1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
3	AND THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS
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6	INTERVIEW OF
7	SAIC Buffalo
8	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE,
9	U.S. SECRET SERVICE
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13	Room SD-342
14	Dirksen Senate Office Building
15	Washington, D.C.
16	Wednesday, October 9, 2024
17	10:19 a.m.
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1 APPEARANCES:

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



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

1 2 HSGAC Majority : Okay. Good morning. This is a transcribed 3 interview of U.S. Secret Service Special Agent In Charge 4 Witness being conducted by the Senate Committee on 5 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Senate 6 Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. 7 This interview was requested by Committee Chairman 8 Gary Peters, Ranking Member Rand Paul, as well as 9 Subcommittee Chairman Richard Blumenthal and Ranking Member 10 Ron Johnson. This is a part of the Committee's 11 investigation of the July 13, 2024, assassination attempt 12 on former President Trump, and the U.S. Secret Service 13 planning in advance of and response related to the events 14 in Butler, Pennsylvania, on July 13th, 2024. 15 On July 25, 2024, and again on September 11th, 2024, 16 Chairmen Peters, Blumenthal, and Ranking Members Paul and 17 Johnson requested a voluntary transcribed interview with 18 U.S. Secret Service personnel, including Mr. Wt ss. We'll 19 provide introductions and then explain how today's 20 interview will proceed. And first, I'll ask you, Mr. Witness, 21 to introduce yourself and your title, and then counsel to 22 introduce themselves. 23 Hello, my name is Witness , Witness : Witness 24 and I'm a Special Agent In Charge of the Buffalo Field

25 Office.



1 Witness Counsel : Witness Counsel . I represent SAIC Witness , Witness Counsel also representing SAIC 2 and also Witness Counsel . 3 I have to leave at around 12:30 to 1:00, and Mr. Witness . 4 Witness will pick up right after, so he's going to be 5 listening in online. 6 Agency Counsel : Agency Counsel here for the Secret. 7 Deputy Chief Counsel. Agency Counsel : Agency Counsel , DHS Office of the 8 9 General Counsel, Oversight Counsel. HSGAC Majority : I'll now introduce my colleagues from 10 11 Chairman Peter's office and then turn it over to my 12 colleagues in the other offices. Today, we have HSGAC Majority 13 , Deputy Chief Counsel for the majority on HSGAC, as well as HSGAC Majority, Senior Investigator, and HSGAC 14 15 Majority , Senior Counsel. 16 HSGAC Minority : Good morning. My name is HSGAC Minority 17 I'm Chief Counsel for the office of Ranking Member Paul, with HSGAC Minority , Staff Director. 18 19 PSI Minority : Good morning. I'm PSI Minority with 20 Senator Johnson's office. I'm Staff Director, and we have PSI Minority , Chief Counsel, right here. And 21 PSI Minority, Deputy Staff Director. Thank you for being here. 22 23 PSI Majority : And this is PSI Majority , on 24 virtual, Senior Counsel for PSI majority. 25 During today's interview, our four offices HSGAC Majority

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will be asking questions, and we will try and do so in 1 2 orderly fashion so you don't have different people jumping 3 in on questions. And we will plan to take breaks on the 4 hour, but are happy to take breaks as needed. Just please 5 let us know. The reporter is going to create a verbatim б record of what we discussed today. And with that in mind 7 as I'm sure you're familiar, please respond to questions 8 verbally because the reporter cannot properly record 9 nonverbal responses. Do you understand?

10

Witness : I do.

This interview is unclassified. So, if the 11 HSGAC Majority 12 questions call for any information that you know to 13 implicate classified information, please state for the 14 record that classified information has been implicated with 15 the question as well as the reason you understand this to 16 be classified and the limits of your ability to respond. 17 And once you have clarified, to the extent possible, please 18 provide to the best of your ability information that is 19 unclassified to fully respond to the question. And if 20 needed, we will proceed to a classified setting and can 21 make that happen if necessary.

You are required to provide truthful answers to the committee. And this interview is governed by U.S.C. Section 1001, which makes it a crime to provide false information to Congress, including to investigators. Do



1 you understand?

2 Witness : I do.

HSGAC Majority

3 HSGAC Majority : Is there any reason you cannot provide 4 truthful information in response to the questions today? 5 Witness : No. б Do you have any questions before we begin? HSGAC Majority : 7 I do not. Witness : 8

Counsel?

9 Thank you. And for purposes of time Agency Counsel 10 here, I'll incorporate by reference other preference or 11 preliminary remarks I've made with other witnesses before 12 the committees that are consistent with requests of the 13 Chairmen [Technical Issues.] at least that we are not at 14 all attending any of the waiver of any Privacy Act or 15 personnel law or law enforcement-sensitive information 16 protocols be waived, also just understanding that only the 17 audio recording except for, obviously, the purposes of the 18 court reporter. And with those comments, sir, we 19 appreciate the opportunity to make those statements. Thank 20 you.

21 And our understanding as well is that the HSGAC Majority 22 only recording is for the purposes of the transcription 23 itself. With respect to the information received today, 24 the committee intends to provide a public report on this, 25 and in fact, has released to the public and interim report



1 of its findings to date. We will, as has been the 2 committee's practice, and as was the committee's actions 3 with respect to the interim report, prior to making any 4 non-public information public, provide the agency, 5 yourself, and counsel an opportunity to review information б we intend to rely on, including information we learned from 7 today's interview in advance of publication and with an 8 opportunity to provide any factual corrections.

9 It is the committee's practice to honor valid common 10 law privileges and claims, and accommodate a witness when 11 those claims are made in good faith, and when a sufficient 12 explanation been provided to the committee so that we can evaluate those claims. When deciding on whether to honor 13 14 this privilege, the committee will weigh its need for the 15 information against a legitimate basis to withhold it. 16 This interview today is occurring without prejudice to 17 discussions of the committee, and we reserve the right to 18 request your participation in a future interview if 19 necessary.

Finally, we would ask that you not speak about what we discussed today in this interview with anyone outside of the room today in order to preserve the integrity of our ongoing investigation. With that, before we begin, do you have any questions?

25 Witness : No questions.



HSGAC Majority: I'm now going to turn over to my colleague
 HSGAC Majority, who will begin our questions. We will spend
 again about an hour and then break. Thank you.

HSGAC Majority : Thank you. And, hi, Special Agent Witness.
Is that the right title to -- or?

6

Witness : That's fine.

HSGAC Majority : Thank you for taking the time to speak
with us today. Like HSGAC said, my name is HSGAC Majority
HSGAC Majority , I also work for Chairman Peters. And just as a
starting point if you could maybe give us a really brief
high-level overview of your role and responsibilities with
respect to the July 13th rally at Butler.

Witness : Sure. I was assigned as the command post/slash security room agent. And that function is typically one, if I were to make an analogy to something that's more common, would be to a dispatcher or a relayer of information. So, the role of the command post is to ingest information from different sources and then put that information back out.

HSGAC Majority : Okay, great. And we'll get into it to a lot more detail about that, but that's helpful at the start. As another preliminary matter, could you tell us if you have taken any notes either before the rally or afterwards with respect to the events on July 13th?

Witness : Notes? No. Like, handwritten notes? No.



25

1 HSGAC Majority : Okay. Thank you. And then a couple 2 questions about your background. Could you tell us how 3 long you've been with the Secret Service and in what roles? 4 : Sure. I've been with the Service for a Witness 5 little over 24 years, almost 24 and a half years actually. б I started in the New York Field office in 2000, was there 7 for about 7 years, where I was assigned to several 8 different squads to include counter-surveillance squad, the 9 credit card fraud squad, and the protective intelligence 10 squad, where I finished up doing 2 or 3 years on the JTTF. 11 From there I was transferred to the William Clinton 12 Protective Division in Chappaqua when he was a former 13 President with then Secretary or then Senator, Secretary 14 Clinton. After about 5 years on their detail, I 15 transferred up to the Portland, Maine resident office where 16 I was there for about 2 years, a little over 2 years. 17 From there I had my first promotion. I was promoted 18 to an assistant to the special agent in charge at the 19 Raleigh Training Center, which is down here in Beltsville, 20 Maryland. At the training center, I had led a couple of 21 different sections. First one was the facility section, 22 and then I had the judgment and tactic section. While I 23 was assigned there, I had a temporary assignment as a shift

24 leader, then Candidate Trump's 2016 detail. And while I 25 was on that detail, I was selected to -- I had applied for,



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and was selected for one of the in-residents master's
 degree programs here at the National Defense University.

3 So, I did that at the College of International 4 Security Affairs, got my master's degree. Upon completing 5 that I took an assignment in the Office of Protective б Operations in the special project section at headquarters. 7 After that assignment, I was promoted to the GS-15 rank as 8 an assistant special agent charge at the Washington Field 9 Office, where I led the criminal investigative section of 10 that office. And from there I was assigned to the special 11 agent in charge of the Buffalo Field Office, where I am 12 now.

HSGAC Majority : Okay, thank you. And when was that last?

15 Witness : I transferred up to Buffalo in the Spring 16 of '21.

HSGAC Majority : Okay, got it. Thank you. And can you describe your general responsibilities as the special agent in charge of the Buffalo Field Office?

Witness : Sure. So, as the special agent in charge of a district, I -- actually the district I'm responsible for covers all the way from Buffalo to Albany. Basically, everything in New York State, north and west of Ulster County. So, I have subordinate offices in Rochester, Syracuse, and Albany. And my responsibility is managing



1 all of the Secret Service activity across that district.

So, whether it's investigative, protective, intelligence-related, or protective operations-related. So that includes, you know, day-to-day personnel and administrative management, managing visits that may come into the district. You know, any sort of logistical concerns or assignments of my personnel. Really, anything that happens in the district.

9 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And you said one of the other 10 responsibilities is to oversee, you know, protectee events 11 in the district. That's correct?

12 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority : And since you've been the special agent in charge, can you give an approximation of how many protective events you've been involved in?

Witness : Sure. I mean, there have been at least 10, I would say, of varying levels from the President, the Vice-President to the Secretary of DHS, to grandchildren of the President. So, kind of the whole gamut of foreign dig or two. So the whole gamut of our protective, you know, types of visits we might have in a district.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And in your prior roles before becoming a special agent in charge, is it fair to say that you also had significant experience working on events for protectees?



Witness : I've done a fair amount of protection in my
 career, yes.

3 HSGAC Majority : Could you speak to, you know, what kind 4 of specific roles you've held for protective events, 5 whether you've, you know, worked advance teams as, you 6 know, lead agents, or site agents, or?

7 I mean, I've done -- I've been a Sure. Witness : 8 shift agent, I've been a shift leader. I have been an 9 advance agent. I've done foreign advances for the Clinton 10 detail, site advances. Pretty much any, you know -- the only thing I've never, I was never on the presidential 11 12 detail or the vice-presidential detail, so I didn't do the 13 lead advances for those, but I've been a counterpart on the 14 field office level for those types of visits.

HSGAC Majority : Thank you. And then you said that you had a temporary assignment to then Candidate Trump's detail in 2016?

18 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority : Could you talk about that a little bit more, what your role was?

Witness : It's every campaign season, there are a lot of temporary assignments for the candidates. So, I was assigned as a shift leader. I think I did two or three rotations at the beginning of that campaign before I went to NDU.



HSGAC Majority : And then so as the shift leader, did you
 ever have a role in the advanced process for his events?
 Witness : No. The advance team is separate from the
 shift and the detail.

5 HSGAC Majority : Got it. Thank you. And amongst the 6 roles you've had at various protective events, have you 7 worked as a security room agent at previous events?

8 Witness : I have.

9 HSGAC Majority : Can you give an approximation of -- is
10 it dozens of times, or five?

11 Witness I would say a handful. The answer I gave 12 yesterday was a handful. Five or six times.

HSGAC Majority: Do you recall the most recent time prior to July 13th?

15 Witness : Yes. The most recent time prior to that I 16 believe, was in the spring. I believe it was Easter of 17 2022 on President Biden's trip to Northern Ireland in 18 Ireland.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. All right, thank you. And jumping back to your current role now, could you describe briefly your current chain of command, who you report to directly and how many people you supervise?

Witness : Sure, sure. My supervisor, my direct
supervisor is Deputy Assistant Director USSS DAD

25 HSGAC Majority : And how many people do you supervise in



1 your role?

2 Witness : So, I have an assistant special agent in 3 charge in the Buffalo office. And then an assistant to the 4 special agent in charge in the Buffalo office. And then 5 the office administrator. Those three people report to me 6 directly. Then the resident agent in charge of the 7 Syracuse office reports to me directly, and the now vacant 8 resident agent in charge of the Albany office would report 9 to me if the position was full.

HSGAC Majority Got it. Thank you. And then talking about July 13th specifically, could you give us a sense of the chain of command on that day from your point of view, who, if anyone, you reported to on that day?

14 Witness : Sure. I reported to the site agent.

15 HSGAC Majority : To the site agent?

16 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority : And did you have -- I guess we're going to get into some more detail about the security room itself. Was there anybody who formally reported to you on that day?

21 Witness

22 HSGAC Majority : Had you been to Butler, Pennsylvania,

23 before?

24 Witness : Not that I recall, no.

No.

:

25 HSGAC Majority : And could you talk about when and how



1 you first became aware that former President Trump was 2 going to be holding a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania? 3 Sure. Typically, we find out about events Witness : 4 from the Office of Investigations, the War Room, we call it 5 the Manpower Section, where we get requests where we're 6 going to have to provide personnel to fill assignments. Ι 7 believe that's how I found out about this event initially. 8 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And I'm going to show you a 9 I don't know if about a sticker, but this will document. 10 be Exhibit 1, a few pages of emails that were produced to 11 It's more than -- I don't think it's all one us. 12 contiguous chain, but it's Bates number 2614 through 2618. 13 [Exhibit No. 1 was 14 marked for identification.] 15 Okay. Yes, these look familiar. Witness : 16 HSGAC Majority : And I wanted to draw your attention to 17 an email on that first page, 2614. At the bottom half of 18 the page. The email sent Wednesday, July 10th, at 12:39 19 p.m. Is that what you were referring to just now when you 20 were talking about getting a notification of an event? 21 Yes. 22 And can you tell us what the -- you know, more 23 specifically what the content of this email says? 24 It's essentially the War Room saying that : Witness 25 they're going to need personnel for that visit for two --

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Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2040** (800.367.3376) well, the first request was for the FLOTUS visit to
 Pittsburgh. So it actually wasn't to the former President
 Trump visit. Our request was to fill spots for the FLOTUS
 visit, which I believe what I was initially assigned to.

5 HSGAC Majority : Okay, got it. And then, so this email 6 on Wednesday, July 10th, was that the first notice you had 7 that --

8 Witness : That we were going to be sending people to 9 Pittsburgh for that weekend. Yes.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And like you said, this email only talks about the FLOTUS visit. So, initially, you were not aware that that former President Trump was also holding an event the same day?

Witness : I don't remember exactly when I recall that there were going to be two simultaneous events. It may be in this email chain somewhere. I'm not sure.

HSGAC Majority : Do you recall when or how you were specifically assigned to be the security room agent at the Trump event?

Witness : Sure. When we received the briefing materials, I believe it was the either -- probably Friday night, the night before the event, that's when I found out I would be working the command post the next day.

HSGAC Majority : And you just said that you didn't recall when the switch happened?



Witness : I recall, I think, when the switch 1 2 happened, I believe it was on Thursday. I think I 3 initially submitted myself to work the FLOTUS event. And 4 then at some point, either on Wednesday or Thursday, I had 5 a conversation with the SAIC of the Pittsburgh Field Office б and he suggested that he may want me to work the FLOTUS 7 event -- I mean, the former President Trump event instead. 8 Which I said, that's fine. It didn't matter. I was going 9 to Pittsburgh either way.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And then you said that conversation was either Wednesday or Thursday. And could you tell us a little bit more about what you remember from that conversation?

14 Witness : No, it was a very pretty quick phone 15 I think I actually called him to let him conversation. 16 know that I was putting myself in to go to Pittsburgh just 17 as a courtesy. You know, another SAIC going into another 18 district. And said, hey, I'm coming in. I'm, you know, 19 going to submit myself for the FLOTUS. We got asked for 20 two people to work the FLOTUS event. And he said okay. 21 Well, that actually may have been when I've learned about 22 the Trump event because maybe on that call, he told me 23 there was the Trump event. And he said I might switch you 24 to that if you don't mind. And I said that was no problem.

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HSGAC Majority : And do you recall if he said anything

else about why he wanted to switch you over to that event?
 Witness : I don't remember any specific reasoning for
 switching me over. No.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And do you recall whether he mentioned anything specific about what role you would have or?

7 Witness : No. I don't think we talked about roles 8 then, but going as another special agent in charge, I 9 wouldn't -- I was not surprised that I was assigned to the 10 command post.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And why would you say that? Witness : Typically, you try to assign, you know, whoever is going to be one of the more senior folks on the trip to work the command post. So, I would probably have been the most senior person on that trip. So, it's pretty normal occurrence.

HSGAC Majority : And I guess two questions. Who would typically make that assignment of the security room agent and who --

20 Witness : The site agent makes the postings, the 21 decisions, on who's going to do what post

HSGAC Majority : You said you spoke with the, the
Pittsburgh SAIC, and that's --

24 Witness : SAIC Pittsburgh .

25 HSGAC Majority : SAIC Pittsburgh . And then did he -- I guess I



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2043** (800.367.3376) 1 want to understand if he made that assignment, or was it 2 the site agent that made the assignment?

Witness : I don't know what conversation he had with the site agent about who was going to do the assignment. HSGAC Majority : But you didn't know what your assignment was going to be until the briefing materials on Friday? Witness : That's my recollection, yes.

8 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And then just to draw your 9 attention back to Exhibit 1. On that last page on 2618, in 10 the middle of that page looks like an email you sent on 11 Thursday, July 11th at 10:53 a.m. saying, "Okay, great. 12 There's a chance we might get switched to the -- " and it's 13 redacted, event. "They're occurring at roughly the same 14 time." Is that the redacted word there referring to the 15 Trump event?

16 Witness : I'm assuming it probably says the LES
17 event. Yeah.

18 HSGAC Majority : And do you recall who you sent that 19 email to?

20 Witness : This was the other agent that was going to 21 Pittsburgh to work the FLOTUS event.

22 HSGAC Majority : Okay. Another agent under?

23 Witness : From the Buffalo office.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And just to clarify. I think we covered this, but the initial outreach requesting



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2 specific assignments beyond just saying, yes, I can work? 3 No. The only thing is I put, you know, Witness : 4 myself and the other agent in for the FLOTUS trip, and then 5 through this chain of emails was eventually switched. The 6 other agent stayed on the FLOTUS trip and I went to the 7 LES trip.

personnel to work the FLOTUS event, did you ever get any

8 All right. Got it. And then after HSGAC Majority 9 this initial email chain, could you talk about what other 10 information you received about the rally prior to the 13th? 11 I received, you know, logistics information Witness : 12 and briefing materials. I believe that all came -- well, 13 the logistics probably came on the 11th. You know, like 14 what hotel you're going to and that sort of thing. And 15 then briefing materials, I believe came on the 12th, but I 16 have to go back and look. But they were a standard 17 briefing. You know, briefing material that you would get 18 before any post standing assignment.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And I don't have the document in front of me, I think I know what you're talking about, but just to make sure we're clear. Did you separately see -- did that include the preliminary survey? Did you ever see that?

Witness : I believe the preliminary survey wasincluded in that. Yes.



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HSGAC Majority : In the post stander instructions?
Witness : Correct.
HSGAC Majority : Do you recall any other specific, you
know, documents or materials that were included in what you
received?

6 Witness : No. Just, again, the logistical 7 information as well. But it was all via email, so I'm sure 8 you have it all. Yeah.

9 HSGAC Majority : And was there anything specific to your 10 role as the security room agent that you received in 11 advance?

Witness : No. Just the site posting instruction. On the site post instructions, there's a brief paragraph about the command post in there.

HSGAC Majority : And prior to the 13th, did you receive any information or intelligence about potential threats related to the protectee or the event?

18 Witness : No.

HSGAC Majority : And then, so after you received those briefing materials and your assignment, what did you understand your main responsibilities were going to be on the 13th?

Witness : I would be working in the command post, you
know, relaying information.

25 HSGAC Majority : And did you do anything before the 13th



to prepare? Was there anything that you had to -- that's a 2 little bit vague. But were there any, I guess, more formal 3 steps that -- you know, any paperwork you had to do, any, 4 you know, boxes you had to check before showing up at 5 Butler Farm Show? 6 No. Just making sure I had all my Witness : 7 equipment and gear, and packing up and driving to 8 Pittsburgh on the 12th. HSGAC Majority : Got it. And so, you said you drove to 9 10 Pittsburgh on the, on the 12th? 11 Witness : I did. 12 And on the 13th, that was the first time HSGAC Majority 13 you arrived at the rally site? 14 Correct. The morning of the 13th. Witness : 15 Do you recall approximately what time? HSGAC Majority 16 I believe the briefing was scheduled for : Witness 17 10:00 a.m. 18 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And again, talking about before 19 the rally began on the 13th, did you receive any 20 information either formally or informally about the 21 security room set up? Either where it was going to be, who 22 was going to be there, or what equipment they would have? I mean, other than what was in the 23 Witness : No. 24 briefing materials that I believe it did list the building 25 that it was going to be in, and then the equipment that



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would be there. It's a very standard setup that we have at that time for a command post or security room which, of course, for this event it was both. So, I knew that there would be what we call a LES radio which is just a larger version of a LES radio, and that I would have my workissued cell phone and my LES radio. LES

7 LES

8 HSGAC Majority : And who do you know who was responsible 9 for making the decisions about the location of the event

10 and what equipment would be there?

Witness : Typically, that would be the site agent. HSGAC Majority : And did you have any conversations with the site agent prior to the 13th about the setup in the room?

15 Witness : About the setup in the room? No. I think 16 I only had one brief email exchange with the Trump division 17 site person on the evening of the 12th, just about 18 logistics, and if it was okay, if I drove myself to the 19 event. Which she said it was.

20 HSGAC Majority : And that was you said from the Trump 21 detail, Agent Site Agent ?

22 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority : And I assuming she's the site counterpart, correct?

25 Witness : No. My understanding is that Agent Site Agent



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HSGAC Majority : Correct.

Witness : -- was the site agent. The site
counterpart was an agent from the Pittsburgh office.

5 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And so, Agent Site Agent, as far as 6 your understanding was, would've been responsible for the 7 setup of --

8 Witness : She was the site agent. Yes.

9 HSGAC Majority : And so, prior to showing up on the 13th,
10 did you know who would be -- other than yourself, would be
11 assigned to be present in the security room?

12 Witness : Well, typically, we only have,

13 unfortunately, one person assigned in a security room or a 14 command post.

15 **HSGAC Majority** : You mean one Secret Service?

16 Witness : Yeah. One Secret Service. Yeah. I didn't 17 know what other entities may be in that command post until 18 that morning.

HSGAC Majority: Is that typical to not know what other entities will be there until the day of --

21 Witness : Until the briefing. Yes.

HSGAC Majority : And so, on the briefing the morning of July 13th, did you get more information about who would be in the security room?

25 Witness : Yes. They mentioned that there'd be a



1 representative from the Pennsylvania State Police, and 2 someone from the Butler County Emergency Services for 3 medical and fire issues. And that there'd be 4 representatives from the site itself, you know, if there 5 were any facilities-type issues. 6 HSGAC Majority : And who gave that briefing on the 7 morning of the 13th? 8 : Both the site agent and the site Witness counterpart conducted parts of that briefing. 9 10 HSGAC Majority : So, do you recall which one of them gave the information about the security room? 11 12 I don't. Witness : HSGAC Majority : And before you got to the site on July 13 14 13th, were you aware that there was going to be a separate 15 command post led by Butler County law enforcement? 16 : I was not. Witness 17 HSGAC Majority : When did you find out that that was the 18 case? 19 Witness : Really, it only became apparent to me 20 throughout the day in my conversations with the 21 Pennsylvania State Police representative. It was never 22 really talked about. It was more assumed that he was 23 talking to other people somewhere else. 24 HSGAC Majority : And in your experience, is that a 25 typical setup, a typical situation to have separate command



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2 Typically, every site is a little bit Witness : 3 different and every locality is a little bit different. 4 But generally, it is preferred to have all the agencies 5 that might be represented at a particular site together. 6 HSGAC Majority : And you said that you've worked as a 7 security room agent at other events. In your experience, 8 would you normally find out, you know, which state and 9 local agencies would be represented earlier in the planning 10 process? 11 The timing of finding out who was Witness : No. 12 going to be in there was normal. When the post standers 13 come in, we're not involved. None of the post standers are 14 involved in any of the planning whatsoever. 15 HSGAC Majority : And what was your understanding of who 16 would've been involved in ensuring that the appropriate 17 representatives were in the security room? 18 Witness : The site agent. 19 HSGAC Majority : And then just to -- I know you've 20 addressed this. To be completely clear, did you have any 21 role in planning or going over the plan for communications 22 in the security room before the 13th? 23 Witness : No. 24 HSGAC Majority : And so, you mentioned that you said it 25 became apparent throughout the day that there was a second



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2051** (800.367.3376) 1 command post through your discussions with the PSP 2 representative. And that's Sergeant PSP Site Liaison. Is that 3 correct?

Witness : That's what I remember his name to be,
yeah.

6 HSGAC Majority : Could you talk a little bit more about 7 how you came to realize that there was a separate post? 8 : Just from him being on the phone with other Witness 9 people, that was clear. He was talking to other law 10 enforcement. Again, it was never -- I don't explicitly 11 remember a point in time where I was like, "Oh, there's 12 definitely another command post." I just knew he was talking to other law enforcement somewhere else, in 13 14 addition to other Pennsylvania State Police troopers on his 15 radio. But most of the communication throughout the day 16 revolved around communication with the Pennsylvania State 17 Police.

HSGAC Majority : And when you say most of the communication that day, most of your communication, or? <u>Witness</u> : Correct. Most of my communication. Because Pennsylvania State Police were all inside of the site, and that's where most of the activity was occurring throughout the day.

24 HSGAC Majority : And that communication, was that all
25 through Sergeant PSP Site Liaison ?



Witness : Yes. He was the only representative in
 there.

3 HSGAC Majority : And can you talk, I guess, maybe
4 generally about what the radio traffic was like throughout
5 the case before -- specific questions about Crooks, and all
6 that. But just earlier in the day, what was the general
7 flow of radio traffic?

8 So, it was a very, very busy site. I think : Witness in earlier testimony, I've said it was one of the busier 9 10 sites I've ever worked from a command post perspective, the 11 amount of traffic that was coming through it. You had 12 15,000 people who had been essentially standing out in the 13 sun for five or six hours, maybe even longer than that. If 14 you count the time before the gates even opened and people 15 were lined up there was an inordinate number of medical 16 calls that were coming in to the command post directly from 17 our post standers.

18 So, all those calls would come into me, and then I 19 would have to turn to the Butler County EMS representative 20 and say, you know, post 210 has another medical main 21 checkpoint, another medical. And there was a constant flow 22 of dispatch of medical personnel to people who were, you 23 know, having issues in the crowd.

Throughout the day, we had two or three lost children, one of whom actually spent some time in the command post



and security room until they were reunited with their family. We had lost property coming into the command post and security room. We had a call about a media truck that was going to set the ground on fire. So, we had to figure out how to get fire trucks to that.

6 We had you know -- and then, there's these standard 7 calls about a package needing to be swept, or, you know, so 8 calls for K9 EOD, or just the normal radio traffic that you 9 would expect. But there was a lot of traffic that day.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. Can you talk a little bit about just the physical setup of the room, how big it was?

12 Witness : Sure. It was a relatively large room, kind 13 of in a standalone building. And there were essentially 14 card tables or tables of about this size. You know, the 15 six-foot, eight-foot tables set up in a big ring 16 configuration. That was pretty much it. There was one 17 door out the front, and then there were two small windows 18 to my right. And there was a little kitchen in the back 19 and a restroom.

HSGAC Majority: Okay. But small enough that you could
talk across the room --

22 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority : -- verbally to others who were there. And you said you were the only Secret Service person assigned to the room. Were there others who were in and



1 out of the room during the day that you recall?

Witness : Yes, there were. The security room also functioned as the -- what we would call the down room. So, when the agents were getting relief from their post, it's where they would come. The site agents were in and out of the room throughout the day. The PI response and the counter sniper, CS Response Teams, were in and out of the room all day.

9 Other Pennsylvania State Troopers who were doing the 10 same thing, who were being pushed, were in and out of the 11 room all day. Our Uniformed Division personnel who were 12 working the magnetometers who were on break, in and out of 13 the room all day. And then at one point the agent assigned 14 to work the UAS detection system, ended up taking up 15 residence and setting up his station in the security room. 16 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And is there a log of who came 17 and went from the room all day?

18 Witness : We don't keep -- I've never seen a log of 19 who comes and goes. That's not a standard practice of ours 20 HSGAC Majority : And we've heard from others that there's 21 a security room book. Is that something different? 22 Witness : That's the command post -- well, the 23 security room book would've had all of those same briefing 24 materials in it; the preliminary survey, the site diagrams. 25 And then there's also what we call a command post log,



which is simply just a record of the protectee movements.
 HSGAC Majority : Okay. But not a log of - Witness : Not a log of people coming and going. It's

4 just the protectee movements.

5 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And then, sorry to jump around 6 a little bit. Going back to the morning of the 13th, you 7 said the initial briefing happened at 10:00 a.m. Could you 8 talk about what you did after that briefing?

9 Witness : Sure. After we concluded the briefing,
10 pretty much everybody went up to the security room to drop
11 off their gear and get ready to start going out on post.
12 While they were doing that, I was configuring the radios
13 and getting my materials set up.

14 Initially, they had set up the radio in a place where 15 my back would've been to the door, which I didn't want. 16 So, I moved the radio. I had to enlist the help of the 17 Butler Farm Show personnel there to find me an extension 18 cord and a power strip. So, I set up my radio so I could 19 at least look out the door of the command post. Got my 20 radio set to the right channels. Got my paperwork out and 21 ready, and waited for everyone to get on post so I could 22 start radio checks.

HSGAC Majority : And then what time was it, approximately, if you remember, that you started the radio checks?



Witness : Sometime around 11:00, 11:15, maybe.

HSGAC Majority : And could you describe briefly what that
entails, who you were checking with?

Witness : Sure. So, the radio check process is, once you know that everybody is on post -- you know, you wait for the site agents to come back and tell you, all right, everybody's on post. And then the way that I do it, I have my site post log there in front of me, and I just go down post by post. You know, "Post 202, radio check."

First, I tell everybody. I go out on the channel, "Hey, I'm about to begin radio checks." Then, "Post 202 from security room, radio check," and I wait for them to get back to me. If they don't get back right away, you give it, you know, 15, 20 seconds, you move on to the next one. But the way I do it is I put a check mark next to everybody who answers up.

17 There were a couple people on that initial go through 18 that didn't, and I had to go back around. And a couple 19 more got it the second time around. And then there were 20 one or two where either the CS Response Team or the PI 21 response team, I don't remember which one, actually went 22 out to the post to make sure that they were all set. So, a 23 couple of the HSI agents were having some issues with 24 getting the code properly loaded on their radio. So, we 25 had to make some -- you know, troubleshoot that. But we



1

1 eventually got it straightened out.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And talking about the radios.
So when you did the checks, was that just for the post
standers or were you also checking with the shift agents
and the tactical folks?

6 Witness : So, at that point the shift agents aren't 7 -- I mean, we're setting up at 11:00. I don't know where they're at. They're in a different state. So can't do 8 9 anything with them. The tactical, same thing with the CAT 10 team. They're traveling with the protectee. Did the radio check with the TSD lead, for sure. And the site agents 11 12 were in the room, so they were on the radio. So, they were 13 up and running.

14 And this was a question I was asked yesterday, 15 specifically, about if I did a radio check with the counter 16 sniper team. And I answered yesterday, no. I thought 17 about it last night. It's because I didn't do the radio 18 check. They don't go up on post until much later in the 19 day. And when they went up on post, they radioed into us 20 to say that they were on post, so. But that was later in 21 the day. And that initial round of radio checks, I was 22 able to contact all of the posts by the time we were done. 23 And once that's done, that allows TSD to begin their 24 sweeps.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And at that point, were the



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1 other state and local officials also in the security room 2 while you were doing the radio checks?

Witness : Yes, I believe they were there.
HSGAC Majority : And did you have any communication with
Sergeant PSP Site Liaison, or with anybody else to make sure that
their communications were working well?

7 Witness : I mean, I didn't have a specific 8 conversation, but he was on the radio with his folks. And 9 I mean, before we were even set up, we were getting medical 10 calls. So, I knew that the EMS guy was able to talk to his 11 folks.

HSGAC Majority : But there's no -- I guess my question is, is there any kind of like standard operating procedure where as the Secret Service security agent, you would check in with the other agencies and make sure that they're operational?

Witness : I don't remember specifically asking him if his radio was working, no. But that wouldn't be necessarily something that I've ever done before.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And then could you speak to the different channels or frequencies that the Secret Service was using that day?

Witness : Yes. And I'm going to pull out just one piece of paper here because I keep forgetting what we switched to and from, and I don't want to say it wrong. We


started out that the shift was going to be on LES .
So, when we do these initial radio checks you know, the
shift is not included in that at all. So they were on LES
, and initially everybody that was on the site was
going to be on LES . And we stayed on LES for
quite a while throughout the day.

So, we operated on **LES** most of the day. But it wasn't until much later in the day where we -- when both visits were occurring at once that we started getting bleed-over from the First Lady's visit on **LES**, and we had to make a switch to **LES** at that time, **LES**.

13 we'll mark Exhibit 2. I think it's an email. I'll give 14 you a second to take a look.

15[Exhibit No. 2 was16marked for identification.]

HSGAC Majority: Sorry. And while we do, just one clarifying question. What were you referring to to refresh your recollection?

20 Witness : Oh, this is a printout of the site post 21 instructions that I made prior to coming down here to DC so 22 that I could remember this.

HSGAC Majority: And one other clarifying question. You mentioned several times now testimony you gave yesterday.
Who was the testimony to?



Witness : The House version of this -- these
 committees.

3 HSGAC Majority : Have you testified with respect to the 4 events of July 13th to anybody else besides the House? 5 This is about my sixth interview. Witness : Yes. б Can you just list those? HSGAC Majority The day after I had an interview 7 Sure. Witness : A couple of days after that was a joint 8 with the FBI. 9 interview with the FBI and Pennsylvania State Police. Then 10 I had the Mission Assurance, Secret Service. Internal 11 Mission Assurance interview. And then, I had the 12 independent review panel or board interview, and then 13 yesterday the House.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And so, the email or the document I just introduced, that's marked Bates Number 2953. There's a couple emails on that page. Do you recall receiving these emails?

Witness : Yes. This, I believe, at least the one here that says it's from Phoenix, that was the site PI person sending out that we had switched channels because I was putting it out. I also put it out over the radio, but she did this as a backup to email everybody as well.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. You answered my next question. Just to make sure that this was what you were referring to with the bleed-over from the FLOTUS visit. And there's the



1 first email is at 4:28 p.m., and you said that was sent by 2 the protective intelligence agent? 3 Witness : The PI site team Agent. Yes. 4 Saying all post standers, and site, to HSGAC Majority 5 advance, switch radio traffic. And that would've been from 6 LES ? 7 : Yes. I think we briefly tried **LES** , but Witness very briefly. We didn't really spend any time on **ES**. 8 9 There was also bleed over on that. So, the final switch 10 was from **LES** . 11 HSGAC Majority : And so, that's the second. There's an 12 email about 15 minutes later at 4:42? 13 : Yes, that would've been it. Witness 14 HSGAC Majority : Okay. And who makes the call to switch 15 the radio frequency? 16 Witness : So, in this instance, I called SAIC Pittsburgh, the SAIC of Pittsburgh and asked him, I said, hey 17 18 we're having some trouble on the radio here with bleed-over 19 from the First Lady's visit. Who would you like me to 20 switch? And he said, well, let's switch the posts standers at the **LES** rally. And then left it up to us to find the 21 22 channel that worked. But we made that decision, you know, 23 talking on the phone, he, and I. 24 HSGAC Majority : Okay. And then you said when that

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change was made, you put it out over the radio prior to

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1 this email being sent?

2 Witness : Yes. Both switches went out over the 3 radio, and I redid radio checks as well.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And then, so when you redid the
radio checks after this email came out at 4:42 you were
able to confirm?

7 Witness : Yes. So eventually, we were able to 8 confirm with everybody again. It did take -- I think we 9 had to go out to one post to make sure that they had heard 10 the messages or got the messages. But we did get everybody 11 on the same page.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And were there any other radio problems you were aware of that day?

14 Witness : Just the coding issue. It's always an 15 It seems like getting everybody with the issue for us. 16 proper code, with the amount of times that we switch code. We switch code **LES**, which I understand from a 17 18 security perspective. But you know, other than that, 19 things seemed to be working okay. I mean, the bleed-over, that was a significant issue that we had to troubleshoot. 20 21 I'm not aware if any individual person was having 22 individual problems with their radio, but none that were 23 necessarily brought to my attention.

HSGAC Majority : And as the security room agent, it wouldn't have been your role to, I guess, troubleshoot



1 aside from doing the radio checks that --

2 Witness : Yeah, I mean, I have no special technical 3 expertise. If the radio was completely broken, I wouldn't 4 know how to fix it.

5 HSGAC Majority : And is that something that should be
6 conveyed to you as a security room agent if someone is
7 having a problem with their radio?

8 Witness : Yes, I think so.

9 HSGAC Majority : And we had heard in prior interviews 10 that Special Agent Lead Agent had trouble with her radio, and 11 that SAIC Pittsburgh had given her his radio, so that she'd had 12 it working with that the day. Was that something that you 13 were aware of at the time?

Witness : I wasn't aware of that until Special Agent actually arrived and came into the command post. That jogs my memory. He came into the command post and was actually looking for the key loader so that he could try to put the code into her radio, because again, both of them were not at the site. They arrived with the motorcade.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And you said a little while ago
that that coding is often an issue. Could you talk a
little bit more about that and how that impacts events?
Witness : It's just oftentimes hard to -- you know,
we sometimes have this, what LES

Some cities, it works, some



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cities it doesn't. I know I've had some difficulty with it in my own district, and I've tried to work to find solutions with our CIO's office to make that happen. It's just a reality of the technology. I can't speak to why it is. I don't have that technical background.

6 HSGAC Majority : And for technical issues during events,
7 who would be the person that folks would go to to
8 troubleshoot?



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800.FOR.DE**2065** (800.367.3376) security room on July 13th, and you've talked about this,
but just to confirm. In the security room, did you
personally have any direct access to radio transmissions on
the Pennsylvania State Police or Butler County radio
channels?

6 I mean, I could occasionally hear Witness : No. 7 traffic on the Pennsylvania State Police Radio just because 8 he was, you know, sitting six feet or so away from me, but 9 not that I was like listening to or hearing the traffic. 10 And that was all to my knowledge, Pennsylvania State Police 11 to Pennsylvania State police traffic. There was no other 12 local radio traffic in the command post that I would've 13 gotten. And I was also occasionally hearing the Butler EMS 14 radio traffic. Kind of similar to the Pennsylvania State 15 Police.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And as far as you were aware, did any of the other state or local officials in the security room have direct access to the Butler County ESU radio channels?

Witness : I'm not aware if they did or didn't. HSGAC Majority : And throughout the day, and I apologize, I think you might have touched on this, but just to remind me, your primary contact was through Sergeant PSP Site Liaison, and you said you learned throughout the day from his phone calls that he was in touch with the other command post.



Did you have an understanding of his access to whether he
 had a Butler County Radio or whether Butler County had a
 Pennsylvania State Police radio?

4 Witness : I did not have knowledge of exactly who he 5 was communicating with or by what means.

6 HSGAC Majority : And again, based on your experience 7 working with state and locals at other events, did you have 8 any expectation? You know, would you have assumed that 9 they would've exchanged radios or just kind of leave it up 10 to them to figure out their plan?

Witness : So, from my experience, I would say that you would hope that all of the state and locals that were working together had communications with each other. But again, you would've also wanted that communication all in one place.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And so, jumping forward in the day a little bit, I want to ask you about a few specific communications with Sergeant PSP Site Lisison from the local command post. But actually, before that, I want to show you one additional email.

21 Witness : Is there any chance we can take a quick 22 bathroom break?

HSGAC Majority: Yeah. Let's take a five-minute break.
HSGAC Majority: Got it.

25 [Recess.]



1 HSGAC Majority : All right. Back on the record. I think where we left off, I was just about to hand you this email. 2 3 I think this is Exhibit 3, and this is an email that you 4 sent on July 13th at 5:38 p.m. The recipient is redacted, 5 but our understanding is that that's Lead Agent that 6 this email was sent to? 7 [Exhibit No. 3 was 8 marked for identification.] 9 : I believe that's correct. Witness 10 HSGAC Majority The email says, "Please give me a shout 11 in the CP when you're able." Could you explain the context 12 of this email, please? 13 : Yes. I had gotten a guestion from the Witness 14 Pennsylvania State Police about where the motorcade was 15 going to exit and how they were going to coordinate the 16 motorcades exit with the exit of all the people. And they 17 just wanted some clarification on what the plan was for 18 that. So that's why I reached out to Lead Agent to have her 19 call so that I could get the proper answer. 20 HSGAC Majority : And why did you send an email rather 21 than calling or using the radio? 22 Witness : I don't know. I may have actually tried 23 calling the cell phone. And as far as the radio, this 24 would not be something that you'd discuss on the radio 25 because her answer would've been much longer than what you



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2068** (800.367.3376) 1 would want for radio traffic.

2 HSGAC Majority : Got it. And did you ever get a response
3 from her?

Witness : I never got a response from her, but I was able to get the answer. And I forget if it was from one of the site agents who came into the room at the time, but we were able to get the answer. So, this issue resolved itself, so I never revisited it.

9 HSGAC Majority : Okay. Got it. Thanks. And to jump a 10 few minutes ahead on the 13th to around after the time that 11 local law enforcement, as we now know, you know, first 12 identified a suspicious person who turned out to be Crooks, 13 could you tell us when you first learned that local law 14 enforcement had identified a suspicious individual?

Witness : Sure. It was around 5:45, 5:50 timeframe, when Sergeant PSP Site Lisison mentioned that a local tactical team was looking for a suspicious person.

HSGAC Majority : And that's something he told you
verbally in the command, in the security room?

20 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority : And our understanding is that Sergeant PSP Site Liaison received a phone call from the Butler County command post that started at 5:44 p.m. Were you speaking to him while he was on the phone or after he had finished his call?



1 No. I think it was after he finished his Witness : 2 call. He told me the substance of the call. HSGAC Majority : And do you recall specifically what he 3 4 said or anything that he said? 5 : My recollection in summary of it was that Witness 6 there was a potentially suspicious person that the local 7 police or local tactical unit had observed and was looking 8 for. 9 HSGAC Majority : Do you recall if he told you the 10 location of that person? 11 I believe there was some conversation. Witness : Ι 12 don't remember if he told me, or if I asked if it was 13 inside or outside the perimeter of the event. 14 HSGAC Majority And so, he then told you that it was --15 It was outside. Witness : 16 HSGAC Majority : And do you recall if he said that the 17 suspicious person was using a rangefinder? 18 Witness I do remember a mention of a rangefinder. 19 Yes. 20 And what did you do after you received HSGAC Majority 21 that information from him? 22 Witness : So, at that time, Agent C/UAS Advance was fully 23 embedded in the command post. He was working from the 24 command post at that point. So, I had a brief discussion 25 with him about getting the particulars from Sergeant PSP Site Liaison



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2070** (800.367.3376) so that he could push it out to our CS Response Team and PI
 Response Team.

3 HSGAC Majority : He being Agent C/UAS Advance

4 Witness : Agent C/UAS Advance , yeah.

5 HSGAC Majority : And can you elaborate that, about that 6 discussion for send -- you said sending out the CS Response 7 and Protective Intelligence?

8 Witness : Yeah. Basically, the discussion was 9 essentially, you know, get whatever information that is 10 available and contact starting with the CS Response Team so 11 that they could go out and start looking for the 12 individual.

HSGAC Majority : And that was an instruction that you
gave to Agent ^{C/UAS Advance}?

15 Witness : Yeah. We had a discussion about it.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And your understanding was that
 Agent Cluss Advance then contacted CS Response?

Witness : Yeah. My understanding is that he contacted CS Response, and I believe he forwarded it a picture that he was able to get from Sergeant PSP Site Liaison.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And was that picture forwarded to you as well?

Witness : Not at that time. I got it much later in
the evening.

25 HSGAC Majority : Did you or Agent C/UAS Advance notify the



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2071** (800.367.3376) counters snipers that CS Response was being sent out?
 Witness I did not.
 HSGAC Majority : Do you know if Agent CUAS Advance did?
 Witness I don't believe that we notified them at
 that time.

HSGAC Majority : Is that standard practice to send out CS
Response without informing the counters snipers?

8 Witness : So, the CS Response Team, you know, could 9 be dispatched either from us or by them directly. So, it's 10 not unusual to have CS Response respond to things that may 11 have been picked up by somebody other than CS, which in 12 this case it was picked up by somebody else.

HSGAC Majority : And you said you also discussed sending out Protective Intelligence?

Witness : Yeah. I believe that they were notified at the same time as CS Response, but through Agent CUAS Advance Lead
That was my understanding.

HSGAC Majority : And did Agent CUAS Advance communicate anything to you after he had reached out to CS Response and Protective Intelligence?

21 Witness : No. Just that they were, you know, on 22 their way to respond, to start looking.

HSGAC Majority : And other than Agent Cluss Advance, did you
 share the information with anybody else at that point?

25 Witness : No. We were the only two people in there,



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE2072 (800.367.3376) 1 or only two Secret Service that were in there. At that 2 point, I believe there could have been people coming and 3 going.

HSGAC Majority : So, did you consider sending the
information out over the radio at that point?

6 Witness : I did not. Because at that point it's a, 7 you know, just a suspicious person that is outside of the 8 perimeter. So that's part of why asking if they were 9 inside or outside the perimeter was important for me 10 because if it was inside the perimeter maybe there was a 11 particular post that could have responded as well.

But at events of this size and with everything that was going on, having a report of a suspicious person on the outside perimeter was not unusual. I would've been surprised if I didn't get one of those calls that day.

HSGAC Majority : Got it. And then at that point, do you recall the next time that you received information about the suspicious person?

19 Witness : I don't specifically recall receiving 20 information about the suspicious person again, but I do 21 recall hearing over the Secret Service radio that the local 22 police were working a problem at the 3 o'clock.

HSGAC Majority : Do you remember around what time that came through?

25 Witness : In my recollection, it was pretty much



1 moments before the shooting.

2 HSGAC Majority : So, moments rather than minutes. Is
3 that fair?

Witness : Yeah. I mean, to me the time was very
compressed in real time.

6 HSGAC Majority : Do you recall Sergeant PSP Site Liaison having any 7 other phone calls about the suspicious person between, you 8 know, 5:45, 5:50 and when shots were fired that he told you 9 about?

10 Witness : I don't recall any.

HSGAC Majority : Our understanding is that he received a phone call from the Butler County command post around 6:08 relaying that there was an individual on the roof of the AGR building. Is that something that --

Witness : I never heard that about the individual on the roof of the building. Again, what I heard was local police are working a problem at 3 o'clock. And so, unfortunately, the radios aren't recorded, so I don't know what time that came across the radio. But once I heard that, I was clicked onto our radios at that point.

HSGAC Majority : And, you know, during this 15-, 20minute period from when CS Response and PI were sent out and when shots were fired, did you have any follow-up at all with Agent PSP Site Liaison or anybody else about, you know, like did they find him like, what's going on with --



1 Witness : No, I did not. At that time, I was just 2 back to working the radios for the event, the arrest of the 3 regular traffic. So, I was just waiting to hear an update 4 if there was going to be one, if they were able to find the 5 person.

HSGAC Majority : And when shots were fired, did you hear
them from the security room or did you find out otherwise?
Witness : No, I did not hear the shots in the
security room. What I heard was, "Shots fired, shots
fired."

HSGAC Majority : Over the Secret Service radio?
Witness : Over the Secret Service radio.
HSGAC Majority : And do you recall any other
conversations with Sergeant PSP Site Liaison at any point before
shots were fired about what local or state law enforcement
were doing to locate this person?

17Witness: No. I don't recall anything specific, no.18HSGAC Majority: I think I'm going to turn it over to my19colleagues for a couple of quick follow-ups. Thank you.

HSGAC Majority: You testified earlier about preparations for the week that your communications were largely with the site agent, that's Agent Site Agent. Is that correct?

23 Witness During the week --

HSGAC Majority: In advance of July 13th, who did you speak
with in preparation for the event?



1 Witness : Before July 13th, I only had one email with 2 Site Agent Site Agent about logistics for that morning, and I 3 spoke with SAIC SAIC just letting him know that I was 4 coming.

HSGAC Majority: When was the first time you spoke with
Special Agent Lead Agent?
Witness: I don't recall. I don't think I ever spoke

8 to her that day. It may have been the next day.

9 HSGAC Majority: That day being the 13th?

10 Witness : The 13th. I think I had some email. She 11 sent an email or two with some of the paperwork on the 12 12th, but I'm not sure that I ever had a conversation with 13 her until the following day.

HSGAC Majority: What did you understand Agent Lead Agent role to be?

Witness : So, she was the lead advance agent. So, in our protective model, the lead advance has overall responsibility for coordinating all the different aspects of the visit.

HSGAC Majority: And what's the distinction between that role and the site agent's role?

22 Witness : So the lead advance kind of has overall 23 purview of the entire visit. So that's the site's airport, 24 the motorcade routes, and having function of liaison with 25 whatever local counterparts are being involved. The site



agents are responsible for the security plan for their individual site. So it's a little bit more narrow of a scope.

HSGAC Majority: If changes needed to be made to the
communications responsibilities, who would be the most
likely person to make those changes? The site agent, the
lead advance, or the person in charge of the security post.
Witness: So when you say communication changes, what
do you mean?

HSGAC Majority: If you didn't like the setup, if you felt the communications capabilities, the radios weren't as they should be, if you felt like the people who were going to be in the tent weren't sufficient, who would be the person to make those changes? You, the site agent, or the advanced agent?

Witness : So if there were an issue that I had identified earlier in the day, but again, I just want to reiterate everything, when I walked in that day, other than me moving the physical location of the radio was a very typical setup for us at that point. But if I felt like something was missing, that I had known was missing, I would've started with the site agent.

HSGAC Majority: Would you have had the authority to make any changes if something was missing, or wrong, or not how you wanted it?



1 Witness : So, typically, no. A post stander would 2 not have that authority. Again, we're showing up there the 3 day of the event. Everybody else has been involved in the 4 planning for probably a week or so. So, I would be 5 deferring to the advance team or continue the problem up 6 the chain until we got to some, you know, whoever either 7 field office supervisor or the detail supervisor, depending 8 on the issue.

9 HSGAC Majority: But the first person on the chain would've
10 been the site agent?

11 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority: You mentioned in preparation the written materials were the only mention you saw of the setup that day. And correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe you said it, reference command post or security room, but in this case, both?

Witness : Correct. So for this particular visit, the command post and the site security room for the Butler Farm Show were one and the same.

20 HSGAC Majority : What is the difference?

Witness : So in the context of, say, a presidential visit, the command post is a separate entity, sometimes combined with like the airport security room where there's not a lot going on at the airport other than the arrival of the air of the airplane and departure of the motorcade. So



that is where the command post is, and where you would have, hopefully, command-level staff from all the agencies involved in the visit at a command post for, say, on a presidential visit.

5 And then the site security room would be just that the 6 security room at a particular site to handle whatever 7 issues or to relay the traffic of that day for that site 8 security room. In this instance, they were one and the 9 same.

HSGAC Majority: What would be a reason for making them one and the same?

12 In this instance, a reason could be : Witness 13 distance between the sites. It could be personnel, you 14 know, not having enough personnel. It could be logistics 15 where it may make sense that you have your command post at 16 the largest site because that's where most of the activity 17 is going to happen for the visit. Really depends on each 18 particular visit.

HSGAC Majority: When you saw that the command post and security room would be one and the same for this visit, did it raise any concerns for you?

22

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HSGAC Majority: You mentioned earlier that it was anticipated there would be 15,000 people there, and it was a hot day, and there were plenty of problems the day of.



Witness

Did the Secret Service ever verify the number of people in advance and in anticipation of the heat that day in preparations, et cetera? Did you anticipate there being problems or a large volume of work coming through this post based on the anticipated numbers and the heat?

6 Witness : Again, I wasn't involved in any of the 7 planning, so I don't know what discussions were had about 8 that leading up to that day.

9 HSGAC Majority: You also mentioned earlier that typically 10 there's only one U.S. Secret Service personnel in the 11 command post or security room. And correct me if I'm 12 wrong, but you said, "unfortunately that's the case." Why 13 is that unfortunate?

14 Witness : Well, I think this is a perfect example of 15 what happened that day. Sometimes when things are going 16 well, it works fine. But the volume of traffic that was 17 going through the room that day and in the aftermath, 18 particularly having another person. Again, the other thing 19 too is you're one person working a cell phone in 20 different radio channels. So it's when you're trying to 21 focus on three different things at once, it may be possible 22 to miss something else.

HSGAC Majority: Have you recommended to anybody the need to change that practice?

25 Witness : I think I've mentioned it in every



1 interview so far.

HSGAC Majo: With respect to your learning about there being a separate command post, local command post that day, you mentioned that you only learned as events were occurring, and you heard PSP PSP Stellaison talking to others. Approximately what time did you learn this separate command post to exist that day?

8 Witness : I can't give an estimate on that. We were 9 in there -- we were in that room from, you know, 11 o'clock 10 till the event started. So, it would be hard to guess.

HSGAC Majority: At any time prior to 5:45 or 5:50 when you learned of the suspicious person, did you determine that separate command post to be problematic in your view to dealing with events?

15 Witness : No. I didn't consider it an issue at that 16 point.

HSGAC Majority: At 5:45 or 5:50 when you first learned, did you determine that it was problematic that you were getting this information secondhand?

20 Witness : I didn't determine it was problematic. It 21 was obvious it was probably third-hand information at that 22 point, but we got the information so it worked in that 23 instance.

HSGAC Majority: Did you learn at that time that the suspicious person had a rangefinder?



Witness : I believe there was mention of the
 rangefinder. Yes.

3 HSGAC Majority: Well, you mentioned that you asked whether
4 the person was inside or outside the perimeter. Correct?
5 Witness : Well, yeah, what their last known location
6 was.

HSGAC Majority: Did you ask any other questions?

8 Witness : I had gotten the information that they were 9 looking for a person that he was -- you know, I asked if he 10 was outside the perimeter and they had mentioned the 11 rangefinder. So, I think that was all the information I 12 got.

HSGAC Majority: Had C/UAS Advance Lead not been there, what would you have done?

15 Witness : I would've done what he ended up doing, 16 which was notifying the PI response and CS Response and 17 trying to get them the same information that we got to 18 them.

HSGAC Majority: And what would've been required in your mind for you to put that out over the radio?

Witness : Well, to put that we were looking for suspicious personnel over the radio, I would wait till there was like a threat or something specific to report rather than a person that we're just looking for.

25 HSGAC Majority : When was the first time you heard he was



7

1 near the AGR building?

Witness : I think that was in the initial report. I
believe that was like his last known location.

HSGAC Majority: Had you seen the AGR building prior to
going into the security room that day?

6

Witness : I had not.

7 HSGAC Majority : My name is HSGAC Majority . Just a couple of follow-up questions on that line of questioning about 8 9 the separate command posts. I understand you said you 10 learned later in the day that there was a separate command 11 post for the locals, but you learned at the 10:00 a.m. 12 briefing you said, which units would be represented in the 13 Secret Service security and that did not include all local 14 law enforcement. Was that your understanding?

15 Witness : Correct. But I also didn't know the full 16 scope of what other local, there wasn't really a mention of 17 what other local law enforcement other than PSP was going 18 to be involved.

HSGAC Majority : But did you know at that 10:00 a.m.
briefing when you learned who was going to be in the
security room, did you, did you put it together that not
all local units would be represented in the security room?
Witness : I didn't really put that together at that
point, no.

25 HSGAC Majority : Okay. And you just became aware, you



1 became aware throughout the day as you were hearing

2 Sergeant PSP Site Liaison receive information present at the rally?
3 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority : So then you didn't have any different
understanding about how you were expecting to receive local
radio information. Your understanding before the 10:00
a.m. briefing and after was that Sergeant PSP Stellason would
relay anything?

9 Witness

Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And you had said earlier about what the general role about the security room agent is, you said it was for relaying information. Can you say more about that? So was your job as the security room agent to relay everything you hear out to Secret Service radio? Witness : Well, anything pertinent or, you know,

there's certain traffic that's very standard that we're going to put out over the radio. But yes, it's not a -you are relaying whatever information you get. Yes.

HSGAC Majority : But anything pertinent. So in other words, you have to make some decisions about not to relay some information?

22

Witness : Well, of course.

HSGAC Majority : Okay. And regarding the person on the roof, you had said earlier that you never became aware of someone on the roof before shots were fired. Is that



1 right?

2 Witness : No. My recollection is I heard the radio 3 traffic about the local police working a problem at 3 4 o'clock,

HSGAC Majority : But nothing about a man on the roof?
Witness : I don't recall ever hearing anything about
a man on the roof.

8 HSGAC Majority : So, I understand that the 3 o'clock 9 radio was over Secret Service radio transmission, but you 10 didn't receive any information from Sergeant PSP Site Liaison 11 verbally about a man on the roof?

12 Witness : Again, I don't recall hearing that 13 specifically. What I recall hearing at the time when 14 everything started happening was over our radio, which is 15 the radio that I'm focused on listening to.

HSGAC Majority: So, Sergeant PSP Site Liaison says that he was told at 6:08 that there was someone on the roof and that he relayed that to you shortly after that. So around 6:09, which would be two minutes before shots.

Witness Counsel: I don't think that's an accurate rendition of his testimony that he, did he say exactly it was SAIC ACC or if he would've, or he may have sent it to somebody else? I don't think that's a precise -- that's what he said.

HSGAC Majority : Well, let me ask you this way. That



25

1 doesn't ring a bell. Sergeant PSP Site Liaison telling you shortly 2 before shots fired that there was someone on the roof?

Witness : No. Again, what I heard at the time in the room was that the local police are working a problem at 3 o'clock. Now, if he's claiming that he said that at,

6 Witness Counsel: I don't think he's claiming he said 7 that. I think he's claiming he actually told CUAS Advance 8 HSGAC Majority : But you did not hear from Sergeant

9 PSP Site Liaison before shots were fired from you. From what you can 10 recall that there was a man on the roof?

11 Witness : No. What I recall is that the local police 12 were working at problem at 3 o'clock. And when I heard 13 that on the radio, that's what I put back out over the 14 Secret Service radio.

HSGAC Majority : What did you put back out?

Witness : I parroted back exactly what I heard so that whatever unit called it Security Room radio is a little bit stronger. I wanted to make sure everybody else could hear the same thing. So when that traffic comes in, I'm not only listening to it, I am then repeating back and waiting to hear what else comes back if anybody responds to it.

HSGAC Majority : Understood. Thank you. I think we'll
turn it over to our minority colleagues

25 HSGAC Minority : And my name is HSGAC Minority , I'm



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going to follow-up on a few things that our majority
colleagues touched on. So I'm going to start with the man
on the roof since we just ended there. So, my
understanding as well is that psp site Liston says that he relayed
that to you at 6:09. That's our understanding. You say
that you don't recall hearing that. Were you listening for
that kind of update?

8 Witness Counsel: I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to 9 interject again. I don't believe that's an accurate 10 statement of his statement. I think he said something to 11 the effect that maybe he would have said something simply 12 because he was there

HSGAC Minority : Could someone could pull that up for me?
Witness Counsel: Why don't we just double-check and just
to make sure. That's all.

HSGAC Minority : Oh, we will. I mean, what was your level of urgency here? Because, you know, in your response to the majority's question about the suspicious individual, you did initially say that they notified you of the range finder. Were you notified in the same conversation the suspicious individual had a rangefinder?

22 Witness : Yes, that was all the same conversation, I 23 believe.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. I mean, is that something that happens often and protective events?



1 Witness : So the individual having a rangefinder was 2 part of what made him suspicious and what we wanted to go 3 talk to him about.

4 HSGAC Minority : Okay. And then you were waiting for
5 some kind of update after?

Witness : Well, we dispatched a team to go look for
him and they were looking for him for several minutes.
HSGAC Minority : And then what were you doing in that
time? I mean, were you listening?

10 Witness : Yes, I was listening to the radios and 11 doing the rest of the traffic, the rest of the movements, 12 the rest of everything else that was going on.

HSGAC Minority : Did you feel any sense of urgency
Witness : At the time where we were just -- where we
were looking for the suspicious person?

16 HSGAC Minority : I guess, let's start first with the man 17 on the roof. Well, I mean at that time you didn't know 18 about it, so.

19 Witness : So the Man on the roof thing, again, I 20 never heard the man on the roof thing because I believe if 21 the claim is that that was said out loud into the room, 22 that that was probably occurring as I'm getting the same 23 traffic of the local police are working a problem at 3 24 o'clock, which I'm listening to my Secret Service radio 25 intently at that point.



HSGAC Minority : And are you only listening to your

2 Secret?

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Witness : Well, I'm trying to listen to as much as I 4 can, but I typically can only listen to one thing at a 5 time.

6 HSGAC Minority : Do you recall, I guess, the level of 7 activity that was going on around that time, around 6:09

8 Witness : Precisely at 6:09, no. But I will say that 9 at the time that the call came across that the local police 10 were working a problem at the 3 o'clock, that the entire --11 everybody who was in the security room definitely peaked up 12 and was very much turned on.

HSGAC Minority : So, is it that the locals were working something at the 3 o'clock that raised it to enough of a threat level that you felt like you needed to communicate that out on the radio?

Witness : Yeah. I reported back what I heard on the radio that came across on the Secret Service radio from another Secret Service personnel. And to this day, I'm still not sure exactly who that was, who called that into the security room. But I'm listening for traffic on my Secret Service radio.

Witness Counsel: Can I just say that when you used the phrase "enough of a threat," there were between a suspicion and a threat, those are mutually exclusive categories and



they have completely different meanings. If you wanted to expound on your understanding of the difference between a suspicion and a threat?

Witness : Sure. A threat is somebody who has the
capability to do immediate harm to somebody. So even in
this instance, even if I had heard that there was a man on
a roof, a man on a roof solely that is not necessarily a
threat.

9 Witness Counsel: But that's a hypothetical that --

10 Witness : It's 100 percent hypothetical.

11 Witness Counsel: Describe the difference in your mind 12 between a suspicious suspicion and an actual threat. The 13 difference.

Witness So, suspicion is someone who is suspicious, is someone who needs to be talked to, investigated to determine what their intent is, if they have any, to do any sort of ill will. A threat is someone who is actively displaying the capability to do harm.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. And you mentioned before the fact that it was relayed to you, you I guess asked where because of that? I think, you know, you weren't as concerned as if inside the perimeter.

Witness : I never said I wouldn't be as concerned. I said it would differentiate potentially who we might dispatch to investigate that individual.



HSGAC Minority : Okay. So how would that have been? 1 2 Because if the person was inside the Witness : 3 perimeter and he was in the vicinity of a particular post, 4 we could have enlisted the assistance of that post to 5 potentially, you know, find that person quicker. Someone б on the outer perimeter, there's really only two assets 7 available to us from a Secret Service perspective to 8 dispatch. And those would've been the PI response and the CS Response because they're really the only people who are 9 10 capable of leaving the interior secure perimeter to go on 11 the outside to look for somebody. Everybody else has to 12 maintain and hold their particular post.

13 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Because, I mean, we're having 14 this conversation, but at the end of the day, it's not a 15 hypothetical. The suspect was on the outer perimeter. He 16 got up on the AGR building, he shot, he hit the protectee, 17 and he killed someone, and hurt other people. So, I mean, 18 the threat, you know, whether or not you recognized it at 19 that time, it seems like there was some urgency. So that's 20 what we're trying to understand is what folks were doing 21 and why information was or wasn't relayed. So what did you 22 relay out of the security that day?

Witness : Just in general all day long?
HSGAC Minority : I mean, how many transmissions did you
put out from the security room then?



1 Witness : I have no idea how many, but it had to be -2 - oh, I don't even want to guess. I mean, I was on the 3 radio a lot during that day.

4 HSGAC Minority : And were they all related to medical?
5 Were there any other suspicious individuals?

б I don't recall any other particular Witness : 7 suspicious individual call. There were a lot of medical 8 There were a lot of calls for -- again, you know, calls. we had the fire incident, somebody trying to report a 9 10 domestic assault to one of our posts. We had, you know, 11 the typical calls for requests for site agents to come to 12 post to deal with an issue or, you know, staff had a 13 question or a guest had a question. I mean, there was --14 you know, like any other typical site, it was a lot of 15 traffic. A site that big is always going to have a lot of 16 radio traffic.

HSGAC Minority : And then were you relaying some of thatinformation out?

19 Witness : All of it.

HSGAC Minority : So, I guess that's what I don't understand is why then you didn't relay out a suspicious individual if you were relaying all these other things out that day?

24 Witness : So, for a common practice for us is if 25 there is a suspicious individual, you dispatch the two



1 teams to go look for and find out if the individual is in 2 fact suspicious.

HSGAC Minority : So is the communication standard less 3 4 for suspicious individual than it is for medical or for 5 other things you may have to communicate out of the radio? 6 Witness In this instance, the appropriate : No. 7 people who could deal with a suspicious person outside of 8 the secure perimeter were dispatched. 9 **HSGAC Minority** : What time did former President Trump get 10 on the stage? 11 I'd have to -- I don't know exactly the Witness : 12 time he went on stage. HSGAC Minority : Do you know if it was after you received 13 14 the initial reports at 5:45 of the suspicious individual? 15 I believe it was after. Witness Yes. 16 Our understanding, I think is, it was HSGAC Minority 17 around 6 o'clock. So you know, there was time to 18 potentially not have him go on stage. I mean, none of this 19 was something that was discussed in the security room? 20 So as we've discussed this timeframe here, Witness : 21 we were looking for this person for it sounds like 15 22 minutes or so. If you're saying he went on stage at 6 23 o'clock, I highly doubt that they would've held him off 24 stage for 15 minutes while we were trying to look for somebody who could have been anywhere. 25

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Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**2093** (800.367.3376) HSGAC Minority : But they didn't have the information
 about the suspicious individual from the security room?
 Witness : No.

4 HSGAC Minority : So they wouldn't have been able to even
5 make that determination?

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6 Witness : No.
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7 HSGAC Minority : Okay. You mentioned earlier, I'm going
8 to back earlier in the day that the CS or PI Response Team
9 you actually went out to help them out with their radio at
10 one point earlier that day?

Witness : I did not. They went out to help other posts. This was well before arrival when they're, you know, kind of, you know, just down waiting. I think, in fact, it may have even been before the CS teams were even up. So the CS Response agent at that point is really just a relief agent.

HSGAC Minority : And you also mentioned that they were both, I think, the CS Response and the PI Team were in and out of the security room that day?

20 Witness Yes.

HSGAC Minority: How many times were they in and out?
Witness: A dozen or more.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. You also mentioned that the PI agent she sent that out secondary backup to what you'd put out on the radio transmission. How did send that out? Was



1

she in the security room?

Witness : Yeah. She was in the room at the time. And since all those email addresses would've had to be hand typed in, because a lot of them were HSI and they wouldn't just pre-populate on her phone. She volunteered to do that.

7 HSGAC Minority : So she was in the security room around 8 8 28 and probably for a little before that if that's when the 9 email was sent -- or 4:28?

10

Witness : Yes, yes.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. And do you recall how long she in security room? I'm just trying to get a sense of whether or not she was patrolling the area kind of in the 5 o'clock, you know, when you started getting these reports about a suspicious individual.

Witness : I do not believe that she was in the security room when that report came into us at 5:45, 5:50. HSGAC Minority : Okay. And so you don't recall about how long after four twenty eight it was that she left?

20 Witness : She could have been in or out two or three 21 times in that timeframe.

HSGAC Minority: And is the protective intelligence team roaming the site or they were kind of fixed in one location and waiting?

25 Witness : Really depends on the site and what's going


on. At this site, they were definitely out and about a
lot. So I would say that the majority of the day they were
roaming coming in and out back to the security room, you
know, at times.

5 HSGAC Minority : Were you, you were on site during the 6 soft opening for vendors and volunteers around, I think it 7 was around 1:00-ish?

8 Witness : Correct.

9 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Do you recall hearing anything 10 about or hearing something that sounded like shots or 11 fireworks?

12 Witness It doesn't ring a -- I don't really recall, 13 no.

HSGAC Minority: Okay. And you didn't hear anything like that after the fact agents hearing something earlier?

16 Witness : Not that I recall, no.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. Who was the main protective
intelligence agent for the Butler rally?

Witness : I believe he was from the Pittsburgh Field
office. I believe his first name is Intel Advance Lead

21 HSGAC Minority : Okay. The woman -- is it Site Protective

22 Intelligence Agent ?

23 Witness : Site Protective Intelligence Agent was the post stander PI

24 team agent?

25 HSGAC Minority : And she was the one that was actually



1 dispatched?

7

2 Witness : Correct, because Intel Advance 3 the motorcade.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. And she works for Secret Service?
Witness : Yes.
HSGAC Minority : Does she have any affiliation with FBI?

Witness : Not that I'm aware of.

8 HSGAC Minority : What is a task force officer, FBI task
9 force officer?

10 Witness Oh, I mean, at one point I was an FBI task 11 force officer as well when I was in the New York Field 12 office and I was on the Joint Terrorism Task Force. So 13 that was my experience. I don't know if in her field 14 office she's at some other task force. I have no idea.

HSGAC Minority : So it's just you're part of an FBI task force, not some title that you're dual?

Witness : I can only speak from my experience. Like for example, I have an individual in the Buffalo Field office who's our representative to the JTTF. So technically, he's a JTTF task force member, but that's all that that is.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. And so, were you aware that she
was an FBI Task Force officer on July 13th?

24 Witness : No.

25 HSGAC Minority : And so how often did you interact with



1 her on the day of the event, radio traffic?

Witness : Pretty frequently. Again, she was in and out of the command post a lot. We've gone over some of the emails that I was included on or that she sent. I believe there was probably a couple of phone calls, but, you know, a normal amount for the PI response team for an event that size.

8 HSGAC Minority : Did you ever communicate with her about 9 the suspicious individual or did she communicate to you 10 anything?

11 Witness : Leading up to the event, leading up to the 12 shooting or after?

HSGAC Minority : Leading up. We can start with leading
up.

Witness : I believe that the communication she got came through, you know, the picture and the other information I believe came either directly from Agent l8 CUAS Advance or the CS Response agent gave it to her. I don't know exactly.

20 HSGAC Minority : Okay. And then did she relay that 21 information to you after the fact?

22 Witness : At some point, I do believe she sent me the 23 picture of the individual, but well, after the event.

24 HSGAC Minority : And that was the first time that you saw

25 the picture?



1WitnessThat was the first time I saw the picture.2Yes.

3 HSGAC Minority : So, no one showed it to you in the 4 security room?

5 Witness : No, I never saw it.

б HSGAC Minority : Okay. When did you first become aware 7 that the counter UAS system was not operational that day? 8 Sometime after sweeps had begun or, I don't Witness : 9 know exactly what time he tried to start setting it up. But Agent C/UAS Advance did come into the security room and say 10 11 that he was having difficulty getting it set up and that he 12 was trying to find a new location to set it up to see if 13 that would help him get it working.

14 HSGAC Minority : And did it?

15 Witness : Yes. He was eventually able to get it 16 working. He spent a considerable amount of time on the 17 phone, I believe, with the technical support for the vendor 18 for the equipment.

HSGAC Minority : Do you recall around what time it became operation?

Witness : The only thing I remember is that he mentioned that he had to -- he waited until 4 o'clock, until there was a new person on the other end of the technical support for the vendor. And so, it had to be after 4 o'clock because that was when he was able to



1 resolve the problem.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. And I mean, did that concern you at all, that counter UAS system wasn't operational for the better part of the day?

5 Witness : Well, frankly, when I arrived there I was 6 very surprised that there even was a counter UAS system. 7 That was not typical at all at that point for a candidate 8 to be receiving that.

9 HSGAC Minority : And you found out when you arrived at 10 the event?

11 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. Are you aware that former
President Trump has specific and credible threats against
him from a former country related to drones?

15 Witness : I am not. Other than what I've heard in 16 the news.

17 HSGAC Minority : You weren't aware of that prior?

18 Witness : No.

HSGAC Minority : So you weren't aware of the CAS system in advance. TSD outdoor site survey did talk about how there was going to be a CAS system. Do you recall that? Did you receive the TSD outdoor site survey?

Witness : It may have been in the initial paperwork, but I may not have caught the fact that there was a CAS in that survey, but we learned about it at the briefing the



1 next morning.

HSGAC Minority : Because the outdoor site survey specifically said that the site was vulnerable to drone threats and then I think IEDs, but specifically vulnerable to drone threats. So the site was vulnerable. The TSD put that in their survey. The drones, the counter drone system was inoperable for part of the day. So you did not communicate that out on the radio

9 Witness : That what the counter drone system was 10 inoperable? I did not. I assume that Agent CUAS Advance 11 would've notified whoever he needed to notify to get that 12 system working. And it was working well in advance of 13 arrival.

HSGAC Minority: But it was supposed to be operational searlier in the day, and it wasn't.

Witness : I'm not exactly sure what time would've been their details protocol for getting that operational before arrival. But much like counter snipers, not everything goes operational as soon as we start the site. HSGAC Minority : Were there any reports of drones that day?

Witness Not that I'm aware of. HSGAC Minority : Okay. If law enforcement that was working and securing the event thought that there was a drone detection system operable, I mean, is it, and they



weren't aware that it wasn't, maybe they weren't looking for drones and that could be an issue, is that not something that you guys thought?

Witness Counsel: Speculative, but I don't want you to
speculate.

6 Witness : I'm not going to speculate. So why you 7 don't just leave it at that.

8 HSGAC Minority : But you did know that the drone system
9 wasn't operational, the counter drone system?

Witness : For a period of time, well before arrival, I knew that the agent responsible for setting up the system was working on getting it set up.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. When did you first find out that 13 14 there were going to be counter snipers, is it the day of? 15 It may have been in the survey as well. Witness 16 So, either the night before or the day of, they mentioned 17 them at the briefing for sure. That morning at 10 o'clock. HSGAC Minority : SAIC SAIC didn't mention that when he 18 19 spoke with you?

20 Witness : I don't think so, no.

HSGAC Minority : Is it typical for candidates to get counters sniper support or at the time? Was it typical? Witness : Absolutely not. I was actually surprised and very happy to see that they were going to be there that day given the nature of the event.



1 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Were you briefed or informed of 2 any threats against either the protectee or the site? 3 Witness : No. Nothing specific, no. 4 HSGAC Minority : In your position as SAIC the Buffalo 5 Office, you're familiar with threats, right? That's 6 something that you guys investigate. I think I saw on June 7 26th, so 20 days before, there was an announcement that you 8 quys had arrested or DOJ had arrested in coordination with 9 your office someone for threatening President Biden? 10 : Oh, yes, yes. Absolutely. Witness HSGAC Minority : And so, I mean, the nature of threats in 11 12 the preliminary survey said there was no threat 13 information. 14 Witness : Correct. 15 In your experience, if there were threat HSGAC Minority 16 information, would it be in the preliminary survey? 17 Witness : One would hope, yes. 18 HSGAC Minority : Is it a problem that that information 19 was not in there? 20 Witness : Again, I don't know what the specific 21 threat information is or if it would be capable of being 22 disseminated in that way. 23 HSGAC Minority : How would information be disseminated if 24 it's classified? 25 That would require, you know, trips to Witness 1



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SCIFs, and that sort of thing would typically -- I mean, it certainly depends on the level of classification. So again, not knowing what the level of classification is for whatever it is you're referring to it, I can't really say how they would've done it.

HSGAC Minority : If you had credible information of a
threat, would that potentially change what you'd be
listening for as the security room supervisor?

9 Witness : As the security --

HSGAC Minority : The person who's monitoring the radio traffic?

Witness : Sure. As the person who's monitoring the traffic. I would be listening the same way no matter what. You're always going to be listening to make -- you know if there's a threat. You're not going to just because there's a threat or no threat, you're not going to be any less diligent.

HSGAC Minority : But are there levels of -- are certain individuals have a heightened threat environment or certain sites, certain protectees, or does everyone have the same general threat?

22 Witness : Well, I --

23 Witness Counsel: You can answer that.

24 Witness : Yeah. I mean, I think it's pretty obvious 25 that the President receives a certain level of protection.



1 The Vice-President receives a certain level of protection, 2 LES 3 LES And then there are other protectees, . 4 you know, say, **LES** 5 LES 6 HSGAC Minority And so, in your role as SAIC, when you 7 have a protective visit in your responsibility area, in 8 your jurisdiction, do you send a letter typically to the 9 FBI asking for threat information about the protectee? 10 Witness : Yes. 11 HSGAC Minority : Typically, do you get at least an 12 acknowledgement from the FBI that they received that letter 13 Witness : Most of the time, yes. 14 HSGAC Minority : And have you ever actually received 15 threat information from FBI in response? 16 : Not during my time as SAIC at Buffalo, no. Witness 17 HSGAC Minority : Okay. So, when DHS Secretary Mayorkas 18 -- I think he said it was after July 13th? 19 Witness : Oh yes, it was recently. It was in 20 September. 21 HSGAC Minority You sent the letter FBI didn't share any 22 _ _ 23 I got a response back that there was Witness : 24 nothing to share. 25 You got a response back. Was there any HSGAC Minority Scheduling@TP.One

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1 I'm just trying to understand what's HSGAC Minority 2 typical and what's not. I mean, LES 3 LES 4 LES , so I'm just trying to understand even though 5 That's fine. it's recent. 6 HSGAC Minority : You said you asked Special agent 7 C/UAS Advance to Make context to the counter response and protective intelligence response when those calls came in. 8 Why did you have him do that rather than you do it 9 10 yourself?

11 Well, because of the nature of the Witness : 12 information and getting the picture and all of that would've taken a -- it took some effort for him to do that 13 14 to get the picture. It's not that easy to get a picture on 15 our work phones from an outside source. And because he was 16 there and was another pair of hands, it was just the most 17 expeditious way of doing it and required the least amount 18 of my attention being diverted from listening to the radios 19 to have him do it.

HSGAC Minority : Forgive me if it sounds like a dumb question, but this issue has come up in a lot of different conversations we've had during this investigation. Can you receive a picture on your Secret Service radio?

24 Witness : On our radio? No.

25 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Earlier you said that you



wouldn't have been surprised if there had not a suspicious
person call at this event. Why is that?

Witness : Just due to the nature of the size of the event, and given the weather that day, and the fact that people were out in the sun for so long. Really any event of that size, I've never really -- can't remember one big large outdoor event like that where there's not some sort of suspicious person at some point.

9 HSGAC Minority : Is there ever in any of those that 10 you've been a part of where the suspicious person had a 11 rangefinder?

12 Witness : Not that I recall.

HSGAC Minority : What is your current duty status?
Witness : My current duty status? I'm in full-duty
status.

HSGAC Minority : Has it been the case since July 13th?
Witness : Yes.

18 HSGAC Minority : Have you ever been put on telework,

19 administrative, or anything like that?

20 Witness No. We're going to go ahead and reserve 21 the rest of our time for after.

22 PSI Minority : Hey, Mr. Witness . I'm PSI Minority with

23 Senator Johnson's office. on July 13th, how many

24 suspicious individual calls did you receive?

25 Witness : The one that I remember is the one we've



1 been discussing.

2 PSI Minority : So the only one you remember is the one 3 of Thomas Crooks?

Witness : Correct. There was in the aftermath a
suspicious bicycle that was discussed, but that was kind of
in the aftermath.

7 PSI Minority : In your role in the security room, would 8 you receive all suspicious person reports, meaning did you 9 receive information from Pennsylvania State Police, Butler, 10 other local law enforcement?

11 Witness : All the information I was getting that 12 would've been coming from the state police or local law 13 enforcement would've come through the state police. I 14 received no direct communication from any other police 15 agency outside of the Pennsylvania State Police.

16 PSI Minority : So on July 13th, did the Pennsylvania
17 State Police ever tell you about reports of suspicious
18 individuals near the AGR property?

Witness : Yes. The person we discussed that we sent
the people out to look for.

21 PSI Minority : So just Thomas Crooks?

22 Witness : Well, now we know to be Thomas Crooks, but 23 at the time we did not know.

24 PSI Minority : So there was no other communications for
25 the Pennsylvania State Police before the suspicious person



1 call of, you know, 5:45 p.m. on July 13th?

2 Witness I'm not recalling one, but I'm not sure 3 what you're referencing.

PSI Minority : So we understand from Pennsylvania State
Police on July 13th sent out vice units looking for someone
in a red shirt and a neon shirt by the AGR fence line.
Does that ring a bell?

8 Witness : It does not really ring a bell. No. 9 PSI Minority : Do you know that Pennsylvania State 10 Police had vice units at Butler on July 13th?

11 Witness : I'm not sure exactly what you mean by a 12 vice unit, but I do know that the Pennsylvania State Police 13 had postings all within the secure perimeter.

PSI Minority : Do you know if Pennsylvania State Police had plain closed officer officers at the Butler rally on July 13th?

17 Witness : Yes. There was at least one that I know of 18 who was paired with our PI response agent.

PSI Minority : Do you know the name of that person Witness : Of the Pennsylvania State Police person paired with the PI response yet? I do not know his name.
PSI Minority : And that individual that was paired with CST --

24 Witness : No PI response.

25 PSI Minority : PI response, that individual go out at



1 around 5:45 to look for Crooks?

Witness : I believe he was paired with the Secret
Service PI agent, so they were worked as a team.

4 PSI Minority : Do you know if PSP had any other plain
5 clothes officers at the Butler site embedded with Secret
6 Service personnel?

7 Witness : Embedded with Secret Service personnel?
8 The only one that I'm aware of is the trooper who was with
9 the PI response agent.

10 PSI Minority : Do you know that trooper's name?
11 Witness : That's the name you just asked me. It's
12 the same person.

13 PSI Minority : What other federal entities were you
14 aware of that were outside of that were on the grounds on
15 July 13th?

16 Witness : Other than the Secret Service and HIS,17 none.

18 PSI Minority : So, moving to after shots were fired at
19 6:11 p.m. on July 13th, what did you do?

Witness : Sure. So, I heard the call that shots were fired. I repeated that back over the radio. Very shortly thereafter that there was more transmission on the radio that the shooter was down. I, again, relayed that information back on the radio, and at that point, I told or instructed all posts to hold their posts.



1 In that time, the shift and counter assault team were 2 obviously making their way to a departure. Once they 3 cleared, I put back out on the radio for all posts to 4 remain at their posts. And I was still getting -- you 5 know, there were calls in for medical even at that point, 6 obviously. And so I was working on dispatching those and 7 telling all posts to hold and maintain their posts so that 8 we could figure out the aftermath.

9 PSI Minority : You received information of a potential
10 explosive devices found at the AGR property?

Witness : Yes. That came in all around that same time. It was all part of the same activity that there was a report. This was the bicycle that I mentioned earlier. So there were, you know, calls for TSD, and what they were going to do, and who they were going to contact to examine that "suspicious package".

17 PSI Minority : Do you know how many Secret Service 18 personnel were sent to the AGR property after shots were 19 fired at 6:11 p.m.?

20 Witness : After shots were fired?

21 PSI Minority : Yes.

Witness : I don't know specifically who responded other than I know that the PI response and the counter sniper response teams were in that vicinity, are headed to that vicinity. Other than that, all the other posts were



1 told to maintain their posts, which is, to my knowledge, 2 they all did.

3 PSI Minority : When you were receiving calls about 4 potential explosive devices found on the AGR property, were 5 other law enforcement assets sent to the AGR property, 6 meaning Allegheny County Bomb Squad, Alcohol Tobacco 7 Firearms and Explosive, ATF?

8 Witness : So, yes, in the aftermath there were people 9 started responding to the scene and TSD coordinated that 10 response of who was going to go and check out that bicycle. 11 But I do believe there were local assets that did the 12 render safe or that did the investigation of that bicycle.

PSI Minority : So the night of July 13th, were you still in the security room when devices were found in Crook's vehicle?

16 Witness Yes, I believe so. I was there until about 17 12:30 that night.

18 PSI Minority : Can you describe to us how that was 19 radioed in and what was told about the devices in Crook's 20 vehicle?

21 Witness : I just remember there being discussion that 22 the bomb teams were out and were looking at some other 23 devices. And at that point, they were nowhere near any of 24 our Secret Service posts, to my knowledge. So there was 25 just the information that they were going to go examine



3 enforcement personnel in and around the security room, so 4 I'm only catching bits and pieces of that. 5 PSI Minority : Do you know what time the devices were 6 found in Crook's vehicle? 7 I do not. Witness 8 PSI Minority : Can you guess? 9 : I don't want to guess. No. Witness PSI Minority : But that information was sent into the 10 11 security room on the night of July 13th? 12 I wouldn't say it was sent in. It was just : Witness 13 something that was being discussed in the room. 14 PSI Minority : Where was Crook's vehicle discovered? 15 : I don't know. Witness 16 PSI Minority : You don't know that night of July 13th, 17 or you still don't know? 18 I still don't know exactly where it was Witness 19 discovered. I know it was outside of the perimeter 20 somewhere close to the Butler Farm Show, but I don't know 21 exactly where. 22 PSI Minority : Was it near the AGR building? 23 Witness : I don't know exactly where it was found. 24 : Do you know the make and model and color PSI Minority 25 of Crook's vehicle?

those other devices that was coming into the security room.

At that point, there were a lot of different law



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Witness : I do not.

PSI Minority : None of that information was talked about
in the security room the night of July 13th?

Witness : It may have been talked about in the
security room, but at that point, frankly, I was dealing
with the aftermath of the potential assassination and was
focused on that. I was not focused on the investigation
that was starting by the FBI.

9 PSI Minority : Was there discussion in the security room 10 the night of July 13th when devices were found in Crook's 11 vehicle of clearing the area because of that threat?

12 I'm not specifically recalling how that all : Witness 13 played out. I was honestly at that point, so much focused 14 on dealing with the post standers that I still had there, 15 the multiple calls I was getting, you know, about the event 16 from Secret Service. I was not focused on what was going 17 on with the ongoing investigation really at all at that 18 point in the aftermath.

19 PSI Minority : Do you know if anyone in Secret Service 20 was dealing with the discovery of devices in Crook's 21 vehicle at that time?

22 Witness : If it would've been anybody, it would've 23 been the TSD lead at that point.

24 **PSI Minority** : Who is that?

25 Witness : I believe his last name is TSD Advance Agent



1 , maybe.

PSI Minority : Agent Witness, I just want to go back to something that was discussed earlier. I believe in response to one of my colleagues, you had said you'd never received a call of a suspicious individual with a rangefinder before that day?

7 Witness : I don't recall one.

8 PSI Minority : Okay. So fair to say, based on that 9 hearing that somebody has a rangefinder in the proximity of 10 a protectee is unusual, not something a Secret Service 11 expects to hear at an event?

12 Witness : Yeah. Again, that's part of the reason why 13 we determined that it was a suspicious individual.

PSI Minority : When you were classifying someone as suspicious or a threat, is that something that is a Secret Service policy that they say, hey, this is level that would meet suspicion, this is level that would meet a threat, or is this something it's a gut call on your part?

19 Witness : No, I mean, I think I discussed what would 20 determine a threat prior, and that is somebody with the 21 immediate capability of doing harm.

PSI Minority : Would there ever be an instance where you would relay out a suspicious individual to say a site agent or a lead agent at an event?

25 Witness : I mean, hypothetically speaking? Sure.



PSI Minority : What would cause you to relay that
information to them?
Witness : Again, it would really have to be specific
to the exact particulars of what were going on at that time
in this hypothetical situation.
PSI Minority : But in this case, an individual who had

7 a rangefinder near where the protectee was going to be 8 approximately 15 minutes before a protectee takes stage, 9 didn't rise to that level in your mind?

10 Witness : Again, we dispatched the teams that were 11 available to investigate what was determined to be a 12 suspicious person.

PSI Minority : And forgive me, I believe you said this earlier. Did you continue to check in with those teams? Witness : Again, we dispatched the teams that were available to investigate a suspicious person, and I was awaiting information back from them, if they were to even have any information back.

19 PSI Minority : You didn't proactively reach out to 20 them to check to see if they --

21 Witness I, myself, did not.

PSI Minority : Did Agent CUAS Advance , to your knowledge?
Witness : I don't know if he did or did not.
PSI Minority : When they were dispatched, were they

25 dispatched to the AGR building, specifically?



1 Witness : Agent CUAS Advance was the one speaking with them 2 on the phone, so I believe that they were told that that 3 was their last known location. So I'm sure that that 4 would've been the direction that they were heading in to go 5 look.

б **PSI Minority** : You said you worked PI, right, 7 Protective Intelligence in the past? 8 I've had PI cases in the past. Yes. Witness : 9 So if you were a PI agent at a thing PSI Minority : 10 and you heard an individual that was their last location, 11 that would be where you would head his last known location? 12 : Can you repeat the question? Witness 13 : When he was a PI agent and if he worked PSI Minority 14 PI, he would've headed to the individual's last known 15 location to look for them. 16 : I mean, sure. Unless there was some other Witness 17 information that I got to look somewhere else. PSI Minority : Because I know we talked about this a 18 little bit, I'm going to introduce Sergeant PSP Site Liaison 19 20 testimony to the PSP and this will be Exhibit 4. 21 [Exhibit No. 4 was 22 marked for identification.] 23 PSI Minority Go ahead and turn to page 17. I know 24 it's a large document, but we're only going to focus on

25 pages 17 and 18.



1 Witness

: Okay.

	V77 E-4
2	PSI Minority : The bottom half of page 17 saying
3	and it's that last thing. "At 18:09, I received another
4	call from Officer Butter ESU saying the guy was discovered on the
5	roof, and they had officers below," meaning municipals, not
6	troopers, "that they couldn't like figure out how he got up
7	there." So this seems to be talking about the same
8	suspicious individual that we already talked about, that
9	guy.
10	Then if you flip over on the back, now to page 18, he
11	says, "At 18:10, I related this to the Secret Service that,
12	hey, the guy is that, you know, is back and everything.
13	And at 18:10, I called Corporal PSP CPL, " and a little bit
14	further down near the bottom, it asked, "And who was that
15	communicated to?" And it says it, Witness, I was like, you
16	know, we were in the room and like I'm moving fast." So,
17	
	Witness would be you, right?

18 Witness : I believe that's who he's referring to,
19 but, yes.

PSI Minority
And you don't recall any communication
about an individual on the roof.

Witness : So, I think this is probably the seventh time I've answered this now, but no, because at that time, again, we were getting reports on the Secret Service radio of the local police working a problem at 3 o'clock. So



1 that's what I heard and responded to.

Witness Counsel: I just want to, again, point out the quote is, "It would be Witness." What I said earlier. He's speculating. He doesn't say he actually spoke to Witness. "It would be." So he's speculating that it was Witness. "It was like, we're in the room, and I'm like, moving fast." But this is not a distinct recollection that he said anything to Witness.

9 PSI Minority : I'm going to just challenge that that's 10 speculation. I think that's your interpretation of what 11 he's saying there.

12 Witness Counsel: I do.

PSI Minority : But, yeah, as far as I know, it's an answer to a question of who was that communicated to? It would be Witness.

Witness Counsel: It would be Witness, not it was Witness. Witness is proximate to the guy. I don't know whether he's confounding his recollection, but is by saying it would be, it's showing a bit of equivocation. That's it.

20 Witness : I'll say this. If I had heard that there 21 was a man on the roof, I would've put that out on the radio 22 instead of the local police are working a problem at 3 23 o'clock.

24 PSI Minority
25 Service counters snipers had also been alerted to the



1 suspicious individual?

2 I was not aware that day that they knew. Witness : 3 **PSI** Minority : When did you find out that they knew? 4 : I believe it was during my testimony Witness vesterday when I saw the Secret Service timeline for the 5 6 first time. 7 PSI Minority : You didn't have any discussions with

PSEMMONY 101 101 11 Have any discussions with
8 the Secret Service counter snipers that day after the shots
9 have been fired?

Witness : No. I never talked to them after shots
were fired.

12 PSI Minority : I turn it over to my colleague.

13 Mr. Witness, my name is PSI Minority PSI Minority : I 14 work for Ranking Member Johnson. Thank you for your time. 15 : You mentioned earlier that you had **PSI** Minority 16 called SAIC SAIC about switching your radio channels. 17 Witness : Correct.

: Why not call the site Agent Site Agent? 18 PSI Minority 19 Witness : Well, because it involved the possibility 20 of impacting both visits. So he needed to make a decision 21 at which visit he wanted to impact as far as making that 22 switch because we were either going to have to switch the 23 FLOTUS visit channel or the Trump visit channel. So you 24 know, I think it was most appropriate to reach out to him 25 since there are two visits happening in his district.



1 PSI Minority : Did you ever subsequently inform Site 2 Agent Site Agent about the conversation you had with SAIC PICS ? 3 Yes. I mean, that was put out over the Witness : 4 radios, and I believe she was probably included on those 5 emails as well. 6 PSI Minority : You did not inform Site Agent Site Agent 7 regarding the information you received about a suspicious individual after you received that? 8 9 Yeah. Again, the people who were notified Witness 10 were the that could go out and respond and 11 determine, you know, what the suspicious person was or 12 wasn't. PSI Minority : You mentioned earlier that you directly 13 reported to Site Agent Site Agent on the day of the July 13th 14 15 event? 16 : Yeah. So the way that post standers works Witness 17 is on that day, whoever's standing post the site agent is in charge of that site. 18 19 PSI Minority : Why did you not relay the information 20 about the suspicious individual to your direct report? 21 Because at the time, I believe that we had Witness : 22 relayed the information to the teams that were best suited 23 to go out and make a determination on what that information 24 was.

25 PSI Minority : I understand that you relay to those



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1 individuals, but why not also relay it to your direct 2 report? 3 Witness : At that time, I thought that was the best 4 course of action. 5 : Were you ever directly told that there PSI Minority 6 would be a separate command post? 7 I don't ever recall being told that No. Witness : 8 there'd be a separate command post. 9 PSI Minority Is that a problem? 10 Witness : Again, it wasn't until partway through the 11 day that I even made -- you know, fully figured out that 12 there was a second command post. And I think I've already stated that it would've been advantageous to have everybody 13 14 in the same room. 15 **PSI Minority** : Given your professional experience, 16 have you ever worked an event where during the event you 17 discover that there is a separate command post? 18 Witness : I can't say that during the event 19 discovered, but I've worked several events where there have 20 been multiple command posts. 21 **PSI** Minority : So, in this particular case, at the 22 July 13th rally, it was unique that at this event you were 23 not informed initially that there would be a separate 24 command post? 25 I'm not sure unique is the right word. Witness : But Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One

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1 look at it. You can just let me know when you're ready. 2 I'm ready. Witness : 3 **PSI** Minority Mr. Witness, are you familiar with this : 4 email? 5 This came in, obviously, after the Witness Yes. : 6 event, and it's coming from our LES 7 which is here in Washington, DC. This is a good example of one of the many questions and requests I was getting in the 8 9 aftermath. 10 PSI Minority : The email is dated July 13th, 2024, at 11 7:33 p.m. And do you know what individual sent this email 12 to you? 13 It would've been somebody who was working Witness : 14 in the **LES** I have no idea who was . 15 working in there that night. 16 : This individual writes, "Sir, do you PSI Minority 17 have a status update on suspicious package or any other 18 updates from the site?" What is the suspicious package in 19 reference to in this email, that's 20 That's the bicycle that we've discussed Witness : 21 earlier. 22 PSI Minority : Okay. And at the time of this email, 23 what was the status regarding that suspicious package or 24 the bicycle? 25 I don't remember exactly if the bicycle had Witness :



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1 been cleared at that point or not. But I want to say that 2 the bicycle probably had been cleared by that point. PSI Minority : And how did you come to the 3 4 understanding that it had been cleared? 5 I believe that TSD lead advance came back Witness : 6 into the security room and let us know. 7 : Did you receive any similar **PSI** Minority communications related to the discovery of the explosive 8 9 devices found in Crook's car? 10 Witness : Yeah, again, I think that was much later, 11 and I don't specifically remember the particulars of that, 12 just because it was not something at that point that I was focusing on. I was focusing on dealing with the aftermath 13 14 and our personnel primarily at that point. 15 PSI Minority : Who discovered the bicycle 16 : The bicycle who discovered it? I'm not Witness sure which agency or which team initially identified it as 17 18 a suspicious package 19 **PSI Minority** : At the time shots were fired, did you 20 hear any radio communications regarding the location of the 21 shooter? 22 Just the 3 o'clock. : Witness 23 Anything more specific than that? **PSI** Minority : 24 On our radio is what I heard was it's 3 : Witness 25 o'clock and that was a suspicious person, but the shots



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1 fired, didn't -- wasn't accompanied with a clock position. 2 **PSI Minority** : Besides a clock position, were any 3 other specific locations identified as relating to where 4 the shooter is? 5 Witness : No. What I remember hearing was shots б fired. 7 : I'm going to go to the next exhibit, PSI Minority which I'll mark as Exhibit 6. 8 9 [Exhibit No. 6 was 10 marked for identification.] 11 I'll give you a moment to take a look PSI Minority : 12 at it. You can let me know when you're ready. 13 I'm good. Witness : 14 : Okay. Who did you send this email to? PSI Minority 15 This was sent to the lieutenant who was the Witness : 16 supervisor for all of the Uniformed Division assets that 17 were running the magnetometer detail. **PSI Minority** : Who was that individual? 18 19 Her name is escaping me right now. Witness 20 : Okay. And this is a July 13th, 2024, **PSI** Minority 21 email sent at 11:55 p.m. You write, "Lieutenant, thank you 22 again. Whenever you have the list of names, please send it 23 my way. EAP will definitely be here tomorrow, and I will 24 be coordinating with them as the POC on the ground here. 25 As I get more, I will be sure to pass it along." What was



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEB2 27 (800.367.3376) 27 1 the list? What list of names did you request?

2 Witness : It was the list of names of all the 3 Uniformed Division officers who were on the magnetometer 4 detail.

5 : And why did you make that request? PSI Minority б Because I had been requested to make sure Witness : 7 that all of the Uniformed Division officers on the 8 magnetometer detail and all of the post standers stayed on 9 Sunday rather than getting on their scheduled flights. 10 **PSI** Minority : Who told you to make that request? 11 It happened during one of my many Witness : 12 conversations with headquarters personnel in the aftermath. 13 : So someone from headquarters? **PSI** Minority 14 Witness : Correct. 15 PSI Minority : And what is EAP? 16 EAP is the Employee Assistance Program. Witness : 17 PSI Minority : And how many people from EAP did you understand would be on the site the next day? 18 19 Witness : At that time, I don't remember if I had the 20 number or not, but it was three that ended up coming. 21 PSI Minority : Okay. And in what way did you 22 coordinate with them as the POC, point of contact on the 23 ground? 24 I had some phone conversations with Witness : Sure. 25 our EAP director or chief that evening. And then there was



1 some email conversation or traffic as well with the person 2 who was going to be the leader of the folks that was coming 3 the next day.

4 PSI Minority
5 And why were you going to be the point
5 of contact on the ground?

6 Witness : I was asked by headquarters to do that, and 7 I was available. I was still here. I was going to be 8 here. And you know, it was kind of an extracurricular duty 9 that I don't think that the SAIC of the Pittsburgh Office 10 would've had the capacity at that time with everything else 11 he was dealing with to take on.

12 PSI Minority : And in what way did you serve as the 13 point of contact on the ground?

14 Witness : Sure. I worked with the administrative 15 officer, I believe of the Pittsburgh office to make sure 16 they got hotel rooms. I coordinated conference rooms at 17 the -- at the hotel. All the post standers were staying at so that they could hold their counseling session. 18 And I 19 coordinated with the post standers and the magnetometer 20 officers, you know, telling them what time these resources 21 would be available to them if they wanted to attend.

PSI Minority : You may have addressed this earlier, but I just wanted to make sure that it's clear. Who made the radio communication that the locals are working a situation at the 3 o'clock?



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1 That's still not clear to me. When it came Witness 2 across the radio, I don't believe that the unit identified 3 themselves or I didn't hear them identifying themselves. 4 But it was definitely on the Secret Service radio. 5 PSI Minority : Have you learned after the fact who 6 made that communication? 7 : I believe I discovered that yesterday when, Witness again, at my House testimony that it was one of the CS team 8 9 personnel that made that communication. 10 **PSI** Minority : If now that you know that it was CS, 11 does that refresh your memory in terms of hearing that 12 radio communication and your response to addressing that 13 situation? 14 Witness : Well, I know what my response to addressing 15 that situation, it was, it was to repeat that radio 16 traffic. PSI Minority : It didn't make a difference to you that 17 it would've come from one of the counters snipers versus 18 19 another post stander or anyone else securing the rally? 20 No. I would've repeated the same Witness 21 information no matter who had said it. 22 PSI Minority : Has anyone from DHS or Secret Service 23 instructed you not to speak with Congress? 24 1 No. Witness 25 I'm going to turn it over to my PSI Minority .



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEP2 30 (800.367.3376) 1 colleague.

2 Witness Counsel: I may have to leave.

Witness : Can we do like five minutes? It's been --Witness Counsel: Can we take five minutes and my able colleague, we'll continue to monitor the interview. But for the record, I just want to make a comment about this suspicious person on the roof. I'm looking at Sergeant PSP Site Liaison testimony during the course of what appears to be an Internal Affairs investigation, his own agency.

10 He's being interviewed by a Corporal PSP CPL, and 11 PSP CPL asks him, this is on page 10, "Were you ever made 12 aware of this suspicious person being on the roof of the 13 AGR building prior to the shooting?" PSP Site Liaison ; "No. Well, 14 just moments before it." PSP CPL right. As it was trans --15 PSP Site Liaison; "Yeah, yeah. As I was, yeah, like, and it's cut. 16 The only time I was aware of it is the shooting yeah. 17 occurred right after it. Yeah." It doesn't appear that he 18 ever communicated to anybody that there was a suspicious person on the roof. 19

HSGAC Majority: We'll ask questions related to this, and if you want to, specifically as you've just done, read into the record from Exhibit 4, that's fine. But just as you have asked others not to characterize, we would ask that you not characterize.

HSGAC Minority : But I would like to know what -- can you



25
1 repeat what document you're referring to?

2 Witness Counsel: I'm referring to Exhibit Number 4, the 3 interview with Sergeant PSP Site Liaison 4 HSGAC Majority Okay. And page numbers? 5 Witness Counsel: July 20th, 2024 б HSGAC Majority: Page numbers you read from? 7 Witness Counsel : Page number 10, and right in the middle 8 from --9 HSGAC Majority: This is Exhibit 4, page 10. If we have

follow-up questions on that, we'll ask them before we

11 break. Did you have a few more questions?

PSI Minority : I just want to make sure I'm understanding that. That's on page 10. It does say on page 17, "At 18:09, I received another call from Officer saying that the guy was discovered on top of the roof." So he is saying, I've received a call from Officer So we as a guy on the roof at 18:09. You got reconcile those.

HSGAC Majority: So if you only have one or two more questions, I think we should just go ahead and ask those and have your colleague -- and then, then we'll break.

PSI Minority : So this is PSI Minority , again with Senator Johnson's office. I think real quick, I'm going to go back to the issue about suspicious individuals on July 13th. This will be Exhibit 7, I believe.



10

[Exhibit No. 7 was

marked for identification.]

PSI Minority : This exhibit is an interview with
Lieutenant PSP Officer in Charge, that was conducted on July 22nd,
2024, with the Pennsylvania State Police. And this Exhibit
is pages 26, 27, 28 of that interview.

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2

Witness : Okay.

8 PSI Minority : So I want to turn your attention to the 9 middle of page 26, where, where PSPOfficer mentions Now the 10 vice guys were somewhere around outside the perimeter. Did 11 you know on July 13th at Butler that Pennsylvania State 12 Police had vice guys outside the perimeter?

13 Witness : I was not explicitly aware of that fact,14 no.

PSI Minority : Who was the Pennsylvania State police
counterpart in the security room on July 13th?

17 Witness : Sergeant PSP Site Liaison .

18 PSI Minority : So going back to my questions earlier 19 about suspicious individuals at the Butler Rally. Go to 20 the bottom of page 26. It says, just to clarify, PSP Trooper 21 calls you about two suspicious people over on the AGR 22 property in yellow and red. They send you a text of 23 photographs of them. PSP Officer in Charge responds, "No phone, just a 24 text of what he saw." PSP Trooper says what he saw, PSP Officer in Charge 25 says, "Yeah, no pictures." PSP Trooper says you relayed that



information to Sergeant PSP Stellason and the command post and
asked him to send some assets over to Trooper PSP Trooper .
PSP Officer responds, "and I took it upon myself to send that
text to Butter PD because I knew they were on the outside."
Once again, did Sergeant PSP Stellason ever mention to you
about two suspicious people over on the AGR property on
July 13th?

8 Witness : Yeah. Once again, I don't specific
9 specifically remember any of these details.

10 PSI Minority : If you turn to page 27 of the same 11 exhibit, about three-fourths of the way down the page, it 12 says, PSP Officer . Yep. The first I received a call from 13 PSP Trooper at 17:21. Washington SWAT says, you said that the phone 14 call in response to was in reference to the two suspicious. 15 PSP Officer says, "Yes, the kid in the red shirt and then the 16 yellow shirt." Washington SWAT says, "After receiving that 17 information, what did you do immediately?" PSP Officer said, I put in a quick text and I text the vice guys, the three 18 19 vice guys that were assigned in this detail to contact post 20 5 for suspicious people on the fence line. Do you know 21 where post 5 was on the Butler Rally?

Witness : I don't believe that was a Secret Service post, so, no, I do not.

PSI Minority : So to be clear, all this information
about suspicious people over at the AGR property on July



1 13th, this is news to you?

Witness : Yes. I don't recall any two other suspicious people. The suspicious person I remember from that day is the one we've been discussing.

PSI Minority : And it appears according to this
interview with Lieutenant PSP Officer , this report of suspicious
people on the AGR property happened approximately 5:21 on
July 13th. So, this is before the suspicious call comes in
on Crooks at 5:45.

10 Witness : I mean, I'm reading the same thing you're 11 reading, so, yes.

12 PSI Minority : Okay. Thank you.

HSGAC Minority : Just to clarify on the layout of the security room, Sergeant PSP Site Liaison was about six feet away from you?

Witness : Yeah, five to six feet-ish off to my right. HSGAC Minority : Where was, particularly during the time we're talking about dispatching the counter sniper response and protective intelligence response, where was Special Agent ^{CUAS Advance}?

21 Witness : He was basically right behind me at a 22 different table.

HSGAC Minority So, like two feet behind you?
Witness : Yeah. Two feet behind me.

25 HSGAC Majority : Okay. We're going to break for 10 minutes



1 and then go on for the last hour. Thank you.

2 [Recess.]

3 HSGAC Majority: Going back to the timeline and the
4 communications that have been discussed around 6:08 p.m.,
5 is it possible that Pennsylvania State Police Sergeant
6 PSP Site Liaison relay the information of man on the roof and you did
7 not hear it?

8 Witness : Yes.

9 HSGAC Majority: Was the communication in that room at that 10 time, to your recollection, frantic, for lack of a better 11 word?

12 Yes. Particularly after and around the Witness : 13 time we got the call of that the local police were working 14 a problem at three o'clock, everybody in the room was then 15 very much turned on because in the Secret Service parlance, 16 working a problem means that's an issue that you are going 17 to want to pay attention to. In fact, in our training, we 18 say "on problem" when we're starting a scenario. So as 19 soon as I heard those words, I knew that I needed to get 20 that back out on the radio.

HSGAC Majority: Is it common practice for the Secret Service to have co-location for communications with state and locals?

24 Witness : By co-location, you mean like two different 25 --



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**29** 36 (800.367.3376) 36 HSGAC Majority: Sorry. For local law enforcement or whatever, law enforcement are going to be at a particular event to be located with Secret Service officials?

Witness : Yes. That typically in the command post or
security room, there are typically local or state law
enforcement officials there depending on which entities are
working the visit.

8 HSGAC Majority: And is one of the reasons for doing that so 9 that a Secret Service official can be aware of state and 10 local communications by the fact that those communications 11 can be relayed by the state and local officials who are 12 located in that security room?

13 Witness : Yes, that would be the purpose.

HSGAC Majority: And is that because those communications channels are not communications channels that the Secret Service monitors

Witness : Correct. I don't believe we have the
capability to monitor them currently.

HSGAC Majority: Is it then problematic, in your view, given what we just discussed on July 13th, that the current practice to have Secret Service officials located with state and local officials for the purposes of being able to hear their communications, given the communications limitations that the Secret Service has, is that problematic given that when an event rises to the level of



significance beyond a medical emergency, such that there is frantic communication going on, one of the risks of this current setup is that information may be missed or not heard?

5 Witness : Yes.

HSGAC Majority: What needs to change, in your view, to
remedy that risk?

8 I think that for particular sites, Witness : 9 particularly large events, where there's a lot more 10 potential for things to be going on as far as just the day-11 to-day business of the site I think those site security 12 rooms need to be you know, manned by at least two people. 13 And it would be great if one of those people was a 14 professionally trained dispatcher or something like that. 15 HSGAC Majority: Is there any training within the Secret 16 Service right now about best practices for managing a security room at an event? 17

18 Witness : Not that I'm aware of.

HSGAC Majority: Is there any training within the Secret Service right now that you're aware of with respect to the communications themselves, the actual physical radios and capabilities and options that a security room has for those working in event?

24 Witness : The only the radio training that we get is 25 either in our basic training course that we all go through



1 at the beginning of our careers. I believe there's 2 probably some interspersed in protective detail training 3 that you would go through. And maybe our C and S training 4 has some, but nothing particular to working a security room 5 or command post that I'm aware of.

6 HSGAC Majority: Should, in your view, communications 7 capabilities themselves be one of the things under 8 consideration for change in light of what happened in 9 Butler, meaning, should the ability of the Secret Service 10 and vice versa, state, and local officials to have access 11 to each other's communications be something the Secret 12 Service considers?

13 : Absolutely. Interoperability and the Witness 14 ability for the different agencies to talk to each other, I 15 think has been a problem across law enforcement for quite 16 some time. I've had discussions about this locally with, 17 you know, departments in my district and constantly trying 18 find better ways to be on the same page when it comes to 19 radio communications. But to my understanding, technically 20 it's a very complicated problem.

HSGAC Majority: Who within Secret Service, in your view, is best positioned to make those recommended changes? Witness: It would have to fall to somebody who has

24 the technical expertise in those about radios. And right 25 now, our radio communications are based out of our Chief



1 Information Officer's Office.

HSGAC Majority: And who is the Chief Information Officer at
the Secret Service?

Witness : I believe right now it's USSS CIO
HSGAC Majority : You mentioned earlier in your testimony
that you were not aware on July 13th at the time, that the
counter sniper team for the Secret Service knew of a
suspicious person on the roof. Is that correct?

9 Witness : Correct. I learned about that yesterday 10 when I saw the timeline for the first time.

HSGAC Majority: Should you, as the Security room agent, have been made aware of that?

Witness : It wouldn't have been a bad piece of information to have, but it wouldn't have changed anything. HSGAC Majority : How would that have information have come to you?

Witness : They could have called my cell Phone or
radioed it.

HSGAC Majority: With respect to the proliferation of
firearms in the U.S. and the events the Secret Service has
had to engage in for protectees over the years, since in
recent events, Sandy Hook, since Las Vegas, since the Pulse
Nightclub, since these shootings with high caliber rifles,
has Secret Service engaged in any additional training for
its agents on how to deal with the access to and



1 availability of guns in the U.S.?

2 Witness : I'm not sure what you mean, like, training 3 on how to detect them in our sites, or?

HSGAC Majority: Training on how sites need to be protected,
how Secret Service needs to set up and engage in
differently than it may have in the past, outdoor open
events.

8 Witness For as long as I've been with the Secret 9 Service, we've always been concerned about firearms and 10 their capability. So as long as I've been in the Secret 11 Service, those are always things that we've taken into 12 account.

HSGAC Majority: In the last 10 years, has the training or the practices of how you take into account the concerns you've just mentioned changed at all?

Witness : No. Line of sight concerns are always something that we've -- you know, are taught when it comes to building out a site or whatever to be considered.

19 HSGAC Majority : And after any of the events I've mentioned 20 that involved high caliber rifles, large magazines of 21 weapons that are capable of shooting multiple rounds 22 rapidly, in the wake of any of those events, has a Secret 23 Service engaged internally in any discussions that you're 24 aware of about the need to change how it protects events? 25 None that I'm aware of. Witness 1



1

HSGAC Majority : Should they?

Witness : Our goal is to keep these sites safe. So the fact that there are people who may have weapons available to them is something we always consider. And we do our best to make sure that those weapons don't enter our sites.

7 HSGAC Majority Is it harder to keep these sites safe in
8 the current environment today and the way in which these
9 weapons can be used than it was in years past?

10 Witness : I mean, the weapons have existed the entire 11 time I've been with the Secret Service. So the threat is 12 still the same.

HSGAC Majority: Is the existence of a weapon that can shoot for rounds and be folded into a backpack like the weapon that was used at Butler, a greater risk than a handgun that can shoot 10 rounds.

Witness : For us, one bullet is enough to be a
problem.

HSGAC Majority: And you don't distinguish between the two
types of guns I've just mentioned.

Witness : Again, any firearm for us is an issue. HSGAC Majority : Good afternoon, SAIC Witness. Thank you for being here. My name is HSGAC Majority, and I'm also with Chairman Peter's staff. I have a few questions, follow-up guestions from what we discussed earlier. The first I'd



like to go back to when my colleague asked about the
 staffing for the Butler event. I'll reference Bate stamps
 2615 and 2675, and happy to share them if you'd like.

But you mentioned two things. One is how you won't have anyone in the Syracuse office on specific days because everyone is out on assignment. And then, you know, discussing on Bates 2675 about how all of the assignments, and it wasn't until July 12th, the day before the Butler rally were now filled. Are there and were there at the time, staff challenges and staffing protective events.

11

Witness : Yes.

12 HSGAC Majority : Can you talk more about that? 13 : I would say that since the NATO Summit, at Witness 14 any given time, at least one, if not two of my subordinate 15 offices has essentially been closed. Due to not having any 16 agents in that district, there have been multiple occasions 17 where either myself or my ASAC are the only people left in 18 the district at all from the Secret Service perspective to 19 cover, you know the majority of the State of New York.

20

HSGAC Majority : What impact does that have?

Witness : I'll put it this way. On the Thursday or Friday before coming down here, I actually had to respond to a call since Buffalo is a border district, CBP had stopped somebody with a Secret Service warrant, and I was the only person available to go and affect that arrest and



do the initial appearance. I had no other agents that had
 to rely on the U.S. Marshal Service to help me.

3 HSGAC Majority : Why did you, from Buffalo, as the SAIC
4 of Buffalo with a number of duties, have to staff an event
5 in Pittsburgh? Did the Pittsburgh Office not have
6 sufficient staffing to provide a security room agent that
7 day?

8 Witness : So, everybody -- the situation I just 9 described is not particular to Buffalo. It's every office 10 is facing that exact same staffing challenge currently. 11 You know, we are running at a pace that in my 24 years is 12 unprecedented. And there are oftentimes more assignments 13 than there are people.

HSGAC Majority : We understand the staffing has since picked up, and when I say picked up in terms of additional staffing for former Presidents and candidates, as well as the current presidential election environment. But was it this way prior to that as well?

19 Witness : I would say that for the last couple of 20 years, staffing has been growing into a larger and larger 21 problem. For example, when I first came into the Buffalo 22 District, I was essentially fully staffed. I'm probably 23 about half staffed now.

HSGAC Majority : What do you attribute that to?
Witness : The greater protective needs attrition and



1 difficulty, you know, finding candidates to fill these 2 spots.

3	HSGAC Majority : I'd like to also ask about resourcing.
4	I'm referencing Bates stamp 2609. Happy to share it with
5	you, but it's an email that you received from, I believe a
6	colleague in Buffalo. We don't know the name because the
7	name's redacted. And he or she writes, "Site agent reached
8	out to see if I could bring our," blank "radio down to use
9	for the security room." I guess the blank event is using
10	theirs, and they're currently without one. Again, we did
11	not release the redactions here. Do you recall this?
12	Witness : Yeah, I know exactly what that is.
13	HSGAC Majority : Talk about that.
14	Witness : Sure. That was, again, the other agent in
15	my office who was going to staff the FLOTUS event. The
16	site agent from that event reached out to him and asked him
17	if he could bring the Buffalo Field Office's LES radio
18	for them to use at their event so that the Pittsburgh
19	Office could use their LES radio for the LES event.
20	HSGAC Majority : Is that common?
21	Witness : When there's two events happening at the
22	same time, it's not uncommon for districts to have to share
23	equipment.
24	HSGAC Majority : Who is your colleague who staffed the

25 FLOTUS event?



1 Witness : His name was USSS Agent . He's an agent in 2 my office.

3 HSGAC Majority I'd like to ask a couple questions about 4 the security room setup, which you've spoke to a bit 5 earlier. So I hope I'm not asking the same questions. Ιf 6 so, I apologize. But you mentioned there were two command 7 posts on that day. When you learned about that in the 8 afternoon did you -- or actually let, let me take a step 9 back. Did you know when you learned about that in the 10 afternoon that there would not be any local law enforcement 11 in the security room? 12 : Well, so yeah, that morning when we had the Witness 13 briefing, I learned that my police counterpart was going to 14 be the Pennsylvania State Police and that he would have 15 communication with the local counterparts if necessary. 16 HSGAC Majority : Did that concern you? 17 Witness : Again, at the time, it's not completely 18 unusual for that to happen. So, at the time it was not 19 concerning to me. 20 **HSGAC** Majority : Did you ask why you would not have any 21 access to the local tactical channel? 22 Witness : No. I mean, it wouldn't be common for me to 23 have the command post agent to have any other radios other 24 than the Secret Service radios.

25 HSGAC Majority : Understood. You also mentioned that you



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did not know where other security posts were. For example, Pennsylvania State wasn't a Secret Service security post. Did you receive a copy of the Pennsylvania State Police operations plan in advance?

5 Witness : So, the police posts that I would've had 6 knowledge of where they were are the ones that are 7 indicated on our Secret Service diagrams. There are some 8 state and local police posts on those diagrams, but no, I 9 did not see that Pennsylvania State Police Ops plan until 10 yesterday at my House testimony.

HSGAC Majority : Did you see the Butler ESU operational
plan?

13 Witness : The first time I saw that was yesterday as 14 well?

HSGAC Majority : Would those documents be helpful foryou?

17 Witness : They would be helpful, but in an emergency 18 situation, sifting through them without the proper context 19 of someone who knows what those documents are would be 20 challenging.

21 HSGAC Majority : Do you have the capability to radio
22 directly to a single Secret Service agent?

Witness : Yes. Oh, no. So do you mean I could call out to a single service agent, Secret Service agent, but it's not like dialing a phone --



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**29** 47 (800.367.3376) 1 HSGAC Majority : Everybody would hear it.

2 Witness : Everybody would hear it. Correct.

3 HSGAC Majority : Can you send photos via text message on 4 your Secret Service device, your cell phone?

5 Witness : I believe it is possible, but it is often
6 challenging.

7

HSGAC Majority : Why is that?

8 Just the way that our texting is set up on Witness : 9 I believe it's for preservation purposes. our phones. 10 Texting on our phones is not the easiest thing. It's much 11 easier to just send an email, which is what I typically do. 12 HSGAC Majority : Based on your experience, staffing, both 13 the security room as well as other post, should the 14 security room agent be part of an advance as opposed to --15 : Not necessarily. I think that would be in Witness 16 an already resource-constrained environment. I think that 17 would be difficult. I do think, and it's another suggestion I at least made in one other interview, for 18 19 details that are sending a second supervisor, and that's 20 someone who comes in the day before and reviews the whole 21 security plan and the whole security site. That it may be advantageous to have that second supervisor man the command 22 23 post because he's familiar with the detail, how the detail 24 operates, and what would have had time to do full

25 walkthroughs of all the sites the day before.



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1 HSGAC Majority : Going back to July 13th, on the day of, 2 you went through a number of different calls you received 3 that day, a large number of medical calls coming in, lost 4 children, lost property, children actually in the security 5 room, about a media truck, mine sweeping, as well as the б room being used as downtime. And you're the singular 7 person from Secret Service to streamline all of this. 8 That's a lot of information to be able to synthesize, digest, and then relay. What recommendations about this, 9 10 briefly, to my colleague do you have for better ingesting 11 and relaying this information?

12 : I think definitely it's a two-person job, Witness 13 particularly when something goes awry. But even if nothing 14 were to have gone wrong that day, it would've -- you have 15 one person manning a phone and **radio** channels. So even 16 when something goes poorly, you have to put that out on two 17 channels. One of them has to come first, one of them has 18 to come second. That takes time. Right?

So having two people or one person who's dedicated just to the communications and another person that's there taking in the information, and maybe you could keep a log, then maybe you could, you know. So, I think and not every single site might necessarily require that, but there are certain sites that looking at it at the face of it, you could imagine would need two people.



1 And I do think that either a local or detailed person 2 assigned to the command post itself is also helpful. You 3 know, in a perfect world, I would man a command post with a 4 and the detail's , that LES 5 would be the command post. And then the site security rooms would be, you know, at a major site would manned by 6 7 LES and LES if I had

8 all the manpower in the world.

9 HSGAC Majority : I'd like to draw your attention into the 10 local tactical radio on that day. I know you did not have 11 access to it, but I'd like to read you something that was 12 announced over that radio at 5:4:54 seconds. And the --13 This is from Commander Excess.

14 He says, "Just FYI, we had a younger white male, long 15 hair, lurking around the AGR building. He was viewed with 16 a rangefinder citing the stage. He was up against the building, believe he was looking up at us, and he walked 17 18 around the side of the building. We lost sight of him. 19 There is a bike with a large backpack sitting beside it. 20 It's parked in the rear of the building that was not there earlier." Is this information that would've been helpful 21 22 to you?

Witness : So that's a complete picture of the truncated information I got in the game of telephone that was that day. Right? So that's the complete information



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEB9 50 (800.367.3376) 1 as opposed to what we got was that there was a suspicious 2 person using a rangefinder in that area.

3 HSGAC Majority : But had you known the information that I
4 just read to you, would that have changed your calculus?
5 Witness : Probably not dramatically, however, because
6 we still would've dispatched the same teams to go and
7 look and try to find that person.

8 HSGAC Majority : You mentioned you dispatched the 9 counters sniper response team and the protective 10 intelligent agent. Why didn't you relay this information 11 to counter snipers on top of the barns?

Witness : At the time, I thought that I had, you know, made the best decision by dispatching the teams that were available to go and try to evaluate if the person was actually a suspicious or what his intentions were.

HSGAC Majority : So the local tactical radio I just read to you was at 5:42 p.m. At 5:52 p.m., one of the counter sniper team leads sent out a BOLO email at 5:52 p.m. with pretty much the same information I described. Is that something that should have gone to the security room?

21 Witness : Sure. It's pretty much the same 22 information. We just at -- I'm only finding out that they 23 knew that same information beginning yesterday. So I 24 wasn't on that chain that they sent. So sure, it would've 25 been great to know. But again, at that time, the same



teams would've been dispatched to go and look for the
 individual. That's who we had available to go look for.

3 HSGAC Majority : And I'd like to go through -- so these 4 are just a couple examples. 5:42 p.m. which is shortly 5 before you learned of the information. Again, 5:52 p.m. 6 with the counter snipers, and then you received calls or 7 you received kind of the game of telephone from Sergeant 8 PSP Site Liaison where you first received the information at 5:44. 9 And there were four calls. I'd like to just go through 10 them to the best of your recollection, if you can recall 11 exactly what PSP Site Liaison told you. So, he first received a call 12 from Commander Buter ESU at 5:44 p.m., and I believe this is 13 when he first informed you of the suspicious person in the 14 AGR building. Do you recall this?

Witness : Yeah. That's the notification we've been referencing.

HSGAC Majority : And that's when you learned about the suspicious person with the rangefinder, correct?

19 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Majority : And then at 5:48 p.m., PSP Site Liaison received a second call. To the best of your recollection, do you remember PSP Site Liaison relaying additional information to you? Witness : At 5:48? No.

HSGAC Majority : And at 6:03 p.m., PSP Site Liaison received another call. And this indicated that the individual was



spotted, again, walking toward the sheets. Do you recall
 that information being relayed to you?

Witness : I did not receive that particular4 information.

5 HSGAC Majority : Would having updates on a suspicious 6 individual with a rangefinder have been helpful? 7 Witness : So, if I myself had received that 8 information about the sheets, it would've been relayed to 9 the teams that were out looking for him. That's what I 10 would've done with it.

HSGAC Majority : And at 6:09 p.m., this is the call that we discussed ad nauseam. This is when PSP Site Liaison learns that the same suspicious individual with the rangefinder on the roof. And you mentioned that you did not hear, it's possible, you did not hear this. Correct?

16 Witness : Right. Because that is in close 17 conjunction with the time where I'm getting our own radio 18 traffic, about the same thing, essentially.

HSGAC Majority : And so you never learned that there was a suspicious individual on the roof that was armed then? Witness : No. There was never any mention of anybody being armed at any time until I heard, "Shots fired." HSGAC Majority : And did you learn at all that local law

24 enforcement fired shots?

25 Witness : I believe there was -- after the incident



in the command post, I believe there was some discussion
amongst the local law enforcement and the Pennsylvania
State Police that I was not necessarily part of that
conversation, but I overheard that one of them said that he
had fired his weapon, but I don't know who or from what
agency he was from.

HSGAC Majority : And just going back to the setup on that
day, Special Agent CUAS Advance was the advance lead for CUAS, is
it common for CUAS to set up in the security room?

Witness : No. And he initially did not try to set up in the security room. He was initially trying to set up, I believe, closer to the stage, but he was having a technical difficulty and he was trying to find a solution to get his equipment working. And he settled on the security room as an alternate location.

HSGAC Majority : And you've secured a number of protective events before. Compared to those events, was the advance for this event, in your view, well organized? <u>Witness</u>: So, I wasn't present for any of the advance, so I'm not sure how the advance went. I wasn't a part of it.

HSGAC Majority : But in terms of the information you received as a security agent, working as a security agent for many events prior did the information you received, was it similar to other events? Was it relayed in, you know, a



1 different manner?

2 Witness : No. So, the paperwork we received the 3 night before and the briefing we had that morning were all 4 very typical and standard for other briefings and paperwork 5 I had gotten many times.

б HSGAC Majority : And you've touched on a couple different 7 things that need to change moving forward. Are there other specific protocols or gaps that you think we should be 8 9 aware of in terms of improving security for future 10 protective events that we have not already discussed? 11 I mean, I've been focusing on, you know, Witness : 12 the communications, and my role that day, and the things 13 that related to that that could be bettered. I'd have to

14 think about that question and come back with a better 15 answer than -- I don't have anything specific to add.

16

HSGAC Minority : HSGAC Minority .

The

17 recommendations that you had talked about and the 18 suggestions, who have you relayed those to?

19 Witness : Some of them have come up in different --20 these interview sessions. I believe the independent review 21 panel they came up in. I believe there was a brief 22 discussion of them in my Mission Assurance interview. So, 23 in those forms.

HSGAC Minority : Is there a standard channel within which to provide that kind of feedback?



1 Witness : I wouldn't say that there's a standard 2 channel, no. 3 HSGAC Minority : So, if you hadn't had these 4 interviews, what would be the means to take thoughts to? I 5 mean, would you just run them up the chain, so to speak, go 6 to your supervisor and express your thoughts. That would 7 be **LES** for yourself? : For me it would be LES , but if it was 8 Witness 9 someone in my office, they would bring it to me. 10 HSGAC Minority : So, I'm just going to jump around a little bit. Is SAIC SAIC still on situational telework? 11 12 I'm not at -- I don't know the personnel Witness : decisions of the agency. 13 14 HSGAC Minority : You guys are personal friends though. 15 Is that right? : I've known state for 24 years, yes. 16 Witness 17 HSGAC Minority : Okay. I know the answer personally, but I'm not 18 : Witness 19 going to answer for professionally. 20 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Personally, do you know if he's 21 still in situational? 22 : I'm not going to answer personally. Witness 23 HSGAC Minority : Why? Because it's a personnel matter that I'm 24 : Witness 25 not authorized to speak about.



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1 HSGAC Minority : Have you been instructed that you're not 2 authorized to speak about personnel matters in this 3 setting? 4 Witness : Not in the setting, but generally we don't 5 speak about personnel matters. 6 I mean, I don't hear Counsel objecting. HSGAC Minority 7 If SAIC Witness is not comfortable Agency Counsel 8 answering, he is not comfortable answering the question. HSGAC Minority : Okay. I mean, so you're refusing to 9 10 provide this information to the committee for -- I mean, 11 it's not classified information. SAIC SAIC gave us that 12 information. I mean, he told us that himself when we 13 interviewed him, so. 14 Witness : I just don't want to speak for him. 15 HSGAC Minority : Are you aware of whether he is on? 16 Witness : I am aware. HSGAC Minority : Okay. But again, for the record, you're 17 18 refusing to answer? 19 Witness : I'm not refusing to answer. It's a 20 personnel matter that I am not authorized to speak about. 21 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Who would have to give that 22 authorization for you to speak about it? 23 Witness : Legal. Secret Service Legal. 24 Agency Counsel : Well, you have SAIC SAIC testimony.

25 His testimony is his testimony.



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1 HSGAC Minority : Right. And that was also over a month 2 ago. So, I'm asking for an update again. I guess, can you 3 take that back to answer that? Again, this is a topic that 4 we've discussed and we've discussed other people's status. 5 So, I quess --6 Sure. I'll take that back and discuss Agency Counsel 7 with my colleagues at Department of Homeland Security. 8 HSGAC Minority : Okay. I'm going to introduce exhibit -what exhibit are we on, 8? It's an email from you dated 9 10 July 13th, 9:59 p.m. Do you recognize this email? 11 [Exhibit No. 8 was 12 marked for identification.] 13 I do. Witness : 14 HSGAC Minority : Right. The who it is sent to is 15 Who did this go to? redacted. 16 So this went to the UD Sergeant, who was Witness : 17 one of the UD officials running the magnetometer detail. 18 **HSGAC** Minority : What's that person's name? 19 I don't recall his name. Witness 20 HSGAC Minority : And then it says, "Please call me ASAP." What was this related to? 21 22 Witness : So, this was again, concerning the having 23 people remain and not take their flights the next morning. 24 So, I wanted to make sure that I was able to convey that 25 information to his team through him, and I was asking him



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1 to reach out so I could explain the situation to him.

2 HSGAC Minority : And you don't recall -- how did you get
3 that person's name?

Witness : It's in the paperwork. I just don't
remember his name three months later, the UD Sergeant.
HSGAC Minority : Okay. Do you know where he was based?
Witness : He's based here in DC. He's a Uniformed
Division officer. All our Uniformed Division officers are
based in DC.

10 **HSGAC Minority** : You'd never met him before?

11 Witness : I believe that was the first time I'd ever 12 worked with him.

13 HSGAC Minority : Okay. And that was your only

14 conversation with him?

15 Witness : No. I talked to him on the -- I eventually 16 got him on the phone, and then I eventually -- that when he 17 brought the officers back, I talked to him. I talked to 18 him the next day on Sunday as well.

HSGAC Minority : And what did you talk to him about onSunday?

Witness : Again, it was just about organizing his personnel, making sure that they didn't leave, and making sure that they were lined up for the FBI interviews that had been requested.

HSGAC Minority : And so, were you responsible for



25

1 coordinating that?

2 Witness : I wasn't necessarily responsible, but I did 3 it. There was no one else to do it, so I just took that 4 on.

HSGAC Minority : And who directed you to coordinate, I
guess, to make sure people were around for the interviews?
Witness : That came from one of many conversations
that I've had with her headquarters personnel the night
after everything had happened.

HSGAC Minority: Do you recall who from headquarters?
Witness: I believe at the time I had -- most of the conversations I was having with headquarters personnel were that at that time going through the then SAIC of

14 Philadelphia who was on his way to become a DAD in the

15 Office of Investigations, SAIC HQ

16 HSGAC Minority : And then were you in contact with the 17 DCC at any point, the director's crisis?

18 Witness : I never called into the DCC. No.

19 HSGAC Minority : Were you aware that the FBI had arrested

20 Asif Raza Merchant the day before for plotting to

21 assassinate US government officials or politicians?

22 Witness : I was not aware.

HSGAC Minority: Is this the first time that you're becoming aware of that?

25 Witness : Yeah. Of that name, and I'm sure I've seen



news stories about the FBI arresting people, but that name
 did not ring a bell to me.

HSGAC Minority : He was a Pakistani national with ties to Iran that was meeting with FBI undercover agents in New York, and they had been monitoring him for months. He, in his proffer, discussed assassinating by sniper outside at a rally, potentially Trump, Nikki Haley, Biden. You've never heard of that?

9 Witness : No. Now that you're saying all those 10 details, I have read news articles, and I believe there --11 we may have even had a bulletin post the 13th that came out 12 regarding that individual, but the name was not ringing a 13 bell. But those particulars, yes.

14 HSGAC Minority : The 13th, as in July 13th?

15 Witness : Correct.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. And that information was not included in any kind of threat briefing or materials for the rally. Is that correct?

19 Witness : Correct.

20 HSGAC Minority : So what was that bulletin?

21 Witness : I think it pretty much just said what you 22 said. I think it was like a recap of the news, like 23 different news stories. It was an unclassified document, 24 so.

25 HSGAC Minority : On July 13th?



1 Witness : No, no, no, no. It came out well after. 2 HSGAC Minority : Okay. Right, because that, 3 HSGAC Majority : Just to clarify, you're saying there was 4 some information that came out post, after July 13th? 5 : Yes, yes, yes. Well, after. I have no Witness 6 idea what date, but it was not anywhere around that day. 7 HSGAC Majority : I mean, you're the SAIC of the Buffalo 8 Office which is in New York. You discussed how most field 9 offices running low, everyone is kind of pitching in, had to serve search warrants. You were not aware that in New 10 11 York, the FBI was monitoring someone who was trying to hire 12 people to assassinate two protectees. I don't recall if 13 Nikki Haley was at that time a protectee or not, but Biden 14 was and Trump was. So, you had no information about that 15 prior to the arrest? : Prior to the arrest? 16 No. Witness 17 HSGAC Majority : Prior to it becoming public? : Prior to it becoming public? No. 18 Witness 19 HSGAC Majority : Is that surprising? I don't know if 20 that's typical, but. 21 Witness : I don't know if anybody else in the Secret 22 Service knew about it, but it's not surprising that every 23 arrest that the FBI makes isn't pushed out to every office. 24 : Does FBI share that? I mean, someone Witness 25 who's trying to hire people to assassinate protectees,



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DEB9 62 (800.367.3376) 1 that's not something that's shared with the Secret Service? 2 Again, I can't comment if it was or wasn't Witness : 3 shared. I'm telling you when I remember hearing or 4 learning about it, and that would've been through the news 5 stories and/or this bulletin that eventually was sent out 6 to everybody. But I don't know what the date was, but it 7 was definitely post-July 13th.

8 HSGAC Minority : Because, again, incident that we 9 discussed earlier, that was your field office was involved 10 in investigating less than 20 days before the Butler event. 11 That was an arrest of an individual for making threats 12 against President Biden, complaint that they posted. It 13 was a response to Biden's post on X saying he was going to 14 put a bullet in your head.

Witness : Yes. It was a PI case we had in my
district.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. You mentioned earlier that radio transmissions in the security room were not recorded. Is that correct?

20 Witness : Not to my knowledge, yeah, they were not. 21 HSGAC Minority : Were there any other recordings of the 22 security room? Are there any cameras in security rooms or 23 anything like that?

24 Witness : None that I'm aware of.

25 HSGAC Minority : So just going back to a discussion with



Scheduling@TP.One www.TP.One 800.FOR.DE**29**63 (800.367.3376) HSGAC Majority a little bit earlier, but knowing what you know now, if you were working an event today, would you relay on the radio information about suspicious individual with a

4 rangefinder?

Witness : With the benefit of hindsight, there's
probably things that I would do differently. Sure.
HSGAC Majority : Is that one of the things?
Witness : The only thing that I would've done
differently is I would've probably looped in the site
agent. That's it.

11HSGAC Majority: You wouldn't have relayed that over the12radio even today, knowing everything that we know now?

13 Witness : I can't say.

14 PSI Minority : This is PSI Minority with Senator

Johnson's office. When were you interviewed by the FBI in Pennsylvania State Police?

17 Witness : So, my first interview with the FBI was the 18 day after. So, Sunday, and then the FBI/Pennsylvania State 19 Police Interview I believe was the Tuesday or Wednesday 20 after. Pretty shortly thereafter. I'd have to go back and 21 look at my calendar, but a few days after.

22 PSI Minority : And that one with Pennsylvania State

23 Police and FBI, was that recorded?

24 Witness : I believe it may have been, yes.

25 PSI Minority : Going back to after shots are fired at



1 6:11 p.m., on July 13th, do you know who discovered Crook's
2 vehicle, know what entity or what individual?

3 Witness : I do not.

PSI Minority : Do you know what law enforcement entity
responded when devices were found in Crook's vehicle on the
night of July 13th?

Witness : I know that there were local and state
assets that were all responding. And again, I believe that
the TSD lead would know that answer definitively.

10 PSI Minority : So, you do not know if ATF responded that 11 night?

12 Witness : No. ATF definitely came. There was ATF 13 that responded to the command post after the shooting, 14 absolutely.

15 PSI Minority : And what information did ATF provide to 16 the command post?

17 Witness : They were working with the FBI and the 18 Pennsylvania State Police, and I believe that they were 19 working on trying to figure out the serial number from the 20 weapon or something like that, is what I recall their 21 involvement being.

PSI Minority : Did the ATF discuss anything more on the night of July 13th in the command post?

24 Witness : From what I remember, they were mostly 25 working on trying to identify the suspect, what his







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1 2 3 4 **PSI Minority** : So at this event, as far as you 5 understand July 13th Butler event there were no Secret 6 Service security cameras set up? 7 : None that I'm aware of. Witness 8 **PSI** Minority : Do the Secret Service drones deployed, 9 do they have camera capabilities? 10 Witness : I don't know all of our drones and all of 11 our drone capability, but I do believe that most of our 12 drones would have camera capability. Yes. 13 PSI Minority : And would those drones be relaying 14 video in real time to wherever the CUAS location is 15 established? 16 Witness LES: 17 18 19 20 21 **PSI Minority** : Are you aware of any footage from 22 Secret Service drones being relayed to the security room or 23 any other location on the July 13th event? 24 I don't believe we had a drone operating Witness : 25 that day.





PSI Minority : And if local law enforcement had drones
with the same type of capability, would that be relayed to
the security room?

Witness : If they were being utilized, but I'm not
aware of any drones that were being utilized by anybody.
HSGAC Minority : I have just two more. Who became the
incident commander after shots were fired?

8 Witness : After shots were fired?

9 HSGAC Minority : Or, yeah, who took the --

10 Witness : I don't think there was any official 11 designation of an incident commander from the Secret 12 Service side. We hold an interim federal presence to 13 preserve the crime scene until the FBI is on scene and 14 capable of maintaining the crime scene. And so that 15 turnover to the FBI happened at 10:30, and the FBI upon 16 their arrival were constantly communicating with the 17 Pennsylvania State Police about who was going to do what 18 parts of the investigation.

HSGAC Minority : Who, I guess, held the scene on for
Secret Service prior to the handover?

Witness : We did. I held the security room and all of the post standers held their posts. So, the post standers were on posts from about 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. that day.

25 HSGAC Minority : Okay. And so, there was no one in



1 charge for Secret Service?

Witness : I mean, I'm in the command post, so people are coming and asking me questions. I, again, was the highest-ranking person on scene that day. But I was in constant contact with SAIC sale ugh since it was his district. HSGAC Minority : Okay. Did you interview any eyewitnesses?

8 Witness I did not interview anybody.

9 HSGAC Minority : Did you discuss any eyewitness accounts 10 with anyone and people were coming to you asking questions? 11 No. Again, there was so much going on and Witness : 12 so many phone calls. All I was doing was focusing on 13 managing, keeping everybody on post, trying to secure that 14 crime scene and dealing with the inquiries and the 15 information on scene. So, I didn't do anything that would, 16 was part of an investigation, at that point. I'm just 17 trying to manage the scene.

HSGAC Minority : By managing the scene, were you still located in the security room, or?

Witness : Yes. I was in that security room. I left once or twice to go out and talk, for example, to the Uniformed Division personnel as a group. And one other time to talk to the post standers as a group once they were taken off post to explain to them what the next day was going to look like, that they weren't going to be able to



1 take their flights in the morning and that sort of thing.

HSGAC Minority : Okay. But you did not discuss any
eyewitness accounts or anything like that?

Witness : No. The only person I talked to is the CS
response person because he had a small injury to his hand,
and we talked about that.

7 HSGAC Minority : And did you pass over your

8 communications responsibilities to Special Agent COUAS Advance
 9 because you needed to be --

Witness : At some point he was still in there. Yes. So at some point while everyone was still up on post, I didn't want to abandon the radios completely to talk, be having all those phone calls. So I did have him listen to the radio in case the post would call out while I was on the phone and not able to respond.

16 HSGAC Minority : Do you recall around what time that 17 happened?

18 I do not. I mean, there was probably Witness : 19 multiple times from post shooting till we -- I believe the 20 post standers and everybody else got out of there around 11:00 or so, 11:30. So, there were probably several 21 22 instances in that timeframe where he would've been 23 listening for the radios while I was on the phone. 24 HSGAC Minority : You said the CS response person had an 25 injury. How did that happen?





Witness : I frankly don't know. It was something he said about a fence that he was trying to negotiate, and it was a very minor injury. The Pennsylvania State Police counterpart that he with was with had a larger injury to his hand.

HSGAC Minority : So it wasn't a gunshot injury?
Witness : Oh, no, no. It was -- the Secret Service
post stander's was like a scratch.

9 HSGAC Minority
 So this was not the individual that
 10 caught shrapnel, the Secret Service person who --

11 Witness : Oh, I don't know if that's what the final 12 cause of what it was, that I don't know.

13 HSGAC Majority Thank you again for your time today. I 14 think just to wrap up. Our four offices have been 15 conducting an investigation since immediately after the 16 incident. We recently released a report, an interim report 17 on this, and really with the goal toward identifying and assessing potential reform. But in order to do so, we 18 19 first need to look at the failures that occurred during 20 that day. And looking back on the 13th, the former 21 President was shot. Others were injured and lost a life. 22 Former Director Cheatle and Acting Director Rowe both 23 testified that there were failures by the Secret Service. 24 So, our question for you is do you agree that there were 25 failures, and if so, what were those failures that day?



1 Witness : So in my limited role that day, what I 2 would say is that everybody did the best that they could. 3 And obviously, it was the worst day for anybody who was 4 working that day that we could imagine. As the Secret 5 Service, it's our worst nightmare. And, you know, I tried 6 to execute my duties to the best that I could. I don't 7 have enough of the full information about everything that 8 went into the planning of where some of the breakdowns may have been. Obviously, some of the things that we've talked 9 10 about today with improving our ability to communicate in a 11 better real time with our state and local partners is 12 obviously something that could be improved.

HSGAC Majority : And specifically, to follow-up on what you mentioned related to the security room and communication, is there anything else you'd like to raise? I think one thing we haven't talked about are interoperability of communications and how to assess and divide who is responsible for which communications since there's so many and of great scope.

20 Witness : I think you just hit on an important point 21 there. There are so many, and that is the greatest problem 22 I see with interoperability. If there was a magic radio 23 channel that we could give to everybody, and that was the 24 only channel we used for our events, and every single law 25 enforcement agency in the country had it and they could



only access it when they were doing our events and we could use it, that would be wonderful. But I'm not sure that that's technically possible.

HSGAC Majority : And looking forward, do you have any
lessons learned from that day, either for yourself, your
team, or Secret Service in general?

7 : Yes. For myself and my team there are a Witness couple things that we've already started doing differently 8 9 in my district. Now, when we have a protective visit, we 10 provide written post instructions to whatever police posts 11 we're going to have. If we are doing a visit, again, I'll 12 go back to the recent DHS Secretary visit, we had that 13 happened post this event where we did have support from the 14 New York State Police attack team that we requested and 15 they granted. And we don't have the ability to embed 16 somebody with them, but we modified one of our radios and 17 gave it to them so that they would have that direct 18 communication on our radio so that we could have real time communication should we need it. So those are two things 19 20 that I'm doing now that I wasn't doing before.

HSGAC Majority : Thank you. So, I think with that, thank you very much for your testimony here today. We will follow-up if there is any additional pieces where we have questions, but really appreciate time. And I think with that, we will go off the record.



1	Witness :	Thank	you.				
2	[Whereas,	at 2:01	p.m.,	the	interview	was	concluded.]
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