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5 TASK FORCE ON THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION

6 OF DONALD J. TRUMP,

7 U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

8 WASHINGTON, D.C.

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14 INTERVIEW OF: [REDACTED]

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19 Friday, October 4, 2024

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21 Washington, D.C.

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24 The interview in the above matter was held in room 4400, O'Neill House Office

25 Building, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

1 Appearances:

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5 For the TASK FORCE ON THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION

6 OF DONALD J. TRUMP:

7

8 [REDACTED], SPECIAL COUNSEL

9 [REDACTED], SENIOR COUNSEL

10 [REDACTED], DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

11 [REDACTED], SENIOR COUNSEL

12 [REDACTED], MINORITY INVESTIGATIVE COUNSEL

13 [REDACTED], LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

14 [REDACTED], MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

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1 For the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY:

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3 [REDACTED] DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL, U.S. SECRET SERVICE

4 [REDACTED] COUNSEL

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8 For [REDACTED]

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10 [REDACTED], COUNSEL TO THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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25 [REDACTED] Today is October 4, 2024, and this is a transcribed interview of [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]
2 House Resolutions 1367 and 1470 direct the task force to investigate all actions by
3 any agency, department, officer, or employee of the Federal Government related to the
4 attempted assassination of Donald J. Trump on July 13, 2024, in Butler, Pennsylvania, and
5 September 15, 2024, in West Palm Beach, Florida.

6 Pursuant to House Resolution 1367, Chairman Kelly and Ranking Member Crow
7 have requested this interview as part of the task force investigation.

8 Can the witness please state your name and spell your last name for the record?

9 [REDACTED] Yes. [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

10 [REDACTED]. Thank you, [REDACTED] My name is [REDACTED]. I am special
11 counsel with the task force.

12 I want to thank you for coming in today for this interview. The task force
13 recognizes and appreciates that you're here voluntarily.

14 You are allowed to have an attorney present to advise you during the interview.
15 Do you have an attorney representing you in your personal capacity today?

16 [REDACTED] Yes, I do.

17 [REDACTED]. Would the counsel please identify himself for the record?

18 [REDACTED] Good morning, all. It's [REDACTED] -- or, more correctly, [REDACTED],

19 [REDACTED] last name [REDACTED] I'm outside counsel to the Federal Law
20 Enforcement Officers Association, here in my representative capacity virtually.

21 [REDACTED]. Thank you, Mr. [REDACTED]

22 Are there also attorneys present representing the Secret Service today?

23 [REDACTED] Yes. [REDACTED] I'm the deputy chief counsel for the
24 United States Secret Service.

25 [REDACTED]. Is there another attorney on virtually?

1 [REDACTED] Department of Homeland Security.

2 [REDACTED]?

3 [REDACTED]: Yes. [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]: And you're with the Department of Homeland Security?

5 [REDACTED]: That's correct.

6 [REDACTED]: Thank you.

7 There are no Members of Congress present here today, but if they should come
8 by, they will identify themselves for the record, introduce themselves to you, and they
9 have the right to ask questions as they see fit.

10 Next, starting with the majority and then the minority, can the additional staff
11 members please introduce yourselves with your name, title, and affiliation?

12 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], senior counsel, task force majority staff.

13 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], senior counsel, task force majority.

14 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], deputy staff director for the majority.

15 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], investigative counsel, task force minority.

16 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], legislative attorney with the Congressional Research
17 Service, providing assistance to the task force.

18 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], Democratic staff director.

19 [REDACTED]: Thank you, everyone.

20 [REDACTED] before we begin, I would like to go over the ground rules for the
21 interview.

22 As previously agreed to by your counsel, agency staff, majority and minority staff,
23 the scope of this interview is any information related to the attempted assassination on
24 July 13, 2024, including but not limited to preparation and aftermath, and any
25 information related to the September 15th attempted assassination of Donald J. Trump.

1 The way this interview will proceed is as follows. The majority and minority staff
2 will alternate asking you questions, 45 minutes per side per round, until each side is
3 finished with their questioning. The majority staff will begin and proceed for 45
4 minutes, and the minority staff will have 45 minutes to ask questions. We will then
5 alternate back and forth in this manner until both sides have no more questions.

6 If either side is in the middle of a specific line of questions, they may choose to
7 end a few minutes past 45 minutes to ensure completion of that specific line of
8 questioning, including any pertinent followups.

9 In this interview, while one member of the staff for each side may lead the
10 questioning, additional staff may ask questions. So, for the majority, I will do most of
11 the questioning, but my colleagues could also ask questions.

12 ██████ Understood.

13 ██████. There's a court reporter taking down everything I say and everything
14 you say to make a written record of the interview. For the record to be clear, please
15 wait until the staffer questioning you has finished each question before you begin your
16 answer, and the staffer will wait until you finish your response before proceeding to the
17 next question.

18 Further, to ensure that the court reporter can properly record this interview,
19 please speak clearly, concisely, and slowly. Also, the court reporter cannot record
20 nonverbal answers, such as nodding or shaking your head, so it is important that you
21 answer each question with an audible, verbal answer.

22 Do you understand?

23 ██████ Yes, sir.

24 ██████. We want you to answer our questions in the most complete and
25 truthful manner possible, so we will take our time. If you have any questions or do not

1 fully understand the question, please let us know. We'll attempt to clarify, add context
2 to, or rephrase our questions.

3 Do you understand?

4 [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

5 [REDACTED]: If we ask about specific conversations or events in the past and
6 you're unable to recall the exact words or details, you should testify to the substance of
7 those conversations or events to the best of your recollection. If you recall only a part
8 of the conversation or event, you should give us your best recollection of those events or
9 parts of conversations that you do recall.

10 Do you understand?

11 [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

12 [REDACTED]: Although you are here voluntarily and we will not swear you in, you
13 are required, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. section 1001, to answer questions from Congress or
14 staff acting on behalf of Congress truthfully. This also applies to questions posed by the
15 staff, as I mentioned.

16 Do you understand?

17 [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

18 [REDACTED]: If at any time you knowingly make false statements, you could be
19 subject to criminal prosecution. Do you understand?

20 [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

21 [REDACTED]: Is there any reason you are unable to provide truthful testimony in
22 today's interview?

23 [REDACTED] No, sir.

24 [REDACTED]: Please note that if you wish to assert a privilege over any statement
25 today, that assertion must apply to the rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.

1 For the chair to consider assertions of privilege over testimony or statements,
2 witnesses or entities must clearly state the specific privilege being asserted and the
3 reason for the assertion on or before the scheduled date of testimony or appearance.

4 Do you understand?

5 [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

6 [REDACTED]: Finally, I'd like to note that the content of what we discuss today is
7 confidential. We ask that you not speak about what we discuss here today in this
8 interview to any outside individual in order to preserve the integrity of this investigation.

9 For these same reasons, the marked exhibits used today will be provided to the
10 court reporter so they may go in the official transcript, and any copies of those exhibits
11 will be returned to us when we wrap up.

12 We plan to take a 5-minute break at the end of each 45 minutes of questioning or
13 as needed, but if you need a longer break or a break before that, please let us know and
14 we'll be happy to accommodate you. However, to the extent there's a pending
15 question, we would ask that you finish answering the question before we take a break.

16 Do you understand?

17 [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

18 [REDACTED]: Do you have any questions before we begin?

19 [REDACTED] No, sir.

20 [REDACTED] All right. It is now -- time?

21 [REDACTED] 10:06 a.m.

22 [REDACTED]: And I will lead the questioning for the majority staff.

23 EXAMINATION

24 BY [REDACTED]:

25 Q Now, as we begin, I'd like to enter into the record what we'll mark as exhibit

1 1.

2 [REDACTED] Majority Exhibit No. 1

3 was marked for identification.]

4 [REDACTED]: We are using numbers; the minority is using letters, right?

5 [REDACTED] Correct.

6 BY [REDACTED]:

7 Q It's a transcript of an interview of C-A-T, or CAT, Operator, Special Agent,
8 Secret Service.

9 Now, I don't know if you're familiar with this document, but it is a transcription of
10 an interview that was conducted by the Senate of you.

11 A Okay.

12 Q Do you recall that interview?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Have you had an opportunity to review the transcript?

15 A No, I have not.

16 Q Do you know if your attorneys had an opportunity to review the transcript?

17 A I do not.

18 Q Okay. You have no reason, though, to think that there's anything
19 inaccurate about that transcript, sitting here today, even though you haven't reviewed it?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q Now, I'm not going to ask you about the transcript per se, but just about the
22 interview.

23 A Uh-huh.

24 Q Is there anything that you can recall, sitting here today, about that interview
25 and the answers you provided to questions that were posed to you that you would want

1 to change here today?

2 A Yeah, there was one thing. I misspoke.

3 I referenced how our surveys -- so a survey is completed as part of the advance.

4 Say, you know, they see a paper trail of the advance. I believe in the Senate hearing I

5 stated that we received a prelim survey at the point when the -- or the day before.

6 So, when the visit happens, that's actually our final approved survey, is -- it's
7 reviewed and approved by our operations section, and that document is provided to us.

8 That was the only thing that I remembered afterwards, is, I just spoke incorrectly

9 on --

10 Q I see. And just to be clear, what was it that you inaccurately or incorrectly
11 stated last time?

12 A I think I was just -- I was mixing up just the names of the documents, as far as
13 content goes, like, the prelim survey versus the approved survey. In my head, I was
14 speaking about them as though both of them are, like, fully approved and, you know,
15 there's no changes to it.

16 I think in the Senate hearing, I maybe at the time got mixed up and said the only
17 additional revisions that would be made are, like, documenting police contacts or assets
18 that we utilized. And that's just a reference that's added in there just to document all
19 the different entities that were involved, so if a different entity came on last-minute or
20 something, that could be added in there.

21 So I just misspoke, mislabeled the -- those documents --

22 Q Understood.

23 A -- that process. But, other than that, nothing that I actively recall or
24 remember thinking afterwards that I, you know, spoke incorrectly on --

25 Q Okay.

1 A -- to my knowledge.

2 Q Got it. Understood. And we'll talk a bit about the preliminary survey later
3 on.

4 A Okay.

5 Q But that's the only thing you can recall at this point that you want to change?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Okay. Thank you.

8 Let's do some background on you. So can you just tell us what your professional
9 background was prior to the Secret Service?

10 A Yes. So, for 3 years -- that was from graduating college -- I worked as an
11 anti-money-laundering compliance analyst for a contractor out in Cleveland, Ohio.

12 Essentially, we got contracted by other banks that were under OFAC sanctions or
13 review and whose compliance program wasn't up to par. We helped them -- either
14 consulted them or helped them physically do their compliance functions so that they
15 could meet the requirements to pass their audit that came around.

16 So I wrote suspicious activity reports, did enhanced due diligence on customers.
17 And, at one point, I was a -- became associate manager and managed a team of analysts
18 and what have you.

19 So I did that for approximately 3 years. And that was my only prior experience
20 up to the Secret Service.

21 Q And when did you join the Secret Service?

22 A I enrolled in the academy in September of 2018, I believe it was. It was
23 either September or August.

24 Q Okay. And where was your first assignment for the Secret Service?

25 A Minneapolis, Minnesota, a field office out there.

1 Q Okay. And you're currently in Washington, D.C., is that correct, where
2 you're based?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q Other than Minneapolis, have you been based anywhere else?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Okay. And what is your current role at the Secret Service?

7 A Currently, I'm an operator with the Counter Assault Team.

8 Q Okay. And before your current role, did you have prior roles, different
9 roles at the Secret Service?

10 A Yeah. I was just a special agent -- or not "just," but I didn't have any other
11 titles or designations. So I was doing criminal investigations and also assisting with our
12 protective functions, any protective operations that happened in-district or traveling out
13 around the country or the world, in some instances, to assist with other protective
14 operations.

15 Q Okay.

16 And, just briefly, can you tell us what the difference in the roles is between being a
17 special agent focusing on investigations and the protective detail and your current role?

18 A Yeah. So, like, from a 30,000-foot view, the Secret Service is essentially
19 broken down into three phases.

20 Phase one, you come out of the academy and you go to any number of field
21 offices. And you're kind of a split role of criminal investigations, working any -- our
22 statutes or violations, mostly financial crimes.

23 Anytime a protectee comes into your district or your region, you are responsible
24 for assisting the agents that are actually on the detail that come in ahead of time to do
25 the advance, facilitating whether it's just getting them around, helping with paperwork.

1 You're just there because you're familiar with the area, so you act as their counterpart.

2 Or you might get sent out on a visit. So, for example, say President Biden goes to
3 Nebraska. They would maybe say, okay, [REDACTED], you have to go to Nebraska, and then
4 you're going to be a post-stander. So you're assigned to the airport; your post is this
5 location, you know; and here are your orders. Don't let anybody through this post
6 or -- that's, you know, a boring example, but --

7 You can do that for a number of years. It changes based on the needs of the
8 Service. But then, generally, people go to phase two, which is full-time protection,
9 typically D.C.-based. You can try to get onto a former President's detail, which is based
10 out wherever they're at.

11 So, within that phase two, there's a lot of different routes and directorates that
12 you can opt in to join or try out. So, for example, like, I tried out for the Counter Assault
13 Team. That was what I wanted to do and the path that I wanted to pursue. So,
14 therefore, I passed the -- our selection in basic and got onto the Counter Assault Team, so
15 I was assigned to that directorate when I came out here for phase two.

16 Q Okay. Understood.

17 And just roughly speaking, before you were assigned to the Counter Assault Team,
18 what amount of your time as a special agent, investigator, and, you know, protective
19 detail, how much time did you spend, roughly, on investigation versus protective detail?

20 A Oh, geez. It ebbs and flows. I mean, I want to say, like, ideally, you know,
21 50/50, but, you know, protection takes precedence over investigations. So, you know,
22 some months I'd be gone for the majority of that month.

23 Q Right.

24 A In phase one, it'd be kind of hard to really dive into an investigation. And
25 then other months, you know, maybe I was left alone a little bit more or our office just

1 didn't get pulled for assignments.

2 So, you know, on paper, 50/50, I guess. It'd be hard to actually drill down --

3 Q Right.

4 A -- you know, what it was.

5 Q But, roughly, it was split.

6 A Yeah.

7 Q Okay.

8 And was there different training that was provided for the investigative function
9 versus the protective function?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Just tell us a little bit about the different training.

12 A Yeah. So every agent goes through two different academies. We go
13 through the criminal investigator training program down at the Federal Law Enforcement
14 Training Center in Glencoe, Georgia. That's purely an investigative-based training.
15 That was approximately 3-1/2 months.

16 And then, from there, we immediately go to the James J. Rowley Training Center,
17 which is the Secret Service's training academy. And, there, we partake in approximately
18 a 4-month academy that starts with -- at least when I went through, it started with an
19 investigations block, kind of drilled down more into the specifics of the statutes we
20 investigate, which is counterfeit and fraud. And then we spent the second and the
21 larger half of the academy training protection or protection operations.

22 Q Understood.

23 And for your current role in the Counter Assault Team, tell us about any training
24 you received specifically for that role.

25 A I had to go through a 2-week selection course. So I flew out from

1 Minneapolis. That was a physically and mentally strenuous course. You're kind of
2 treated -- it's very military-esque. You have to pass certain physical requirements,
3 firearms standards, some that are higher than, like, a standard agent. And days range
4 anywhere from 8 to 12 hours.

5 If you are deemed as a viable candidate after going through that selection, then
6 you're invited back to a basic. So then I went through a [REDACTED] basic course. Same
7 kind of style as the selection, very military-esque. Days, again, get up into the 14-hour
8 range. And that's where you're actually trained and taught the tactics that the Counter
9 Assault Team is proficient in.

10 Q Understood.

11 Did you have any military background before?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q Okay.

14 And the process that you just described, the training, you said that you have to
15 pass tests, you have to be a viable candidate. Do you have a sense of, does everybody
16 pass these, or is it a pretty selective process?

17 A Oh, I would argue it's probably one of the more, if not the most, selective
18 process or group that we have in the Secret Service.

19 I don't know the rate for selection, but I believe, generally, for the basic course,
20 there's a -- so you can pass the selection or make it through, finish every day, and not be
21 invited back. So, for the basic course, the classes, they usually try to put [REDACTED] people into
22 a class, and usually it's anywhere from [REDACTED] people that make it through.

23 Q So it's quite selective.

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q All right.

1 Do you have a security clearance?

2 A Yes, sir, I do.

3 Q What level?

4 A [REDACTED]--

5 Q [REDACTED]?

6 A [REDACTED]. Kind of got the letters mixed up there.

7 Q And that is one of the [REDACTED] for a security clearance, correct?

8 A Yes, sir, to my knowledge.

9 Q Is that typical of counter-assault agents?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Do all, as far as you know, have that level of security clearance?

12 A I believe so, yes, sir.

13 Q Do you get any training with respect to [REDACTED], that clearance level?

14 A I know, annually -- I believe it's annually -- we do security clearance and

15 other OPSEC trainings that include the [REDACTED] -- or, [REDACTED]. I keep messing that up.

16 Q [REDACTED]

17 A [REDACTED] There we go.

18 And then when I came on to CAT, we had an official briefing on that type of

19 clearance, as far as, like, what that entails, how you have to handle that information, how

20 you get read in and read out. So, yes, sir, I did.

21 Q Understood.

22 And when did you join CAT?

23 A It was December of 2022.

24 Q December 2022. Okay. So you've been in it for roughly 2 years.

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q And do you get periodic ongoing training as part of being part of the Counter
2 Assault Team?

3 A Theoretically, yes. It depends on our protective operations. That takes
4 precedence, obviously. So, when we're able, yes, we do.

5 Q Okay. And I understand that if you have to be deployed, that will take
6 precedence, but are they regularly scheduled training operations?

7 A No. Based on our manpower and our training, no, it's not.

8 Q Okay. And can you tell us roughly how many -- since you've been on CAT --
9 [Technical malfunction.]

10 [REDACTED]. We lost people.

11 Let's pause for a moment.

12 [REDACTED] Yep.

13 [REDACTED] We'll go off the record.

14 [Discussion off the record.]

15 [REDACTED]. Back on the record.

16 [REDACTED]:

17 Q Special Agent [REDACTED] just for the record, you've mentioned that you had
18 clearance at the [REDACTED] level. And just for the record, that means [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED]?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q And as I understand it, any particular program that you might be read into or
22 type of information, classified information you might be read into, you would still have to
23 be cleared for that particular information as well, right?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q All right.

1 Go ahead.

2 ██████████ Thank you for the opportunity. Again, █████ █████ deputy
3 chief counsel.

4 Just for the record, we just wanted to state that any information discussed here is
5 not intended for public disclosure. The United States Secret Service, Department of
6 Homeland Security, is not waiving any protections under the Privacy Act, personal privacy
7 laws, FOUO for official information regimes as well.

8 Just also to confirm that there's no audio or video recording except for the
9 recording for the purposes of the court reporter today. I assume that -- and that was
10 our understanding with █████, our understanding. So just for the record, just to
11 confirm that?

12 ██████████: Yes. We can confirm that the only -- there's no video recording.
13 The only audio recording is being done by the court reporter for purposes of creating an
14 accurate transcript.

15 But, otherwise, I believe the audio recording will be -- I'm not sure what the right
16 word is -- destroyed by the court reporter after use.

17 ██████████ And we appreciate -- the Secret Service appreciates that.

18 And just -- any disclosure of the information, that Secret Service, Homeland
19 Security, have the right to review, as under the understandings that we previously
20 discussed.

21 So I appreciate that, █████.

22 ██████████: Understood.

23 And all the understandings that have been previously discussed and agreed to,
24 they, of course, apply, in terms of the -- at least speaking for the majority and for the
25 chair.

1 To the extent there are any requests to be made about redactions or any
2 information that you believe should not be made public, you can bring that to the chair;
3 the chair will consider it. But, of course, Congress will retain its right to do with the
4 information what it believes is necessary under its function.

5 ██████████ Understood. Thank you.

6 ██████████. Thanks.

7 BY ██████████:

8 Q Special Agent ██████ just going back to the training -- and you mentioned that
9 there are training opportunities once you're in the Counter Assault Team, but, obviously,
10 your job actually takes precedence, and wherever you're deployed, that takes precedence
11 over training.

12 But can you tell us roughly how many times per year since you've been on CAT
13 that you've had in-person training?

14 A Um --

15 Q And it can just be a rough number. It doesn't have to be specific.

16 A Yeah, I would say anywhere from -- I'd say anywhere from 10 to 20 days of
17 training.

18 Q Per year?

19 A Per year.

20 Q Okay. And --

21 A In the time that I've been on.

22 Q In the time that you've been on?

23 A Yeah, in the 2 years that I've been on.

24 Q Are you aware of any guidelines that the Secret Service has for how many
25 days of in-person training should be provided to agents in the Counter Assault Team?

1 A I'm only aware of our firearms qualifications policies and how many times
2 those are supposed to be. But as far as other in-person trainings, I don't exactly know
3 what that minimum requirement is.

4 Q Okay. And for firearms, what is it?

5 A I know it -- it depends, or it changes on certain platforms, but generally it's
6 [REDACTED].

7 Q [REDACTED]

8 A Yeah.

9 Q And it's a [REDACTED] day, or how long is the --

10 A Generally, all those qualifications can be completed in [REDACTED] day.

11 Q In 1 day. Okay. Understood.

12 When was the last time -- and, again, I don't need an exact date, but roughly; you
13 can even say [REDACTED] whatever, if you can remember -- that you had an
14 in-person training?

15 A I believe it was the beginning of the summer, maybe spring of last year, of
16 '24.

17 Q Of '24? This year?

18 A Correct. I'm sorry. Yes, sir, this year.

19 Q Okay. And it was normal course for you; you did the training, completed
20 it?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Are there any kind of evaluations that are done of how you did in the
23 training that you're aware of?

24 A No formal evaluations. We have an ample number of instructors, usually,
25 that are there when we do train, to provide consistent and quick feedback, whether it's

1 firearms or drilling, you know, our tactics and whatnot. But no formal evaluations.

2 Q Okay.

3 And do you do virtual training as well? Is that provided?

4 A Not related to the counter-assault mission. We do virtual trainings
5 for -- that are required by the Secret Service or by DHS.

6 Q Okay. And what do those relate to, just generally?

7 A Anything with the job, whether it's, you know, harassment --

8 Q I see.

9 A -- anti-harassment -- yeah.

10 Q Right. So normal employment-related --

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. But the CAT training is -- am I -- is that how it's referred, "C-A-T" or
13 "CAT"?

14 A Yeah, "CAT."

15 Q "CAT"'s perfectly --

16 A Yeah, for short.

17 Q Okay. So, for CAT, there's really no virtual training; it's in-person training?

18 A That's correct, sir.

19 Q Okay.

20 And since the attempted assassination of former President Trump on July 13th,
21 have you received any additional training --

22 A No, sir.

23 Q -- since then? Okay.

24 All right. I'm going to shift topics now to get closer to the actual topic.

25 Day to day, how often would you say you engage with State or local law

1 enforcement in carrying out the responsibilities?

2 A When I'm doing an advance for the Counter Assault Team, it's daily during
3 that period.

4 But on my normal day-to-day function -- for context, if President Biden's
5 in-district, he's at the White House, and I'm assigned to him that day, or the team I'm on,
6 we're at the White House, [REDACTED].

7 But, typically, unless we go out of district or out of the DM- -- or D.C. area, really --

8 Q Right.

9 A -- we haven't historically been utilizing local or State or any other entities for
10 in-town movements. So it's really just when I'm on an advance that I'd be working or
11 coordinating with any local or State partners.

12 Q Okay.

13 And for the record, I'm going to ask you some questions that are obvious to
14 everyone in this room, but it's for the record.

15 A Yeah. Understood.

16 Q Tell us what you mean by "advance."

17 A So, for at least all of our [REDACTED] protectees -- and it can differ based on
18 circumstances, but -- we will send out a group of agents kind of from each directorate
19 that make up our protective division to do an advance. So, generally, that's anywhere
20 from, like, [REDACTED] days ahead of when the visit is going to occur. That can change
21 depending on when we are notified of when the visit is going to happen.

22 Those agents go out to the location ahead of time; they work with White House
23 staff assigned or under those protectees to advance or to scout and work with the
24 venues, these sites, our local and State partners, to set up a security plan for those
25 sites -- or, that basically covers the whole visit, so the moment that the protectee is

1 [REDACTED], to each of their [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] until
2 they're [REDACTED].

3 Q Okay. Understood.

4 And for the protectees -- when the protectee is traveling [REDACTED] area,
5 that's basically when you are dealing with State and local law enforcement for your job?

6 A Yes, sir. If they go into [REDACTED], we will generally utilize our
7 State partners. So if they are [REDACTED], then we are generally using
8 some form of State or local help.

9 Q Okay. Understood.

10 And then for the protectee services -- and we're going to focus, obviously, on
11 traveling [REDACTED]. --

12 A Uh-huh.

13 Q -- when they're traveling for events, campaign events or other events.
14 There's -- you've mentioned advance, and that occurs as part of the planning for the
15 actual visit, correct?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q And then there's also a function that you serve, to actually go to the events
18 and provide protective services, right?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Do you always do advance as well as the protective services, or sometimes
21 do you do only protective services or only advance?

22 A I can only think of instances where you -- if you're doing the advance, then
23 you're also going to be part of the protective service on the day of the visit, because
24 you're already on the ground.

25 And then, that way, you embed yourself with your team; you have the best, most

1 firsthand knowledge of the visit and the site. So you are the best reference, you know,
2 to resolve any issues or to provide information throughout the visit as it's going on.

3 Q Okay. So if you are advance, you will be protective services. But are
4 there occasions where you are only protective services, you are not doing advance?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q And that was the case with the July 13th, Butler, Pennsylvania?

7 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Yep.

8 Q And that was your colleague Special Agent [REDACTED] who did the advance
9 for the --

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q -- CAT team?

12 Now, I'm going to just ask a little bit about the makeup of CAT.

13 A Uh-huh.

14 Q So can you just tell us for the record, to the extent you know, the number of
15 squads, the number of teams, and then the number of individuals per team?

16 A Yes.

17 There are four squads -- [REDACTED]. And then within each of
18 those squads there's [REDACTED], so we have [REDACTED].

19 Those teams have anywhere from, I'd say, [REDACTED] on them. That depends.
20 I don't know our exact numbers now. I believe we're in [REDACTED], if I'm correct. I know
21 we're pinned for -- we're slotted to have [REDACTED]. That includes supervisors.

22 So on each of those teams there is a GS-14 assistant to the special agent in charge
23 supervisor; they are a team leader. And then you will have, you know, anywhere from
24 one to a handful of [REDACTED].

25 Q Understood. And you said there are about [REDACTED] right now in the --

1 A I believe so, from my recollection, at the last update we had on our
2 numbers.

3 And then we also have a -- it's called a [REDACTED] It's a program where any
4 individuals that were CAT, they did their phase-two time and they rolled off of protection
5 to go back out to a field office. They -- I don't know what it is, but they do to maintain
6 their certifications or qualifications, and they can still provide support in a CAT function.
7 And I believe there are [REDACTED] or so bodies out in the field that are part of that [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED].

9 Q They're there to assist, effectively, too, and [REDACTED] as
10 needed?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Okay.

13 And, to your knowledge, has the number of CAT members increased or decreased
14 during your 2 years?

15 A I believe when I came on we were in the [REDACTED], so I believe
16 they've increased a little bit.

17 Q Okay. And you mentioned there was [REDACTED] that are --

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q And so there are about [REDACTED] that -- if the 7 [REDACTED] is
20 correct -- and I know it's -- we're not holding you to it -- but roughly [REDACTED] that are
21 available to be filled?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Are you involved at all in trying to fill those slots? Is that part of your job?

24 A I'm not currently, but we do have individuals that are on, like, a recruitment
25 router. So they kind of fill that ancillary function to recruit individuals and get out there

1 and kind of keep track of who out in the field is interested and help sway them to -- you
2 know, encourage them to come out for CAT.

3 Q From your perspective, is CAT a desirable job in the Secret Service?

4 A Uh --

5 Q I ask you that because I'm trying to understand if it's going to be easy or hard
6 for Secret Service --

7 A Yeah.

8 Q -- to fill the slots.

9 A I'd say it's a very desirable job to a very small number of people.
10 There's -- yeah. I'd say it's a very desirable job to a small number of people.

11 Q Okay. Understood.

12 Now I'm going to ask you about the different assignments or number of people
13 assigned to different types of protectees.

14 So can you tell us how many people are -- how many CAT people are assigned to
15 the [REDACTED]?

16 A No issues, right, disclosing?

17 [REDACTED] depending on the [REDACTED].

18 Q Okay.

19 And, then, do you have a knowledge of the general protective detail that is
20 assigned to [REDACTED] just the CAT team?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q And what is that?

23 A You have shift. To my knowledge, it's the detail leader, basically the
24 individual that's in the [REDACTED], per se, or the [REDACTED]. You have
25 a shift leader, who is ultimately the, for lack of a better word, the quarterback of the shift.

1 And then you have four shift agents that kind of form that bubble of the protectee.

2 And that changes from protectee to protectee based on their threat level or if
3 they're deemed to have a high, medium, or low --

4 Q Understood.

5 A -- level of protectee. But at the [REDACTED] per se,
6 that's approximately what it's at.

7 Q Does the [REDACTED] -- or, do the number of people that are assigned to
8 the [REDACTED] ever vary based on the level of threat?

9 A For the [REDACTED]. The only exception to
10 that would be if he is in the [REDACTED]. Certain directorates will adjust their numbers,
11 especially based on protective tempo.

12 Obviously, we're in an unprecedented time right now with the number of
13 protectees that we're covering in light of recent events.

14 Q Right.

15 A But, generally, you would only see an increase to the protection, never a
16 [REDACTED].

17 Q Understood.

18 And CAT is a permanent -- is permanently [REDACTED], correct?

19 A [REDACTED].

20 Q [REDACTED]. Okay.

21 And for the [REDACTED], is there a difference between the number of people
22 that are assigned to the [REDACTED]?

23 A [REDACTED] I know they operate under the same
24 function with -- there's a detail leader, there's a shift leader, and I believe it is [REDACTED]
25 agents, [REDACTED], but I believe it's -- I believe [REDACTED]

1 Q Okay.

2 A And, also, we have a variety of other assets that typically are provided to,
3 like, [REDACTED], such as our counter-sniper and our HAMMER, our Hazardous Agent
4 Mitigation Medical Emergency Response team. So, outside of the shift, if you're asking
5 in total, like, or in whole, what our protective operation looks like, there are a variety of
6 other.

7 But right up close and personal, that is essentially what comprises the President's
8 detail --

9 Q Okay.

10 A -- and Vice President's.

11 Q Right. And so is it fair to say that the [REDACTED] get
12 what's called the maximum level of protective services?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Okay.

15 And do you know what CNOS is?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q I'm just going to say it -- can you tell us for the record what it is?

18 A Candidate Nominee Operations Section.

19 Q Okay. And what is that?

20 A So, every 4 years when the election is rolling around and we have candidates
21 running for President, we pull folks from all over the place -- from the field, from on the
22 details -- to support this CNOS assignment.

23 I don't know exactly what group or board it is that decides when a certain
24 candidate or a nominee warrants the protection, but I know, historically, like, once it gets
25 turned on for one candidate or nominee, it usually gets turned on for all. And it's

1 usually much further down in the race, when there's usually just two candidates at that
2 point and then their respective nominees for Vice President.

3 But then the Secret Service picks them up and are assigned to those individuals for
4 at least the remainder of the election or while they still are a candidate.

5 Q Okay.

6 And do you know what, if any, differences there are between the level of
7 security -- meaning the number of people, the services that are provided -- between a
8 CNOS and a President or Vice President?

9 A Yes, sir. Generally, they receive [REDACTED] And I believe that is
10 correlated with a lower threat level to those individuals.

11 Q Is there a CAT team permanently assigned to CNOS?

12 A Historically -- so, obviously, this is my first campaign cycle that I've been a
13 part of CAT. Based on my knowledge and working with guys that have been here longer
14 than I, generally CAT was assigned to a CNOS function.

15 For this campaign cycle, former President Trump did have a CAT -- or, did have
16 CAT teams permanently assigned to him before any of the other CNOS protectees had
17 been given that protection. But at this time currently, all four other individuals -- so the
18 Vice President, obviously, already had it, but Vice President-nominee Walz and Vice
19 President-nominee Vance also have CAT protection.

20 Q Right.

21 And you mentioned that former President Trump already had a CAT team
22 assigned. Is that because he was a former President, or was it because of the threat
23 level?

24 A I can't speak to -- I'm not exactly aware of why they decided that. Again,
25 that decision comes up much higher above me.

1 Q Understood. Did anyone ever tell you why that was the case?

2 A I mean, based on my experience and knowledge within the agency, I would
3 surmise that it was due to multiple factors, being that he was a former President, that he
4 still garnered large crowds, and that, because of the contentious nature of his character
5 that he brings out in the media or the public, that there -- it would not surprise me if
6 there were threat risks there to also warrant the heightened protection.

7 Q Okay. Understood.

8 And you mentioned that there was -- the assets that are provided for CNOS,
9 including for a former President CNOS, which I know is a rare event, that they're lower
10 than for the POTUS or the VPOTUS, right?

11 A Generally, yes.

12 Q Generally?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q And in what ways are they lower? Like, what are the assets that the CNOS
15 does not have, to your knowledge?

16 A I believe they only typically operate with [REDACTED] instead of
17 [REDACTED] I think the shift [REDACTED]. They don't typically get [REDACTED]
18 coverage.

19 I don't -- based on my coworkers that were around longer than I have been, I
20 believe this was the first time that Vice Presidential nominees received CAT coverage.

21 Q And that was before -- was that before or after the July 13th attempted
22 assassination?

23 A So, for this campaign cycle, they received CAT after that. And then,
24 historically, in previous campaigns and elections, they would never receive CAT
25 protection. So --

1 Q Okay.

2 A -- the entire footprint is just kind of shrunk back, to include entire assets.

3 Q Understood.

4 And then just briefly on [REDACTED] --

5 A Uh-huh.

6 Q -- or it could end up being [REDACTED] -- is there a
7 difference in the protective services that are provided to [REDACTED] versus a [REDACTED] and
8 versus a [REDACTED]?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And just very briefly, what is that?

11 A I can't speak to specifically for the entire operation. I know, CAT-wise, we
12 generally only cover [REDACTED].

13 Q Okay. Understood.

14 Now, talking about your schedule for a bit, just generally, do you work in
15 rotations?

16 A Theoretically, yes.

17 Q Okay.

18 A If we were staffed to the [REDACTED] that we are slated for, theoretically,
19 yes, we should be working in rotations.

20 Q And what would those rotations be if you were staffed?

21 A So, if you remember, I said we had [REDACTED], so each -- comprised of four
22 squads. So each squad would be on a rotation. [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED].

24 And one of those teams in the training cycle would be -- they would have priority
25 to training if some type of -- or, like, if advance work was needed and somebody had to

1 get sent out, then that team would be pulled to send representatives out to the advance.
2 And you would do that for 2 weeks, and then everything would shift right one, so the
3 training team would go to days and so on.

4 But because of our manpower and the high-paced travel tempo and protective
5 operation tempo, it does not work out like that at all.

6 Q So how does it work out?

7 A Before the CNOS coverage kicked off, we would usually get a preliminary
8 schedule on a Wednesday. It would list out a tentative schedule. Depending on the
9 week, that could hold, that could change. And then Friday we would receive an official
10 schedule. And that would show you what you were working for that coming Sunday
11 through the next Saturday.

12 Q Okay.

13 A And that could get amended up to anywhere -- I think the most I've seen is
14 five or six amended schedules come out, you know, between Friday and up to that next
15 Saturday.

16 Q Right.

17 And so how long are the rotations now? You said it should be 2 weeks. How
18 long do they typically last?

19 A I don't even -- I would say that there aren't rotations.

20 Q So it's just constant?

21 A Uh-huh. I mean, we have our -- we have days off, typically. But as far as if
22 you're working days consistently, that's not the case. You could work a midnight, you
23 could work a couple midnights in a row, have a day off, and then roll into day shift or
24 evening shift or travel. So --

25 Q But, in your view, the 2 weeks is how it's supposed to happen, the 2-week

1 rotations, but that doesn't happen at all anymore.

2 A Yes. I don't believe that's happened in a long time.

3 Q Okay.

4 And for former President Trump, leading up to July 13th, was the rotation similar,
5 that there was really no rotation, it was effectively just a constant coverage?

6 A So, for the CNOS operations, that's different, because those individuals
7 aren't based in-district. I guess [REDACTED] --

8 Q Right.

9 A -- [REDACTED] out here, so he might be an exception.

10 So for [REDACTED] for example -- I'll use him -- for my rotation, there were four of us
11 that were sent out, so [REDACTED]. So my colleague [REDACTED] and
12 I were on one team. And, you know, coming into that first week, we had an
13 approximation of former POTUS Trump's schedule, so we were able to sit down and kind
14 of build out our schedule. And we were providing coverage from, if I remember
15 correctly, it was 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

16 So we sat down and we said, okay, you know, [REDACTED] and I will [REDACTED] and
17 our other [REDACTED]. And, then, if there was travel in there
18 or if he was going somewhere, then we had to kind of coordinate, you know, maybe one
19 team would just cover a full day, the other team would jump out ahead.

20 So we had the flexibility to kind of -- because it was just the four of us, and we
21 weren't covering midnights at the time. So, in that instance, we were able to coordinate
22 our schedule. But we didn't do it in a specific way to, like, make sure we were, you
23 know, consistent on working eves or whatnot. It was kind of just based on whatever the
24 protectee, or in that case Trump, was doing.

25 Q Okay. Understood.

1 And you mentioned [REDACTED].

2 A Uh-huh.

3 Q Do the members of each team stay the same, or does it just rotate based on
4 what your particular function is?

5 A They try to keep individuals on the same teams. They will move people
6 around if one team becomes really heavy with ATLs, or assistant team leaders, and
7 another team doesn't have any. They'll spread that out. Or if one team is just fat with
8 bodies, they might spread that out if they don't have a class of new recruits or guys that
9 have passed.

10 But you generally don't -- you don't necessarily work with your team. You know,
11 that's -- it's just a concept on paper.

12 Q Right.

13 A There's a sense of camaraderie with that, with your own team. But as far
14 as, like, actually just working with your team, it doesn't usually work out that way.

15 Q Understood.

16 And what team are you a member of?

17 A I'm Team 3.

18 Q Team 3. And is there any other name for it?

19 A No. Just Team 3.

20 Q Okay. And are you permanently on Team 3, or is it, do you shift out after 6
21 months or something like that?

22 A No. I've been -- myself, I've been on Team 3 the duration of my time on
23 CAT.

24 Q Okay.

25 Are there any distinctions that are made between the different teams? I'm not

1 talking about function, but actually, like, is there a team that's considered the elite team
2 and there's one that's more training? Or does that not exist?

3 A Maybe personality.

4 Q But it's nothing -- it's not a policy?

5 A No, no. No policy.

6 Q Okay.

7 Let's -- have you provided protective services for CNOSes and for POTUS, for
8 VPOTUS?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q Okay. So all three.

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q FLOTUS?

13 A I don't believe I have -- or, in a CAT function or in my --

14 Q In your CAT function.

15 A In my CAT function, I don't believe that I have worked a FLOTUS event.

16 Q Okay. What about former Presidents who are not CNOSes?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Okay.

19 Let's talk a little bit about the structure inside. Who is your direct supervisor?

20 A My direct supervisor is ATSAIC [REDACTED]

21 Q Okay. And how many supervisors do you have at CAT?

22 A So that would be my immediate supervisor, so the ATSAIC, or assistant to
23 the special agent in charge.

24 And then the -- so CAT falls under the Special Operations Division. We have our
25 counter-sniper team, our HAMMER team. There's several units that fall under the SOD,

1 or Special Operations Division, directorate. So, after my, like, team supervisor,
2 [REDACTED], we have the ASAIC, or assistant special agent in charge, of SOD. So, after
3 your TL, then that supervisor kind of oversees all of SOD.

4 So it'd be the ASAIC; and then above him you have the DSAIC, the deputy special
5 agent in charge; and then the special agent in charge.

6 Q Okay. Can you just quickly tell us what the names of all those people are?

7 A The ASAIC is [REDACTED]. The DSAIC is [REDACTED]. And then the
8 SAIC is [REDACTED].

9 Q Okay. And are any of those people squad leaders?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q All right. And what is a squad leader? What is --

12 A I have not heard reference --

13 Q Okay.

14 A -- to "squad leaders." The only time I ever heard reference to that is if
15 they -- when one team -- there might be an interim period where a team doesn't have a
16 TL, so, therefore, the other team in that squad -- so, for example, if Team 3 didn't have a
17 TL, Team 4's TL would essentially be our team leader. So he would -- you know, people
18 might reference him as the squad leader for that duration of time where there's no TL for
19 3.

20 Q Understood.

21 Is there -- do you know -- I understand it's not an official term, but is there any
22 kind of rule about what level or what rank somebody has to be to be a squad leader, in
23 the, let's call it, colloquial sense?

24 A Yeah. I believe they're all GS-14s.

25 Q GS-14?

1 A Yeah.

2 Q What are you, by the way?

3 A I'm a GS-13.

4 Q You're a GS-13. Okay.

5 Do you have any direct reports, people who directly report to you?

6 A No, I do not.

7 Q All right.

8 And let's talk a little bit about your experience with campaigns, campaign events.

9 A Okay.

10 Q You've done a number of campaign events for protective services?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Approximately how many?

13 A Uh --

14 Q Dozens?

15 A We'll say, I've done several advances. And then I've worked maybe 10 to

16 15 -- or, probably more than that, probably anywhere from 15 to 25 campaign events.

17 Q Okay. And prior to the July 13th Butler event, roughly the same number?

18 It hasn't escalated since then?

19 A Not significantly, no.

20 Q Okay.

21 A I've only done a handful more since then.

22 Q And how many have been outdoors? I'm not looking for a specific number,
23 but is it frequent or was it infrequent?

24 A Infrequent.

25 Q Infrequent. And do you know how many times that you had to do

1 outdoors, other than Butler?

2 A The only other outdoor event I can ever remember doing was in phase one,
3 when First Lady Jill Biden -- or, at the time, I guess she wasn't technically First Lady; they
4 were still campaigning -- but she came to Minnesota --

5 Q Okay.

6 A -- and went to -- did something outside.

7 Q So you had not done one for former President Trump prior to Butler?

8 A No, I have, actually. When he was President, he -- at one of his airport
9 rallies.

10 Q Okay. You've done that when you were in the prior role before CAT?

11 A Yes, sir. So, yeah. Are you just asking --

12 Q Just about as CAT.

13 A Yeah. For CAT, I don't -- nothing is coming to mind right now --

14 Q Okay.

15 A -- of, like, an actual outdoor event. Obviously, our protectees are outside
16 at moments --

17 Q Right.

18 A -- but no outdoor events other than the Butler rally.

19 Q Okay.

20 And during these campaign events, are you partnered up with local law
21 enforcement and State?

22 A Generally, yeah -- yes, sir.

23 Q Okay. Were HSI personnel staffed to these events?

24 A Are you asking specific to Butler or just --

25 Q No, just generally.

1 A Yes. During CNOS, it's my understanding -- or, yes, they are in a capacity to
2 provide support to us.

3 Q Okay. And other Federal agencies as well?

4 A The only other one that I know that we do utilize is TSA, Transportation
5 Security Administration. They will provide support to our Uniformed Division with
6 screening public that come through.

7 Q Understood.

8 [REDACTED]: Can I, with your indulgence, ask one last question? Then I'll --

9 [REDACTED]: Of course.

10 [REDACTED]: -- hand it over to the minority.

11 BY [REDACTED]:

12 Q Are you familiar with the concept of a security perimeter?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q And what does that mean to you?

15 A "Security perimeter" to me would mean it's the -- or it is a barrier or
16 designation of -- or -- sorry -- a threshold of where certain people are not allowed
17 through.

18 Q Okay. And, to your understanding, a security perimeter is created for all of
19 these events, campaign events, that you provide protective services to?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Are you involved in defining the security perimeter, or does somebody else
22 do that?

23 A Yes, there's a -- or, sorry. As a CAT individual, no, I am not involved. Yes,
24 somebody else is responsible for --

25 Q Right. But you are aware, when you go to provide these services, what the

1 security perimeter is?

2 A As a CAT operator, not necessarily. We are aware -- not necessarily.

3 Q All right. Okay.

4 [REDACTED]. I'll turn it over to the minority.

5 [REDACTED]. All right. So we can go off the record, take a little break here to
6 rearrange ourselves.

7 [Recess.]

8 [REDACTED]. We can go back on the record.

9 Good morning, [REDACTED]. Thank you for --

10 [REDACTED]. Good morning.

11 [REDACTED]. -- coming to meet with us here this morning. Again, my name is

12 [REDACTED]. I'm an investigative counsel for the task force minority.

13 EXAMINATION

14 BY [REDACTED]:

15 Q We've just spent a fair amount of time on some of the background, so I
16 won't tread through too much of that again.

17 But just to start, I think, you know, we started talking about the Counter Assault
18 Team, or CAT team. What is that? How would you describe the role of the Counter
19 Assault Team?

20 A [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED].

23 Q So "the shift" being synonymous with "the detail"; is that right?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Okay. So you are there to [REDACTED], and the [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]?

2 A Yes, essentially. We would -- once the detail leaves, our priority is still to
3 them, so we would [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED].

5 Q Understood.

6 And I think we were talking a bit about your scheduling. For how long had you
7 been working with former President Trump prior to July 13th?

8 A That was actually my last day on a 3-week rotation.

9 Q Was that your first 3-week rotation with him?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q And I recall you saying that -- or I think I understood you to say that former
12 President Trump, as part of the CNOS coverage, had received a CAT team before any
13 other people being covered by CNOS. Is that right?

14 A Yes, ma'am, that's correct.

15 Q And do you recall when that was?

16 A I believe it was approximately sometime in May of 2024.

17 Q So, since May of 2024, former President Trump has had continuous CAT
18 team coverage. Is that correct?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q And during that period, though, you've only done one 3-week cycle.

21 A That's correct, ma'am.

22 Q And I believe I heard you use the term "[REDACTED]." To whom or to what does
23 that refer?

24 A Yeah. My apologies. I may just, with all the information that's being
25 discussed, just speak out of habit. [REDACTED].

1 Q Thank you. And feel free to use whatever term is easiest for you. Just
2 wanted to have that on the record.

3 So I'd like to sort of shift or focus more on the July 13th event.

4 When did you first become aware, to the best of your recollection, that there
5 would be this rally in Butler?

6 A It was approximately 1 week prior to that.

7 Q Is that a typical timeline for a campaign event?

8 A No. The reason I say that is, things can pop up a day or two before, or they
9 might -- depending on the size of it, they might be on the schedule for longer than a
10 week. Ultimately, it depends -- it's based on when the staff of that protectee decides to
11 tell the Secret Service that something is on the schedule and happening.

12 Q So, in that 1-week range, that seems -- it sounds like it could be longer, it
13 could be shorter; there just really is no standard timeline?

14 A Correct.

15 Q How did you first receive your assignment? Was it just you were on that
16 3-week rotation so you knew you would be covering the rally?

17 A We were generally receiving, like, a look-ahead schedule every day, and it
18 was, you know, generally the same unless something new was added or removed. So,
19 again, about a week before it, we had seen that on the schedule.

20 And, at that point, [REDACTED] -- or, CAT operators and I that were
21 assigned to that rotation sat down and just kind of planned out the week ahead, based on
22 the other events or items that were on the schedule leading up to that day, to kind of
23 figure out how it would fall and who would end up working that. And it just so
24 happened, based on the schedule, that [REDACTED] and I would be traveling and working
25 that visit.

1 Q So do I understand you to say that the four of you who are on this 3-week
2 rotation, within that 3-week period, it's sort of up to you to figure out who will be a.m.
3 shift, p.m. shift, which days?

4 A It is in some regard. A lot of times, just it's more so dictated by the
5 schedule itself and his -- in this instance, [REDACTED] travel. If one team is jumping out
6 ahead out of the West Palm Beach area, and he's not leaving until, like, 3:00 p.m. that
7 day, then that other team would just have to work the day shift and travel with him then.
8 So you'd end up working, you know, the eve shift, essentially.

1 [11:07 a.m.]

2 BY [REDACTED]:

3 Q Makes sense.

4 That 1-week advance time, did you have any concerns about that, in terms of
5 adequate time to plan?

6 A So my counterpart, [REDACTED], was assigned -- or it was decided that he was
7 going to do the telephonic advance for this visit. He spoke to me a little bit, you know,
8 throughout the week leading up just about how his advance was going and whatnot.
9 And I kind of had a little bit of knowledge of, like, generally that there was going to be an
10 outdoor rally, without having a lot of the details.

11 You know, with the Secret Service, you know, we show up to our sites, you know,
12 and we work it. And if you're the advance, you're given the sites that are given to you
13 by staff, and it's your responsibility to ultimately, you know, try to provide a security plan.
14 At least, that's the -- what we're dealt.

15 [REDACTED]: Could I ask one quick one?

16 [REDACTED]: Yes.

17 BY [REDACTED]:

18 Q The word "staff" -- and I think we've heard this elsewhere -- it refers to
19 campaign staff, right? Or are you using it to refer to Secret Service?

20 A Oh, I'm sorry. Yes, it'd be campaign or the staff directly related to that
21 protectee, yes, sir.

22 Q So meaning either campaign or Secret Service?

23 A No. Sorry. Like, staff that, like, works for the protectee, not for the Secret
24 Service.

25 Q In this case, the former President's campaign staff.

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Okay. So the word "staff" without any other modifiers refers to campaign
3 staff?

4 A Yes. Sorry. Yes, I'm referring -- yeah. Thank you for clarifying that.

5 [REDACTED] Or protectee staff.

6 [REDACTED] Or protectee staff.

7 [REDACTED]. Sure. In this example campaign, or protectee also.

8 [REDACTED] Yeah. Because they might not just be specific to the campaign.

9 They may be, like, permanent staff members that work for, you know, former President
10 Trump.

11 [REDACTED]. Thank you.

12 BY [REDACTED]:

13 Q And perhaps just to encapsulate that a little more and put a finer point on it,
14 it was former President Trump's staff, whether permanent staff, campaign staff, that
15 selected the site in Butler for the rally?

16 A That I cannot speak to.

17 Q Okay. But at some point you understand that this Butler site has been
18 chosen, and Secret Service then goes into action to do what they can to plan for that. Is
19 that fair?

20 A Yes, ma'am. That's my understanding.

21 Q And you said that your colleague Agent [REDACTED], I think you said, it was either
22 assigned or decided that he would be the agent. Which was that, to your recollection?

23 A So, in that 3-week period, there were several trips that happened, so we just
24 kind of all alternated who would do the advance for those trips. So it just so happened
25 to fall that it was [REDACTED]'s turn to do an advance.

1 Q Got it. And what does that role entail, doing the advance?

2 A Um --

3 Q Specifically the CAT advance, for you.

4 A Specific to the [REDACTED] rotation? Or in general, I guess, on a more standard
5 basis?

6 Q I'll ask both ways. How do the two compare?

7 A So I'll use, like, a Presidential advance for example, for a Presidential visit.

8 If I was doing the advance, I would get sent out [REDACTED] and
9 be on the ground, working with other members of the -- other advance members from
10 the detail, so special agents.

11 And then protectee staff would also be there with local campaign staff. And
12 we'd be working with them to figure out where the sites were going to be.

13 Q Uh-huh.

14 A And then we would be working with our local and State counterparts to
15 create a security plan for the entirety of that visit.

16 For the CNOS program, so specific to former President Trump, because manpower
17 is lower on those generally, [REDACTED].

18 The advance was done telephonically over the phone, from a CAT standpoint.

19 Q Understood. Have you ever worked a CNOS assignment where there was a
20 CAT advance person that went to the site physically?

21 A I have since July 13th.

22 Q So that seems to be a change, that somebody goes physically.

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Prior to that, the advance was done telephonically, and I think you said
25 Agent [REDACTED] did that. What does that mean? Who was he speaking to?

1 A He is speaking with other members from the Secret Service, other agents
2 from the Secret Service that are doing that advance, that are based locally out there. So
3 they are on the ground coordinating the advance.

4 And then he is speaking with local county and State law enforcement counterparts
5 to try to coordinate our [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]

7 Q And can you be more specific as to what those assets would be?

8 A Yeah. It would be -- so we just had a [REDACTED]. That's obviously not
9 a lot of people. So, you know, for that visit in particular, we needed additional -- or
10 requested additional [REDACTED] so we had more team -- or more tactical
11 supportive elements in [REDACTED] that would be with us [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED].

13 And then -- so [REDACTED] was responsible for coordinating site-dedicated response
14 teams, so tactical elements that were dedicated to the [REDACTED]. In
15 the event that anything were to happen at those sites, you had response teams that
16 could -- kind of how, earlier, when I told you, you know, [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]? Well, when the
18 [REDACTED]. So these [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED].

22 Q Understood.

23 And I think you just used the name "[REDACTED]". Is that Special Agent [REDACTED]?

24 A Sorry, yes. Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Nope, no worries at all.

1 As he's doing this phone advance, did you have any specific understanding of who
2 he was speaking with to do that work?

3 A No. I can't recall what entities he was speaking with.

4 Q And you said that, since July 13th, you now -- not you specifically,
5 necessarily, but a CAT advance person actually physically goes to the site. What is
6 gained by doing that?

7 A Familiarity with the site itself and, you know, seeing something firsthand,
8 getting to actually walk around, look, stand in certain spots, and find or look at different
9 routes in and out of the building or in and out of the site if it's an exterior site. You
10 know, you can't get as much of that from a picture or from hearing it secondhand from
11 someone else.

12 Q Okay. So, apologies if I'm asking you to sort of state the obvious --

13 A No, I understand.

14 Q -- and explain the difference.

15 When you're doing it by phone, who are you primarily relying on to check the site,
16 to understand those entrances and exits? Is that your Secret Service partners? Is that
17 the local partners?

18 A Based on my experience -- so I was fortunate enough that, the one advance
19 that I did during that rotation, because we traveled, we jumped ahead of the other team,
20 I was able to get a walk-through.

21 Q Uh-huh.

22 A So I'm just speaking in my experience and what I would imagine. But the
23 lead advance agent.

24 There may be a conversation with the site agent as well. Any other Special
25 Operations Division units that are there would be coordinated with them, so we're

1 tracking where they're at, they're tracking where we're at.

2 But, yeah, generally, it would be those.

3 And then maybe someone from the transportation section, who's responsible for
4 organizing the motorcade, planning the routes, coordinating our motorcade assets along
5 that route, and any police assets if you've got road closures or anything like that. So
6 they'll want to know where we're at in the motorcade and whatnot.

7 So any number of the advance personnel, at some point CAT would likely interact
8 with them.

9 Q And for this specific event on July 13th, do you have an understanding of
10 who selected the sites for the CAT team to be located?

11 A [REDACTED].

12 Q Okay. So that's not a decision that was left to the locals. You just
13 [REDACTED].

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q And --

16 A So, sorry. Let me -- [REDACTED]. If you were asking, like,
17 where we're [REDACTED], [REDACTED], that is usually determined by us, in
18 coordination with the lead advance agent, the site agent. [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED]

20 Q So, in this instance, when neither you or Agent [REDACTED] are able to physically go
21 to the site beforehand, you don't know where the stage is, necessarily, or where other
22 assets are located, who told you where you would be that day?

23 A Based on my experience and from the conversations that I loosely remember
24 having with Special Agent [REDACTED] leading up to that, we would've discussed with the
25 transportation agent, the lead agent, to kind of figure out where the motorcade's going to

1 be, you know, upon arrival at each site, what emergency action or routes were available
2 or open to be used in the event something happened.

3 And then we would work with them to make sure that we're in a place that's
4 acceptable to, you know, the rest of the detail and staff. Obviously, we're in [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED], so sometimes there's an optic issue that we have to work around
6 so we're not just standing in the camera shot or something like that.

7 So we just kind of work with all those entities to make sure, to kind of know where
8 we're going to be upon [REDACTED], and then so that we can also position
9 ourselves in the most tactically sound spot for us to be able to respond or do what we
10 need to do in case something happens.

11 Q Was there any concern on July 13th about -- you just said being in sort of the
12 camera shot -- about where you would be located in terms of press or media visibility or
13 the crowd?

14 A No, ma'am.

15 Q And you said that the staff does seem to be involved in this discussion a bit.
16 Do you recall any specific discussion with former President Trump's staff about
17 positioning?

18 A We don't -- sorry. So the CAT team doesn't generally interact with staff.
19 That conversation would usually be had through, like, the lead advance agent, who is
20 speaking directly with staff, or the site agent. They might relay to us that staff had a
21 concern for agents or people being in this area right here.

22 Granted, if it came down to it, we're not going to compromise our -- if that was
23 the only position available to do something, we're not going to compromise it.

24 Q And a couple times you've mentioned the lead advance agent and the site
25 agent. Do you recall who those individuals were for July 13th?

1 A I believe the name of the lead agent was [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. And I cannot
2 recall the name of the site agent.

3 Q And are both the lead agent and the site agent people who are from the
4 local Secret Service office, or are they part of the detail?

5 A It was my understanding that the lead agent was part of the Pittsburgh Field
6 Office and the site agent was part of the Donald Trump detail.

7 Q Is that sort of a standard setup, where you would have one local agent and
8 one from the detail?

9 A I'm not 100 percent certain. Based on my experience with the CNOS
10 rotation, that seemed pretty consistent. I don't know how the detail handles it, like,
11 Donald Trump's detail, as far as if or how many people they were sending out at that
12 time.

13 Q How would you describe those two roles? Appreciating that is not your
14 particular role, but what is the role of the lead advance agent, and what is the role of the
15 site agent?

16 A Based on my experience, like, the role of the lead advance agent is to work
17 with staff and the rest of the Secret Service advance team to ensure that everyone is
18 basically fulfilling their assignment; any questions or concerns they might have, they're
19 getting those answered or routed to the proper channels.

20 The lead agent kind of has, like, the overview of everything to make sure all the
21 pieces fall into place. They're responsible for, you know, kind of making sure logistics, as
22 far as, like, hotel rooms if they're needed and whatnot, get taken care of and just maybe
23 plugging any holes.

24 Whereas the site agent, they're specifically assigned to a site, and that is their,
25 more or less, only concern for that visit. So they're focused on securing that site, getting

1 everybody there, coordinating other assets to set up the security perimeter and the plan
2 for that site and the movement of all the individuals involved.

3 Q Thank you.

4 Are you familiar with the term a "CAT liaison" or a "CAT LNO"?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And what is that?

7 A Generally we use that for instances where only [REDACTED] is going to
8 be working a visit. So, for example, a lot of times, or for certain visits, like, I would
9 maybe get sent out as the CAT LNO to -- I would go do the advance, and [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED] coming with me. [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED]. So I would be a
12 CAT LNO for that visit.

13 Q [REDACTED] and you physically go out, do the
14 advance in person.

15 Was there a CAT LNO here?

16 A No. Because we [REDACTED], because there was [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED] or myself a CAT LNO.

18 Q Were you aware of any requests to have a CAT LNO that day?

19 A I'm not aware of any requests. We had a local TAC LNO with us. So an
20 individual from Butler County SWAT team linked up with us when we arrived at the Butler
21 site. So I would've considered him -- or, I would consider him an LNO for those
22 purposes.

23 Q So it's really somebody to act as a linkage between Secret Service CAT and
24 the local tactical assets. Whether it's Secret Service or somebody from the local doesn't
25 really matter. It's just that --

1 A Yes, ma'am, I'd say that's a fair explanation.

2 Q And do you recall who that person from Butler ESU was?

3 A I cannot recall his name.

4 Q If I said the name "[REDACTED]," would that jog your memory?

5 A [REDACTED] sounds familiar, but I can't say for certain.

6 Q Fair enough.

7 It was just you and Agent [REDACTED] as this [REDACTED] Do you recall any
8 discussion or any requests about additional Secret Service CAT resources for July 13th?

9 A I don't recall any. You asked if any requests or --

10 Q Right. Any requests to make that team bigger?

11 A No, not that I was aware of.

12 Q Would that have been usual, to try to have more than two people from
13 Secret Service there?

14 A At that time, before everything happened and everything seemed so
15 apparent, no. I would say, no, it didn't seem unusual. It was just kind of the nature of
16 the CNOS operations.

17 Q And appreciating that's sort of how things work and this is how many folks
18 you have on staff, did you, going into that rally, feel that you had sufficient manpower,
19 specifically to the CAT function?

20 A I would say that I'm so used to just having to work with what we've got that I
21 felt that we had enough tactical entities there. So there wasn't a point where I felt
22 overwhelmed by, like, the potential -- any potential concerns or threats that might be out
23 there versus what we had from a tactical standpoint.

24 Having a [REDACTED], like, standing with you wherever you're at and located at
25 the site feels much better than a [REDACTED]. But we're very confident in our

1 abilities and our ability to coordinate with our local tactical partners that were also there,
2 so --

3 Q And is it right that Agent [REDACTED] did request some local tactical resources?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Do you recall about how many folks he requested?

6 A I don't know how many he requested. I can only speak to approximately,
7 from what I recall, what we actually received.

8 Q And how many were there?

9 A Specific to the Butler site?

10 Q Specific to the Butler site CAT team.

11 A So we had a [REDACTED]. That was
12 Pennsylvania State police SWAT. And their function -- so they rode with us from the
13 moment we landed at the airport throughout the rest of the visit.

14 And then when we arrived to Butler, the Butler site, we had the local TAC LNO
15 from Butler County. I believe it -- it wasn't SWAT. It's ESU. It's a SWAT team. They
16 just call it the Emergency Service Unit. He jumped in our truck with us. So it was
17 myself, Special Agent [REDACTED], and then the individual whose name I can't remember.

18 And then we had [REDACTED] response teams there. I believe those were
19 each [REDACTED] teams. And those were also Butler County ESU.

20 Q And how would you describe their anticipated role that day?

21 A So the two -- so I'll explain it in the order I presented them.

22 The Pennsylvania State Police's team, their role is to kind of remain in the

23 [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]

25 Q Uh-huh.

1 A However, you know, there's always the chance that they could be utilized at
2 our discretion or if something happens in that [REDACTED].

3 The one response team, I can't remember what -- if they were response [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED] -- or, excuse me, it would've been [REDACTED]. They were, I believe, out kind of
5 near where the general public were parking. So they were there. It's my
6 understanding that their responsibility was to be a tactical support element in the area
7 where general public were, [REDACTED] in the event that either
8 there was a threat there towards our protectee or just towards the general public.

9 And then the other response team was behind the barns, the 6 o'clock, kind of,
10 around our arrival/departure area. And they were put in that place. They're closer to
11 where we're [REDACTED]. And they had the ability to maneuver along the
12 right side of the venue if need be. So that was just an advantageous point for them to
13 be at that time.

14 Q And, again, do you have an understanding of who selected those two
15 particular sites, one behind the barn, one near the entrance?

16 A It's my understanding that it was coordination between Special Agent [REDACTED]
17 and the local tactical representative, or commander, whoever had been in charge of
18 those, to work out. And then probably also they discussed it with the lead advance
19 agent.

20 Q Understood.

21 When Agent [REDACTED] or whomever the CAT advance lead is -- is there any
22 documentation of the request for local support?

23 A There may be. You would have to -- that'd be a question for him. It could
24 have been telephonic, or it could have been an email. But I do not know for certain, in
25 that instance, how it was requested.

1 Q When you're performing the function of an advance agent and you're doing
2 the telephonic advance, would you ever document it by email to the site agent or the
3 lead, "I've requested this"? Do you write a note to yourself?

4 A Per my practice, I typically put an email out to the local tactical elements just
5 as a last-minute confirmation of what I'm tracking for everyone's assets. And then, yes,
6 I'd also put it out to the detail, because they often have to -- or, not "often" -- they do put
7 that in -- they need to specify that in their paperwork that they do as part of their
8 advance of what tactical teams and how many personnel they're comprised of.

9 Q And what paperwork is that?

10 A That would be the survey that I was referencing earlier.

11 Q And maybe I can show you. We'll mark it as minority exhibit A.

12 [REDACTED] Minority Exhibit A
13 was marked for identification.]

14 BY [REDACTED]:

15 Q This is just a portion of, I think, that survey. But I'll ask you if you're familiar
16 with this sort of document.

17 A Yes, ma'am, I'm familiar with that.

18 Q And what is this?

19 A So this specifically is a "Manpower Request." And I believe this is always
20 part of the preliminary and final surveys; it's one of the many documents that's included
21 in that survey.

22 But this is an accounting of how many assets are being provided by each team.
23 And, also, I believe it goes into -- so, during the advance planning process, it's decided
24 how many other assets, such as post-standers, are needed at each site and whatnot.
25 And that goes through a process of kind of checks and balances and approval, and then

1 it's determined, you know, how many people are being requested.

2 So this is just an accounting of that so it's kind of on paper and whoever needs to
3 can track that.

4 Q And this, to me, seems specific to Secret Service agents. Is there any sort
5 of similar manpower request that documents local requests?

6 A Um --

7 Q Appreciating I've pulled out just a couple pages of that --

8 A Yeah.

9 Q -- preliminary request here.

10 A And for context, CAT doesn't fill this out. So I've seen this before, but
11 without, you know, looking at it frequently, partially I'm familiar.

12 I believe there's typically -- there are places where it is documented, number of
13 local and State assets. I could be wrong, though.

14 It was my understanding, at some point there is a documentation of how many
15 assets are going to be at a site, comprised of, like, local law enforcement or State. I
16 can't speak to where they would be listed at in that survey.

17 [REDACTED]: Can I ask one quick one?

18 BY [REDACTED]:

19 Q Does a local CAT team ever invite themselves? Or if they're there in the
20 first place, it has to be because you all invited them?

21 A We have no control -- ultimately, we have no control if a SWAT team of,
22 yeah, the local precinct or jurisdiction shows up and wants to provide support, even if it's
23 not coordinated. So, yes, they could show up without us asking or giving instruction or a
24 request for them to be there.

25 Q Has that ever happened in your experience?

1 A Yes. It's my understanding that it happened at Butler. And they could be
2 there at the request of another Secret Service entity as part of that advance.

3 Q Could I ask, your understanding that it happened in Butler is referring to CAT
4 teams or to a different tactical asset?

5 A So, when I use the term "CAT," I'm specifically referring to the Secret Service
6 Counter Assault Team. So a Secret Service Counter Assault Team would never just show
7 up without coordination or any type of planning. But a local tactical team could.

8 Sorry. Could you repeat that?

9 Q Yeah, no, you had mentioned -- excuse me. It's my understanding it
10 happened in Butler. I was curious which local asset that referred to.

11 A I believe it was Beaver County SWAT. And, again, they were not -- to my
12 knowledge and my conversations with Special Agent [REDACTED] they were not there as part of a
13 coordinated effort with us, CAT and our tactical plan. I can't confirm -- they could have
14 been there in coordination with another aspect of the Secret Service.

15 Q I understand. Thank you.

16 A Yes. Thank you, sir.

17 BY [REDACTED]:

18 Q And, just briefly, we can take a look at what we'll mark as minority exhibit B.
19 This is another part of that same packet.

20 [REDACTED] Minority Exhibit B
21 was marked for identification.]

22 BY [REDACTED]:

23 Q Is this where we would have documented that somebody from the local
24 team would be joining the two-man Secret Service team?

25 A Yes, ma'am, this is at least one of the documents.

1 I don't know that it would necessarily -- it doesn't look like it documented the fact
2 that we had one local TAC LNO join up with us. But I do see here that it does document
3 our [REDACTED], which is the "[REDACTED] Local TAC Team (inside
4 and outside fence line)" underneath the "Assets" section on the left there.

5 Q And you're on page 1, which is looking at Site 1?

6 A Oh, yep. I'm sorry. Yes.

7 The same would apply, though, for the second page, Site 2 of 2, under the
8 "Assets" section. That is where it is documented.

9 Q And just to be clear, Site 2 is the Butler Farm grounds?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q And the "[REDACTED]," is that you and Agent [REDACTED]?

12 A That's correct.

13 Q And then the [REDACTED] those are the folks that joined
14 you or that you were coordinating with?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q And there are two boxes here reflected, "Local TAC," two blue boxes on the
17 map. Is that accurate, to the best of your recollection, as to where those TAC teams
18 were located?

19 A Yes, ma'am, to my recollection. I can't speak to the local TAC team at the
20 10 o'clock, if they were in or approximately to that position, because it was, you know, so
21 far away, but those were their instructions given at least.

22 Q So that might be my next question. When you arrived at the site, where
23 were you?

24 A I guess, using the diagram as a point of reference, if you follow the blue
25 arrows in, you can see those three black cars?

1 Q Uh-huh.

2 A We were right in that area.

3 Q Okay. So sort of near this stage area?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And then -- we'll come back to that in one moment.

6 Sorry. I lost my train of thought.

7 A No, it's okay.

8 Q When do you recall receiving this map, if you do recall receiving it?

9 A I believe it was the day before the visit, so the 12th. Like, yeah, the 12th of
10 July.

11 Q And upon reviewing it, did you have any concerns about these locations?

12 A What do you mean by "location"? Like, the location of the --

13 Q Location for the --

14 A -- site or the tactical teams?

15 Q The two tactical teams specifically.

16 A No, I had no concerns.

17 Q What about when you did arrive at the site? Any concerns about setup or
18 where you would be positioned?

19 A The only concern that we had about where we would be positioned is that
20 originally -- so it doesn't really show it on this diagram here, but -- actually -- so, if you go
21 to page 3.

22 Q Uh-huh.

23 A So right where that black vehicle [REDACTED], or listed, that's
24 approximately where our CAT truck would've been parked.

25 So, originally coming into the visit, [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED], and we would use that [REDACTED] between the [REDACTED]
2 the [REDACTED] to -- that would be stage-left --

3 Q Uh-huh.

4 A -- and that would give us [REDACTED] if
5 something were to happen.

6 However, when we arrived, we saw that there was a bike rack in that gap there so
7 that that would slow us down significantly.

8 So we just decided that, once [REDACTED], or former President Trump, went on stage,
9 [REDACTED], which is
10 designated by the [REDACTED]. It also has a [REDACTED].
11 It's hard to see, but it says [REDACTED] Excuse me.

12 And that's exactly what we did. So, when he went on stage, [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] should something happen.

15 Q And appreciating that I'm about to speak in hypotheticals and hindsight, is
16 that bike rack an example of something that you would identify if you had been able to go
17 in person in advance?

18 A Maybe. A lot of these sites will get built or completed the day of the visit,
19 or staff may decide to make a change last-minute. So I can't say for certain if that's an
20 example of something that would've been detected ahead of time.

21 Q Okay.

22 And I think we can sort of jump really to the day of.

23 Can you start with a timeline? When did you go on duty on July 13th?

24 A These are going to be some loose approximations now that it's been several
25 months, and I've worked a handful of visits, so times blend together.

1 Q Understood.

2 A But I believe that I started shift that morning at 10:00 a.m. I believe that
3 [REDACTED] was originally supposed to depart West Palm Beach at noon. However, he had
4 an interview that he was doing at his Mar-a-Lago residence that went long, and I don't
5 believe we ended up putting wheels up until about maybe 2 o'clock. It may have been
6 even later.

7 And we went to West Palm Beach Airport around 2:00, 2:30, went wheels-up. I
8 think it was about an hour flight to Pittsburgh International Airport. I believe that we
9 landed around 4 o'clock. And then I want to say -- or we got into the motorcade, and it
10 was about an hour motorcade to the Butler site. So I want to say we got there at about
11 5 o'clock.

12 I may be an hour -- for some reason, 6 o'clock sounds like about when everything
13 had happened at the site, so I may be an hour behind. So apologies if my timeline is off
14 or isn't consistent with my Senate interview.

15 Q To the best of your recollection.

16 A Yeah, to the best of my recollection. So within an hour there, we got to the
17 site.

18 We were in the vehicles for -- or I remained in the vehicle when we got there.
19 Special Agent [REDACTED] got out to coordinate with the lead, just kind of take a quick look and
20 coordinate with our other tactical assets just to go over a quick brief again of, like, where
21 we're going to be positioned, and also just to make that our CAT truck was out of the way
22 of the, like, [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

23 And then we were in the cars for about 20 to 30 minutes while [REDACTED] did some
24 photo ops and maybe an interview or two [REDACTED]. And then he went on
25 stage.

1 At that point, Special Agent [REDACTED] and I and our local tactical counterpart, or LNO,
2 we relocated from our truck into the off-stage announce tent area, again, denoted by the
3 section with the [REDACTED]. We were in there for
4 approximately 5 minutes.

5 We heard over the radio our counter-sniper team, or call sign "[REDACTED]," put out
6 that they had -- that local police were addressing something -- I believe those were the
7 words they used, "addressing something" -- at the 3 o'clock, approximately I believe it
8 was either 200 or 250 yards out.

9 Special Agent [REDACTED] and I popped our heads out of the tent to look in that direction
10 to see if we could see any activity or any commotion that would give us more insight into
11 maybe what was going on. We didn't see anything, so we popped back into the tent.

12 We asked our local counterpart if he was hearing anything over his radio, local
13 traffic. First he said no. And then right after, he said that they just [REDACTED],
14 which is an acronym for "[REDACTED]." It's generally a
15 [REDACTED]. That's all the information that he had,
16 that he told us.

17 And then very shortly after that is when we heard the first succession of gunfire.
18 And then almost immediately after, I heard people scream and more gunfire. That's
19 when we deployed out of the tent.

20 I was pretty certain that I heard the gunfire coming from approximately, like, the
21 3 o'clock range or at least that side of the site. So, when I came out of the tent, I set up
22 near a crane, I think, that was holding speakers. I forget what the structure was exactly.
23 And I did a quick scan of the area to see if I could identify any threats or any activity to
24 pull my attention there, to give me more insight into what just happened or what was
25 happening.

1 Several seconds went by. I didn't see anything. So I made my way to the front
2 of the stage on the ground. I was scanning the crowd to see if I could get any other
3 insight into what was going on, look for threats.

4 I observed, as I was making my way to the crowd, that the shift had piled on
5 [REDACTED].

6 After several seconds there, with no other stimulus to take my attention to, I
7 made my way around the front of the stage to stage-left. I linked up with Special Agent
8 [REDACTED], our local TAC counterpart. We went up the stairs onto the stage, and, per our
9 training, [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED].

11 I was on the front right of the stage. Continued scanning the crowd, the area,
12 trying to get more of a sense of, again, where the shots were coming from, if they
13 were -- at that time, it wasn't certain if they were even able to get shots on stage or if it
14 was somewhere outside of the site or way outside of the venue.

15 And nothing -- no other stimulus was happening, so I glanced over my shoulder,
16 because I could hear the shift leader kind of giving updates. I know that he called -- like,
17 he called that [REDACTED] was up. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. So just identifying to the
18 rest of the detail that [REDACTED]. And I started hearing the
19 instructions that, you know, [REDACTED] and we needed to get out of there.

20 And so I kept glancing behind my shoulder, saw that they were starting to lift
21 [REDACTED] up. So, at that point, I started to make my way to the front of the stage to lead
22 them out, and they started bringing former President Trump down the steps, and we just
23 led him to the motorcade.

24 Kind of set up a perimeter there. I know our local [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]. And I believe one of the

1 tactical response teams -- or, not "I believe." One of the [REDACTED] had
2 [REDACTED] as well.

3 And, then, once [REDACTED] was in the [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and myself and our local TAC
4 counterpart went and got in our car. I told our local TAC guys that were in our
5 motorcade that we were going to be headed to the hospital.

6 And, then, from the car to the hospital, [REDACTED] was working on coordinating to have
7 local -- or some of our local tactical elements launch ahead of us to set up a perimeter
8 ahead of time at the hospital.

9 I was coordinating -- I was driving and coordinating with shift. They called me to
10 confirm if we were with them, because they didn't know who was able to get in the
11 motorcade and leave. So I confirmed that we were, that we were actively looking to
12 secure other tactical elements.

13 And, eventually, I believe that we were able to push out over the radio to them
14 that we had a local TAC team that would be ahead of the site. I can't recall for certain if
15 that happened or not, but -- and then we got to the hospital.

16 Q Thank you for all that. And thank you for your service.

17 I think we'll probably have a few more questions to break that down, but as we're
18 coming up on our time --

19 [REDACTED] Can I ask -- so we're at time. Can I ask a couple quick questions
20 about planning? I'll keep it short.

21 [REDACTED]: Sure.

22 [REDACTED]: I'd appreciate it, if I could.

23 BY [REDACTED]:

24 Q Just some quick ones. I'm going to double-back on you.

25 When we talk about planning, either in your experience as an advance or to the

1 extent you have knowledge here at Butler, when it's you guys that asks for the local CAT
2 support, do you own them from that point forward?

3 A In a professional sense, they are at our -- "disposal" is probably a bad word.
4 They're there to assist and respond according to our plan.

5 So I would say, like, if they have agreed to support our visit in, like, our capacity
6 and support us, like, in the mission that we have to fulfill, that they are, in a sense,
7 agreeing, you know, to react according to the instructions that they've, you know, been
8 given by us or at our direction. Because that may be their instruction, that, hey, like,
9 you guys are at the disposal of the TL to disperse as needed.

10 Q I guess I'm just wondering -- there are two different events, one where they
11 just showed up on their own, the other one where they're only there because you asked
12 them to come.

13 A Uh-huh.

14 Q I would think, just logically, in that second one, they're there to do whatever
15 you tell them to do, because they're only there because you asked them to be. Is that
16 generally right?

17 A I would say that's accurate. Yes, sir.

18 Q Okay.

19 A Yeah. They are in the positions that we coordinated ahead of time with a
20 specific assignment and role and kind of response that we've discussed, so -- and they're
21 all tracking that so that, if something does happen, we all know what to expect from each
22 other.

23 Q And, in this case, the request for local CAT came from Special Agent [REDACTED],
24 which makes perfect sense. He's CAT. They're CAT. This is a specialized asset. Not
25 everybody understands CAT. So it makes sense for the communication to be

1 CAT-to-CAT. Is that right?

2 A I'd say that's a fair statement, yes.

3 Q Great.

4 Would it be odd or unusual for somebody like a field agent or a site agent to kind
5 of get inserted into the middle of that communication chain, not really necessarily
6 understanding all the special principles of, in your case, CAT?

7 A If it's someone involved in the advance and the entire visit or the specific
8 site, I wouldn't say that it's unusual, because it is their site, so when they're briefing, like,
9 supervisors -- I mean, they have to kind of have the entire scope of that site. So it
10 wouldn't be unusual for them to be tracking what the tactical response plan is.

11 But it is ultimately CAT's responsibility. We have the training and the experience
12 and the knowledge base to handle that, the tactical-response part of the advance.

13 Q So tracking makes perfect sense. They need to know what's going on.

14 But would it be a little odd for a field agent to be the one actually calling up a local
15 tactical unit, saying, "I need two tactical units," and then being the one coordinating with
16 them on a site? I would think that would not be all that common.

17 A Yeah. Without looping us in and having CAT as part of that coordinated
18 effort, yeah, that would be very unusual.

19 Q And then just my last one -- and I appreciate the extra time, guys.

20 I'm making up a hypothetical, so, sorry. I know that that's annoying and lawyers
21 do that.

22 If you had a situation where you knew for an event you needed a certain number
23 of CAT personnel but Secret Service CAT was not going to be able to supply that full
24 number so you need local support, so you reach out and you get that local support -- I'm
25 making up the number. [REDACTED]

1 or something.

2 And then you find out the following day or later that day that actually Secret
3 Service CAT is able to provide everything you need. [REDACTED] are able to come from the
4 Secret Service side.

5 You may not have seen that scenario, so you might just be making up thoughts. I
6 appreciate that. But would it be logical in that situation to call back the locals and say,
7 "You know what, guys? Cancel that order. We have what we need"? Or is it always
8 like, more is always better?

9 [REDACTED] Yeah. Hey, I'm sorry. This is [REDACTED]. Can you hear me?

10 [REDACTED]: Yes.

11 [REDACTED] Okay. I'm sorry, I'm going to object to that question. That's pure
12 speculation. And you might just reserve that for somebody in management, but my
13 client isn't in a position to speculate as to those sorts of things.

14 [REDACTED]: Okay.

15 BY [REDACTED]:

16 Q Have you ever seen that scenario in your experience?

17 A I don't believe that I have.

18 Q Have you ever heard of that scenario unfolding?

19 A I'm not going to say -- I'm not going to say "no," because, again, we travel so
20 much and our schedules are all over the place, that everything starts to blend together.

21 If there were an instance where a situation warranted a larger CAT team, and it
22 would be up to, you know, management to coordinate those assets to join and link up,
23 there's no, like, specific instance in my head where that has ever happened or I've been a
24 part of that.

25 Q Thank you. I appreciate it.

1 We can go off the record.

2 [REDACTED]: Take 5 minutes?

3 [REDACTED]: Yeah. Thank you guys.

4 [Recess.]

5 [REDACTED]: We're back on the record.

6 BY [REDACTED]:

7 Q Okay. Special Agent [REDACTED] I'm going to go back to July 13th, the day itself.

8 And you've testified that you don't recall the name of the local law enforcement
9 contact person, but you said that you remembered the first name as [REDACTED] rings a bell.

10 A That sounds roughly familiar.

11 Q Okay. We've done other interviews of people who were present, including
12 a gentleman by the name of [REDACTED] --

13 A Okay.

14 Q -- who is the name I think you heard from minority staff. He has told us
15 that he was the person that was with you and Special Agent [REDACTED] --

16 A Okay.

17 Q -- at that time. [REDACTED].

18 A Then, yeah. Then I would say, if that's what was disclosed, then, yeah, that
19 I have no reason to doubt that that was his name.

20 Q All right.

21 And as we understand -- I think you testified about this before -- that [REDACTED]
22 had had contact with Special Agent [REDACTED] prior to the event.

23 A That's my understanding, yes, for them to be able to coordinate that he was
24 going to link up with us.

25 Q Okay. And so you first saw or were physically approximate to [REDACTED]

1 when you arrived at the site?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Okay. So he didn't meet you at the airport.

4 A That's correct.

5 Q All right.

6 ██████████ told us -- and he kept -- the local law enforcement kept records of
7 precise times, when they arrived and when certain events happened. And he testified
8 that you arrived at around 1752, 5:52 p.m.

9 A Okay.

10 Q And I know that the time, you mentioned 5:00 and you might be off by an
11 hour, but --

12 A Yes.

13 Q -- that was what you thought.

14 A So it was 6 o'clock then. So everything was an hour back from what I was
15 stating originally.

16 Q Okay.

17 A So, yes, sir.

18 Q And that sounds right to you? You have no reason to dispute that?

19 A That's correct, sir. I have no reason.

20 Q Okay.

21 And can you just tell us, what was your -- just generally, what were you talking to
22 ██████████ about, if anything, when you first saw him?

23 A Based on my recollection, just ensuring kind of our comms plan. He had
24 comms with his units. And then what our plan would be ██████████. And
25 that's kind of what led to us deciding, like, hey, when he goes on stage, we're going to

1 relocate to the [REDACTED] will, and we'll hang there.

2 And we kind of just briefly, you know, talked about, like, what our [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED], as far as -- because you had the catwalk there that led
4 up. So [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED]

6 Q Understood.

7 And when you arrived around 1752, former President Trump was going to go on
8 the stage relatively soon, within 10 minutes or so, right?

9 A [Nonverbal response.]

10 Q You have to verbally --

11 A Oh, yeah. Sorry. Yes, I believe so. It may have been longer, though,
12 than what was actually on the schedule, so --

13 Q Okay. But, at that point, you didn't have, like, an hour or longer to prepare;
14 it was a pretty short period of time?

15 A Yes. It was maybe 20 minutes --

16 Q Okay.

17 A -- at the most.

18 Q Okay.

19 And when you first met with [REDACTED], where did you meet him? Was it in
20 the CAT van? Was it outside in the tent? Was it somewhere else?

21 A I believe he came to us --

22 Q He came to you?

23 A -- yeah -- at our truck in the arrival/departure area.

24 Q Okay. And what were the specific things he was telling you at that point?

25 A I don't recall him, like, providing specific information. If anything, I think

1 we maybe confirmed, like, what other entities we had there. But he would've already
2 been tracking where Butler -- because they were his teammates -- where they would've
3 been at and everything.

4 Q Okay.

5 A So, other than what I previously stated, I don't recall him sharing any other
6 information.

7 Q Okay.

8 And before we go back to [REDACTED] you touched on this a bit. Did anyone
9 tell you you were supposed to be out of sight of the journalists and the media?

10 A Not specifically for that event, no.

11 Q Okay. So no one had told you, hey, make sure that you're not seen behind
12 the stage or near the stage?

13 A That's correct, sir. But it's just a general principle we usually operate under
14 from many other experiences.

15 Q Right. And so it's not just -- so you had an understanding that it would be
16 preferable for you not to be seen, but no one told you not to be seen.

17 A That's correct, sir.

18 Q And this is not just for this particular event; it's for other campaign events
19 you've done?

20 A As far as, like, us remaining out of sight without being told so?

21 Q Yeah.

22 A It happens both ways. There's times where we're specifically reminded or
23 told, like, hey, when they come through here, just make sure you tuck out of the way.

24 Q Okay.

25 A And, also, we just -- from a pure operational standpoint, I just feel very

1 exposed from standing out there, especially in that event, where you -- because there
2 was no cover anywhere, we were standing out of our trucks. Anybody in those
3 bleachers right there could just be turning around and staring at you, taking pictures,
4 phones -- or, you know, with their phones out and everything. So it's just not a great
5 feeling.

6 Q Right. So it's both for potentially the optics of it from the campaign
7 perspective or the perspective of the event, but it's also for security reasons?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q For your own security.

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Okay.

12 And this is not specific to former President Trump? This applies to other
13 candidates or protectees that you've covered?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Okay.

16 Now, back to [REDACTED]. So, at any point when you first arrived, did
17 [REDACTED] tell you anything about a suspicious person somewhere on the grounds?

18 A I do not recall being told anything. No.

19 Q Okay. Did he provide you any -- did he show you any photos that he
20 might've received identifying somebody who had been said to be suspicious?

21 A No, sir, not to my recollection.

22 Q Did he tell you about anything regarding the sniper team that was from
23 Beaver County identifying a person on the ground who they were watching?

24 A Not to my recollection.

25 Q Okay.

1 Now, you had two radios, right?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And you had a work cell phone, and you had a private cell phone.

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q And for the two radios, just tell us, what channels were they on?

6 A One radio was on the [REDACTED], which we had designated as our
7 Secret Service [REDACTED] So any special operations teams would be operating on
8 that channel. That'd be like our [REDACTED] so if something -- and the reason for
9 that is, if something happens, radio comms are going to get pretty bogged down on the
10 main channel, so we like to keep that separate so we still have a less-trafficked channel to
11 communicate on.

12 And then my other radio was on, I believe it was [REDACTED]. It would've been -- I
13 believe it was [REDACTED]. It would've been the channel that the [REDACTED].

14 Q Okay. And those were both Secret Service-only channels?

15 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

16 Q Okay. So you would not hear or be able to communicate on those radios
17 with local law enforcement, for example?

18 A That's correct.

19 Q So, given the coordination that was going on -- not that you were doing, but
20 the overall coordination -- what was your understanding of how you would learn about
21 anything that local law enforcement was doing or had observed while you were on site?

22 A Specific to CAT?

23 Q Specific to your exact role that day.

24 A So, for CAT, when we arrived at the airport, Special Agent [REDACTED] gave one of
25 his radios to the Pennsylvania State Police TAC team that's [REDACTED], and we, in

1 turn, got one of their radios. So they had a radio with -- or, excuse me, they had direct
2 comms with us at that point.

3 And then when Officer --

4 Q [REDACTED]

5 A -- [REDACTED], when he joined us, he was then our conduit to Butler tactical
6 elements.

7 Q Understood.

8 So, just so I understand, you got a -- or, I'll say, Special Agent [REDACTED] received a radio
9 from the Pennsylvania State Police?

10 A I believe so, yes, to my recollection.

11 Q And he gave one to them as well?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q So did you understand that he had three radios?

14 A No. He gave one of his two radios to --

15 Q I see.

16 A Yep.

17 Q Okay.

18 A So he had two, one Secret Service and then one from Pennsylvania State
19 Police.

20 Q All right. So you kept your two. Your understanding is that Special Agent
21 [REDACTED] gave one of his two to the Pennsylvania State Police, and he got from the
22 Pennsylvania State Police one of theirs.

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Okay.

25 Now, when you were on site at the event and you had your two radios, could you

1 hear anything that was on Special Agent [REDACTED] radios?

2 A Which one, the Secret Service or --

3 Q Either one.

4 A So, yeah, I mean, I have -- so in our helmets we have what are called Peltor
5 headsets. They're noise-canceling, but they have a function -- it filters in -- it filters out
6 noise above a certain decimal so you can still hear people talk.

7 Q Right.

8 A And so I can still -- I can't recall if there was radio traffic that came through
9 during the time we were there through the local, the Pennsylvania State Police radio, but
10 I certainly could've heard it. I could hear -- you know, I could have conversations with
11 [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] next to me.

12 Q Okay.

13 A And then, yes, for the Secret Service radio that Special Agent [REDACTED] still had,
14 yeah, it was -- because one of my radios was -- he would've been on [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]

16 Q Right.

17 A So I certainly was able to hear anything that came through on that, yeah.

18 Q So you could hear what Special Agent [REDACTED] heard with the radio that you both
19 still had on your own headset or within the sound -- whatever --

20 A Yeah, our headset, yeah. Yes, sir, that's correct. Yeah.

21 Q But you could also hear, not as well probably, but you could hear anything
22 that was coming over the radio that the Pennsylvania State Police had provided?

23 A Yes, sir. And it actually comes through pretty clear.

24 Q Comes in pretty clear.

25 A Yeah.

1 Q Okay.

2 And you were in physical proximity to him, to Special Agent [REDACTED], most of this time,
3 until the shots were fired?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Okay. And do you recall hearing anything over that radio about a
6 suspicious person?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q Okay. And did Special Agent [REDACTED] tell you anything about, the Pennsylvania
9 State Police have said there's a suspicious person on the grounds?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Did you hear anything about the AGR building at all prior to the shots ringing
12 out?

13 A At one point, I believe Special Agent [REDACTED] had briefed me prior that there
14 might be a local counter-sniper team on that building. That's the only reference I recall,
15 though, at any point prior to the shots being fired into the AGR building that I recall.

16 Q Okay. So you recall that he might've said that we have snipers on the AGR
17 building.

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q But nothing about a suspicious person at that point.

20 A Other than -- correct, yeah, nothing specific to the AGR building --

21 Q Okay.

22 A -- other than that information I shared earlier about hearing our
23 counter-sniper team come over and say the local police are addressing something at the
24 3 o'clock.

1 [12:17 p.m.]

2 BY [REDACTED]:

3 Q Understood. Before we get to that, I'll go into that in a little bit. When
4 you arrived at the site, did you take a look around the site at any point just visual -- like,
5 visual cues or visual look-see?

6 A Yeah. Usually standard with us. Like, get -- you know, try to get a
7 familiarity without being able to actually walk around.

8 Q Right.

9 A Just kind of orient ourselves where we're at and our clock positions, and all
10 that.

11 Q Was [REDACTED] with you when you were doing this, call it a scan?

12 A Yeah. Because he came over pretty quickly, so, you know, conversing, just
13 kind of doing a quick, like, sharing information that I had discussed as far as, like, our
14 crash plan, and whatnot. All the meanwhile -- and also talking about, like, how we're
15 going to relocate the off-stage announce tent. While you're doing that, you're
16 familiarizing yourself with the site.

17 Q Right.

18 A Ultimately to, you know, we can only orient ourselves to what we can see,
19 where our movements at, so we didn't get up and just start walking around.

20 Q Understood. Knowing what you know now -- well, let me ask you this:
21 Did you know where the AGR building was when you arrived on site?

22 A I didn't know at the time that it was called the AGR building, but I knew that
23 there was -- that building or structure was over there, yes.

24 Q Okay. And when you arrived at what you now know is the AGR building,
25 you didn't know it was called the AGR building at the time, did you put eyes on it at some

1 point before the shots rang out?

2 A When -- the only time I did or -- specifically was when our CS team came
3 over the radio -- countersniper team came over the radio and identified that local police
4 were addressing somebody at 3:00. That's when we looked outside at the tent and
5 looked in that area. That's when the building would have been included in our quick
6 scan.

7 Q Understood. So prior to the countersniper team informing you that there
8 was an -- there was something going on at 3:00, or that the local police were handling
9 something at 3:00, you don't recall when you first arrived and you were doing the scan,
10 focusing on the AGR building?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q Okay. So the first time you really laid eyes on it was after the countersniper
13 team said something was going on at 3:00?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Okay. Do you recall anything about -- I think you answered this, but just to
16 be clear, [REDACTED] saying anything about the AGR area, or even, you know, gesturing
17 this direction or anything along those lines and saying anything about any law
18 enforcement issues going on over there?

19 A When we went and moved to the off-stage announce tent right after our CS
20 team said that and we -- we didn't see anything, then we asked Officer [REDACTED] if he
21 heard anything over his radio traffic, and he said that they were -- at first he said he didn't
22 hear anything and then it must have come out right after we asked that that they were
23 [REDACTED] over there to that area.

24 Q Okay.

25 A We also didn't know -- to be clear, we didn't know that it was specific to the

1 AGR building, because we were just given 3:00, and from my recollection, approximately
2 200 to 250 yards out.

3 Q So -- and just for clarity and just for the timeline, you did not -- [REDACTED]
4 did not, to your recollection, say anything about a suspicious person or law enforcement
5 action at 3:00 or elsewhere until after you heard first from the countersniper team?

6 A Yes, that's correct, to my recollection.

7 Q Okay. And the radio that -- the Pennsylvania State Police radio that Special
8 Agent [REDACTED] had, did you hear anything over that radio prior to hearing from the
9 countersniper team about any kind of law enforcement action or suspicious person in
10 that -- at 3:00?

11 A Not to my recollection.

12 Q Okay. And did Special Agent [REDACTED] say to you anything about I'm hearing
13 something's going on at 3:00, or words to that effect?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Okay. So the first time you had any sense was countersniper team, Secret
16 Service, they tell you. You ask [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] says, Yes, we've sent a [REDACTED]
17 to the AGR building.

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q And then how long after that did you hear that from [REDACTED] did the
20 shots ring out?

21 A I believe it was only several minutes, like, maybe two or three.

22 Q Okay.

23 A It was fairly quick.

24 Q Did you hear anything over the Secret Service radio, the two radios,
25 about -- prior to the shots ringing out about the suspicious person, other than the

1 countersniper?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q Didn't hear anything?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q Did you hear anyone on the Secret Service radio say that we should get the
6 candidate off the stage?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q And did you hear anyone even suggest that maybe we should delay him
9 going on stage?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q So then when the shots ring out, can you just tell us what you did?

12 A So heard the first succession of gunfire. [REDACTED] and I looked at each other.

13 Based on the distance, or maybe the open space, didn't sound initially like -- it wasn't just
14 like an affirmative, like, Yeah, that was definitely gunfire or, like, how close it was. Also
15 partly maybe we assumed, like, this is a protected site, this must have been something.
16 And then, like, almost immediately afterward, we heard people scream and
17 simultaneously as the next round of gunfire, that's when we deployed out of the tent
18 immediately. I set up -- as I said earlier, I set up on a crane -- some type of structure, do
19 a quick scan of that area, because I was pretty sure that the sound -- the gunfire was
20 oriented that way.

21 One thing I forgot to mention earlier when I was previously describing that was
22 the only thing I do remember seeing specifically, just like had any note to me was that I
23 saw another local tactical operator outside of the fence with his firearm up trained in the
24 direction of the AGR building. I couldn't see anything else otherwise to direct my
25 attention, so that's when I moved on to the front of the stage. I began scanning the

1 crowd. That was my next thought of maybe something that came from there. No
2 other stimulus. Everyone was just kind of staring.

3 So I made my way in front of the stage to the stage left, linked up with [REDACTED] or
4 Special Agent [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED], made our way up on stage. We took opposing
5 corners. I'm at front right and Special Agent [REDACTED] and Officer [REDACTED] back left. And,
6 yeah, I think I maybe extended past your original question.

7 Q No. That's fine. When you first heard the shots ring out, did you have a
8 sense of where they were coming from?

9 A Yes. General direction.

10 Q General direction. And did it seem like it was coming from 3:00?

11 A Yes. In that -- yeah. Yes, sir.

12 Q At that time, when you heard the shots ring out and you generally -- it seems
13 like it was coming from 3:00, did you link it in your mind to what you just heard from the
14 countersnipers and from [REDACTED] that a QRF was being deployed to the AGR
15 building?

16 A I mean, everything kind of happened so fast, but I'm sure that, yes, like we
17 probably reacted as quickly as we did because those subsequent actions that -- or bits of
18 information that had been placed out probably all tied together instantly with that, as
19 opposed to us being -- you know, just standing there and saying it was, you know, it
20 wasn't gunfire, but yeah, I would say that all tied together.

21 Q Back to the radios for a second. I'm sorry I'm jumping around. I'm trying
22 to get through as much as I can so we can keep our time.

23 A That's okay.

24 Q There was a command center that was at the rally, correct?

25 A This is something that I was not necessarily aware of at the time of the event

1 that has maybe been brought to my attention. I'm still not clear, to be honest.

2 Q So if you didn't know, you didn't know there was a command center at the
3 time?

4 A For Secret Service or locals?

5 Q For anything.

6 A That's correct. I was not aware.

7 Q Okay. Would that be unusual to -- let me put it this way: Typically, in
8 your experience going to events or providing protective service to events, are there
9 command centers present?

10 A So I will back up and say I didn't know, like, with certainty, so in the sense
11 that I could confirm. I assumed there was some form of a command center, whether it
12 was local or Secret Service. It was not unusual for lower-level protectees in essence that
13 aren't President or Vice President for their -- depending on the site and the makeup of
14 the site for there to not be a formal command center.

15 Q Okay. But here with this being former President and effectively the CNOS,
16 did you assume at the time that there was probably a command center?

17 A No.

18 Q Okay. So you didn't know one way or the other?

19 A Correct.

20 Q All right. But based on your experience, someone who is at an outdoor
21 event, I know you've only done one before, for someone who was the CNOS effectively,
22 would there -- would there typically be a command center?

23 A In some form, I would say yes.

24 Q Okay. There was somebody -- you understood there was somebody who
25 was supposed to be -- regardless if there was a command center, there was somebody

1 supposed to be coordinating for everybody who was in law enforcement present, right?

2 A Again, I would generally assume that, yes.

3 Q Okay.

4 A I was never specifically -- for my purposes, I believe that radio traffic was
5 being relayed through our follow-up vehicle that carries our shift based on certain
6 briefing instructions that I was -- we received beforehand. Outside of that, I did not
7 know where or if there was with certainty that there was a command center of local or
8 Secret Service personnel.

9 Q Understood. Let me ask you this: That there are obviously the protective
10 services that are there. Everyone's armed. It's a large site. There are different
11 agencies present. It wouldn't surprise you that there was some form of coordination
12 that was happening, because otherwise it could be a very disorganized dangerous
13 situation, right?

14 A Correct, sir, it would not surprise me.

15 Q Okay. And on those radios that you had, the Secret Service, at any point -- I
16 think we know the answer to this, but I'm going to ask it for the record. At any point,
17 did you understand that somebody from the command center was speaking over the
18 radios?

19 A The only other entity that I recall hearing speak over the radios would have
20 been the follow-up vehicle.

21 Q Follow-up vehicle. Okay. Do you know if -- which assets from Secret
22 Service had access to the channels you were using?

23 A Essentially any Secret Service asset -- sorry, any Secret Service agent would
24 have access to those channels. I can't speak to whether their specific assignment led
25 them to be scanning or tuned to that channel.

1 Q Understood. So you -- you're not sure who would have had access to the
2 channels at that time?

3 A That's correct. Generally, I would say everyone scans the -- if they're not
4 tuned, they would be scanning the channel that the shift's on because they're calling out
5 the protectee's movements.

6 Q Right. And given that you've explained that command centers
7 are -- sometimes you assume they're there, but sometimes they're not there. You didn't
8 know that day. From your perspective that day, you didn't have a way to reach a
9 command center, right?

10 A That's correct. I would have gone to the -- I would have relayed traffic to
11 the follow-up.

12 Q To the follow-up. Given that you couldn't reach command center, do you
13 think the command center could reach you on those command -- those radio -- those
14 radio channels?

15 A If they were -- if they were Secret Service representatives and had Secret
16 Service radios, yes, they would have been able to reach us.

17 Q Right. Okay. So they could have reached you. That was your
18 understanding at the time.

19 A Uh-huh, yes, sir.

20 Q Regardless of whether or not you could reach them.

21 A Yes, sir. So technically, we would have been able to reach them, because
22 they would have been on the shift's channel or also monitoring the shift's channel, so
23 had -- you know, technically, yes, they could have keyed up and called for a command
24 center and somebody would have responded, or if we were reaching out for that, but I
25 guess not knowing 100 percent that they were there, they would not have been my

1 primary point of -- like, endpoint for my communication.

2 Q Okay. Understood.

3 A And that's standard operating kind of -- for, like, sometimes when -- if we're
4 under the expectation that we're putting our radio traffic through the follow-up vehicle,
5 the follow-up kind of knows they're acting as the relay, so they're going to push that out
6 to the shift. The shift is going to copy and vice versa.

7 Q Okay. And did you have authority, you and Special Agent [REDACTED], that if you
8 believed there was a threat, did you have authority to either go and pull the
9 President -- the former President off the stage, or to instruct people to pull him off the
10 stage? Did you have that authority, or did you have to get somebody to approve it?

11 A No, we wouldn't have to get approval for that. We're all trusted and
12 trained to operate as special agents, or in my case, operators. However, I would say it's
13 a much more likely scenario that we would advise someone of a reason to delay, or
14 whatnot.

15 Q Correct.

16 A We would most likely be acting through our training and our tactical
17 response not -- that would be the shift's main priority, because we're also not in as close
18 proximity to the protectee as the shift is.

19 Q Understood. But you had the authority -- you didn't have to get approval
20 to say, for example, at least radio somebody or call somebody and say, Get him off the
21 stage.

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q You had that authority.

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Okay. And so did Special Agent [REDACTED]

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Okay. And on the Pennsylvania State Police radio, did -- you've already
3 testified that you didn't hear anything. Did you hear anything at all on that radio? Did
4 you -- do you recall any substantive -- anything of substance that you heard?

5 A Nothing substantive that I recall.

6 Q And did Special Agent [REDACTED] tell you, you know, oh, yeah, they're talking about
7 whatever? It doesn't have to be about a suspicious person.

8 A Nothing substantive.

9 Q Okay. All right. So as far as you knew, before the countersniper informed
10 you that there was some kind of police action, local police action going on, you had no
11 reason to be concerned about a specific threat?

12 A That's correct, sir.

13 Q Okay. And then the countersnipers, I think we went through earlier today
14 the various assets that are given to different types of protectees. The countersnipers
15 that were present, was that a typical thing to have for a CNOS in that circumstance?

16 A Not Secret Service countersnipers.

17 Q Not Secret Service. And I think you testified earlier that you have seen
18 occasions where local law enforcement provide countersnipers.

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q But not in that scenario for a CNOS, for the Secret Service countersnipers.

21 A Yes, sir, that's correct.

22 Q Did it strike you as unusual that they were there?

23 A That Secret Service countersnipers were there?

24 Q Yes.

25 A No, it didn't strike me as unusual. No.

1 Q Did you know before you got to the event that there would be
2 countersnipers there?

3 A Yes, we did, or I did as well.

4 Q Did anybody tell you why they were going to be there?

5 A I don't recall anybody specifically telling me why. I assumed it was because
6 it was an outdoor venue.

7 Q Okay. So no one told you there was a specific threat or there was a
8 heightened -- a specific heightened security issue that led the Secret Service to put
9 countersnipers at this event?

10 A That's correct.

11 Q So your understanding is that it was because it was an outdoor event, a large
12 outdoor event.

13 A Large outdoor event and expected large crowd of people as well.

14 Q Is that something somebody told you, that that's why it was there, or that
15 was just your understanding?

16 A It may have been relayed, but it would have been through another agent just
17 making an assumption just as I did based on our experience and our training.

18 Q Right. Understood. I think you testified about this to the Senate, but you
19 were not aware of a threat from Iran, for example, being the cause for having
20 countersnipers present from the Secret Service.

21 A That's correct, sir.

22 Q Okay. And, again, you said that you weren't aware of any specific threat
23 until the moment that you heard from the countersnipers.

24 A No specific threat for that event, for that site.

25 Q Okay. The two phones that you had with you, I understand that the

1 radio -- do you know, does the Secret Service record or log radio communications?

2 A It's my understanding that they -- they do and they -- they can and they do
3 when they have a certain comms relay set up. I believe it involves, like, usually a laptop
4 or various laptops, and that's usually done when we have, like, a formal command center
5 or security room that the, you know, communications are run out of when they have
6 those devices in place. I believe that would come from the [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED], or [REDACTED] That when they set those up, that is when those
8 comms or communications are recorded. But if we're just putting them out through the
9 follow-up, or, like, if you have a handheld and I do, those are not being recorded.

10 Q Okay. So in this case your understanding is that those communications on
11 those two radios was not being recorded?

12 A Yes, that's my understanding.

13 Q Okay. Now, the two phones you had, you had a personal phone and a work
14 phone. Did you use the work phone while you were on site, to your recollection?

15 A I don't recall while I was on site. I may have checked an email at some
16 point, or maybe looked at the map on my phone just to orient myself, but I don't recall
17 something specific.

18 Q You don't recall communications like texts or phone calls or anything on your
19 cell phone.

20 A No. No, sir.

21 Q Do you have any sense of whether or not your cell phone was working
22 properly in terms of, like, the service when you got to the site?

23 A I don't recall ever seeing, like, that I didn't have service, so --

24 Q Okay. And what about your private -- your personal device? Do you
25 recall using that at all while you were on site?

1 A No, I don't recall using that at all when I was on site.

2 Q And is the policy of the Secret Service not to use your personal device for
3 work purposes?

4 A Yes, that's correct.

5 Q And you have no reason to think that you did use it for work purposes?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q Okay. Do you have any reason to think that there were any
8 communications on your work phone or your personal device, written communications,
9 that would be relevant to the inquiry here?

10 A Everything that was -- any texts or emails that I had on my work phone have
11 been saved and provided to the Secret Service and the records -- per our records
12 retention, and I would assume that it's been transferred over.

13 Q Understood. And when they -- when the Secret Service, they asked you
14 to -- did they ask you to provide the phones for them to do their review, or did they just
15 ask you to find anything that was relevant and give it to them?

16 A Yeah. I was asked and instructed, requested to go through and save
17 everything in a certain manner so that it could be accessed.

18 Q And I assume you did that?

19 A Yes, sir, I did.

20 Q Okay. Now, the -- did you hear any concerns when you got to the site or
21 even before you got to the site, did you hear any concerns about difficulties with
22 communication at the site because of cell service from anybody?

23 A I don't recall, no.

24 Q Okay. And do you typically use your cell phone at work, or let's say,
25 work -- your work cell phone when you're on site to perform your protective service

1 duties, or do you rely on the radios?

2 A Yeah. I use my -- I use both for different functions, yeah.

3 Q Okay. And the radios, as far as you recall, they worked properly. There
4 was no indication there was some kind of interference or anything wrong with them?

5 A Correct, sir.

6 Q Okay. When you were on site before the shooting, before your -- actually,
7 let me go back to the -- after the shooting. After you heard the shots ring out and you're
8 on the stage, you took a position. You were scanning the crowd looking for any other
9 threats. You didn't see any other threats. What was -- that's the point when the
10 President -- the former President was on the ground with the protective detail on top of
11 him?

12 A Yes, sir. Yeah. By the time I left my initial point of cover, I was scanning
13 at 3:00 and came around the stage, I noticed out of my peripheral he was already on the
14 ground with the protective detail on top of him.

15 Q Okay. And then we've all seen that they stood him up and took him off the
16 stage.

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Were you in -- you had your radios, obviously, were still functioning. How
19 were you -- let me ask you this: Were you aware that when they took him off the stage
20 that somebody had said the threat had been neutralized?

21 A So afterwards at the hospital, I was kind of debriefing with some of the
22 individuals, I remember having a conversation with the shift leader, and he said he heard
23 over the radio that the shooter was down, and that led me to one of those instances
24 where I can't recall then if I actually heard it myself, or if I was telling myself that I heard it
25 based on that conversation, so I can't say with certainty if I had heard over the radio from

1 someone, it would have been our [REDACTED] team I imagine, that the shooter was down.

2 Q Okay. So when the agents took the former President off the stage, did you
3 still believe there might be an active threat at that moment?

4 A I mean, I was operating under the level of -- or the assumption that
5 something else could happen. I did not currently think there was an active threat
6 because of the lack of any stimulus or any other indicators to make me think that there
7 was.

8 Q Okay. And did you hear before the -- you learned -- before the
9 countersnipers contacted you guys and said that there's a local law enforcement action at
10 3:00, did you hear any concerns from anybody, Secret Service or [REDACTED] or anything,
11 about whether or not there was some part of the perimeter or outside of the perimeter
12 that was not fully secured?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Okay. Did you hear anything after the shooting about any concerns that
15 anybody on the -- in the Secret Service or in local law enforcement had about an area not
16 being fully secure?

17 A Could you give more specificity of after.

18 Q Yeah. Let me be specific. I'll give you -- we've had prior testimony from
19 local law enforcement that prior to the event, when they're doing planning for the event,
20 that they had thought that the area between the AGR building and the site and the
21 perimeter was too exposed and they were informed, according to their testimony, that
22 the Secret Service was going to put up an opaque, you know, sheet to block that area.
23 Let me ask you this: Do you remember seeing an opaque sheet of any sort?

24 A I don't recall, no.

25 Q Okay. Did you see anything blocking the area from the AGR to the stage?

1 A Other than a bleacher -- the bleachers full of people. That would have
2 been the only facade that I -- not to refer to those people as facades. I know someone
3 was shot and killed. The only structure or any type of concealment, and even then, I
4 don't know -- that would only have prevented concealment from the line of site for a
5 portion of the stage, depending on where you were at on the building, but that's the only
6 thing I recall.

7 Q Okay. So did you hear after -- I know it was our understanding before you
8 didn't, but after the events, after the shots rang out, after the attempted assassination, at
9 any point, other than the media, from your own conversations with Secret Service
10 members or local law enforcement if you spoke to them, about concerns they had about
11 that area being exposed?

12 A No, I had no conversations.

13 Q Okay. I'm going to turn it over to my colleagues who only have 7 minutes
14 left. I may have some questions for you at the end, but I want to make sure anything I
15 missed they -- that --

16 BY [REDACTED]:

17 Q Special Agent [REDACTED] going back to July 13th, day of, you report to the
18 Mar-a-Lago residence around 10:00 a.m. Flight leaves around 3:00 in the afternoon,
19 say. I understand that you received a preliminary survey, your version of the final
20 survey the day prior. Can you describe any discussions about the plan for the July 13th
21 event on the plane that day going to Butler?

22 A Yeah. On the plane, basically we went over the kind of, like, from wheels
23 down to wheels up what it would look like and we -- [REDACTED] we kind of quickly briefed on
24 what our assets were we had at each site, and kind of where we were located at each site
25 and, like, who -- again, how many assets we would have. I can't recall specifically what

1 else the shift leader briefed on as far as, like -- I don't recall him briefing any, like, specific
2 concerns with the site. More of just, like, certain things to be mindful of, just reminders
3 to be switched on about as far as just the shift conducting their normal protective
4 operations.

5 Q As far as your CAT responsibilities for the afternoon of the July 13th event,
6 did you have any changes to your plan made on the plane to the event?

7 A No, I don't recall any changes being made [REDACTED] The only change
8 that was made is where we were [REDACTED] and the
9 makeup of the site.

10 Q Do you recall which other Secret Service agents were on that plane going to
11 Butler from Mar-a-Lago?

12 A I don't recall specifically. It would have been the shift agents, the shift
13 leader, the detail leader, and then the drivers of our limo follow up in, I think, spare
14 vehicles, but I can't recall their names, so --

15 Q As far as the countersniper element, were they traveling from D.C. that day
16 to Butler?

17 A I believe -- so there was an advance element there. I don't know if that was
18 comprised of more than one person, but they would have been there ahead of time, and
19 then the other countersniper -- Secret Service countersniper personnel, I don't know if
20 they traveled up that day or the day before.

21 Q Okay. So you had different elements of the advance team arriving from
22 different places for the July 13th event, correct?

23 A The advance team would have been there. Then the rest of the working
24 team would have showed up at a different time.

25 Q Okay. On the trip to Butler on the plane, do you recall any discussions

1 regarding heightened threat environment for that specific campaign event?

2 A I mean, the fact that -- I don't recall any specific discussions, no, but the fact
3 that it was outside, you know, I would say almost all agents are just -- there's a
4 heightened awareness, because it's outside. Anyone can surmise that there's certain
5 risks that come along with that.

6 Q I'm just going to jump around a little bit here with the time remaining, but
7 going back to your work and personal phones, do you have any encrypted messaging
8 apps on your work phone?

9 A Other than the standard iPhone encryption or whatever that is, you know,
10 whatever they use, no, I don't have any other, like, messaging tools on there. I guess we
11 have Teams, Microsoft Teams.

12 Q No apps like Signal?

13 A No.

14 Q And as far as your personal phone, do you have any encrypted messaging
15 apps like Signal?

16 A Yes, I do.

17 Q Do you use that to correspond with Secret Service agents?

18 A Yes, sometimes.

19 Q Is that in a work-related capacity?

20 A Yes, in the sense that for logistics. As far as, like, reporting times or how
21 we're traveling from one place to another.

22 Q As far as any advanced planning or communications on the day of the event,
23 were you aware that Secret Service agents were using Signal?

24 A Not to my knowledge. I was not aware, no.

25 Q Okay. Outside of providing CAT for the July 13th event, have you worked

1 on any CAT advances for any golf outings that you -- that any candidate or presidential
2 personnel would use?

3 A Did you say after or ever?

4 Q Ever.

5 A Yes, I have.

6 Q Okay. Were you involved in the September 15th golf outing by former
7 President Trump?

8 A Is that the one which there was another --

9 Q Yeah.

10 A No, I was not part of that.

11 Q Okay. Can you describe for us how typical advance would take place for a
12 golf outing for any of the protectees.

13 A If it's a true advance where we have to go out ahead of time, it would be
14 treated like any other site as far as, like, the methods through which we go to kind of
15 review and secure it. From the counter assault standpoint, I get a walk-through of the
16 course to familiarize myself with it. I would coordinate with local law enforcement or
17 local tactical counterparts to have additional support at advantageous points throughout
18 the golf course, and that might mean moving them based on what hole the protectee is
19 at. And again, this is just from a CAT standpoint, because that's what I can speak to.

20 In those instances or in an ideal world, I would have a [REDACTED] come out to
21 me the day ahead of the event so I would be able to walk them through the golf course as
22 well and view other areas of vulnerabilities or concerns, and we would just kind of -- we
23 would have an understanding of, you know, if the protectee was going to golf one
24 through 18 in sequential order or if they were going to bounce around, and then where
25 [REDACTED],

1 and if we're going to do any other -- if we're going to move ourselves in any particular
2 way depending on where they're at to best set ourselves up. Basically, get a lay of the
3 course and coordinate all of our tactical elements to appropriately provide coverage that
4 can effectively and quickly respond.

5 Q Have you done a CAT advance for former President Trump this campaign
6 season?

7 A I have, yes.

8 Q Can you describe what assets were available for former President Trump for
9 those advances?

10 A Yeah. It was -- we had local and we had various local tactical assets that
11 supported our counter assault mission. We had a local tactical LNO similar to the assets
12 that you -- we saw in Butler, and I had in place assigned functions commensurate to
13 the -- our concerns and our protectee's movements so that they could effectively respond
14 to where we were at to fulfill the counter assault team's function.

15 Q I just want to take some time here and ask my colleague if she has any
16 questions.

17 BY [REDACTED]:

18 Q Did you have any working days off planned for the time between July 7 and
19 July 13?

20 A I don't -- nothing planned. It may have worked out where you ended up
21 kind of getting a day off depending on the -- like, if we had to jump ahead to, you know,
22 the next location the protectee was going to go and the other team just worked the
23 protectee from the time they woke up until the time they went to bed, then we would
24 have traveled commercial to that next place and then had the rest of the day down. In
25 essence, you might have had a working day off, but I can't recall exactly if I'd had any of

1 those in that time frame.

2 Q Have you ever lost a working day off because of a change in schedule due to
3 protection needs?

4 A Yes.

5 Q What happens to that? Does it bank or is there some kind of arrangement?

6 A So when you say, "working day off," are you referring to, like, I have to work
7 on one of my 2 days off that week?

8 Q I'm -- I intended, and didn't mean to confuse this. I intended to refer only
9 to when you had a scheduled day off.

10 A Okay. Yeah. So if you have a scheduled day off and then you're assigned
11 to work on that day off and then it gets canceled, it just goes back to a day off.
12 However, for the CNOS rotation, when you're out of district, you are technically always on
13 the clock, or you are required to be paid because you're out of district, so you don't really
14 have any days off per se.

15 Q And when you do have a day off but you end up having to work it, what
16 happens to that?

17 A Like, when I'm in district or if I'm on a CNOS rotation?

18 Q In district.

19 A So I do have a day off and I have to work it, I get paid overtime for that day.

20 BY [REDACTED]:

21 Q Since July 13th, have you observed any changes to CAT advance? You
22 know, former Director Cheatle and Acting Director Rowe have been -- made various
23 announcements that there's an enhanced level of protection for all candidates this
24 campaign season, but for candidates in general, can you speak to the changes at CAT
25 since July 13th.

1 A We are no longer doing telephonic advances for former President Trump.
2 We are sending in a CAT operator ahead of time to do the advance, so that's a change. I
3 can't speak to if the same is being done for vice presidential nominees Vance and Walz.
4 I'm not sure if they are, if they're sending folks ahead or not.

5 And then our coverage, we were providing 24/7 coverage on former President
6 Trump. And again, we -- prior to the 13th, we had not provided CAT coverage to Walz or
7 Vance. Those are -- and also, [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]. Those are the
10 most significant changes that have been made that I can now think of for CAT. I can't
11 speak to the other directorates.

12 [REDACTED]: We're probably running out of time. Can you indulge us with a
13 couple more questions? Then we'll turn it over to the minority.

14 BY [REDACTED]:

15 Q There's been a lot of reporting I'm sure you've heard about concerns within
16 the Secret Service about being over -- being understaffed, overworked, which you've
17 talked to, you've spoken to today. There have also been some concerns raised again in
18 the media about whether or not there are cultural issues at the Secret Service. I think
19 you've already said -- - you've already talked about -- I think it's a fair implication that you
20 think that there's some understaffing going on at the Secret Service. It sounds like you
21 also are overworked, even if you don't think you are. It sounds like you are certainly
22 compared to what you're supposed to be doing. In terms of cultural issues, do you have
23 any concerns, sitting here today, about the organization and how it's run?

24 A I just want to confer with my representative. [REDACTED], is there any issues
25 with how or if I'm able to answer that?

1 ████████ Well, he simply asked your personal opinion. If you have an opinion,
2 it's a proper question.

3 ████████ Okay. Just -- sorry. Maybe there was some inconsistencies from the
4 other hearing of what I should or shouldn't answer, so just trying to make sure. Sorry.
5 So just to confirm, you're just asking about the culture of the service?

6 BY ██████████:

7 Q Do you have any concerns yourself personally with the culture at the
8 organization?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And what are those?

11 A It's tough to, like, to put it into -- like, to boil down to a few things. I think
12 culturally there's an issue with the Secret Service and White House or campaign or
13 protectee staff and how that function plays out, that dynamic plays out, and how it
14 affects us being able to do our job.

15 I think a lot of people in the Service, myself included, would argue that there is
16 sometimes a disconnect with leadership in the way our leadership structure is designed
17 so that, you know, individuals in a leadership role are never in one spot for too long, so it
18 oftentimes seems like they are -- they make decisions or a lack of decisions, and just kind
19 of go with the status quo, because pretty soon after they fall into that role they're already
20 looking ahead at their next steps so they don't want to stir the pot too much. And
21 eventually, once they've been in that leadership cycle for so long, they're kind of truly
22 disconnected from the -- what's happening on the ground level.

23 I just -- to backtrack one more time, just because I do feel strongly about it as far
24 as the -- I think it creates a cultural issue, again, with how our relationship is with staff.

25 Q When you say "staff," are you talking about --

1 A White House campaign, yeah. And I think so this actually maybe can speak
2 to both points, our current acting director kind of said this in his press briefing a few
3 weeks ago that ultimately, you know, whatever the situation is, it's ultimately up to the
4 Secret Service to secure it and defend it, and I think that's the kind of attitude that a lot of
5 folks at my level, me included, take issue with, because we're not, you know -- we're
6 tasked with protecting somebody's life, so to just say any scenario should, you know,
7 whatever the scenario is, it's our job to do it, that to me is saying we're willing to take on
8 necessary risks just because, you know, staff wants to, you know, put the site here or
9 wants to do things this way or they're not even on the ground yet and we're -- you know,
10 we have people that are already overworked and away from their families for sometimes
11 a third of the year. They're on the ground ready to work and staff is not there to pick
12 sites to tell us where we're going to be going. And then when they do get on the
13 ground, they still drag their feet sometimes or they pick a convention center with 6,000
14 people are going to be at the -- 2 days before the event is supposed to take place, which
15 is a real example I was involved in. That creates a lot of animosity.

16 And sometimes just I think the last thing I'll say so I'm not on a soap box here is
17 just, like, sense of purpose and sense of work, I feel like the service, again, I'm including
18 myself in this, we feel that our mission has maybe expanded past what it was originally
19 intended to, to protect the President and Vice President. For example, we can, you
20 know, we are tasked with covering the children and family members of our protectees,
21 President and Vice Presidents, yet they have the ability to sign off protection. Could be
22 for a weekend if they want to go do whatever activities they're going to do, and then sign
23 back on so they have their, you know, in essence, sometimes earned Uber service is what
24 we joke and make it sound like. So I would say those are just several things that I can
25 confidently speak on and probably create -- are creating cultural issues within the Service.

1 Q Okay. Thank you. I think we'll have to hand it over to the minority.

2 Thank you for indulging me.

3 [Break].

4 BY [REDACTED]:

5 Q Thank you again, [REDACTED] Just hopefully a few -- hopefully, just a few last
6 items, and I apologize in advance, we might dart around a bit in terms of topic and
7 timeline. First question, my colleagues on the majority were asking a bit about any
8 discussions on the plane, on the trip from West Palm up to Pittsburgh. Do you recall at
9 any point during the day, the morning before on the plane, perhaps any briefings, any
10 meetings about what to expect for Butler?

11 A Yeah. That morning at the Mar-a-Lago residence, if I remember correctly,
12 we did a briefing. Actually no, because when we showed up, it would have been after
13 the day shift brief, so I believe our briefing was done on the plane.

14 Q Okay.

15 A I know Special Agent [REDACTED] did a briefing the night prior on Teams with various
16 personnel involved in the visit.

17 Q Was that mostly, to your understanding, Secret Service personnel, or was
18 local law enforcement involved in that?

19 A I believe that one was Secret Service personnel.

20 Q And that, I assume, was a remote or virtual briefing?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q Thank you. And I do want to spend just a few more minutes on radios to
23 make sure that I understand sort of the lay of the land there. I believe you said you
24 carried two radios on July 13th. Was one -- why do you carry two?

25 A We carry two so that we can operate -- we can run a tact channel that's

1 purely dedicated to our tactical entities and then we can run a radio that's tuned to the
2 shift and the rest of the detail.

3 Q Are those radios capable of switching channels so if one failed you could still
4 switch around?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q So it's really just to make sure you've got dedicated channels, you're
7 listening to both at the same time to save yourself scanning on one device.

8 A That's correct.

9 Q So I believe you said Agent [REDACTED] gave his shift-dedicated radio to the PSP
10 trooper, but he still would have been able to communicate with the shift if he needed to?

11 A He would have probably coded that radio -- switched the channel on that
12 radio, the tact channel for those guys, but it would have been -- I believe it would have
13 been scanning the shift channel, so they would have heard the traffic on the shift, but
14 they actively would not have been able to communicate with them, only with entities on
15 the tactical channel, and then he would have switched his other radio -- he would have
16 had his other radio to the tactical channel, so he could communicate with us, because
17 then I still had my shift channel.

18 Q Got it. But if needed to for some reason, if that radio failed, if your radio
19 failed, he could still switch to the shift channel?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q How would you describe your responsibility for communicating with the
22 shift? Are you receiving information for them? Are you reporting to them on what
23 you're seeing?

24 A If -- for that day, we would have -- if we saw something that warranted
25 passing along to the shift, we are certainly at liberty to do so, and would be well within

1 our role to do so. We are not in a function where we're actively monitoring or scanning
2 the site. Our main function is to respond to a threat or attack.

3 Q Understood. And I believe you said you don't recall having any issues with
4 your radios that day. Is that right?

5 A That's correct. To my recollection, I didn't notice anything.

6 Q Did you understand if any of your other colleagues to have issues with their
7 radios?

8 A Not to my knowledge.

9 Q Okay. You said that you gave one, or Agent [REDACTED] gave one of his radios to
10 one of the State troopers. Did you have any understanding of any other local or State
11 assets having a Secret Service radio?

12 A Not to my knowledge.

13 Q Thank you.

14 [REDACTED]. Anything else on radios from our colleagues? Okay. Thank you.

15 BY [REDACTED]:

16 Q When you arrived to the site, I believe you said you met with [REDACTED]
17 and chatted with him for a few minutes while you were in the CAT vehicle. I apologize if
18 I missed this, but what was that discussion? What do you recall him reporting to you?

19 A Just short of introduction or basic introductions after meeting someone new,
20 confirming where our tactical units were at, what [REDACTED] movements were going to be,
21 and then where we would [REDACTED] and why and kind of our
22 [REDACTED] if something happened and [REDACTED]

23 Q And I believe the majority covered this, but at no point did you hear about a
24 suspicious person or anybody on the roof from [REDACTED], anything like that?

25 A That's correct.

1 Q But I believe you said that you recalled hearing several minutes before the
2 shooting that a QRF had been deployed. Is that right?

3 A Yes, ma'am, that's correct.

4 Q I won't hide anything here. It's our best understanding that the [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED] maybe seconds before the shooting, so how did [REDACTED] [REDACTED] have that
6 understanding? Do you know if he heard it on his radio? Did he see it from where you
7 were?

8 A It could -- so timing wise of what I reported as far as, like, how much time
9 passed between when he told us and when, it's very possible that it could have been 10,
10 15 seconds. I think I said originally several minutes. That's how it's replaying in my
11 mind. I can't speak to -- you know, I could come up with several different reasons.
12 They'd all just be guesses if there was a longer buffer in there between when he told me,
13 and it could have just been whoever relayed it to him had heard it before it was
14 actually -- they were actually [REDACTED]

15 Q But it is your best recollection, appreciating that it's been a few months, that
16 it was a little longer than a few seconds before?

17 A I think so, yes.

18 Q Okay. I think that's it for me. I'm going to turn it over. I think my
19 colleagues had a few follow-ups. [REDACTED].

20 BY [REDACTED]:

21 Q Yeah, I just have a couple questions. I'll be quick. So I think I heard you
22 say that your flight from Florida to Pennsylvania was delayed by about 2 hours?

23 A Delayed because [REDACTED] was running behind schedule or caught up with stuff
24 at his -- that he was meetings or interviews that he had at his residence.

25 Q Okay. So I think you said it was supposed to leave maybe at noon and it

1 ended up leaving at 2:00 or something.

2 A I think so, that's -- to my recollection.

3 Q So had that flight not been delayed, would that have meant two extra hours
4 for you on the ground in Butler?

5 A I don't believe so, but full disclosure, with President -- former President
6 Trump, he's kind of notorious for -- he likes to build the anticipation, I think, so it's not
7 uncommon that he doesn't -- you know, if the rally is advertised at being -- starting at
8 5:00 p.m. it's not unusual that he doesn't start until 6:00 or 6:30 p.m.

9 Q Okay. And so for your role, there's no way you're getting to the site until
10 the former President is at the site?

11 A Correct. Yeah. [REDACTED]. Yeah, [REDACTED].

12 Q Okay. Because it seemed like, you know, so arriving there on site 15, 20
13 minutes before he went on the stage, would you say that your on-site time was rushed?

14 A I'm sorry?

15 Q Or is it typical?

16 A I don't think I --

17 Q It seems like you weren't at the Butler site for very long prior to the point at
18 which the President went on stage.

19 A Yes, that's correct. It wasn't very long.

20 Q And is that typical of -- that's just how this works?

21 A It depends -- it all depends on the site. For a rally like that, especially one
22 that's outdoors, and I'm sorry, now that I'm saying that, I previously said that I hadn't
23 worked maybe one other outdoor rally. I worked another former President Trump rally,
24 like, a week before that and I'm just recalling now, so I just want to put that on the
25 record. That's escaped me.

1 For rallies, especially ones that are at kind of simple sites where there's not a lot of
2 other activities going on before then, I would say it's not uncommon to show up, maybe
3 do some photos with some VIPs or quick interview and then on stage.

4 Q Okay. All right. Second issue, just hoping that you can just sort of clear
5 something up for me. I'm having trouble understanding what the difference is between
6 a CAT advance and the CAT liaison or the CAT LNO, because it sounds like it's just two
7 different names for sort of the same task. What's the -- can you distinguish those two
8 terms for me?

9 A Yeah. When I'm referring to a CAT advance, generally that's a person going
10 out ahead of time doing the advance, and then they [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED], and then they have a -- to then work
12 the visit. Or at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] other CAT individuals. More than one person.

13 The LNO, they're still going out ahead of time. They're doing the advance, but
14 they're going to [REDACTED], and then they're

15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]

17 Q Okay. So to summarize kind of, if the Secret Service CAT individual is going
18 to have to [REDACTED], because [REDACTED] --

19 A Yeah.

20 Q That's probably a CAT LNO situation?

21 A I would say that's a fair way to explain it, yes, sir.

22 Q Okay. And so I know you had said that post-July 13th there's been this
23 change to CAT advances such that they're now in person?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q So that is not to say that there will now be a CAT LNO or CAT liaison for all

1 events. It's just that the CAT advance will have to be in person. Am I understanding
2 that correctly? Or is the policy now look, we're going to have a CAT LNO for all, say,
3 outdoor -- large outdoor events?

4 A I don't -- I am not sure if our special operations division is permitting CAT
5 LNOs, so one CAT individual doing the advance and then being the only CAT person that
6 works that visit, I'm not sure if they're still permitting that or if they're giving a team to
7 every -- to every advanced member from CAT that goes out ahead of time. I'm not sure
8 if they've made that change or not.

9 [REDACTED] Also special agents aren't -- never say anything about policy
10 change. There's no -- this -- these are protocols.

11 [REDACTED] Yes. Thank you for clarifying.

12 [REDACTED] These are not Secret Service policies.

13 [REDACTED]. Understood. That's it for me.

14 [REDACTED]. Just a few more and then I think you're out of here.

15 BY [REDACTED]:

16 Q When we talk about CAT, generally speaking, I understand it's counter
17 assault team, where in general, or maybe using Butler as an example, where would an
18 assault typically come from? In other words, I would think -- so we have countersnipers,
19 they're looking for snipers. Snipers by nature are far away. I would assume, but I
20 guess my question is that an assault that you're prepared to deal with is going to come
21 from a closer range threat. Is that right or maybe not?

22 A In my experience in training, there are certain landmarks or facades, areas at
23 a site [REDACTED] to

24 [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

1 aren't able to see at that moment.

2 But as far as sites go, at a site, I would say we're actually -- [REDACTED]
3 is probably [REDACTED] We do a very good job of
4 [REDACTED], so I would actually argue that
5 it's [REDACTED],
6 because obviously, we can do road closures, but, you know, [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED]

9 Q So at the Butler Farm Show when the former President is speaking, crowd of
10 15,000 people out there, what is most on your mind as a source of possible threats?

11 A Well, even immediately before that, I know, like, when we were driving in,
12 we had to come in, like, [REDACTED], and all along the left side, as
13 left when you're making entry to the site, there is a chain-link fence that ran along it and I
14 believe it was -- there was this private house on the other side, but there were just
15 people unswept. I don't recall if there was any local presence out there to kind of
16 monitor, but there were just people all lined up all along the fence probably several feet
17 away. I definitely didn't like that at all. It gives you a bad feeling.

18 And then as far as, like, being at the site, again, like, operating under the -- I
19 operate under the assumption that everyone at the crowd, like, that's not really where
20 my concern is from, that we've set up good access control parameters. Those people
21 have been adequately and sufficiently screened. So if there was any concern, it would
22 be [REDACTED].

23 Q That makes sense. You may end up repeating yourself here, but just so I
24 got it, even though there's a lot of people in a very crowded area, it's hard to keep track
25 of all of them for anybody law enforcement-wise, they've all been swept. The relative

1 risk that they're posing is generally assumed to not be too high, because they've been

2 [REDACTED]

3 A Correct. It would be a -- I would say a non-life threatening -- yeah,
4 non-lethal. That's the word I was looking for. A non-lethal threat.

5 Q Great. When we talk about the countersniper team, I understand it's a
6 completely different function from what you do, but you guys seem to be part of a unit
7 more or less, the special operations. You're all on one tactical radio frequency. From
8 your vantage point, to the best of your understanding, the way that you are a CAT
9 operator and you request CAT support from the locals, I think it's that the Secret Service
10 has a countersniper team that requests countersniper support sometimes from locals.
11 Is that generally how you understand it?

12 A Yep.

13 Q Okay. Great. It's not as if the Secret Service also in addition to that has a
14 sniper team. They have a countersniper team who is somewhat near the asset, is
15 looking out for threats on the outside. They don't also have a team who's on the
16 outside somehow looking in on the protectee, as far as you know, right?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q All right. Got it. And to the extent there are locals supporting -- again,
19 from your vantage point, did not mean a silent countersniper team. To the extent there
20 are locals providing support, it would generally be in that same role of countersniper
21 support.

22 A Generally, I do know that sometimes I believe that local countersnipers are
23 trained more as marksmen, kind of in the second example that you provided where
24 they're typically on the outside looking in, whether it's hostage rescue or something.

25 So I have heard of instances where, you know, you show up to their district

1 essentially and they want to put a team somewhere because they do, then that's what
2 they might end up doing, but they're still ultimately providing overwatch, which is what
3 our CS team is looking for.

4 Q And that makes sense. When you have heard of that on occasion
5 happening, to the extent you can remember, would that more typically be that they have
6 sort of voluntarily put themselves in that situation? It's their jurisdiction. They say,
7 Hey, we're going to come here today and provide that overwatch role, or is it more often
8 that to your understanding that's part of the broader Secret Service countersniper plan?
9 It's like we're going to have our countersnipers back here and we think we should also
10 probably ask for local snipers to be out there.

1 [1:21 p.m.]

2 [REDACTED] No. It's my understanding our countersniper team is their
3 responsibility and concern is to [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]

5 BY [REDACTED]:

6 Q That would be a pretty different function, it sounds like, that we're talking
7 about for folks doing overwatch on the outside of an event?

8 A Yes. To my understanding, if I'm understanding.

9 Q I know. It's a little outside your lane. I appreciate it.

10 One more, which is we talked about how you had not really heard information
11 about a suspicious individual. Got that?

12 And when we talk about your comms, you're on a radio that is linked up to the
13 tactical channel, and that channel is shared between yourselves and the countersniper
14 folks, right?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Okay. So I just -- it's an extension of logic, but I take all of that to mean
17 that, as far as you heard, you did not get any information from the countersniper folks
18 about a suspicious individual either? Officer [REDACTED] never said anything, and neither
19 did the Secret Service countersniper guys; that must be correct, I assume?

20 A Yes. I did not hear anything about a suspicious person other than the radio
21 comms that said there's a -- police are dealing with -- or addressing something at the
22 3:00.

23 Q Got it. The last two here for me -- different topic -- you talked a little bit
24 about cultural challenges within the agency. One of those was that it sounds like natural
25 tension between staff on the one hand, whether that's White House or campaign, and

1 yourselves who are ultimately responsible for protection, for sure.

2 And I think you gave an example of, Hey, somebody once tried to set up an event
3 in a convention center on two days' notice. That's an obvious example where that's a
4 security challenge and put you guys in not the easiest spot.

5 Did you have any personal opinion when you showed up to the Butler Farm site
6 and just first stepped out of the car and looked around of where that site fit in your
7 personal opinion matrix of difficult to easy?

8 A I can't really rate it, I guess, in that regards. But I can say that, you know,
9 anything outdoors automatically just isn't preferred unless it's got natural barriers.

10 Like, for example, former President Trump would be the airport hangar rallies, like
11 you have a lot of different coverage there with the hangars in the background, the planes
12 in the background. You know, it's -- definitely don't love being out in the wide open.

13 Q To the extent that disagreements do arise, which again seems perfectly
14 natural between staff and the agency, and if it's not at your level, great, just let me know.
15 But in your experience, who has got the final say there? Who has the power to say, this
16 is how it's going to be?

17 A It doesn't make its way down to my level. I don't particularly interact.
18 But I would like to, based on my experience and opinion -- because I do work directly
19 hand-to-hand with all these other advance agents, and I think it is a -- I think it is
20 something that, like, deserves to be brought to light or have some light shed on it is that
21 it ultimately -- how I would describe it is I think it can get pushed up the chain on the
22 Secret Service side, but we're more likely to relent and give in.

23 I don't -- as far as what those motivations are, who knows? That's well above
24 me. But I see or find very rarely that it seems that we ever come back and get staff to
25 change their mind or go along with the -- what we would prefer to do for security

1 purposes.

2 Q We're measuring unofficial power here in a way that, to the extent you've
3 seen it, it seems to tilt a little bit more heavily on the staff side?

4 A That's correct, sir.

5 Q Great.

6 [REDACTED]. I think that's all I had. Unless colleagues have anything further,
7 we can go off the record.

8 [Whereupon, at 1:24 p.m., the interview was concluded.]

1 Certificate of Deponent/Interviewee

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4 I have read the foregoing ____ pages, which contain the correct transcript of the
5 answers made by me to the questions therein recorded.

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Witness Name

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Page	Line	Change
6	8	CHANGE “followups” TO “follow-ups”
35	7	CHANGE “CNOSes” TO “CNOS”
35	16	CHANGE “CNOSes” TO “CNOS”

Page	Line	Change
45	21	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
46	25	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
49	20	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
49	20	CHANGE "or" TO "nor"
53	7	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
54	3	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
55	21	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
103	9	CHANGE "Agent" TO "Special Agent"
103	22	CHANGE "for" TO "from"
104	6	CHANGE "to have" TO "had"
111	7	ADD " " BEFORE "Hey"
111	7	ADD " " AFTER "role,"