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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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13 INTERVIEW OF: ATF PERSONNEL 1

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Tuesday, November 26, 2024

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Washington, D.C.

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22 The interview in the above matter was held in the Aspen Conference Room,

23 O'Neill House Office Building, commencing at 9:57 a.m.

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2     Appearances:

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5     For the TASK FORCE ON THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION  
6     OF DONALD J. TRUMP:

7

8     [REDACTED] SENIOR COUNSEL

9     [REDACTED] SENIOR COUNSEL

10    [REDACTED] DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

11    [REDACTED], SENIOR ADVISOR

12    [REDACTED], SENIOR COUNSEL

13    [REDACTED], SENIOR PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER

14    [REDACTED], MINORITY INVESTIGATIVE COUNSEL

15    [REDACTED], MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

16    [REDACTED], MINORITY INVESTIGATIVE COUNSEL

17

18

19    For the U.S. BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND FIREARMS:

20

21    [REDACTED], SPECIAL COUNSEL

22

23

24    For the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE:

25

1 [REDACTED], SPECIAL COUNSEL, OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

2 [REDACTED] We are now on the record.

3 Today is Tuesday, November 26, 2024, and this is a transcribed interview of  
4 [REDACTED], ATF Personnel 1. House Resolutions 1367  
5 and 1470 direct the task force to investigate all actions by any agency, department,  
6 officer, or employee of the Federal Government related to the attempted assassination of  
7 Donald J. Trump on July 13, 2024, in Butler, Pennsylvania, and September 15, 2024, in  
8 West Palm Beach, Florida. Pursuant to House Resolution 1367, Chairman Kelly and  
9 Ranking Member Crow have requested this interview as part of the task force's  
10 investigation.

11 Can the witness please state their name and spell their last name for the record?

12 ATF Personnel 1. [Redacted.] ATF Personnel 1.

13 [REDACTED] Thank you, ATF Personnel 1. My name is [REDACTED] and I'm a  
14 senior counsel with the task force majority staff. I want to thank you for coming in  
15 today for this interview. The task force recognizes and appreciates that you are here  
16 voluntarily today.

17 You are allowed to have an attorney present to advise you during this interview.

18 Do you have an attorney representing you in a personal capacity present with you today?

19 ATF Personnel 1. Personal capacity, no.

20 [REDACTED] Okay. Is there an attorney present representing the ATF today?

21 [REDACTED]. Yes. Hi. My name is [REDACTED]. It's [REDACTED].

22 [REDACTED] Thank you. Is there also an attorney present representing the  
23 Department of Homeland Security today?

24 [REDACTED]. There is not.

25 [REDACTED]. There is not.

1           ██████████ And then, ma'am, if you'd like to introduce yourself, please.

2           ██████████: ██████████ for the Department of Justice.

3           ██████████ Thank you.

4           There are no Members of Congress present here today, but should any come, they  
5 have the right to ask questions. They will identify themselves and explain their  
6 affiliation with the task force.

7           Next, starting with the majority and then the minority, can the additional staff  
8 members please introduce themselves with their name, title, and affiliation?

9           ██████████ ██████████ senior counsel, task force majority.

10          ██████████: ██████████, senior counsel, task force majority.

11          ██████████ ██████████ deputy staff director for the majority.

12          ██████████ ██████████, investigative counsel, minority.

13          ██████████ ██████████, investigative counsel, minority.

14          ██████████: ██████████, minority staff director.

15          ██████████: ██████████ and ██████████?

16          ██████████ I'm ██████████, senior adviser to the task force, minority.

17          ██████████: ██████████, professional staff member, task force, majority.

18          ██████████ Thank you, all.

19          ATF Personnel 1, before we begin, I'd like to go over the ground rules for this  
20 interview. The way this interview will proceed is as follows: The majority and minority  
21 staff will alternate asking you questions 45 minutes per side, per round, until each side is  
22 finished with their questioning. The majority staff will begin and proceed for  
23 45 minutes, and then the minority staff will have 45 minutes to ask questions. We will  
24 then alternate back and forth in this manner until both sides have no more questions. If  
25 either side is in the middle of a specific line of questioning, they may choose to end a few

1 minutes past 45 minutes to ensure completion of that specific line of questioning,  
2 including any pertinent followups.

3 In this interview, while one member of the staff for each side may lead the  
4 questioning, additional staff may ask questions. There is a court reporter taking down  
5 everything I say and everything that you say to make a written record of this interview.  
6 For the record to be clear, please wait until the staff member questioning you has  
7 finished each question before you begin your answer, and the staff member will wait until  
8 you finish your response before proceeding to the next question.

9 Further, to ensure the court reporter can properly record this interview, please  
10 speak clearly, concisely, and slowly. Also, the court reporter cannot record nonverbal  
11 answers, such as nodding or shaking your head, so it is important that you answer each  
12 question with an audible, verbal answer. Do you understand?

13 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

14 [REDACTED] We want you to answer our questions in the most complete and  
15 truthful manner possible, so we will take our time. If you have any questions or do not  
16 fully understand the question, please let us know. We will attempt to clarify, add  
17 context to, or rephrase our questions. Do you understand?

18 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

19 [REDACTED] If we ask about specific conversations or events in the past and you  
20 are unable to recall the exact words or details, you should testify to the substance of  
21 those conversations or events to the best of your recollection. If you recall only a part  
22 of a conversation or event, you should give us your best recollection of those events or  
23 parts of conversations that you do recall. Do you understand?

24 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

25 [REDACTED] Although you are here voluntarily and we will not swear you in, you

1 are required, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1001, to answer questions from Congress truthfully.  
2 This also applies to questions posed by congressional staff in an interview. Do you  
3 understand?

4 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

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

7 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

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

10 ATF Personnel 1. No.

11 [REDACTED] Please note that, if you wish to assert a privilege over any statement  
12 today, that assertion must apply to the rules of the U.S. House of Representatives. For  
13 the chair to consider assertions of privilege over testimony or statements, witnesses or  
14 entities must clearly state the specific privilege being asserted and the reason for the  
15 assertion on or before the scheduled date of testimony or appearance. Do you  
16 understand?

17 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

18 [REDACTED] Finally, I'd like to note that the content of what we discuss here  
19 today is confidential. We ask that you not speak about what we discuss here today in  
20 this interview to any outside individual in order to preserve the integrity of this  
21 investigation. For these same reasons, the marked exhibits used today will be provided  
22 to the court reporter so that they may go in the official transcript, and any copies of those  
23 exhibits will be returned to us when we wrap up.

24 We plan to take a 5-minute break at the end of each 45 minutes of questioning,  
25 but if you need a longer break or a break before that, please let us know, and we will be

1 happy to accommodate you. However, to the extent that there is a pending question,  
2 we would ask that you finish answering the question before we take the break. Do you  
3 understand?

4 ATF Personnel 1. I do.

5 [REDACTED] Do you have any other questions before we begin?

6 ATF Personnel 1. No, I don't have any questions. Thank you.

7 [REDACTED] It is now 10:04 a.m. Majority staff will begin its questioning.

8 EXAMINATION

9 BY [REDACTED]

10 Q ATF Personnel 1, what is your current title and role at ATF?

11 A I'm the [REDACTED] assigned to the Philadelphia Field  
12 Division.

13 Q And how long have you served in this role?

14 A Over 2 years.

15 Q What other roles have you have you had at ATF?

16 A I have served as the acting director -- or, excuse me, acting chief of the ATF  
17 National Academy, as the deputy chief of the ATF National Academy. I've also served as  
18 a resident agent in charge as a first-line supervisor for a Criminal Investigation Group.  
19 I've also served as a special agent investigator, and I've had auxiliary roles as a crisis  
20 negotiator with ATF.

21 Q Thank you.

22 What kind of training and certification did you receive when you joined ATF?

23 A I originally attended a criminal investigator training program at the Federal  
24 Office and Training Center in Brunswick, Georgia, commonly known as FLETC. I don't  
25 know how many hours, but it was like 14 weeks, if I remember correctly. It's been a

1 minute. From there, I went on to the ATF National Academy to the special agent basic  
2 training. That was over 600-plus hours, 14 weeks of training. I have received  
3 continuous training throughout my career, whether in-person or online trainings.

4 Q And can you please describe for us those ongoing training and certification  
5 requirements at ATF?

6 A To my current position or in general?

7 Q Your current position.

8 A My current position is, as the management, I deal with the trainings, how to  
9 deal with employees. I've had trainings in criminal incident response. I've had  
10 trainings in case -- reviewing cases. I've had training handling money and management,  
11 credit cards, finance, hiring practices, dealing with employees on a side note, like  
12 our -- just like their personal life on -- I mean, I can go into great deal, but that's the cliff  
13 notes version of it.

14 Q Thank you. Can you please indicate what your areas of expertise are, in  
15 other words, whether you would consider yourself a subject-matter expert in firearms,  
16 explosives?

17 A I've never been certified in a court as an expert, but I have a working  
18 knowledge of firearms through a career. I'm not an expert in explosives. I'm not a  
19 certified explosive specialist. I am not a bomb tech. I just have a working knowledge  
20 through a career of explosives.

21 Q Okay. Moving into sort of ATF organization, can you please describe the  
22 organization of the Philadelphia Field Division?

23 A So we have a special agent in charge, and then we have two assistant special  
24 agents in charge. And then, below that, we have criminal enforcement groups, and then  
25 we also have a regulatory side. We have an industry operations supervisor, and then,



1 below them, have we have industry operation investigators.

2 Q And who do you directly report to?

3 A The special agent in charge of the Philadelphia Field Division.

4 Q Who is that?

5 [REDACTED]: It's okay.

6 [REDACTED]: You can answer.

7 ATF Personnel 1. Okay. [REDACTED].

8 BY [REDACTED]

9 Q And who does [REDACTED] report to?

10 A The [REDACTED] (ph).

11 Q And how many personnel report to you?

12 A I'd probably say, around 50.

13 Q Okay. Does [REDACTED] report to you?

14 A He reports to his first-line supervisor, who then reports to me.

15 Q Okay. And who is [REDACTED]'s first-line supervisor?

16 [REDACTED] So we're not going to get into line-level or nonsupervisory personnel  
17 names today, but -- so I think ATF Personnel 1 can refer to them by role, if that's helpful  
18 for you. And, if you need their names, we have to talk offline, off the record.

19 [REDACTED] Thank you.

20 [REDACTED]: Yeah.

21 [REDACTED] I'd now like to introduce majority exhibit 1.

22 [ATF Personnel 1 Majority Exhibit No. 1  
23 was marked for identification.]

24 BY [REDACTED]

25 Q So, ATF Personnel 1, this is just a printout of the -- about the Philadelphia

1 Field Division -- page on the ATF Philadelphia Field Division website. If I could just read  
2 from this for a bit, the second paragraph here, the first line starts off by stating,  
3 "Explosives and arson enforcement are an integral part of ATF's overall violent crime  
4 reduction strategy. ATF's Philadelphia Field Division special agents combat arson and  
5 explosive-related crimes by conducting independent investigations and by working in  
6 partnership with local and State fire investigators and police bomb squads."

7 Does this mean, ATF Personnel 1, that ATF's Philadelphia Field Division does not  
8 have its own explosives division or experts?

9 A No, that does not.

10 Q Okay. Is it accurate to say that the Philadelphia Field Division relies  
11 exclusively on local partners to conduct such functions?

12 A No, that's not accurate.

13 Q Okay.

14 Ms. [REDACTED]: I'm sorry. Sorry to interrupt. Can we have a copy of the exhibit to  
15 look at so we can follow along? Thank you.

16 BY [REDACTED]

17 Q So can you please clarify why this is not accurate in terms of it not having its  
18 own sort of explosives?

19 A If I understand your question correctly, you said that ATF Philadelphia  
20 Division relies solely on the local people to deal with in arson explosive investigations?

21 Q Well, if I could just go back --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- to the original question. Does it mean that ATF's Philadelphia Field  
24 Division does not have its own explosives division or experts? We can start there.

25 A Okay. No, the Philadelphia Field Division does have people that are

1 certified explosive specialists and bomb techs. We do have them, yes.

2 Q Okay. And how many, just a number?

3 A It changes because we've had some transfers. I know of -- if you give me a  
4 second, from my memory -- one, two -- I believe we have at least four certified explosive  
5 specialists, and I know one bomb tech. And I believe we have one in training, one  
6 certified explosive specialist in training.

7 Q Thank you for that clarification.

8 In terms of partner organizations, do you regularly work with the FBI in your role?

9 A Yes, I do.

10 Q Okay. And what does that relationship entail?

11 A So I cover three different judicial districts. I'll speak -- do you want me to  
12 speak directly to the western PA, in Pittsburgh experience?

13 Q Sure.

14 A So we work regularly with the FBI. I'll regularly meet with the FBI. We  
15 have monthly meetings, make sure that any cross cases, that we -- "Hey, what do you  
16 have going on? What do you have going on?" It's not just us in the FBI. There's  
17 other law enforcement, to include Federal and State and then the bigger law  
18 enforcement agencies locally. We discuss cases. Every once in a while, cases do cross  
19 paths, they do, so then we have meetings, all right, how can -- what -- where is the  
20 best -- how can we partner on this, and what is the best avenue, and we work with the  
21 AUSAs on that and then -- yeah, so --

22 Q Who do you typically work with at the FBI?

23 A Me, personally?

24 Q Yes.

25 A Mostly I work with the assistant special agents in charge.

1 Q And would it be fair to say that FBI supervisory senior resident agent of the  
2 FBI offices in Erie and New Castle [REDACTED] is your counterpart at the FBI?

3 A No. [REDACTED], I believe, is a first-line supervisor in Erie. I have met  
4 with him in the past, but he reports to the assistant special agent in charge in Pittsburgh  
5 for the FBI.

6 Q Okay. What is your relationship with [REDACTED]?

7 A Professional. I mean, just professional, yeah. It's meetings. Outside  
8 that, I don't know him very well.

9 Q Okay. Do you regularly work with other Federal law enforcement in the  
10 region?

11 A We do. We work with the Drug Enforcement Agency, the U.S. Marshals,  
12 HSI -- Homeland Security Investigators, sorry -- for Federal law enforcement.

13 Q And which local law enforcement offices provide bomb squad assistance to  
14 you?

15 A When requested, when you say 'local offices,' the FBI does have a bomb  
16 tech; the Allegheny County Bomb Squad in that region, out in the western PA; the State  
17 police, who cover an extensive area; and, I believe, Erie PD has a bomb squad.

18 Q And these are all entities that you've worked with in the past as it relates to  
19 bomb squad assistance?

20 A Yes. I've worked with them in the past, yeah.

21 Q Okay. Let's move into just sort of advance planning. Were you involved  
22 in any advance planning whatsoever for July 13, 2024?

23 A No, ma'am, I was not.

24 Q When did you learn that President-elect Trump was coming to Butler,  
25 Pennsylvania?

1           A    I don't remember the exact date. I believe it was either -- from the local  
2 news media stations, probably something social media.

3           Q    Was the ATF asked by anyone or any agency to assist with the rally on  
4 July 13th?

5           A    No, ma'am.

6           Q    Did you yourself offer to anyone to assist with the Butler rally?

7           A    No, not -- indirectly. The supervisor for the Secret Service, I see him at  
8 regular meetings, and I always offer, hey, if you ever get overwhelmed, you know -- but  
9 it's more of a casual thing. I can't recall a time of my time supervising, in my experience,  
10 in western PA, where we've been asked.

11          Q    And, in this particular instance, is it accurate to say that you informally  
12 offered ATF's assistance to this Secret Service supervisor?

13          A    I believe so, because I knew the -- I did know the First Lady, Jill Biden, was in  
14 the area at the same time, and, you know, just in casual conversation.

15          Q    And who was the Secret Service supervisor's name?

16          [REDACTED] It's okay.

17          ATF Personnel 1. It's okay?

18          [REDACTED] Yeah.

19          ATF Personnel 1. I believe it's [REDACTED].

20          BY [REDACTED]

21          Q    Okay. And what assistance informally did you offer to [REDACTED] for this  
22 particular July 13th event?

23          A    I didn't get into specifics. I just say, "Hey, if you need us, we're a phone call  
24 away."

25          Q    Okay. You didn't offer ATF agents or --

1 A No.

2 Q -- K-9s or anything like that?

3 A No, nothing like that.

4 Q And was this informal offer made verbally?

5 A Yeah. It was in a meeting unrelated to the July 13th events.

6 Q Okay. What capabilities, if [REDACTED] had taken you up on your offer, did  
7 you envision that you'd be able sort of to provide to the event?

8 A Do I envision or I could offer?

9 Q Well, that you were, if he took you up on your offer.

10 A I mean, I do have agents, 20-plus agents that could've been available. I  
11 don't know what the schedule was back then because I really wasn't considering it. We  
12 do have certified explosive specialists. If our K-9 was available, we could've offered that.

13 Q And, in the past, has [REDACTED] taken you up on your offer --

14 A No.

15 Q -- for ATF assistance?

16 A No. I've never had like a planning discussion like this.

17 Q Okay. And then, just based upon your personal knowledge, is it typical for  
18 ATF to be involved with campaign events similar to the Butler rally featuring a former  
19 President or candidate for President?

20 A I can't speak for the rest of ATF. I can only speak for my experience in  
21 western PA, and in the 10-plus years I've worked in that area, minus the time at the  
22 academy, I can't think of one time, so it wouldn't have been normal.

23 Q Okay. So, just to be -- to clarify for the record, during your tenure, during  
24 your time at the ATF, have you ever previously assisted with any campaign events?

25 A In my time at the ATF, yes. I have worked with the United Nations. Many

1 years ago, I went up there. I was assigned to the Vice Premier of China. The name  
2 escapes me. I got switched over to a contingent from Israel, and then -- the last person  
3 escapes me, it was only 2 days, and then the last person was one of Gadaffi's sons.

4 Q Okay. Moving along in the timeline, ATF Personnel 1, where were you  
5 when President-elect Trump was shot?

6 A I was in my personal vehicle on a personal matter driving.

7 Q And how did you become aware that President-elect Trump had been shot?

8 A Via telephone. The ATF agent that I know called me.

9 Q Who was that agent?

10 [REDACTED]: Why don't you give the role of the agent or the title?

11 ATF Personnel 1. Oh. [REDACTED], another one. My  
12 counterpart.

13 BY [REDACTED]

14 Q In the Philadelphia Field Office or --

15 A Yes. Philadelphia Field Division, yes.

16 Q Were you involved in initiating ATF critical incident response on July 13th?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And can you just sort of describe for us what that entails and what  
19 sort of, you know, the process is for initiating that, the protocol?

20 A So we have a division procedure that we sometimes have practiced before.  
21 So anybody can initiate a critical incident response. They can self-report. In this  
22 incident, the first-line supervisor for Pittsburgh start the initiations with me, and with that  
23 I made phone calls to the special agent in charge of Philadelphia.

24 And then we also have an app on our phone, and anybody -- like anybody can  
25 initiate it and basically: "All right. This is the emergency. This is the where. This is

1 the who."

2 And then, as agents, it goes on their phone; they can click in there, "I'm  
3 responding." So it lets us know who's coming, what resources we have, and where  
4 they're coming from, and any kind of ETA.

5 From there, the first agent that arrives on scene asserts himself in the command  
6 post, whether it be a fixed command post, a vehicle. They identify themselves, "We're  
7 here; this is what we can offer." For this incident, there was a fixed command post, and  
8 the first-line supervisor had arrived on scene. While I was -- I had went home, prepared  
9 myself to arrive, and then I arrive on scene as soon as the -- on scene and to the  
10 commander.

11 Q Thank you for those details. If we could just kind of move back in the  
12 timeline there, are you aware of how many individuals initiated critical incident response  
13 functions on July 13th?

14 A For the app, no, but I believe there was a couple phone calls. I believe that  
15 some agents reported it. I'm not aware how many. I mean, it was -- it's fair to say it  
16 was more than one.

17 Q Okay. And can you please explain for us what it means when you say that  
18 there had already been a fixed command post? Where was this command post? What  
19 does it do?

20 A So, when I arrived to the Butler County Fairground, there was a building. I  
21 don't know what the building is used for. It seems like it's a -- something with -- it has a  
22 kitchen in it and a meeting room, and that was the fixed command post. Based upon my  
23 experience, it was probably the -- whatever they used the command post for that event.

24 Q And, sort of moving back in the timeline here, ATF, specifically the assistant  
25 director of field operations, [REDACTED], provided a briefing to the task force on



1 September 9, 2024. And, during that briefing, [REDACTED] indicated that ATF critical  
2 incident response was initiated at approximately 6:12 p.m. Does that sound accurate to  
3 you, or are you aware of the accuracy of that timestamp?

4 A I'd say that's a fair estimate.

5 Q Okay. And were you told to report for duty?

6 A No. I -- no.

7 Q So, walking back through just your previous testimony, you kind of took it  
8 upon yourself to mobilize. Is that correct?

9 A Yes. Yes.

10 Q And then you responded to the scene?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. So, based upon production documents provided to the task force  
13 thus far, at 6:23 p.m., there was an email notification to the ATF Pittsburgh Field Office  
14 regarding the shooting. And then, at 6:48 p.m., ATF special agents mobilized to the  
15 Butler Farm Show as agents began responding to help remove victims. Does this sort of  
16 comport with your recollection of the timing within the hour?

17 A That's a fair estimate.

18 Q Okay. We're going to move now sort of specifically to the Butler rally site  
19 response. As nobody sort of told you to report for duty or gave you instructions, how  
20 did you know where to go, or could you walk us through sort of what you did?

21 A So I made contact with the first-line supervisor that was there. I kind of  
22 had a general idea where it was at. I don't know if he sent me a pin through the phone  
23 or I looked it up, the actual address, via like Google. I'm not sure which one. But I do  
24 know that I plugged it in the Waze app, I think it was, or Google Maps and then drove  
25 there. I mean, I'm familiar with that area but not that specific location.

1 Q And had you given instructions to anyone else during this time period as to  
2 what any agents should be doing or their response functions?

3 A Just to the first-line supervisor. I just told him that, you know, work with  
4 the on-scene incident commanders that were there already and to the one -- the agents  
5 that were there, to offer any investigative leads assistance.

6 Q And so you had indicated that the first-line supervisor was there. Had he  
7 been there for the duration of the rally, or did he show up after the shooting?

8 A He showed up after the shooting.

9 Q Okay. And were there any other ATF agents present at the rally prior to the  
10 shooting?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. And what was that agent doing there?

13 A He was -- I was -- he was there on his own personal time.

14 Q Okay. To your knowledge, did that agent initiate critical incident response?

15 A I do know that he self-reported to his first-line supervisor, yes.

16 Q So, based on additional ROIs that have been reviewed by the task force,  
17 upon your arrival at the Butler Farm Show site, you assumed duties as the executive-level  
18 liaison between partnering law enforcement agencies and ATF, and then served as the  
19 liaison between ATF incident command and ATF executive-level headquarters staff. Is  
20 this an accurate description of your duties that day, sir?

21 A Yes, ma'am, that's accurate.

22 Q Okay.

23 [REDACTED] And, based upon correspondence provided to the task force from  
24 ATF, I'd now like to introduce majority exhibit 2.

25 [ATF Personnel 1 Majority Exhibit No. 2]

1 was marked for identification.]

2 BY [REDACTED]

3 Q And, counsel, we'll provide you additional copies.

4 [REDACTED]: Thank you.

5 BY [REDACTED]

6 Q So this is a letter, dated October 22, 2024. This letter is from [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED], the [REDACTED] at the ATF,  
8 to Chairman Kelly and Ranking Member Crow. If I could just direct your attention to  
9 page three, sir, so, under the bolded heading here, "Timeline of Key ATF Activities Related  
10 to the July 13, 2024, Attempt." If we look down sort of in the middle of the paragraph at  
11 the sentence that begins "Over" -- do you have it?

12 A I see it.

13 Q Okay. So, "Over the next hour, additional ATF SAs began to arrive at the  
14 scene of the shooting, including 10 SAs and two supervisors -- one resident agent in  
15 charge and one [REDACTED] -- from the Philadelphia Field Division, who helped clear civilians,  
16 secured the scene, and provided investigative assistance." Are you the [REDACTED] mentioned  
17 in this narrative, sir?

18 A Yes, I am.

19 Q Okay. And can you specify who the resident agent in charge was?

20 [REDACTED]: No, we're not going to get into the names of people today, but  
21 you can refer to him by the title.

22 BY [REDACTED]

23 Q Who else was with you at the Butler site from ATF? Is it accurate that a  
24 total of -- it was 10 ATF special agents?

25 A That's about -- that's my recollection of it, yes, ma'am.

1 Q Okay. And then just, anyone else, if you can give -- you don't have to give  
2 specific names, but titles?

3 A At the site?

4 Q Yes.

5 A For ATF?

6 Q Yes.

7 A There should have been no one else.

8 Q Okay. Did you direct any actions when you arrived at the Butler rally site?

9 A To ATF agents or just anybody in general?

10 Q Let's do both. We'll start with any ATF agents.

11 A So, first, I took accountability of the people that I had there. They were  
12 already working on their investigative leads. I did make a blanket statement to them to  
13 say, "Hey, listen, this is a historical event. Everything you do will be scrutinized," and  
14 treated as professionals that they all are. They're all professionals. You know, we ran  
15 out a couple investigative leads. They had -- some of the stuff was already in process  
16 prior to my arrival. I said that any correspondence, emails do not go outside this chain  
17 of command without my permission or my supervisor permission. That was initial when  
18 I got there, with the ATF people.

19 Q Okay. And then as to, sort of, anyone else that you interacted with outside  
20 the ATF?

21 A When I walked in the command post, I introduced myself to a Secret Service  
22 supervisor I did not know. I also made contact with the special agent in charge of the  
23 FBI, who I have a working relationship with, and also the State police, who I have a  
24 working relationship with.

25 Q Okay. So you had indicated you don't recall the Secret Service agent, but

1 the FBI agent, was that [REDACTED] or was that somebody else?

2 A I never saw [REDACTED].

3 Q Okay. Who was the agent that you introduced yourself to, the FBI agent?

4 [REDACTED]: Let's just refer to them by title, please.

5 ATF Personnel 1. Oh, he was the special agent in charge of the FBI.

6 BY [REDACTED]

7 Q Any particular division or office?

8 A So Pittsburgh -- it's a Pittsburgh division. They're their own division there.

9 Q And, sort of, if you could kind of go through what was going on in the  
10 command post at the time, what people were doing, what was going on?

11 A So there was obviously an active historical scene. There was multiple  
12 scenes to include the stage, the injury, the rooftop. There were investigative leads going  
13 down -- I mean, I'm sorry, when I say go down, they were being, like, "This suspicious car,  
14 this suspicious person, all right, has anybody cleared, has anybody cleared that."

15 In the meantime, I had a meeting with the special agent in charge of the FBI, the  
16 second -- the State police supervisor that was on scene, and the Secret Service supervisor  
17 on scene. It was quickly determined that the FBI would have the lead investigative role  
18 to the attempted assassination of, I guess, at the time former-President Trump,  
19 elect-President Trump currently. And then the State police would have the lead role  
20 into any -- the homicide of the person on the scene, two other people that were shot, and  
21 any other victims that we were unaware of at the time, and that's how we started moving  
22 forward from there.

23 Q And did you, then, sort of, after kind of sussing out responsibilities and who  
24 was in charge of what, did you then rally the agents again and sort of give them further  
25 instruction? What were the other sort of 10 SAs doing at the time on the scene?

1           A     Some of them were over by the building, and they were waiting for  
2 information.   Nobody was on the roof for ATF.   They were waiting to get the  
3 information.   Obviously we knew there were -- shots were fired, we knew there was a  
4 weapon up there, and we were waiting for the information from -- to get the information  
5 about the gun, the name, model, serial number, et cetera.

6           Q     And did anyone at any point in time ask you for help with any explosives or  
7 IEDs on the scene?

8           A     No one asked me specifically, no.

9           Q     Who was asked for assistance with IEDs or explosives on the scene?

10          A     That would've been later in the evening.   I believe we had one agent that  
11 was there.

12          Q     Okay.   And we'll get to sort of --

13          A     Yeah.

14          Q     -- that point in the timeline.   Thank you.

15                 Did you ever inspect the AGR building and the AGR grounds?

16          A     I never went inside the building.   I never went on top of the building.   I  
17 looked at it from a distance.   There was not really reason for me to go over there.

18          Q     Okay.   Did any ATF agent go to the AGR building or the AGR grounds?

19          A     Yes.

20          Q     How many agents?

21          A     I'm not sure how many.

22          Q     And what were they doing at the AGR building?

23          A     I believe there was one investigative, like a bicycle that was left on the side.  
24 They cleared that pretty quickly.   That person was just an unwitting.   And then they  
25 were waiting for the information to come off the roof, to get the information from the

1 firearm.

2 Q To your knowledge, did any ATF agents go on the roof of the AGR building?

3 A No. To my knowledge, no.

4 Q Okay. Did any ATF agents examine Crooks' body or his personal effects, to  
5 your knowledge?

6 A To my knowledge, no.

7 Q Did any ATF agents examine Crooks' firearm or the device that was found  
8 next to his body?

9 A To my knowledge, no.

10 Q So what else did you do on site following, you know, going through -- you're  
11 in the command post. You then leave the command post. So sort of walk us through  
12 what's going on, following that time.

13 A Once we received the information, the information from the firearm, I did  
14 not initiate it, but one of the agents initiated emergency trace of the firearm. There  
15 were other things -- other investigative leads going on to try to determine the identity of  
16 the shooter. This is secondhand knowledge. I believe there was no identification on  
17 that person. They would use investigative means and leads to try to determine his  
18 identity that were unsuccessful.

19 While that was going on, also, I was, you know, thinking of other ways we could  
20 offer assistance, because, I mean, obviously there's shell casings up there on the roof,  
21 there's evidence, there's DNA, I mean, how can our lab help, and we offered that help.  
22 Obviously, I was well aware that the FBI had the lead investigative of that, but I know that  
23 our worth and our value with firearms and shell casings and ballistic evidence.

24 In the meantime, I don't remember -- I don't have the exact times, but at some  
25 point we got the trace information back from the firearm. And then, once we got that

1 back -- the original purchase of the firearm, excuse me, then that was my next plan of  
2 what we're going to do from there. And I shared that information with the people in the  
3 command staff.

4 Q Okay. Great. And you had indicated that you had offered sort of  
5 obviously with ATF's expertise, ATF's, you know, assistance with shell casings, things like  
6 that, was that offered to the FBI, or to who was that help offered?

7 A Yeah, it was offered both to the FBI and the State police.

8 Q Was that help accepted?

9 A Oh, the decision wasn't made then. It was taken, but it was -- a decision  
10 was not made whether they would use it or not.

11 Q Okay. Okay, sir, so you had sort of gone over firearm traces, things like  
12 that, that were going on. Based upon documents we've reviewed, shortly after 8 p.m.,  
13 at 8:07 p.m., a firearm trace was requested for Crooks' firearm. And at 8:33 p.m., trace  
14 results indicated that the firearm was purchased from a retailer that has since closed, and  
15 then additional trace request -- was requested to determine the purchaser.

16 So, as ATF agents were being directed to the home of the firearm purchaser,  
17 [REDACTED], the trace then resulted in the positive ID of the shooter Thomas Crooks,  
18 who is the son of [REDACTED]. Finally, at 9:15 p.m., additional trace results located  
19 the firearm's transaction record, which was to [REDACTED] address. Does that comport, to  
20 the best of your recollection, with the series of events surrounding sort of the timing of  
21 the trace and the results?

22 A Almost everything. I believe you said that, once we got the trace results  
23 back of [REDACTED], being the original purchaser, that we tied [REDACTED] Thomas  
24 Crooks into him. That was -- when we got the original trace back we did not tie in the  
25 [REDACTED] at that time.



1 Q Correct.

2 A Okay.

3 Q It was after.

4 A Yes.

5 Q Yes.

6 A Okay.

7 Q So, in the pendency of on the way identifying [REDACTED], then you positively  
8 ID'd Thomas?

9 A We were -- we had a high degree of confidence. Were we 100 percent  
10 positive, no, ma'am.

11 Q That's right.

12 What time did you leave the Butler Farm Show grounds?

13 A The first time I left would've been to a press conference that was called by  
14 the FBI. I believe it was at the Butler Township, call it the community center, their City  
15 Council Chambers. I believe it was around 12. Don't quote me on that. It was  
16 midnight, yes, midnight.

17 Q Midnight.

18 A So the 13th going into the 14th. I did not speak at that press conference.  
19 We had a little meeting before, who was going to speak. I left that press conference,  
20 went back to the Butler County Fairgrounds. At that time -- I mean, within the hour, I  
21 could say at least, maybe it was like 1:30, closer to 2, I made the decision -- the  
22 supervisor -- I felt the scene up there was in control.

23 We had another scene down at the house in Bethel Park, PA. They're some  
24 distance apart, so I made the decision that I would go down to the Bethel Park area -- I'm  
25 familiar with that area -- and that the supervisor, who's familiar with the area up there in

1 Butler, we would just divide and handle. We had supervisions at both locations. So I  
2 finally probably left the scene, I'll estimate, around 2 a.m.

3 Q And, prior to sort of midnight, were you the only ATF agent that was still  
4 remaining at the site at the Butler Farm Show grounds or had the special agents, the 10  
5 special agents, dispersed by this point?

6 A No. We still had people there, and we had four agents at that -- midnight  
7 at the house in Bethel, PA -- Bethel Park, excuse me.

8 Q And let's go back, sir, to majority exhibit 2, but this time on page four. So  
9 the second paragraph that begins, "By 9:20 p.m." Moving forward in this timeline, "By  
10 9:20 p.m., ATF SAs were headed to the home of the deceased shooter's parents. After  
11 arriving at the home, ATF SAs and PSP officers set up surveillance and a covert  
12 perimeter."

13 And then, just sort of stopping there, were these ATF agents that were arriving  
14 from the Butler Farm Show grounds?

15 [REDACTED]. Can I just say, I don't think he's ever seen this before. So --

16 [REDACTED] Oh, that's fine.

17 [REDACTED]. -- if there's something around it that you need for context.

18 [REDACTED] That's fine. It was just one sentence with the timestamp.

19 [REDACTED]. Yeah, sure.

20 ATF Personnel 1. So you're at the second paragraph, "By 9:20 p.m."?

21 BY [REDACTED]

22 Q Yes.

23 A Those agents that went to the house down there did -- three of them left  
24 from the fairgrounds and one of them was in route and then met them there.

25 Q Okay. And then sort of, following along in our timeline -- and this is not

1 from the letter. This is just from documents we've received, but at approximately  
2 9:45 p.m., some ATF special agents had departed the Butler Farm Show to travel to the  
3 Bethel Park Police Department. And, during that drive, a special agent received a phone  
4 call from an IRS agent advising that Thomas Crooks appeared to be the shooter. And  
5 then, upon arrival at the Bethel Park Police Department, investigators made contact with  
6 the Bethel Park PD officer who advised that there were no recent police calls to the  
7 [REDACTED] residence. Investigators then received direction from the RAC to conduct  
8 surveillance at the [REDACTED] residence. To your knowledge, does that description sound  
9 accurate?

10 A That's a fair description, yes, ma'am.

11 Q Okay.

12 [REDACTED] I would now like to enter into the record majority exhibit 3.

13 [ATF Personnel 1 Majority Exhibit No. 3  
14 was marked for identification.]

1

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BY [REDACTED]

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Q So, ATF Personnel 1, this is from Secret Service document production that we received. This is Bates numbers 2290 through 2302. At the top here, Bates No. 2290, this is a partially unredacted email that I represent that you sent on July 13, 2024 at 10:28 a.m. to [REDACTED] of the U.S. Secret Service Pittsburgh Field Office, [REDACTED] of the Secret Service Pittsburgh Field Office, [REDACTED] of the FBI Pittsburgh Field Office. We have two other individuals with a PA.Gov email address, and a cc to [REDACTED] at the ATF.

So this email contains several attachments, as you can sort of see here.

Specifically, we have Crooks' driver's license, a comprehensive report for Thomas Crooks, as well as Thomas Crooks' employment report. And this email chain also contains previous email messages from the different sort of correspondence that's going on with different individuals. And, although it's a bit in the wrong order, it's sort of -- bear with us how they were produced to the task force.

Do you recall sending this email, ATF Personnel 1 --

A I do.

Q -- at 10:28 p.m.?

A I do.

Q And what was the purpose of this email?

A So, once this information that's in front of me was sent to me from my intel research specialist, because once I'd looked at the photograph and I compared it to the photograph that everybody had seen of [REDACTED] Crooks in the gray shirt -- and I'm demonstrating for everybody here that he's turned like this -- I looked at it, and then

1 talking to the intel research specialist it was a possibility, hey, that he may be the shooter.

2 I immediately went to the special agent in charge of the FBI, the command staff  
3 for the State police, and the Secret Service. We -- I showed them how we got -- this is  
4 the original purchaser of the firearm, [REDACTED]. Intel research specialist did an  
5 investigative workup on [REDACTED] and his family. This packet was sent to me,  
6 and then I shared that immediately at this time. They all wanted a copy of it, so I hit  
7 forward on my email. I had them put their addresses in there. The first time I sent it,  
8 it got kicked back by DOJ filters because there was names and dates of birth in the body,  
9 so it came back to me immediately. I took that out and then immediately sent it again,  
10 and that's how this email got sent.

11 Q Thank you. And do you recall why you included [REDACTED] in  
12 your email?

13 A That -- I believe that may be the -- that's the Secret Service, because  
14 they -- that was in the command post. They typed their email. I didn't type their email  
15 addresses in. They type their own.

16 Q Okay. Thank you.

17 And did you have any other Secret Service contacts, or were these just the  
18 individuals in the command post that you had entered in their information?

19 A These were the contacts in there. And the one email in there, [REDACTED],  
20 he was not present. That email was added by the Secret Service supervisor that was  
21 there.

22 Q Okay. Did you expect the recipients of this email to take any specific  
23 action, or was this just for their information?

24 A I expected them -- being that the FBI was the lead investigative team, I  
25 expected them, that they needed the information, same with the State police, for their

1 investigation, yes.

2 Q And, right at the top here you say, "Here is the information we talked  
3 about." What was the earlier conversation that your email is referring to?

4 A Where I had -- as I just explained, I showed them the email. I had my  
5 laptop up, and I said, "Listen, there was" -- that was a limited amount of people that saw  
6 that. I showed them what I had, and then when I forwarded it that was just, "Hey, this is  
7 what we just talked about."

8 Q And was there anything else that was discussed other than you explaining  
9 that you were going to sort of forward the images that you had or anything else that we  
10 should know in terms of that conversation?

11 A Yes. We were -- we -- I did have some investigative concerns, all of us did,  
12 about the agents that were on the route to the house, because now we -- like I said, we  
13 were not 100 percent sure, but we had a high degree of confidence, all right; we can't let  
14 them approach that house yet. We need to get a little more information what's going  
15 on at the house, because we didn't know what they were going into at that point.

16 Q And you mentioned that to the Secret Service agents and the folks that were  
17 in the command post?

18 A The people that were just standing there with me.

19 Q Okay. Great.

20 Now, just, sir, if you could just flip to Bates No. 2292. It's going to be on the top  
21 right.

22 [REDACTED]. Do you see where she's saying on the top?

23 BY [REDACTED]

24 Q The top right.

25 A Yeah. Right here? Yes.

1 Q Great. Okay.

2 So I can represent that you sent a message also, on July 13th, at 9:27 p.m. to five  
3 ATF colleagues, [ALL NAMES REDACTED]. Do you recall sending this email at the  
4 bottom?

5 A From my recollection, I believe so. I believe that would've been the first  
6 trace results.

7 Q So you had mentioned this would've been the first trace result. Was that  
8 the purpose of your email?

9 A I believe so.

10 Q And the message here says, "See 4473." And can you confirm, is this a  
11 reference to ATF form 4473?

12 A That's an internal lingo, yes, ma'am. ATF form 4473.

13 Q And could you please just briefly describe, what is that form? What  
14 information does it have on it?

15 A That form would be the original transaction form that you had mentioned  
16 previously, earlier, the original purchaser of the firearm, the location of the firearm, the  
17 make, model, caliber of the firearm, the background check results, and then the signature  
18 of the purchaser of the firearm. And there's some other questions in that form, you  
19 know, historical -- not historical questions, but questions that the FFL is required to ask  
20 per the form during the transaction of the purchase of the firearm.

21 Q Okay. And then, just the second line here, you write, "Good luck on the  
22 interview." What was that in reference to? What were you addressing?

23 A So my original thought was -- investigative thought was, we had the original  
24 purchaser. Their original reason for them sending them down there was to interview  
25 that person, the original purchaser. "Do you still have this firearm? If not, what did

1     you do with it?"   That was what they were originally sent there for, and I just wished  
2     them good luck.

3             Q     Okay.   And did you expect that the recipients of this particular email would  
4     take any action or also just for their information?

5             A     I'm not quite understanding.

6             Q     Sorry.   Did you expect that the recipients of this particular email would take  
7     any action, or was this just for their information?

8             A     Well, I expected them to go there and interview that person, yes, the original  
9     purchaser.

10            Q     Had you communicated to these agents that they were expected to go to the  
11    home of [REDACTED]?

12            A     Yeah.   Based upon my email, yes.   I know their first-line supervisor was  
13    kind of directing them, but I did not want this information to go outside my immediate  
14    chain of command.

15            Q     Did you call anyone sort of via phone to sort of specify, "Hey, here's what I  
16    want you guys to do?"

17            A     I don't believe so.

18            Q     Did anyone call you to ask for clarity on instructions?

19            A     I don't believe so.

20            Q     If we could just flip, we're going to go to Bates No. 2300.   So what we're  
21    now looking at is we are in the comprehensive -- Thomas M. Crooks' comprehensive  
22    report.   And although it's redacted, sir, so apologies here, under likely associates the  
23    summary says none found.   However, under possible associates, under summary, there  
24    was one individual found.   The name that's redacted is [REDACTED] (ph).   Are you  
25    aware of the nature of [REDACTED] relationship to Mr. Crooks?



1 A I am not.

2 Q Did the ATF conduct an investigation into [REDACTED]?

3 A Not to my knowledge.

4 Q And are you aware if the FBI conducted an investigation into [REDACTED]?

5 A I am not.

6 [REDACTED] Thank you, sir. That's my time.

7 [REDACTED] We can go off the record.

8 [Recess.]

9 EXAMINATION

10 BY [REDACTED]

11 Q All right. Then, we are back on the record at 11:27. Everyone is good to  
12 go?

13 This is [REDACTED] with the minority.

14 ATF Personnel 1, you know, my colleagues obviously asked a lot of the things we  
15 had. I just want to quickly go back through and capture a few things to make sure it's  
16 clear.

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q So, first, help me on the background. You said you'd worked a variety of  
19 foreign events with a pretty diverse cast of characters. What were those events in the  
20 context of? You mentioned like Muammar Gaddafi's relatives, someone from Israel,  
21 China.

22 A I believe I was asked if I ever worked any security events.

23 Q Right.

24 A I worked at the United -- ATF was asked to come up and help out, and I was  
25 assigned at the United Nations in 2009. That's where all the world leaders get

1 together --

2 Q Yeah.

3 A -- and I get assigned to a team, and we just did protection for whoever we  
4 were assigned to.

5 Q Got it. So you're augmenting --

6 A Yes.

7 Q -- the protection elsewhere?

8 Not a campaign event, right?

9 A No.

10 Q Are ATF folks -- you know, we've spoken with other agencies who have  
11 augmented Secret Service. Now, they may be within DHS. I know you obviously are  
12 within DOJ. Do you ever -- do ATF agents, to your knowledge, ever augment Secret  
13 Service at campaign events?

14 A I have never personally experienced it. I'm not saying it's never happened.

15 Q Fair enough. I want to also catch up on the Philly office. You are one of  
16 the two [REDACTED]

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q Do you remember, who is the other [REDACTED] Just so I can hear the name.

19 [REDACTED] Yeah.

20 ATF Personnel 1. His name is [REDACTED] (ph).

21 BY [REDACTED]

22 Q All right. How do you all split responsibilities?

23 A He is in charge of the Philadelphia metro area. It's a very large metro area,  
24 very busy metro area. He handles that. And then I handle all of western PA, the two  
25 criminal enforcement groups in Pittsburgh. We have an office in Erie. I also receive

1 central -- the district of Harrisburg, and then I have the northeast corridor, Allentown  
2 [inaudible] Scranton area up there.

3 Q Got it. So he has Philly; you have everything else pretty much?

4 A Fair enough.

5 Q Where are you then based out of?

6 A Pittsburgh.

7 Q Pittsburgh. And that's why you were able to quickly respond to the scene  
8 that day?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And then, you know, we've seen the term "resident agent in charge."

11 A Yes.

12 Q Help me understand what that position does.

13 A So the resident agent in charge would be the first-line supervisor.

14 Q Got it. And that was who -- when you reference first-line supervisor with  
15 my colleagues, that's who you're talking about?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q And he -- that person -- and who is the resident agent in charge that you are  
18 referring to?

19 A His name is [REDACTED].

20 Q [REDACTED], okay. And he is the resident agent in charge, I guess, of what?

21 A Of Pittsburgh Group 2.

22 Q Okay. And sorry to keep delving down here. Pittsburgh Group 2, what  
23 does that mean?

24 A It's one of our two enforcement groups. That group is our arson and  
25 explosive criminal enforcement group.

1 Q Presumably, there is also a resident agent in charge of Pittsburgh 1?

2 A One, yes.

3 Q Got it. So he's basically the layer of supervisory authority under you?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Got it. And he was not at the event that day or --

6 A He was.

7 Q Let me take that step back. Yeah, he was -- my apology. Where was he at  
8 the time of the shooting?

9 A I believe he was at his residence.

10 Q Off duty?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Got it. And then a couple other agents, what was the name of the agent at  
13 the event? I believe it actually was said on the record initially, but can you tell us the  
14 name of the agent at the event in his personal capacity?

15 [REDACTED]. Okay. Just to clarify, the agent before the shooting occurred?

16 BY [REDACTED]

17 Q Yeah, my apologies. I'll make it more clear. The agent who was there in  
18 his personal capacity at the rally?

19 A [REDACTED] (ph).

20 Q Okay. Got it. I think those are -- and then what are the -- and then the  
21 last agent, [REDACTED], what is his role, and where is he stationed?

22 [REDACTED]. You can.

23 ATF Personnel 1. [REDACTED] is assigned to Pittsburgh Group 1, which is our  
24 violent crime firearms trafficking group.

25 BY [REDACTED]

1 Q Got it. And neither [REDACTED] nor [REDACTED] was at the event in any way in a  
2 personal capacity -- or, sorry, professional capacity. Is that right?

3 A There was nobody, to my knowledge, in a professional capacity.

4 Q Got it. All right. I think we have cleared -- oh, one other question. You  
5 know, in this letter we got from [REDACTED], there's one point  
6 where it says 12 agents were there, but then earlier it says an additional -- or an  
7 additional 12 agents were there. And I'm just trying to clarify for our records, to your  
8 knowledge -- and I can reference it, but I just -- this is an easy question. To your  
9 knowledge, on that day, in Butler, were there 12 ATF agents there or 13?

10 A So it's the first time I've seen this today, this letter.

11 Q Yeah.

12 A So, to my knowledge, there were a total of 12. That includes myself, a total  
13 of 12.

14 Q And that also includes [REDACTED] ?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. Got it.

17 All right. So I want to then just kind of get a clean timeline of just your actions  
18 from what you recall. So can you take me from, let's say, when you first heard about  
19 the shooting and just walk me through where you were high level.

20 A So, as I stated earlier, sir, I was in my personal vehicle on just personal  
21 matters during the day off. I received a phone call from [REDACTED] (ph),  
22 who I mentioned, or [REDACTED], excuse me, that the events had taken place. I  
23 immediately responded to my residence. In the meantime, I notified my chain of  
24 command, the special agent in charge of Philadelphia Field Division. I also spoke to the  
25 supervisor of Pittsburgh 2, who I've previously mentioned, and to the supervisor of

- 1 Pittsburgh 1, who was not there and was -- never arrived or never by the scene.

1

2 [11:32 p.m.]

3 ATF Personnel 1. I arrived. I immediately went where I was told the command  
4 post was. I went and introduced myself to the Secret Service supervisor.

5

BY [REDACTED]

6

Q Can I quickly pause you?

7

About what time did you get to the event? Estimates are fine as well.

8

A Before 8 p.m.

9

Q Okay. Sometime between, let's say, 7:00 to 8:00, 7:30 to 8:00?

10

A 7:30 to 8 p.m.

11

Q Please continue. Sorry about that.

12

A Once I got to the command post, I immediately met with my supervisor that  
13 was there on scene, and I relieved -- he briefed me on where we had agents, who was  
14 coming and the agents that we had there and what they were doing.

15

Q And that's the resident agent in charge of Pittsburgh 2?

16

A Yes. Yes.

17

Q Okay.

18

A At that time -- and like I said, this is all moving parts. The supervisor or the  
19 special agent in charge and the FBI were there. I met with him. The supervisor from  
20 the State Police was there, and I met with them.

21

At some point in those meetings, we were on a phone call with a person I do not  
22 know from the FBI, and, basically, it was determined at that point there the FBI had all the  
23 investigative leads related to the attempted assassination of President Trump and that  
24 the State Police would have the investigative lead to the homicide of the firefighter and  
25 to the shooting of the two other victims and then any other unknowns we didn't know

1 about, maybe someone that was injured or something related. And that's where we  
2 went from there.

3 I do know that there was investigative activities going on on the roof, which we  
4 were interested in helping with that, providing investigators.

5 Once we got the information on the firearm, one of the special agents initiated an  
6 immediate emergency trace. We had people waiting at the tracing center, and that  
7 information was sent down. I don't know the exact verbatim times, but I want to say  
8 from the time that we submitted that information, we got the initial trace back 30, maybe  
9 40 minutes, the initial trace. And that would be the original purchaser of the firearm.

10 Q That's Mr. Crooks' father, [REDACTED] ?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay.

13 A And then that decision was made. I'm briefing up and I'm also briefing  
14 down. Now we have an address here. Obviously, we were able to obtain a driver's  
15 license photo of [REDACTED]. That was not the person on the roof.

16 So our course of next investigation, I met with -- obviously, I'm meeting with the  
17 State Police and the FBI. We're going to send four agents down there to interview this  
18 person and make sure they still live there. In the meantime, we're doing -- we're  
19 contacting -- on the way there, go to the Bethel Park Police first, get a little history on this  
20 address. It's quite a distance, you know, easily, from one location to the other.

21 Q Can you approximate how long it would take to drive from the farm ground  
22 to the [REDACTED] home?

23 A It's 58-plus miles. So let's just say an hour.

24 Q And about -- and I know you said a lot of things are happening.

25 A Yes.



1 Q Understandable. -- approximately what timeframe you're able to kind of  
2 say, okay, this is where this guy is?

3 A You mean the original purchaser of the firearm?

4 Q Yeah, when you get that information.

5 A 9:00, 9 p.m.-ish.

6 Q Got it. Please continue.

7 A So from there, there's other investigative leads going on trying to identify  
8 the person on the roof. Those investigative leads were unfruitful.

9 And in the meantime, our investigative research specialists, they are non-agents.  
10 They're just analysts. They're doing a workup on [REDACTED], the address, any  
11 other people who live there, maybe people associated with them, some of the  
12 documents that's being forward.

13 And then at that time I was contacted by the intel research specialist that they had  
14 a possibility that the son, Thomas Crooks, may be related to the purchaser, based upon  
15 photographs.

16 I mentioned earlier the one photograph of his driver's license and the  
17 photograph -- I'll demonstrate for you guys. The one where he's turned like this. And  
18 the glasses appear the same, the facial, the chin, the ears, and the hair length, everything  
19 appeared the same.

20 Q Yeah. Can I just pause you?

21 So help me understand. So first of all, this analyst is someone back in D.C.?

22 A No, they sit in Pittsburgh.

23 Q Sit in Pittsburgh. Got it.

24 And they somehow have gotten -- how did they get the picture of Crooks that was  
25 taken that day, do you know? If you don't, that's fine.

1           A    Of Mr. Crooks that was on the roof?

2           Q    Yes.

3           A    So I believe -- I don't know who took the picture on the roof, but I do know it  
4 was a law enforcement officer. I'm not sure exactly by name, but it was sent to one of  
5 our agents who then sent it to our intel research specialist.

6           Q    Got it. And then that person who's doing the research was able to get from  
7 dad to son, see the driver's license picture of Thomas Crooks and then make a match  
8 there?

9           A    I mean, not a hundred percent match, but it was a high degree of certainty.

10          Q    Sure. All right. So take me forward once that individual then alerts you of  
11 the match.

12          A    So we get the match, and I believe that when I looked at it on my email and  
13 my laptop, I went to the supervisor, the special agent in charge of the FBI, the head of  
14 the -- the on-scene high incident commander for the State Police, and the Secret Service.  
15 And then my immediate supervisor was with me, and we went and showed -- I  
16 explained to them how -- they knew that we were sending people down there already.  
17 We were chasing that lead down.

18          Q    So somebody had already departed for the Crooks' home?

19          A    Yes, yes. We ended up sending four agents down there originally to  
20 conduct the interview of the original purchaser. Where did this gun go?  
21 Maybe -- people sell guns, and maybe he sold it to someone. And that information had  
22 changed on their route there. Obviously we had new information.

23                So I showed the special agent in charge of the FBI, the State Police supervisor, and  
24 the Secret Service supervisor, and I showed them my email. And we all looked at it, and  
25 we kind of had the same reaction, this looks, you know, pretty close.

1           And then at that point, how can I get a copy of that? As I testified earlier, I hit  
2 forward on my email, put the email address you want in there to go to and then anybody  
3 else you think that needs to know in your chain of command. It was very limited, as one  
4 of the exhibits shows. And that's how we went from there.

5           So once we told them -- once we had a high degree of certainty that the person on  
6 the roof was the [REDACTED] of the original purchaser, we kind of had the agents on surveillance  
7 because, obviously, the FBI wanted to send some people down there too.

8           While they were on surveillance, we learned that the father, [REDACTED],  
9 called the 911 center and reported his son missing. I believe that was close to 11 p.m.,  
10 10:55. Don't quote me on that.

11           But at that point in time, a decision was made. All right, he was expecting a  
12 uniformed officer to show up. We were already in contact with the Bethel Park. He  
13 asked for someone to come by.

14           Q    Mr. [REDACTED], the [REDACTED], did?

15           A    The [REDACTED] did.

16           Q    Let me pause you. Did you hear the 911 call?

17           A    I did not.

18           Q    Okay. And then, are you -- can you talk about, to the extent you're aware  
19 of, what the content and the justification behind that 911 call is -- or was?

20           A    Well, his [REDACTED] had gone to the gun range earlier that day and that he hadn't  
21 come home, and he was concerned that he was missing.

22           Q    Got it. Do you recall anyone, any sense from that call of, hey, I heard this  
23 big event happened, connecting the two, or no?

24           A    I did not listen to the call, so I don't know if that's in there or not.

25           Q    Fair enough. Please continue.

1           A     So at that point, a decision was made to let the officer and the ATF and the  
2     State Police approach the house.   And it's my understanding, through the reports, that  
3     the [REDACTED] came out.   I wasn't present for that.   He made some comments.   I cannot  
4     confirm.   I have no knowledge of this other than other people saying this, that it leaked  
5     to the news media and they had already contacted him.   I don't know that to be true or  
6     not.   I had not spoken to anybody about that.   That they started talking to [REDACTED].  
7     He agreed to let them search the house for other people.   In speaking with my agents, I  
8     learned that they had to escort the [REDACTED] out.   She's visually impaired.   So they were just  
9     searching the house for bodies, anybody else in the house.

10           At some point, one of the agents discovered a suspected device in the bedroom of  
11     Thomas.   So they moved out of the house, and we had to, unfortunately -- not  
12     unfortunately but fortunately, we had some bomb techs available, and they came down  
13     to work on that suspected device.   They also evacuated the house on either side just as  
14     a safety precaution.

15           Q     Got it.   I want to pause because I think at this point we're kind of reaching  
16     past midnight in the chronology.

17           A     Okay.   Yes.

18           Q     Where are you -- so take me back, let's say, to 10 o'clock.   Are you still on  
19     the Butler farm grounds?

20           A     Yeah, at 10 o'clock I'm still there.   Yeah, sorry.

21           Q     All right.   So move me forward just where you are at that point.

22           A     I'm there.   At some point, the special agent in charge of the FBI said, hey,  
23     we're going to call a press conference, and we decided who was going to speak to kind of  
24     limit it.   And I understand the press, what they want to know, but we're under a  
25     historical investigation here.

1           And so we went to the Butler, like I said, community center, city council chambers.  
2           I was driven over there by my supervisor.   The State Police was there.   Actually, it was  
3           FBI, State Police, and ATF.

4           Q    Real quick.   You said driven over by your supervisor?

5           A    I'm sorry.   I said my -- I'll just say the name because I already said it.   [REDACTED]

6           [REDACTED].   We rode together.

7           Q    Got it.   The [REDACTED]?

8           A    Yeah, [REDACTED].

9           Q    Not the special agent in charge?

10          A    Yeah.

11          Q    Understood.   Okay.   Please, continue.

12          A    And we rode there.   We had the press conference, and then I came back.

13          Q    To the farm grounds?

14          A    Farm grounds.

15               At that time, there were some new people in the command post.   I later learned  
16               that they were just the FBI evidence recovery team.   And then at that point -- at that  
17               point the vehicle had not been discovered.

18          Q    Mr. Crooks' vehicle?

19          A    Mr. Crooks' car.

20          Q    The Hyundai, I believe, Elantra?

21          A    Yes, the Hyundai Elantra.

22               So I made the decision that since we had people at the house, my first line  
23               supervisor would handle Butler and I would go down to the house.   I just felt it was the  
24               right thing to do because of my knowledge of the area and his knowledge of the area.

25          Q    Yeah.

1           A     And I felt that the scene at Butler was under control, but the house was -- it  
2     was -- obviously, the house, the process of it, I mean, or the -- it was a new investigation,  
3     if that makes sense.

4           Q     Sure.

5           A     Because it went from the original purchaser now to the [REDACTED]  
6     being -- a high degree of certainty he's the shooter.    So I thought I needed to be down  
7     there.    So I went down there.

8           Q     Got it.   Walk me through that, from there where you went.

9           A     On the way down there, I find out that they discovered his car.   First line  
10    supervisor up there was going to handle that with a couple of agents out there with the  
11    FBI, the State Police, and the county bomb squad.   They were already up there.   They  
12    had it under control.

13          I get down to the house in Bethel Park, PA.

14          Q     About what time was that?

15          A     I want to -- I should have -- we'll just say between 2:00 -- after 2:00.

16          Q     Okay.

17          A     Yeah.   Or maybe around 2 o'clock, 2:30.   It was late.

18          I get down there.   I see people out in the street.   The roads are blocked off.   I  
19    identified myself with the Bethel Park Police.   They let me down to the scene.   I made  
20    contact with my agents, made contact with some FBI agents.   And I know that they told  
21    me that the house was still being, I guess, searched or investigated by the bomb squad.  
22    They were looking for other suspected devices in there.

23          Q     So the house at this point, by the time you got to the house, it had been  
24    cleared?   Like, there's no one left in it?

25          A     Yes.

1 Q Okay.

2 A I mean, I could see their truck out there. I did not go in the house. I  
3 didn't get within probably a hundred yards of the house.

4 And then talked to my agents to see what's going on. The FBI supervisor said  
5 that they were doing behind the scenes -- they were trying to work with U.S. Attorney's  
6 Office to get a search warrant for the house. And then the FBI told me that they were  
7 going to have another evidence recovery team coming there to that house. I do not  
8 know who it was or where they were from. I didn't speak to any of them.

9 In the meantime, I saw the [REDACTED]. I spoke with them briefly. They were  
10 sitting near the house, because, remember, they gave a written consent to search, and  
11 they kept them there. I know at some point they were taken for a bathroom break and  
12 a water break and came back.

13 I introduced myself because -- basically, you know, hey, this is who I am. You  
14 know, gave them my card. If you need any, like, water or anything like that, please let  
15 us know, or anything like that. And then they wanted to ask me questions. I said, I'm  
16 not here to interview you. I'm not here to speak to you.

17 Then the [REDACTED] just said, you know, hey, look, we don't want the gun back. And  
18 I'm just like, I don't have the gun. And then the [REDACTED] made a statement to me, Do  
19 you know where my [REDACTED] body is?

20 Q So at that point they knew their [REDACTED] had not only committed the act but was  
21 also deceased?

22 A I assumed they did know. I did not notify them. I did not get into any  
23 questions with them. I did not want to ask any questions because it's not my role.

24 Q You had left that to your other agents who had already done that?

25 A I left it to the FBI and the ATF agents that were there. That was their role.

1           Q    Okay. All right. Yes, please. And I'll get back into a little more detail  
2 later, but I figured I'll let you finish your timeline and then we can circle back.

3           A    And then at some point, you know, the house became secure. And then I  
4 was notified that I had to be back in Butler, PA by 10 a.m. So it was probably 6:30, 7  
5 o'clock, I went home. It was very hot and humid. I had changed suits and then went  
6 back. I started making my -- I mean, got dressed, changed, and went back up to Butler  
7 at 10 a.m. and had a meeting with the State Police and the governor's office.

8           And then by that time, most of my agents I know were clear from the scene in  
9 Butler and down in Bethel Park. I briefly met with the State Police again.

10          As far as investigative leads, we as ATF did not have any work that I know of to run  
11 down. We were following up on the trace. We were following up on our  
12 documentation.

13          And then probably about 2 o'clock, I had decided that I needed a break. And  
14 then I contacted my supervisor and then I went -- confirmed all of our people were  
15 relieved of their duties. And then I asked the State Police did they need anything from  
16 us. They said no. I did not see the FBI there, but they were, obviously, working. I did  
17 not go back to the roof. I did not go back there.

18          Q    We're talking -- sorry to interrupt.  
19 You said 2 o'clock. We're talking now --

20          A    The 14th. Yeah, the 14th.

21          Q    The 14th?

22          A    Yeah.

23          Q    In the afternoon?

24          A    Yeah. I don't remember what time exactly I left, but I got home right  
25 before dinner time.



1 Q All right. So it was a long 24 hours.

2 A Couple quick questions before we kind of go more in depth. The first is the  
3 meeting with the governor's folks and the Pennsylvania State Police, is that just to brief  
4 them, or was there any other additional information?

5 A State Police was just to brief them. The governor, I really -- I didn't know  
6 that he was holding a press conference there, and once I found out that I was not needed,  
7 I did not attend it.

8 Q Got it.

9 [REDACTED] And let me see if I have anything overarching before I drill down.  
10 Any questions on timeline? And we'll go back in depth, but if you have anything.

11 [REDACTED] You mentioned that there was a possibility that someone had  
12 informed press and called the [REDACTED]. Who knew about the linkage between the shooter  
13 and the [REDACTED] family before 11 p.m.?

14 ATF Personnel 1. My IRS agent or IRS analyst, me, my boss, the special agent in  
15 charge, the people I forwarded the email to, and the people that were on scene there.  
16 We kind of -- that's why we stopped them. They're like, why are you stopping us? So  
17 they knew.

18 [REDACTED] So with the agents on scene, it wouldn't just be ATF, but also I  
19 think there were Secret Service copied?

20 ATF Personnel 1. Secret Service was not at that scene at Bethel Park, sir. It  
21 would have been FBI, ATF, and then Pennsylvania State Police.

22 [REDACTED] Okay.

23 BY [REDACTED]

24 Q Help me understand, actually. How did the 911 call get to you in terms of it  
25 being connected to Crooks? Like, help me understand how that 911 operator was able

1 to bring that information to someone's attention?

2 A I don't know who the 911 operator is, but I believe we were already in touch  
3 with Bethel Park Police.

4 Q Got it. So they were already tracking that, hey, you guys are interested in  
5 [REDACTED] house, and then he calls 911?

6 A We were interested in the [REDACTED].

7 Q [REDACTED], right. Yeah, got it. Understood.

8 And another general question, and this is just my lack of knowledge on firearms,  
9 was there any paperwork about the transfer from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] that you saw?

10 A No.

11 Q All right. Should there have been, or was that a thing that was tracked?

12 A So good question. So this firearm in particular is considered a long gun,  
13 okay. And under State law in Pennsylvania, the firearm can go from the [REDACTED] to the  
14 [REDACTED] without any paperwork.

15 Q Okay. All right. That answers my question.

16 All right. I want to now jump all the way back to early on. We talked a little bit  
17 about the bicycle owner, backpack. You said you had no direct interactions there?

18 A None.

19 Q And it seems like that was just completely unrelated, but it was relatively  
20 suspicious. So your agents went and spoke to that person. Is that right?

21 A That's my understanding.

22 Q All right. I also want to talk about there was a detonator or some sort of  
23 device on the roof. Were your agents involved in that?

24 A None of my agents were on the roof, sir.

25 Q Okay. Were they involved in looking at that sort of multi-button detonator

1 device?

2 A I don't know.

3 Q Got it. Then before we get into the house, because I think there's a little  
4 more there, I want to talk about the Hyundai Elantra. Can you talk a little bit about, to  
5 your knowledge, how that was dealt with, how it was found, and the play out of that car?

6 A To my knowledge, that the [REDACTED] brought the information to law  
7 enforcement during the initial interview. That was relayed up to the law enforcement  
8 working up in Butler, and it was found that way. I can't speak of what was done at the  
9 car. I was not there.

10 Q Can you speak to at all what was discovered in the car, to your knowledge,  
11 or no?

12 ATF Personnel 1. Can I speak to it?

13 [REDACTED]. Do you know?

14 ATF Personnel 1. I mean, general investigative knowledge, yes.

15 [REDACTED]. Yeah.

16 BY [REDACTED]

17 Q Understanding this isn't your personal knowledge.

18 A So I learned that there was two suspected IEDs, improvised explosive  
19 devices. There were ammo cans, like a metal can. Think of almost like a lunchbox but  
20 an ammo can. They're metal. To our knowledge is that there was some type of like an  
21 ANFO in there, like ammonium nitrate pearls, like fertilizer.

22 Q The acronym you just said, what was it? ANFO?

23 A No, that's a different acronym.

24 Q Okay.

25 A So we'll just say some type of, like, pearls and then a fertilizer base. And

1 then so the liquid, I'm not sure -- because I believe it was high octane racing fuel. And  
2 then I believe there was an electric match used with some type of cellular device to set  
3 off that electric match.

4 Like I said, I have not seen pictures of them or a part or even after they were -- I  
5 think they were counter-charged or rendered safe, as a bomb tech would say.

6 Q Got it. They were blown up, or do you know how it was disposed of?

7 A No, I don't. I'm not a bomb -- I have no experience doing that. I've seen  
8 it, but I have no experience in how to do it.

9 Q Got it. And understood that you'd earlier said you were not an explosives  
10 expert, but to the extent you maybe worked with them, how complex of a device was the  
11 one you just described?

12 A I hate to speculate about that. I mean, because -- yeah, I don't know if I  
13 want to speculate on the word "complex".

14 Q I mean, I can break it --

15 [REDACTED] Oh, go ahead, counsel.

16 [REDACTED]. I was just going to say may -- ATF didn't have the device to then  
17 inspect the device. Is that right?

18 ATF Personnel 1. No.

19 [REDACTED]. So your knowledge, what you just said, is based on what? I just  
20 want to get to the basis of your description of the device.

21 ATF Personnel 1. General law enforcement, like talking amongst law  
22 enforcement.

23 [REDACTED]. But it wasn't because ATF got the device or looked at the device?

24 ATF Personnel 1. No, we did not have any of the evidence?

25 [REDACTED] Got it.

1           [REDACTED] Sorry. Go ahead.

2           [REDACTED] No, no.

3           BY [REDACTED]

4           Q   Well, just from your, you know, being, again, around them, the level of  
5 expertise needed to craft and assemble a device like that, is it something that would have  
6 taken a lot of work, a little bit of work? I mean, are you able to generally say the level of  
7 expertise needed to assemble that IED?

8           A   I don't think it's that sophisticated --

9           Q   Okay.

10          A   -- just from my experience. I mean -- but I didn't see how the wires were  
11 set up and everything, so I can't speak to if it was.

12          Q   And are you aware of whether the device was primed to go off? Was it in  
13 its, like, final stages, just needed to be triggered, or anything along those lines?

14          A   I don't know the answer to that question.

15          Q   Fair enough. Well, let me ask you, does the question make sense?

16          A   Yes, I understand.

17          Q   Okay.

18          A   It makes sense.

19          Q   You're just not aware of it?

20          A   I'm not aware of it.

21          Q   And you're not aware of the connection, whether there was one between  
22 the button device Mr. Crooks had on the roof and that car?

23          A   I mean, logically it makes sense.

24          Q   But you don't know whether --

25          A   Yeah, I don't know if it would have worked.

1 Q Got it. I want to move now to the house.

2 [REDACTED] Do you have anything else on the car?

3 [REDACTED] The car and I guess as a foundational question.

4 You mentioned earlier that there was a discussion that the FBI would take over  
5 the assassination attempt and that locals or PSP would take over the other violent acts.

6 What was ATF's explicit role that day? Besides the firearm tracing, like, what  
7 were you guys tasked with doing?

8 ATP Personnel 1. So we were tasked, one, respond to the Crooks incident.  
9 Two, to help out with any investigative leads, whether that was interviewing, chasing  
10 down initial leads, like I think your colleague mentioned, like the bicycle parked next to  
11 the building. Just a force multiplier.

12 [REDACTED] And what about like searching the AGR complex for any of the  
13 IEDs? Did you guys do anything related to that?

14 ATF Personnel 1. I don't know.

15 BY [REDACTED]

16 Q All right. So I want to get to the house. And I know you got there pretty  
17 late. So let's kind of zoom backwards to where we're at.

18 What time do you know that your agents got there, the initial group of I think you  
19 said four you sent?

20 A Sometime after 10 p.m.

21 Q Got it. And from looking at some of the documents that your agency's  
22 provided, it seemed like there was about an hour-long gap where they're there before  
23 they go in. Does that sound right?

24 A Maybe. I don't know.

25 Q Are you aware of a gap of time between their arrival and when they went

1 into the home?

2 A Yes. They were on surveillance.

3 Q Got it. And, yeah, just walk me through why they are waiting at that point.  
4 There's no like leads of this question. I'm just curious. Why are they waiting outside  
5 for that length of time?

6 A Well, we had -- like I said, we had discovered that the shooter may have  
7 been connected to the [REDACTED]. We had -- like I said, it was a high degree of confidence.  
8 So at that point, at the command post, we were trying to come up with different -- hey,  
9 how do we want to approach this house? Should we get a search warrant first? And  
10 that's before -- we were trying to determine that, and that's before the [REDACTED] called.  
11 Right. And then once the [REDACTED] called, it kind of changed our game plan.

12 Q Got it. Walk me through that. Yeah, what are the considerations there?

13 A So the [REDACTED], he's asking for a uniformed police officer to come by.

14 Q Got it.

15 A And so normal course of business. Let's treat it like the normal course of  
16 business. And we were already on surveillance. We didn't see any, to my knowledge,  
17 any activity -- any activity that was out of the ordinary that was going on at the house.  
18 Other than law enforcement cars driving in front of it, that we later determined, we didn't  
19 see any other activity, like people coming and going, unknown people. It was just a  
20 normal suburban western Pennsylvania house.

21 And once the [REDACTED] called, it was like, all right, let's treat it like the normal course  
22 of business. This police officer is going to go up there, but we'll have some people with  
23 him just in case.

24 Q Quick question. You mentioned you found out there were law  
25 enforcement cars. Can you talk a little bit about who those agencies were?

1           A     It was just FBI agents that arrived. They got there just a little bit later.  
2     That's all.

3           Q     Got it. And why was -- and I was curious about that. Were they not in  
4     communication with you guys? It seemed like you had the FBI supervisor with you.

5           A     They were in communication, but you have to understand, the first initial  
6     response was, hey, ATF, we're going to go down there and interview the original  
7     purchaser. So we're already almost there --

8           Q     Got it.

9           A     -- when the new information came out.  
10          So then they were -- I mean, it wasn't like a massive gap of time. But, hey, we're  
11     going to send people down there now too, because now the optics have changed.

12          Q     Got it. Beyond the FBI folks and your folks, did you notice any -- were there  
13     media there? Was there public there? Did it seem like anyone was keying in on this  
14     house beyond law enforcement?

15          A     Not to my knowledge, no.

16          Q     Okay. And it seems like, from your discussion, basically, you guys are  
17     sitting there. You have the house surrounded. There's not an urgency necessarily to  
18     go in. You're trying to strategically figure out the best way to approach it.

19          A     Yes, sir.

20          Q     Get the 911 call. And then you're like, all right, let's do it. Is that fair?

21          A     That's fair.

22          Q     Okay. So then walk me through your understanding of what happened  
23     when you approach -- when your folks approach the house.

24          A     My understanding is that the [REDACTED] came out and made comments to law  
25     enforcement. Obviously, they got permission to search the house for people. And



1       then once they discovered the device in the bedroom, they backed everybody out, all the  
2       people that were in there searching.

3               And at that point, you know -- at some point, the interview was conducted, which  
4       I believe the interview was conducted by ATF and the FBI who were with the [REDACTED].

5               Q     Can I pause you real quick?

6               A     Yes.

7               Q     Interview time related to when the bomb was discovered, how much --

8               A     I'm not sure about that.

9               Q     Got it.

10              Okay, please.

11             A     So the interview is conducted. I believe while the interview is going on,  
12       that's when they determined -- they were asking for telephone numbers. What did he  
13       drive? You know, were you aware -- what were his whereabouts that day? What did  
14       he do that day?

15             We learned -- I mean, I have investigative knowledge now of what he had done  
16       that day. He told his [REDACTED] -- he got the rifle from his [REDACTED] -- that he was going to the  
17       gun range, and the [REDACTED] said that wasn't something out of the ordinary for him. So he  
18       went to the gun range.

19             But then when he didn't come home, that created concern, because I believe the  
20       [REDACTED] said that, you know, two, a couple of hours, was normal course of business for him  
21       to go to the sportsman club and shoot and then come back.

22             Q     Was there anything -- and on that point, I want to back up for a second. On  
23       that point about him not coming home, you know, young adult, 10 o'clock, 10:30 maybe  
24       doesn't seem unreasonable that they wouldn't be home. Was there anything that was  
25       particularly triggering about him not coming home by 11 o'clock for them? Was there

1 anything beyond just the time?

2 A Well, I guess -- just from recollection --

3 Q Sure.

4 A -- that he went much earlier in the day. So it had been like some length of  
5 time, like 8, 9, 10 hours, and that he wasn't answering his phone.

6 Q Do you recall any of your agents saying that the [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] or anyone  
7 had a sense that there was any involvement with him in this event? Like, did they kind  
8 of hear about the shooting and say, oh, maybe that was our guy?

9 A No, not to knowledge.

10 Q Okay. Describe the general demeanor of the [REDACTED] from what you were  
11 told and what you saw later.

12 A From my own personal observations?

13 Q Sure.

14 A I saw them sitting in the chair in front of the house, and they just -- like I  
15 said, I mean, they were just sitting in the chairs and looking exhausted. It was dark out  
16 but, I mean, I had limited interaction with them.

17 Q Sure. And understanding that they were probably processing a lot at that  
18 point, were they -- I assume -- it seems like they were relatively helpful, compliant. They  
19 were willing to go along with what the agents were asking them?

20 A Yeah. I mean, I believe they provided the vehicle, they provided the tag.  
21 They provided a cell number. They talked about his education, his schooling, where he  
22 worked at.

23 Q To the extent it became, I assume, pretty clear pretty quickly to them that  
24 their [REDACTED] was involved in this, what was their reaction -- to the extent you had spoken  
25 with agents, what was their reaction on learning that their [REDACTED] had potentially and did

1 commit this act?

2 A You mean --

3 ATF Personnel 1. Is it okay? I don't want to speculate.

4 [REDACTED]. Yeah, if you know. Yeah, if you know.

5 BY [REDACTED]

6 Q And to be very clear, you know, we've read some of these reports.

7 A Right.

8 Q But you've also spoken to the [REDACTED]. I assume you've spoken to some of  
9 your subordinates and went and spoke to them. And to the extent you had any sort of  
10 observations about their demeanor, about sort of spontaneous things they may have  
11 said, that kind of thing.

12 A I understand.

13 So just for the record, I did not -- when I say spoke to them, I mean, I specifically  
14 did not interview them or ask them any questions about the who, the what, the why, and  
15 the how.

16 Q Got it.

17 A From my experience, the [REDACTED] were probably a little shocked. Their  
18 [REDACTED] was not a problem child. He was very well educated. I mean, when I say  
19 well-educated, he was scheduled to attend Robert Morris University. He graduated  
20 from the community college there. I believe it was some type of engineering program  
21 he was going for. Not a behavioral problem. He worked at a retirement community, in  
22 the kitchen, is my understanding, for a couple years.

23 You know, I believe the [REDACTED] had some concerns that the [REDACTED] was at the gun club,  
24 and he was like, I should have known better. He was trying out for the 150-yard club,  
25 which at a rifle club is not out of the ordinary. That's the normal course of business.

1 And it's not like he had just started going. He'd been going for some years and  
2 previously with his [REDACTED].

3 I believe that the [REDACTED] had taken some courses at Keystone range, which is a  
4 different range in western PA. I don't know the extent of what he took and what  
5 happened to it. You know, I do know that he bought a box of ammo the day of the  
6 event at the store near the house.

7 Q Did they say anything about his political leanings or anything related to the  
8 shooting about how he would have felt or why he would have done it or anything along  
9 those lines?

10 A This was just from reading some of the reports, that they had discussions as  
11 a [REDACTED], but the [REDACTED] didn't have any grave concerns. Like, he never made any  
12 statements against any -- whether it was President Trump, President Biden, or any other  
13 political figure, State, local, or national, to my knowledge.

14 Q Got it. So you didn't get a sense that there was some sort of major political  
15 motive within the [REDACTED]?

16 A No.

17 Q I want to talk about the bomb at the house. Again, to the extent that folks  
18 had already been evacuated, I understand, when you arrived, but what is your  
19 understanding of that device that was there?

20 A That it was similar in nature to the one found in the car. It was an ammo  
21 can. I believe, and I'm going from recollection from my discussions, that it had items in  
22 the can similar to the items that was found in the car, but it didn't have a cellular device  
23 on it or an electric match.

24 Q Like the car did?

25 A Yes.

1 Q So the one in the house wasn't necessarily ready to go off, to your  
2 knowledge?

3 A No.

4 Q Okay. But similar caveat in terms of the device. It was otherwise  
5 constructed much the same way?

6 A Yeah, it was assembled partially. I can say that.

7 Q And on these devices -- and, you know, I know this is not your field of  
8 expertise, but just to the extent you know, are the things that would be required to  
9 assemble that device, or any of them, hard to get?

10 A No.

11 Q Okay.

12 [REDACTED] I have a few sort of follow-up questions at the end. I'll turn it  
13 over to my colleague. Do you have anything?

14 BY [REDACTED]

15 Q You mentioned that you guys sent someone out to get surveillance. You  
16 had a high degree of probability that it was probably related to the [REDACTED]. Was  
17 there any concern among leadership brass about destruction of evidence at that point?

18 A Not at that point, no. I don't remember having that conversation at that  
19 point when we had told them there was a hold on surveillance of the house. I don't  
20 remember that.

21 Q So you guys exclusively did a firearms trace, right? Like, FBI would not do  
22 that, right?

23 A No.

24 Q So who was expected to be in charge of looking for IEDs and assessing the  
25 danger of IEDs at the Butler Farm Show?

1           A    Rephrase your question.  You mean overall, before, or after, or --

2           Q    In response to the shooting, you guys all meet at the command post and you  
3 delegate tasks.  Who was responsible for searching for and assessing IEDs?

4           A    Well, I believe all law enforcement is responsible.  I mean, because you  
5 have -- whether -- like I said, I didn't take part in searching the AGR building or the other  
6 buildings, but whoever is going there, that should be -- all law enforcement should be  
7 responsible.

8           Q    So once you spot one, whether it's Crooks' vehicle or if there was another  
9 one somewhere else, who would they call?  Because, presumably, not every agent can  
10 look at it and say, oh, this is what this is.

11          A    Right.  So, you know, with that said, I believe I spoke earlier that the State  
12 Police had bomb techs, the FBI had bomb techs, ATF had bomb techs.  And you find  
13 who's available.  And, I'm sorry, Allegheny County had bomb techs.  And you find  
14 who's available.  We know who to call.  What resources are available?  Because  
15 sometimes resources are not always available.

16          Q    In your experience with -- let me back up.

17                Would ATF, when processing a firearm, so beyond a trace but trying to lift prints  
18 or DNA, does ATF have their own labs or would they go to Quantico?

19          A    No.  We do a lot of our own work in our labs, but this incident, as I  
20 mentioned earlier, it was determined early on that the FBI would have the lead in all the  
21 investigation related to the attempted assassination of President Trump.

22          Q    What's the typical turnaround time if you needed a firearm to be processed  
23 in terms of DNA?

24          A    There is no typical turnaround time.  Each case on its own has its own  
25 merits.  So I would feel very uncomfortable saying a turnaround time and putting it to a

1 number.

2 Q I understand. Thank you.

3 BY [REDACTED]

4 Q All right. I have a few more. That was actually one of them, so that clears  
5 that one out of the way.

6 On explosives, you made it very clear this isn't your area of expertise. And I  
7 know you weren't there, on this question, but I'm going to keep asking this one.

8 One thing that stood out to me is that there was concern about an explosive  
9 device on the roof that he may have had on him, and then the roof was cleared for a  
10 lengthy period of time.

11 First of all, are you able to -- have you ever dealt with a situation where there may  
12 be an unknown explosive device on, let's say, a person or at a location? You then kind  
13 of evacuate the area, establish a perimeter. Is that standard protocol?

14 A I have experienced that, yes.

15 Q Yeah. When that is done, what is the typical protocol for then observing  
16 that site? Is someone always supposed to be like keeping an eye on, let's say, the  
17 explosive, potential IED, or whatever?

18 A Yeah, there should be some observation on it once it's discovered.

19 Q Yeah.

20 A Right.

21 Q And so to the extent, if AI suspects there's a bomb either, again, on a person  
22 or a single location, of course, you back up, but then there would be constant sort of  
23 surveillance of that to make sure we're tracking that and no one's going up, right?

24 A That's been my experience.

25 Q Okay. For events like this, I mean, a campaign rally, presumably, you know,

1 99 percent of the time ATF has no role in them, as you said earlier, right. You guys  
2 aren't planning these?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q And you typically would not have anything to do with it. Is that right?

5 A Correct.

6 Q Do you have someone on standby, you know, for a large event, or is it just  
7 you always have someone on standby in sort of a situation --

8 A So we always have a duty agent, not necessarily for that event, but that duty  
9 agent -- this event that we're speaking about, if that event coincides with a duty agent's  
10 term, I guess what I'm saying is their 2 -- his or her 2 weeks or 3 weeks, they would be the  
11 person that -- they're not required to be at that scene or nothing, but if ATF resources are  
12 needed or if a critical incident happens, that duty agent would be the person to contact.

13 Q Got it. And I think you said duty agent. That's not the same person as the  
14 analyst, the research --

15 A No, not even close.

16 Q Okay. And I take it, having a general sense of what, you know, CDOs do  
17 from a military context, I think basically this is just a person -- the agent is just a person to  
18 be on call if something happens?

19 A Yes. Yes.

20 Q What about that research analyst? Is he on duty? He/she on duty at that  
21 time or no?

22 A No. We had to call them in.

23 Q Got it. And so they, basically, personal time. They come in and they do  
24 all the tracing, and that's their job at that point?

25 A So they don't do -- the intel research analyst did not do the tracing. That



1 goes to the tracing center.

2 Q Yeah.

3 A But they do like an investigative workup, everything from once they got the  
4 information off the trace --

5 Q Got it.

6 A -- you know, like a historical workup of that original purchase of that firearm  
7 at the time, which was Thomas Crooks.

8 Q Got it. And that person wasn't on call. They were just, hey, they needed  
9 this person in Pittsburgh to do it. You call them up and you say, hey, we need this done?

10 A Yeah.

11 Q Got it.

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q All right. So I think, you know -- I still have some time. I think we may be  
14 able to end our round earlier, and our colleagues will have another chance as well.

15 You know, I guess sort of final questions. First of all, anything we've covered  
16 here that you either want to clarify or think may have been misconstrued and would be  
17 important for the record to capture?

18 A For your line of questions, gentlemen, nothing that I can think of.

19 Q All right. Or for our colleagues' line of questions then. And, obviously,  
20 they can ask those questions too, but now that we have time, why don't we ask that.

21 ATF Personnel 1. Can I bring up the name earlier that we discussed, [REDACTED] and  
22 [REDACTED]? I want to make sure that --

23 [REDACTED]. Yeah, if you want.

24 ATF Personnel 1. Earlier you mentioned [REDACTED]. You were talking about  
25 [REDACTED].

1 [REDACTED] Correct.

2 ATF Personnel 1. Okay. Because when you mentioned the Secret Service guy's  
3 name, they're similar. I want to make sure that I was answering your question correctly.  
4 The supervisor for FBI and then who I have worked with in the past. But the supervisor  
5 for the Secret Service that I met at the command post, his name was like -- I have to look  
6 at my notes here that you guys provided.

7 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

8 ATF Personnel 1. [REDACTED]. Okay. I just want to make sure, because -- I want  
9 to make sure I didn't misunderstand what you were asking. But that gentleman, I never  
10 met him until that day.

11 [REDACTED] Thank you.

12 ATF Personnel 1. That's all.

13 BY [REDACTED]

14 Q All right. And then zooming out even more, I know the ATF, obviously, had  
15 a fairly limited role relative to other Federal agencies in this event. Is there anything  
16 that you have seen through media or through any other participation you had following  
17 up on these events that you think has either, again, been misconstrued or needs to be  
18 clarified for the factual record that this task force is going to produce?

19 A I don't want to get into speculation. I mean, there's the typical conspiracy  
20 theories out there, but I don't want to speculate.

21 Q Sure. Well, and then just to hit on that, anything that in your professional  
22 line of expertise that you have seen that would in any way go against the narrative that  
23 the bullet that hit, you know, President-elect Trump and the other individuals there,  
24 those bullets were fired by Mr. Crooks, and then Mr. Crooks was killed when the Secret  
25 Service agent shot back? Is there anything you've heard that would dispute that

1 knowledge?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q Okay.

4 [REDACTED] Give me one second. I think that may be all I have.

5 Yeah, that's all I have for now. Thank you.

6 We can go off the record at 12:13.

7 ATF Personnel 1. Thank you.

8 [Recess.]

9 [REDACTED] We're now back on the record. It's now 12:19 p.m. The majority  
10 will start its round two.

11 BY [REDACTED]

12 Q So ATF Personnel 1, we had sort of left off in terms of Mr. Crooks' associates.  
13 Are you aware of any other associates to Mr. Crooks that were not listed in the  
14 comprehensive report?

15 A I don't know any associates.

16 Q Are there any individuals that the ATF investigated or is presently still  
17 investigating in relation to the events of July 13th?

18 A We're not currently presently investigating anybody related to the events.

19 Q Thank you.

20 Just going back to majority exhibit 3, Bates No. 2291. So this is -- again, it's  
21 redacted, but this is an email from [REDACTED], again, who is an [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED] with the ATF. And this is sent at 10:18 p.m. to you and a few other  
23 folks. And [REDACTED] indicates, "All, please be advised that [REDACTED], Thomas  
24 Matthew Crooks, may have been the shooting suspect."

25 Do you recall receiving this email?

1 A I do reco- -- I do, yes.

2 Q And did you inform anyone else as to this detail upon receipt of this email  
3 from [REDACTED]?

4 A Yes. I believe, as I testified earlier, when I -- the email had some  
5 attachments. And in the command post, I went to the special agent in charge of the FBI,  
6 lieutenant colonel of the Pennsylvania State Police, excuse me, and the acting supervisor,  
7 the special agent in charge of the Secret Service. I showed them my email, and then I hit  
8 the forward button on it and asked them if they wanted a copy of it. They all requested  
9 it. And then, please put your email address you want it into or anybody you think that  
10 needs to get this.

11 Q Great. We'll move to the [REDACTED] residence. And my colleagues covered  
12 some of this, sir, but we'd like to just get some additional details from you.

13 Approximately what time did you arrive at the [REDACTED] residence?

14 A Like I said, I'm not a hundred percent sure, but 2 o'clock -- maybe 1:30,  
15 2 o'clock, a little bit after that.

16 Q Okay. And by the time you arrived at approximately 2 a.m., were you  
17 supervising other agents on the scene? What was your role?

18 A On-scene incident commander. I was there to be a supervisor for ATF and  
19 the four agents that were on scene and to coordinate with my law enforcement  
20 counterparts.

21 Q And had there already been ATF agents there by the time you arrived at the  
22 [REDACTED] residence?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q And who was supervising them in your absence?

25 A There was no direct supervisor there. We did have a [REDACTED]

1       there who would have been the on-scene temporary leader.

2               Q     Okay.   And who is that individual?

3               A     [REDACTED].

4               Q     Okay.   So [REDACTED] was taking on the role of supervising the ATF agent  
5       response at the home of Thomas Crooks?

6               A     I would not agree that he was taking on the role as a supervisor, but I would  
7       agree that he was the senior experienced agent there at the scene.

8               Q     Did [REDACTED] consult with you about what the ATF agent should be doing,  
9       or did you have any correspondence with [REDACTED]?

10              A     I did not have any direct correspondence with him until I got there.   I did  
11      know that they had an interview with the parents.   I was aware of that.

12              Q     Were you confident that [REDACTED] knew what he was doing when he  
13      arrived on scene?

14              A     Yes, ma'am.

15              Q     Did you at any juncture conduct covert surveillance at the [REDACTED] residence?

16              A     I did not.

17              Q     Okay.   So based upon ROIs that we've  
18      reviewed at 22:45, ATF and local law enforcement established surveillance of the [REDACTED]  
19      residence.   During surveillance, a special agent observed multiple suspicious vehicles  
20      drive slowly by, briefly stop or turn around in front of the residence.   When one special  
21      agent relayed this information to the resident agent in charge, the resident agent in  
22      charge advised the special agent that the address had been leaked to the press, and the  
23      resident agent in charge further instructed the special agent to move in and secure the  
24      residence.

25              So at what point -- and one of my colleagues had sort of gone over this a

1 bit -- were you aware that the residents' address had been leaked to the press?

2 A I don't recall. I believe -- yeah, I don't remember the exact time.

3 Q To your knowledge, did someone at the ATF leak this information?

4 A No, ma'am.

5 Q Moving on in the timeline, based upon the ROIs the task force has reviewed,  
6 Crooks' [REDACTED] called 911 at 22:57 to report his son missing.

7 Are you aware of any information [REDACTED] had as to his [REDACTED]  
8 whereabouts or actions?

9 A Just from reviewing reports, I believe that [REDACTED], the [REDACTED], knew  
10 that his [REDACTED] was supposed to be at the sportsman club shooting a rifle earlier that day.

11 Q Okay. So based on ROIs reviewed by the task force, at approximately  
12 23:18, a special agent had telephoned the Bethel Park Police Department 911, identified  
13 himself to the dispatcher and the reason for his call, and the dispatcher said that at 22:57  
14 the [REDACTED] had called and wanted to report Thomas Crooks missing. The dispatcher  
15 further went on and said that he reported that Thomas Crooks left the address at  
16 approximately 13:45 and that Thomas Crooks was going to the Clairton Sportsmen's Club.  
17 The caller also noted that Thomas Crooks had taken a rifle with him to the gun club and  
18 that he usually returns to the home within a couple of hours.

19 Do you know this information to be accurate?

20 A I believe so.

21 Q Moving into sort of the media that had sort of been tipped off. Based on  
22 additional ROIs, [REDACTED] indicated that after placing the phone call to police, to  
23 dispatch regarding Thomas being missing, approximately 5 minutes later he received a  
24 call from someone that he said was with CNN and then after which he received another  
25 call from CNN, followed by NBC Universal.

1 Had you heard about this media outreach at all?

2 A Not until it was apprised to me. I had no prior knowledge of it.

3 Q Okay. You indicated you responded to the [REDACTED] residence approximately  
4 around 2 a.m. What time did ATF first make contact with the [REDACTED] residence?

5 A On surveillance or physical contact with people in the house?

6 Q Physical contact.

7 A I believe sometime after 11 p.m.

8 Q Based upon information that we received, this was -- at approximately  
9 11:40 p.m., ATF special agents and PSP officers approached the residence, after which  
10 they received verbal consent from the deceased shooter's [REDACTED] to conduct a protective  
11 sweep. At that point, they find the IED, and the Allegheny County Police Department  
12 bomb squad was called to secure the IED.

13 Is there a reason that ATF personnel were not sort of first called, that ATF  
14 explosives personnel were not called and, instead, it was the local Allegheny County  
15 Police Department that was called?

16 A So our assets or our certified explosive specialist in the area was unavailable,  
17 and the Allegheny County Bomb Squad was available and the closest to that scene.

18 Q And in terms of ATF's local assets, can you speak to sort of general  
19 availability? Is there not someone who is, you know, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?  
20 These bomb squad agents don't work in shifts in that manner?

21 A As far as ATF availability?

22 Q Yes.

23 A So we have a limited number of people out there. Actually, both of our  
24 certified explosive specialists were on vacation.

25 I'm sorry. Let me rephrase that. One was on vacation. One wasn't able to

1       come due to a personal matter, just could not leave their family. And as far as -- that's  
2       the only person we have immediately in the area.

3               Do you want me to expand or --

4               Q     Understood. No, that makes sense.

5               And then in terms of you had described a brief conversation with Thomas Crooks'  
6       ██████. Did the ██████ provide any information to you about Thomas Crooks' firearm  
7       other than that he did not want it back?

8               A     No, no further information.

9               Q     And then did you speak separately with Thomas Crooks' ██████?

10              A     She made the statement to me, do I know where her ██████ body is. And I  
11      just said, eventually, it will be at the coroner's office.

12              Q     Prior to you having this brief discussion with Crooks' ██████, were you  
13      aware that ATF agents conducted an interview with Thomas Crooks' ██████?

14              A     I did.

15              Q     Okay. So it was indicated that this interview was audio recorded and  
16      subsequently ended on July 14, 2024, approximately 1:13 a.m. Is the ATF in possession  
17      of this recording?

18              A     So we had logged it into our evidence, and that simply has also been turned  
19      over to the FBI.

20              Q     Does the ATF, excuse me, maintain a copy of the copy that was sent to the  
21      FBI?

22              A     Yes. That should be in our evidence.

23              Q     At any point during your discussion with Thomas Crooks' ██████, did they  
24      indicate that Thomas Crooks was supposed to be at work that day?

25              A     I had no discussion about that.



1 Q Okay. Or that he called out?

2 A I had no discussion about that.

3 Q Did his [REDACTED] mention anyone that Thomas Crooks was meeting with that  
4 day or was supposed to meet with?

5 A No.

6 Q And then just briefly going back in terms of Crooks' associates. It's  
7 described in one of the ROIs that a coworker had given Thomas a ride home from work  
8 approximately 2 years ago, and some other details were included there. Is there  
9 anything to your awareness that you can tell us about that coworker?

10 A I have no knowledge other than what was written in the report.

11 Q Did any agents that responded to the [REDACTED] residence with [REDACTED]  
12 give you their accounts of the state of the [REDACTED] home or anything they witnessed upon  
13 entering the home?

14 A Later I had discussions of, obviously, the suspected IED device. They  
15 described the home as a typical western PA home, and I believe one of them said one of  
16 the bathrooms was under renovation and that the house was in neat order, like someone  
17 just like -- not someone. It wasn't a mess. Let's put it that way.

18 Q So the house itself, the home was in neat order, not specifically [REDACTED]  
19 bedroom or room of the house, but the house itself was in neat order?

20 A Yeah, it was like a clean home.

21 Q Were you told of any soapy rags or evidence of cleanup at the home?

22 A I was not.

23 Q Did the ATF take its own photos of the scene?

24 A I did learn later that one of the agents did.

25 Q Is the ATF in possession of those photos?

1 A Yes.

2 Q In terms of sort of the retrieval of evidence from the scene and what ATF  
3 took with it, can you give sort of an approximation of how large or was it -- was the  
4 evidence removed in a truck? Sort of can you give us a general idea?

5 A ATF did not take any evidence from that home. If I'm answering your  
6 question correctly, that's what you're asking?

7 Q Yes.

8 A Yes.

9 Q So in terms of what the ATF did, it took photos?

10 A Photos, and then -- well, the other evidence would have been, as you  
11 mentioned earlier, the recorded conversation.

12 Q And were you at the residence, and just to clarify, when the Allegheny  
13 County Bomb Squad personnel arrived?

14 A I was not. They were already there prior to my arrival.

15 Q Okay. So what did you do sort of at the time -- or was the bomb squad still  
16 looking through the home at the time you arrived at around 2 a.m.?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q Okay. And what were you doing at this time?

19 A I had talked to my agents -- first, I checked on if they needed anything, like  
20 water or anything, breaks. I spoke to the FBI supervisor. I talked to the State Police  
21 personnel. And then I was briefing up to my chain of command, the special agent in  
22 charge. And then we were waiting for the house to be cleared.

23 And then, ultimately, the FBI mentioned that their -- they're called ERT, evidence  
24 recovery team was going to be coming. At what point we didn't have an estimated time  
25 of arrival at that time, and I knew that the U.S. Attorney's Office was working on a search

1 warrant. I was not the affiant of that search warrant. Later that day -- later that  
2 morning I did provide information to one of the AUSAs related to ATF's involvement,  
3 adding to the search warrant.

4 And when I left, the house was still secure. I never went in the house. And  
5 then, eventually, the ERT team did come and handle all the evidence. And at some  
6 point, the FBI took the [REDACTED]. To where, I don't know.

7 Q And just for our edification, you're the [REDACTED], and, you know, you're on the  
8 scene. Is there a reason why you did not enter the home, and can you sort of explain  
9 how that works?

10 A My reason not to enter the home?

11 Q Yes.

12 A I'd say a lot of experience and knowing that me entering the home serves no  
13 purpose at all. And I did not want to go in there, take any type of trace evidence in, and  
14 then come out. There's no reason for me to do that.

15 Q Were you in contact with [REDACTED] or any other ATF agents during sort of  
16 them conducting their response functions inside the home and then investigating?

17 A I was in contact with the first line supervisor from their initial response.  
18 And then once I got on scene, I spoke to them directly.

19 Q Okay. Were you directing the response in the home at all by telephone or  
20 any other means?

21 A It would have been through their supervisor.

22 Q Okay. So you were just relaying to their supervisor what they should be  
23 doing in the home? Can you maybe clarify for us what you mean?

24 A If I understand you correctly, like, once they got into the house, no, I was not  
25 directly telling them, hey, you need to go this way, that way, inspect this, inspect that.

1 No, it was no direct. Basically, their initial search of the home was just for persons.

2 And then also, once -- I believe it was an ATF agent that recognized the suspected  
3 IED device. I mean, they follow through their training and experience. All right, now  
4 we need to get out of the house and secure this place and make everybody safe, and then  
5 we have to reevaluate.

6 Q And did they come outside and sort of debrief you or talk to you about what  
7 was going on?

8 A So I was not there when that initially took place, but when I got there I was  
9 debriefed. Hey, we went into the house, and we got permission from the homeowner,  
10 and we were searching through the house, and once we saw -- I believe it was at the foot  
11 of the bed, if I remember correctly. And then we came out. We evacuated the house  
12 on either side. It was like a blast radius. And then the Allegheny -- once again, we  
13 didn't have assets available. Allegheny bomb squad did. They were the closest, and  
14 they took over from there doing their part of the job.

15 Q And just one other question. So you had mentioned that you had heard  
16 that the house was neat. So you had not heard anything about the house sort of inside  
17 being messy or in disrepair or anything like that?

18 A No. I think the way it was described to me is it was -- all of us -- well,  
19 myself. I mean, thousands of homes. Some are cleaner than others. Some are  
20 dirtier than others. That was the general conversation.

21 Q And also, just to clarify, were any of the ATF agents who reported to the  
22 [REDACTED] residence subject matter experts in explosives?

23 A No.

24 Q And once that IED was discovered, it was only the Allegheny County Police  
25 Department Bomb Squad that was consulted for their expertise in the explosives sort of

1 area?

2 A At the house, yes.

3 Q Were any other ATF explosives personnel consulted?

4 A I don't have direct knowledge that it was. I heard through an investigator  
5 that our national center for explosives research and training, NCETR, in Huntsville,  
6 Alabama was consulted, but I don't know who.

7 Q And are you familiar with the chemical ammonium nitrate that was found at  
8 the [REDACTED] residence?

9 A I am.

10 Q Okay. In terms of an ammonium nitrate fuel concoction, to your  
11 knowledge, would there be a lot of sort of collateral contaminants that would present  
12 themselves?

13 A Can you clarify collateral contaminants?

14 Q Sure. Yeah, I mean, if you were to make a concoction, would there be any  
15 kind of smells or, you know, things like that?

16 A There could be. I can't speak to that, what was in there because I don't  
17 know exactly what was in there, but there could be.

18 Q Okay. Do you know, by any chance, what could potentially cause such an  
19 odor to emanate?

20 A I don't.

21 Q Have you seen the photos that the ATF took at the scene?

22 A I have.

23 Q Okay. How many photos approximately, if you recall, were taken of  
24 Thomas Crooks' bedroom?

25 A I don't recall -- oh, the bedroom? I would estimate three to five.

1           Q    Is that normal to only take three to five photos of a sort of --

2           A    I wouldn't use the word "normal".   Each scene, each room, each location  
3   has its own set.   And if it's an empty room or versus like that -- but, obviously, I wouldn't  
4   say it's normal.

5           Q    Okay.   Did ATF agents find anything else notable in the house?

6           A    I don't recall.

7           Q    So if you could just repeat for us, what time did you depart the residence?

8           A    Sometime, I'd say, after 6 a.m., excuse me, on the 14th.

1

2 [12:38 p.m.]

3

BY [REDACTED]

4

Q So, from what we've reviewed from ROIs provided to the task force, at

5

600 hours ATF local law enforcement released the [REDACTED] residence, and, at

6

approximately 630 hours, special agents were advised by the resident agent in charge to

7

depart the residence. Do you know this to be accurate?

8

A That sounds fairly accurate, yes, ma'am.

9

Q Is that a relatively short amount of time to release such a site?

10

A When you say release a site, the site was not released by law enforcement.

11

It's just that ATF's part in that investigation was finished.

12

Q Thank you for the clarification. So, to your knowledge, law enforcement

13

did not release the site at this point. It was still under law enforcement control or

14

investigation?

15

A Controlled by the Bethel Park Police and the FBI.

16

Q Do you know until what time the home was under control by Bethel Park

17

and the FBI?

18

A I am not aware of what time they left.

19

Q Did ATF return to the residence at any time on Sunday, July 14th?

20

A Not to my knowledge.

21

Q Okay. Did you take any contemporaneous notes by the time you arrived at

22

the home?

23

A No.

24

Q Okay. And, also, just wanting to confirm, in productions to the task force,

25

there's a memorandum, dated September 11, 2024, to the special agent in charge of the

1 Philadelphia Field Division from a supervisory special agent from FBI Pittsburgh. The  
2 subject states, "Disclosure of ATF Records or Testimony." Do you recall receiving -- we  
3 don't have an exhibit, sir, because we were provided this in camera, but to your  
4 recollection, do you recall receiving such a memorandum?

5 A Can you repeat that again?

6 Q Sure. From September 11, 2024, it's from a supervisory special agent from  
7 FBI Pittsburgh with the subject, "Disclosure of ATF Records or Testimony." And, under  
8 supervisory recommendation, you digitally signed this document on September 11. Do  
9 you recall digitally signing such a document?

10 A I do recall, yes.

11 Q Okay. And the attachments consisted of ATF ROIs 1 through 12 with  
12 attachments. Does that sound right to you?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q Okay. And you approved and signed off on the reports of investigation for  
15 ATF agents on July 13. Is that correct?

16 A No. Their immediate supervisor would sign off on the reports of  
17 investigation.

18 Q Did you write your own Roy?

19 A I did not.

20 BY [REDACTED]

21 Q Sort of a general background question, could you maybe shed some light on  
22 the perhaps division of labor or different or complementing sort of capabilities that FBI  
23 labs have versus ATF labs with regard to firearms and explosives, if you might be able to  
24 speak about that generally. I'm trying to get a better sense of how the division of labor  
25 might work for investigations, just sort of generally.



1           A    I can't speak to the -- I mean, it generally would be just too broad, I think.  
2   I mean, I can't -- I mean, yes, we each have our own labs. I mean, I know that. But, as  
3   far as what the FBI capability is and what scientists and analysts and the chemists -- they  
4   have in their -- compared to ours, I've never been to either of the labs, so I don't know.

5           Q    Right. Right.

6           A    Yeah.

7           Q    So, based on your understanding, there isn't like a -- "This is FBI specialty,  
8   only FBI can do this; and this is ATF specialty; only ATF can do this"? There isn't anything  
9   like that?

10          A    I mean, I think our lab handles more firearms, because, I mean, that's one of  
11   our core missions, and more arson debris, because that's another one of our core -- arson  
12   is a crime of violence, and I think we generally handle more, so, like, I'm comfortable  
13   saying that.

14          Q    Right.

15          A    Yeah.

16          Q    Thank you.

17               BY [REDACTED]

18          Q    And, just kind of going back to clarify a few questions, once Allegheny, its  
19   bomb squad conducted its review, did they provide those notes to ATF? Are you  
20   familiar with sort of what went on there with that report?

21          A    I'm not familiar with that -- where that report went to.

22          Q    Okay. Were you interviewed by the Secret Service at all after July 13th?

23          A    No, ma'am, not at all.

24          Q    Were you interviewed by any other Federal agency after July 13th?

25          A    No, ma'am, not at all.

1 Q Have you been interviewed by anyone with respect to the events of  
2 July 13th?

3 A Just my own internal people in ATF.

4 Q And was that an internal investigation that ATF conducted?

5 A I think it was an after-action review.

6 Q And what would -- when was that after-action review, I guess, sort of  
7 commenced, or did you know how soon after July 13 ATF undertook that?

8 A I want to say, within 30 days, yeah.

9 Q You were interviewed within 30 days or --

10 A We had an after-action review. I mean, we had a meeting -- like, within our  
11 own group, we had a standard protocol to have an after-action review, and then, once  
12 again, to go over with the agents on their documentation and understand the historical  
13 events that took place. But, as far as an agency above me, there was 30 days or  
14 something around there.

15 Q So, if you can just clarify, did the Philadelphia Field Office just do its own  
16 initial after-action review, and just could you clarify what that consisted of or who it  
17 was --

18 A It was just a meeting of the people that were on scene and to kind of, "Hey,  
19 have you finished your report, have you finished your report" -- sorry, I'm pointing -- and,  
20 you know, like that, just make sure we were cleaning everything up and getting it ready,  
21 because we understood these reports were going to be requested and turned over by the  
22 FBI and maybe some other people.

23 Q Okay. And, then, the larger sort of agency review, when did that sort of  
24 start, or what was your role in the larger agency review that occurred?

25 A It was just a meeting with my supervisor and the supervisor that -- my -- the

1 Deputy Assistant Director about the events that took place.

2 Q And has the ATF completed the agency -- its agency review?

3 A As far as the office in Pittsburgh, I think we're completed; as far as the other  
4 one, I do not know.

5 Q Okay. Does the ATF continue to work sort of with the FBI on its ongoing  
6 investigation with respect to the events of July 13?

7 A We are always readily available to work with them. It's kind of slowed  
8 down. We haven't had any interaction in a while.

9 Q Just also, quickly, going back to any explosive devices that have been found  
10 near the Butler Farm Show site, were you aware of that?

11 A I was aware of the devices found in the car, yes.

12 Q Did ATF provide any assistance in that regard?

13 A We did. We had agents that were there that helped set up the safety  
14 perimeter on that. I don't believe, to my knowledge, we had anybody that was involved  
15 inside the vehicle.

16 Q Did the ATF take possession of that device?

17 A No, ma'am.

18 [REDACTED], do you have anything?

19 BY [REDACTED]:

20 Q We observed in some of the -- in the ROIs a case number, whatever the  
21 appropriate phrase would be, attached to the events of July 13. And does the -- is the  
22 ATF practice to close out a case ever?

23 A Is it our practice to close out cases? Yes, we do close out cases.

24 Q And has the case for July 13 been closed?

25 A No, it hasn't.

1 Q And is it possible to trigger a critical incident response with a call, a phone  
2 call?

3 A That is one way.

4 Q The app is another way, right?

5 A The app is another way, yes.

6 Q Are there any other ways to trigger a critical incident response?

7 A A text. You know, there's other forms of communication, but primarily we  
8 use the app and the phone call for the initial.

9 BY [REDACTED]

10 Q I guess, just final sort of post-investigation, have there been any changes at  
11 the ATF following July 13, let's start with sort of the Philadelphia Field Office in terms of  
12 staffing, personnel, operations, things of that nature?

13 A I mean, we could always use more staffing, but as far as major changes, no.  
14 I think that everybody that responded there responded in a professional manner, acted in  
15 a professional manner from our senior agents to our brandnew junior agents. I think  
16 they all documented what they did. As far as the communications that -- the way we  
17 use the app, it worked exactly as designed. You could tell who was coming, who was  
18 available, and what your assets were. As far as, you know, dealing with our  
19 counterparts, I think it worked flawlessly.

20 Q And any agency changes that you're aware of that have occurred since  
21 July 13th?

22 A Related to that event, I'm not aware of anything.

23 Q Okay. Have you received any sort of media or other sort of human  
24 resources or PR training from the agency?

25 A Oh, yeah. In the past, I have, yes.

1 Q I mean in relation to July 13th.

2 A No.

3 Q Are you aware of any ATF agents that have spoken to any media outlets with  
4 respect to July 13?

5 A I did.

6 Q Did anyone else, to your knowledge?

7 A To my knowledge, no.

8 Q Okay. And which media outlets did you speak to?

9 A I believe it was a reporter from USA Today. It was on that Sunday. I was  
10 given permission to basically -- it was a brief conversation, and they -- they were -- we  
11 had released -- FBI was comfortable releasing the information that it was a long gun.  
12 And, by that time, I had not physically held the gun or examined it, but I had enough  
13 information to make an answer to it. And I just basically said the firearm was an off -- it  
14 was purchased off the rack, and there was nothing special about that firearm.

15 Q And just a few last kind of questions. Have you been to the FBI evidence  
16 lab in Quantico where [REDACTED] Crooks' fireman and other IED physical evidence is located?

17 A I have not.

18 Q Okay. And has the ATF, to your knowledge, been asked to staff or assist  
19 with any other sort of campaign events following July 13?

20 A Since July 13th?

21 Q Yes.

22 A I did receive a phone call. It was from a Secret Service agent that was  
23 speaking to one of my agents regarding former President Bill Clinton being in the  
24 McKeesport area of Pittsburgh. They asked for -- I mean, it was very short notice, and  
25 they asked for an explosives dog and how many agents we had available and for the next

1 day. It was under 24 hours. And I said I didn't have anybody able, because we had a  
2 preplanned investigative operation, and that I just couldn't get that many agents there,  
3 and the dog was unavailable.

4 Q Was that sort of the first time that the Secret Service kind of actively reached  
5 out to you guys sort of for some extra hands, for some help?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. Do you know what the Secret Service ended up doing in terms of  
8 locating the resources that they were seeking?

9 A I do not.

10 Q Okay.

11 [REDACTED] Okay. That is it.

12 [REDACTED] go ahead.

13 BY [REDACTED]

14 Q One quick one. I think you just mentioned in passing that you could always  
15 use more people, more staffing. Were there any vacancies on July 13th or during the  
16 week of or afterwards, or no?

17 A When you say vacancies, in the Philadelphia Field Division?

18 Q Right.

19 A Oh, yes, sir. Yes, there was vacancies.

20 Q You would say approximately how many or in what kind of positions?

21 A I'm trying to think. Well, I don't want to say in a perfect world, but the  
22 vacancies that I know of, I mean, it's probably over 10, yeah, special agent positions.

23 Q Were those longstanding or kind of short-term type of vacancies?

24 A My one office is within the last 6 months just through promotions and  
25 retirements, and then our other offices it's just short staff, whether it's retirements and

1       then they're not being backfilled.

2               ██████████    Okay.   Thank you.

3               ██████████    And just last --

4               ██████████    Sorry, go ahead.

5               BY ██████████

6               Q    Just lastly, quickly, sir, you had mentioned the Secret Service agent had  
7       phoned one of your sort of line agents or field agents.

8               A    Yes.

9               Q    So do your field agents maintain close relationships with Secret Service  
10      agents?   How do they know one another, or how is that contact made?

11              A    It's my understanding that those two did not know each other, that my  
12      agent was over working in that area with the local police department, and we have a  
13      good working relationship with that local police department.   And they were like, "Oh,  
14      hey, by the way, the ATF is here," and it's just one Federal agent talking to another  
15      Federal agent.

16              ██████████    Got it.   Thank you very much.

17              We can go off the record.

18              [Whereupon, at 12:53 p.m., the interview was concluded.]

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Certificate of Deponent/Interviewee

I have read the foregoing \_\_\_\_ pages, which contain the correct transcript of the answers made by me to the questions therein recorded.

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Witness Name

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Date



**Majority Errata Sheet for the Transcribed Interview of**  
**ATF Personnel 1 dated November 26, 2024**

Page	Line	Change
4	10	CHANGE "[REDACTED]" TO "[REDACTED]"
5	2	CHANGE "followups" TO "follow-ups"
7	15	CHANGE "have you have you" TO "have you"
17	12	CHANGE "task force" TO "Task Force"
18	16	CHANGE "task force" TO "Task Force"
18	23	CHANGE "task force" TO "Task Force"
28	6	CHANGE "10:28 a.m." TO "10:28 p.m."
31	11	CHANGE "form" TO "Form"
75	7	CHANGE "[REDACTED]" TO "[REDACTED]"
79	4	CHANGE "task force" TO "Task Force"
79	24	CHANGE "task force" TO "Task Force"
80	18	CHANGE "Roy" to "ROI"
87	3	CHANGE "[REDACTED]." TO "[REDACTED]."
87	16	CHANGE "[REDACTED]." TO "[REDACTED]."

**Minority Errata Sheet for the Transcribed Interview of**  
**ATF Personnel 1 dated November 26, 2024**

<b>Page</b>	<b>Line</b>	<b>Change</b>
35	14	CHANGE “reference” TO “referenced”
41	1	CHANGE “approximately what timeframe you're” TO “Approximate what time frame are you”
52	10	CHANGE “you maybe” TO “you’ve maybe”
55	4	CHANGE “There's no like leads of this question.” TO “There’s no leading in this question.”
56	13	CHANGE “Was there public” TO “Was the public”
59	9	CHANGE “subordinates and” TO “subordinates who”
63	21	CHANGE “if AI” TO “if ATF”