I just wanted to clarify for the record,
22 is that correct in what he is assessing there, that that's
23 the roles?

24 **Witness** : He's not incorrect. I think it
25 depends on your personal definition of suspicious and

1 threat. Again, I've worked in both roles, and I've been
2 asked to respond to everything from a fuel truck moving on
3 a runway that was supposed to a ramp freeze and to someone
4 standing on a fence line. They overlap to a degree with
5 the distinction that counter sniper would respond
6 specifically to directions from the counter sniper advance
7 and counter sniper team. Protective intelligence not
8 necessarily.

9 **HSGAC Minority** : Okay. You mentioned a while ago that
10 you were at an event where people carried open carry. I
11 just want to make sure. Someone with a gun, does that
12 necessarily make them a threat, the possession of the
13 weapon?

14 **Witness** : It does not, but I believe the
15 question was have you been at an event where a weapon was
16 present.

17 **HSGAC Minority** : Okay.

18 **Witness** : And I have. You know, and it doesn't
19 necessarily make that person a threat, but when you're
20 standing next to a protectee, responsible for them, you
21 certainly want to know where that weapon is at all times.

22 **HSGAC Minority** : And their hands.

23 **Witness** : Exactly.

24 **HSGAC Minority** : Last thing I have, because you talked
25 about actionable intelligence and timeliness of

1 intelligence. Would it have been beneficial -- because
2 you said even in your text to your counterparts that if you
3 had more time, and that's one thing we're just not able to
4 make. But would it have helped you if you'd have seen the
5 photo of Mr. Crooks at 5:45 p.m.?

6 **Witness** : I think it would've been helpful from
7 the aspect of sharing intelligence and knowing who we were
8 looking for. I certainly would've wanted to know as soon
9 as possible exactly who we were looking for.

10 **HSGAC Minority** : If you had received it at 5:45, would
11 you have passed that along to other individuals so that
12 they could create that actionable intelligence? Because I
13 think that's where you're trying to get from.

14 **Witness** : Yeah. Yeah.

15 **HSGAC Minority** : Just general intel, actionable.

16 **Witness** : I would've passed it as soon as I
17 received it.

18 **HSGAC Minority** : The reason I asked that specifically is
19 because under testimony from other individuals, the counter
20 sniper lead had that photo at 5:45 p.m.

21 **Witness** : Okay. I didn't know that.

22 **HSGAC Minority** : And a lot of other people did not know
23 that either.

24 **Witness** : Okay. Yeah, I would've passed it
25 along.

1 **HSGAC Minority** : Thank you. And the last thing that
2 I wanted to ask, did you ever assume the role, transition -
3 - I know you're on the JTTF FBI. Was there any time during
4 that day that you had to assume the role to assist them as
5 an FBI JTTF or anything like that? Was there ever a
6 crossover in your role?

7 **Witness** : No. There was not a crossover. I did
8 brief the FBI as they arrived at the site to take over on
9 what I knew. And we haven't really touched on this, and
10 I'll be brief. But after the shooting, after President
11 Trump was evacuated, part of my post responsibilities was
12 crime scene response. So at that point I'm then assisting
13 with removing the public, securing evidence, turning the
14 scene over to the FBI. So I briefed them to that degree,
15 but I didn't do any investigations.

16 **HSGAC Minority** : But you were acting under the role of
17 the U.S. Secret Service at that point.

18 **Witness** : Yes. Never in my role as a task force
19 officer.

20 **HSGAC Minority** : And the last thing I want to clarify is
21 you did not hear anyone say anything about a man on the
22 roof with a gun.

23 **Witness** : I never heard any mention of a weapon
24 at any time.

25 **HSGAC Minority** : And the reason I mention that is

1 because in in our last interview with Mr. **C/S Response** he
2 specifically stated, on page 150 of his transcript, that he
3 shouted out -- well, he said he spoke out loud. I don't
4 think he said he shouted -- that there was a man on the
5 roof with a gun. He specifically said that, and he
6 mentioned that you were in the proximity. Not that you
7 could hear everything, but I just wanted to confirm, you
8 did not hear anything about the gun. Correct?

9 **Witness** : I did not hear him shout that, that I
10 recall, no.

11 **HSGAC Minority** : That's all the questions I have, and
12 thank you for your time, and I'll pass it to my colleagues.

13 **HSGAC Majority** : I'd just like to correct the record
14 briefly. I know a few hours ago we asked about the text
15 message that Special Agent **C/S Response** sent to you. So I'm
16 showing you what, I believe we're on Exhibit 9, what's been
17 marked as Exhibit 9.

18 [Exhibit No. 9 was
19 marked for identification.]

20 **HSGAC Majority** : Is this the text message communication?
21 The names are redacted, so I want to make sure it's
22 accurate, and if so, the time is stamped as not 5:52 p.m.
23 but 6:04 p.m.

24 **Witness** : Yes.

25 **HSGAC Majority** : And who sent this message?

1 **Witness** : This would've been from **C/S Response**
2 to me.

3 **HSGAC Majority** : That's all. I just wanted to make sure
4 the record is accurate.

5 **PSI Minority** : Agent **Witness** **PSI Minority** with
6 Senator Johnson's office. So 5 p.m. on July 13th the shots
7 fired. Discuss your communications with Agent **C/S Response**

8 **Witness** : With regard to the shots, or --

9 **PSI Minority** : All of it. From 5 p.m. on.

10 **Witness** : On. Okay. I don't recall
11 conversations or specific, anything specific prior to
12 getting the initial report of the person on the fence line.
13 We worked together throughout the day, so from 5 p.m. to
14 the point where I went to the fence line to initially look
15 for this person I don't recall anything specific with him.

16 After the fence line I encountered him in the stage
17 left area, as I said before. I remember speaking to him,
18 telling him the information I had, suspicious person on the
19 fence line with a rangefinder. I believe that he had the
20 same information. The photo was shared. After the photo
21 was shared there was the intelligence that someone was on
22 the roof. I recall speaking with him and that we were both
23 trying to determine where the AGR building was and how to
24 get over there.

25 Then the shots rang out. Special Agent **C/S Response** and

1 I were right next to the pneumatic lift that was holding
2 the speakers in the air, and it's my belief that the first
3 shot hit that lift and it punctured the tube, sending gas
4 and shrapnel onto Agent **C/S Response** and myself, and it
5 dropped the speakers to the bottom of the lift. And then I
6 remember hearing shots fired, and I believe I looked at
7 **C/S Response** and at that time we thought the lift had failed.
8 At that time we weren't aware that it was gunshots, that we
9 thought something had malfunctioned with the lift and
10 dropped the speakers, creating the noise. And then I
11 remember hearing additional shots after that.

12 We took cover behind the lift, behind the tires, and
13 then I lost track of him after that point. I then
14 encountered him later on, and we worked together throughout
15 the evening. But after the shots I don't recall seeing or
16 speaking to him until later that evening.

17 **PSI Minority**: Okay. When you get the report of the
18 suspicious person and you go over to the fence line, who
19 specifically was there?

20 **Witness**: With me?

21 **PSI Minority**: Yes.

22 **Witness**: Trooper **PSP Counterpart** and then Trooper, I
23 think it was **PSP CPL** or Corporal **PSP CPL**. We were on the golf
24 cart together, and I think you can see it in the photo.
25 When we got over to the fence line there was a local

1 tactical team, and then there was a uniformed trooper
2 at, I think it was Post 4, outside the gate. I remember
3 that group of us in that area.

4 **PSI Minority** Do you remember any of their names?

5 **Witness** : No.

6 **PSI Minority** : Was the Butler sheriff -

7 **Witness** : The Butler sheriff?

8 **PSI Minority** : Was a member of the Butler Sheriff's
9 Department in that group?

10 **Witness** : I don't recall, no.

11 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Did those individual you spoke to
12 along the fence line, there was no discussion of any of
13 those people leaving their posts to go out and look for the
14 suspicious person?

15 **Witness** : I don't recall, no. The tactical team
16 that was there, their spot where they were holding in
17 support of Secret Service tactical team, it was my
18 understanding. And then the trooper was in a fixed post at
19 that gate. So there was no discussion, or no direction
20 from me for them to do anything, that I remember.

21 **PSI Minority** : So no one in that group, at that time,
22 thought one of us should go outside the perimeter.

23 **Witness** : No. Not that I recall.

24 **PSI Minority** : Do you remember a Pennsylvania State
25 Trooper named **PSP Trooper** ?

1 **Witness** : Not off the top of my head, no.

2 **PSI Minority** : I believe he's the one who was partnered
3 with Agent **C/S Response**

4 **Witness** : I wasn't aware Agent **C/S Response** had a
5 partner.

6 **PSI Minority** : Had you ever worked at an event with
7 Agent **C/S Response** before? Do you know Agent **C/S Response**

8 **Witness** : I had not. I met him that day.

9 **PSI Minority** : So after shots are fired at 6:11 p.m. on
10 July 13th, what did you do?

11 **Witness** : After the shots were fired, and then
12 President Trump was on stage, he was covered by his detail,
13 I remember shouting at people in the crowd to get down.
14 They had stood and started cheering when President Trump
15 stood. He was evacuated, and then I moved into a position
16 on the bleachers and started giving the crowd direction to
17 evacuate and leave the venue. I went around to a number of
18 the post-standers in my immediate area that I could
19 contact, and I gave them direction with regard to holding
20 their post, maintaining evidence.

21 I worked my way back up to the Security Room, clearing
22 out general public and securing the crime scene. And then
23 I went into the Security Room, and I believe I spoke with
24 the Security Room agent, **SAIC Buffalo** and it was **SAIC Buffalo** I spoke
25 with local law enforcement, the FBI, the site assist agent,

1 a number of people, as far as getting the FBI in and
2 turning the scene over to them and then accounting for
3 post-standers. I provided SAC of Buffalo a list of all the
4 post-stander names and contact information to be turned
5 over to the FBI, assisted in getting them off post, things
6 like that.

7 **PSI Minority** : Did you ever go over to the AGR property?

8 **Witness** : I drove the FBI over to that area. I
9 didn't enter the building or go on top of the roof at any
10 time. I gave them a ride in the golf cart to that area.
11 They didn't know how to get over there, so I drove them
12 around, dropped them off, and came back.

13 **PSI Minority** : You drove who specifically from the FBI?

14 **Witness** : I believe it was the special agent in
15 charge and one of his agents.

16 **PSI Minority** : The SAIC of Pittsburgh FBI?

17 **Witness** : I think so, yeah. I had sent him the
18 photo earlier. They were going over there in an attempt to
19 identify the shooter.

20 **PSI Minority** : What time was that at?

21 **Witness** : That was, I think it was one of those
22 text messages that didn't go through. One of those was to
23 the special agent in charge of the Pittsburgh. So that
24 would've been either at, I believe it was at 8:15 p.m.

25 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Can you describe the AGR property

1 when you get over, when you drive over the FBI SAIC at
2 8:15?

3 **Witness** : It was as it had looked earlier. It
4 was like an industrial property, a number of buildings,
5 nondescript.

6 **PSI Minority** : What was happening when you went over
7 there?

8 **Witness** : There were a number of uniformed
9 police in and around the area. I didn't really spend any
10 time there or interact with anybody. I dropped them off
11 and drove back over to the Security Room.

12 **PSI Minority** : So you had some interactions with the
13 FBI. Any interactions with the ATF?

14 **Witness** : We don't want to go into any details
15 about their investigation or conversations about ATF or
16 FBI. We've been very careful not to divulge any of those
17 discussions. We have no authority from the FBI or ATF to
18 talk about --

19 **PSI Minority** : My question was did she interact with ATF
20 on July 13th.

21 **Witness** : Not that I was aware of, no.

22 **PSI Minority** : Do you know if Crooks was on any local,
23 state, or federal law enforcement radar before July 13th?

24 **Witness** : I do not.

25 **PSI Minority** : On July 13th, did you receive any

1 communications regarding someone along the fence line of
2 concern with a red shirt or a neon, high visibility shirt?

3 **Witness** : I recall a report of an unattended
4 bicycle and a bag.

5 **PSI Minority** : He's asking you about a red shirt. Just
6 answer the question.

7 **Witness** : And I believe there was someone in
8 that area with a red shirt, but nothing specific, no.

9 **PSI Minority** : So you heard about the red shirt on July
10 13th?

11 **Witness** : There was someone in a red shirt in
12 that area. I remember hearing that at some point, but
13 nothing specific.

14 **PSI Minority** : Where did you hear that from?

15 **Witness** : I believe it was afterwards. A person
16 had been detained to be interviewed. And I remember
17 someone saying this was the guy in the red shirt, by the
18 bike. I had nothing to do with it. It was information
19 that had been passed to me. I think one of the post-
20 standers was bringing him in for an interview.

21 **PSI Minority** : Okay. Do you know who Officer **Butler**

22 **ESU** [ph] is?

23 **Witness** : Not off the top of my head, no.

24 **PSI Minority** : Who were the people right around you,
25 right before shots were fired? What are their names?

1 **Witness** : The only names that I'm aware of
2 were **PSP Counterpart** and then Special Agent **C/S Response** I
3 didn't know everyone's individual names of the uniformed
4 troopers or the EOD technicians that were in the area.

5 **PSI Minority** : But there were more people around you at
6 that moment.

7 **Witness** : There were more people in that area,
8 yes.

9 **PSI Minority** Did you at any time receive information
10 that a suspicious person was inside the security perimeter?

11 **Witness** : No.

12 **PSI Minority** : Do you have any idea why potentially
13 someone on the Secret Service believed the suspicious
14 person was inside the security perimeter?

15 **Witness** : No. That was not communicated to me.

16 **PSI Minority** : Did you use your Secret Service device to
17 communicate that day?

18 **Witness** : The cellphone?

19 **PSI Minority** : Yes.

20 **Witness** : Yes.

21 **PSI Minority** : Do you use your personal cellphone on
22 July 13th?

23 **Witness** : No. I didn't know anyone personally.
24 I didn't have their personal cellphones.

25 **PSI Minority** : No. Did you use your personal cellphone

1 that day.

2 **Witness** : Not to talk to anybody in the venue,
3 no. I used it to call my family to let them know I was
4 safe.

5 **PSI Minority** : Right. Since July 13th, do you know
6 anything about how Crooks arrived in Butler that day?

7 **Witness** : Only what's been reported in the news.

8 **PSI Minority** : And what's that?

9 **Witness** : That he drove a vehicle, his own
10 vehicle, or a parent's vehicle. I'm not sure which.

11 **PSI Minority** : Do you know where he ended up leaving the
12 vehicle?

13 **Witness** : I don't.

14 **PSI Minority** : **Witness** just a few follow-up
15 questions. Were you aware of other federal law enforcement
16 agents at the rally prior to shots fired?

17 **Witness** : I was not.

18 **PSI Minority** : You were not at the time. Have you
19 been made aware since, or you're not aware altogether?

20 **Witness** : The FBI was there after the fact, but
21 prior to the shooting, no, I wasn't aware of any other
22 federal presence.

23 **PSI Minority** : Understood. Were you ever made aware
24 of a suspicious backpack or bike being identified at the
25 rally, or not at the rally but near the rally?

1 **Witness** : No. Along that fence line I
2 remember a report that there was an unattended, like there
3 was a bike and a backpack that were unattended. Nothing
4 suspicious. There's a difference between unattended and
5 suspicious. Suspicious would indicate that smoke or wires
6 or fluid. Unattended means no one is around their
7 property.

8 **PSI Minority** : When were you made aware of that?

9 **Witness** : In and around the time that we were
10 made aware of the person on the fence line with the
11 rangefinder.

12 **PSI Minority** : Who made you -- sorry, go ahead.

13 **Witness** : When I was over there on the fence
14 line, looking at the fence line, there was a number of
15 people. I believe there was the bike. There was the woman
16 on the horse. I think it was passed to me at that time.

17 **PSI Minority** : Who shared that information with you?

18 **Witness** : It would've been one of the officers
19 that was there, posted on that fence line area. I don't
20 know exactly who.

21 **PSI Minority** : And the purpose of you finding out
22 about that information, was the intention for you to go and
23 investigate that, as well?

24 **Witness** : I think at that time they were
25 reporting anything that they could to help locate or pass

1 intelligence regarding this person. I'm not sure if
2 they thought it was relevant or not. I do recall someone
3 telling me that.

4 **PSI Minority** : So you found this out after hearing
5 about a suspicious individual?

6 **Witness** : In that same time frame, when we were
7 looking along the fence line at everyone and everything.

8 **PSI Minority** : Did you see the backpack and bike
9 yourself?

10 **Witness** : I don't recall specifically, no. I
11 remember there were several people on bicycles and on foot,
12 and a horse, and there were a number of things over there.
13 I don't recall the specific bicycle or backpack being
14 mentioned.

15 **PSI Minority** : Did you and Trooper **PSP Counterpart** discuss the
16 bike and backpack?

17 **Witness** : I don't recall.

18 **PSI Minority** : You mentioned the individual on the
19 horse a few times. When did you see that person?

20 **Witness** : At the same time that we were looking
21 for Crooks. There were people with cellphones and cameras.
22 There were a number of people on that fence line.

23 **PSI Minority** : And when you saw the individual on the
24 horse, where were you located?

25 **Witness** : In that area along the chain-link

1 fence, was Posts 4 and 5.

2 **PSI Minority** : Were you ever made aware of any
3 individuals associated with that property, which you later
4 found out was AGR, dealing with people who had congregated
5 in and around that property?

6 **Witness** : Not specifically, no.

7 **PSI Minority** : When you post the individuals at Posts
8 4 and 5, did they mention to you about dealing with people
9 in that area outside of the fence line?

10 **Witness** : I don't recall. I recall they were
11 just reporting to me what they were observing.

12 **PSI Minority** : And what was that?

13 **Witness** : The gentleman with the rangefinder,
14 that we had the physical description of. I remember them
15 pointing out a bike that was unattended, and the fact that
16 a crowd, a small crowd of approximately 10, 12 people, had
17 gathered in that area. Nothing more.

18 **PSI Minority** : Just to be clear, did they tell you
19 that they had observed the individual with the rangefinder?

20 **Witness** : Yeah, I believe it was the tactical
21 team in that area that I was speaking to that was reporting
22 it.

23 **PSI Minority** : So again, for clarity, you first
24 received the information about a suspicious individual
25 outside the fence line with a rangefinder, and then you

1 went to talk to those individuals, Post 4 and Post 5.

2 And they confirmed to you that they saw this individual
3 using the rangefinder. Is that right?

4 **Witness** : It was my understanding they were the
5 reporting party. At that time I didn't know anyone else
6 had seen them. At this time I believed this was the first
7 anyone is reporting any of this. I don't know anything
8 that happened prior to this one call that I responded to.
9 So to me, this is the first time anyone has seen this
10 person. This is the first I'm learning of it.

11 **PSI Minority** : But you heard from these people about
12 the suspicious person? I thought you said earlier that you
13 heard from someone else about the suspicious person.

14 **Witness** : Trooper **PSP Counterpart** who was with me, with
15 the State Police, told me, "Hey, someone's reporting a
16 suspicious person on the fence line with a rangefinder."
17 We responded. It was my understanding at that time that
18 was the reporting party --

19 **PSI Minority** : Oh, okay.

20 **Witness** : -- that had informed him. So we were
21 responding to people reporting it and getting the
22 information from them directly.

23 **PSI Minority** : Okay. So did you confirm with them
24 that they were indeed the people that had reported it
25 prior?

1 **Witness** : I asked them what they had seen,
2 and they told me. I didn't ask if they had heard this from
3 anybody else.

4 **PSI Minority** : So you still do not know today if they
5 were the reporting party.

6 **Witness** : I don't know if they were the first
7 people to see him, no. I don't know that. I don't know
8 who the first people were to see him. I didn't speak to
9 them. I didn't hear from them.

10 **PSI Minority** : And did they identify where this
11 individual was when they saw him?

12 **Witness** : They said he was on the fence line.
13 That was the only information I had.

14 **PSI Minority** : They didn't describe what he looked
15 like to you?

16 **Witness** : They said he was a white male, he was
17 younger, and had long hair.

18 **PSI Minority** : Did they say where he went?

19 **Witness** : No. They didn't know where he was.

20 **PSI Minority** : Well, they saw him, right. So at some
21 point they did see him. And then where did they --

22 **Witness** : They told me what he looked like and
23 where he was, and he was no longer there. That was all
24 they told me. At that point I was trying to find him.

25 **PSI Minority** : And these were local law enforcement?

1 **Witness** : It was a tactical team posted in
2 that 4, 5 area.

3 **PSI Minority** : How many individuals?

4 **Witness** : Approximately four, maybe five.

5 **PSI Minority** : Did you ask them if they had
6 communicated to anyone what they had seen on either radio
7 or text?

8 **Witness** : It was my understanding that they had
9 communicated it to Trooper **PSP Counterpart**, and that's why we were
10 there.

11 **PSI Minority** : Did Trooper **PSP Counterpart** ever tell you that
12 they were indeed the reporting party?

13 **Witness** : Not specifically, no.

14 **PSI Minority** : Okay. I'll turn it back over to my
15 colleagues in the majority.

16 **HSGAC Majority** : Well, thank you very much for your time
17 today, Senior Special Agent **Witness**. We have tried to
18 cover every topic area. However, we are still in the
19 process of receiving productions from DHS and the
20 Department of Homeland Security and Secret Service. This
21 has limited our ability to be efficient and thorough, But
22 we hope that we have been here today. So we may have
23 further questions, and we'll follow up if that is the case.

24 But as we mentioned at the beginning, we ask that you
25 not speak about what we discussed in this interview here

1 today with anyone outside of who was in the room, to
2 preserve the integrity of our investigation.

3 With that, and with no other questions, we will go off
4 the record. Thank you again.

5 [Witness] : Thank you.

6 [Whereas, at 5:44 p.m., the interview was concluded.]