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5 TASK FORCE ON THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF DONALD J. TRUMP,

6 U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

7 WASHINGTON, D.C.

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13 INTERVIEW OF:



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Friday, September 6, 2024

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Washington, D.C.

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The interview in the above matter was held in Pittsburgh Marriott North,

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Sewickley Room, 100 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, PA, commencing at

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11:35 a.m.

1 Present: Representative Mike Kelly.

1 Appearances:

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

6 [REDACTED], SENIOR PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER

7 [REDACTED], SENIOR COUNSEL

8 [REDACTED], DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

9 [REDACTED], SENIOR COUNSEL

10 [REDACTED], MINORITY INVESTIGATIVE COUNSEL

11 [REDACTED], MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

12 [REDACTED], MINORITY INVESTIGATIVE COUNSEL

13

14 For [REDACTED]:

15

16 [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]

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25 [REDACTED] Today is September 6, 2024, and this is the transcribed interview of

1 [REDACTED]. House Resolution 1367 directed this task force to investigate the facts and
2 circumstances of the attempted assassination of Donald J. Trump on July 13, 2024, in
3 Butler, Pennsylvania.

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

6 Can the witness please state their name and spell their last name for the record.

7 [REDACTED] Yeah. Detective [REDACTED].

8 [REDACTED] Thank you, [REDACTED]. My name is [REDACTED]. I'm the senior
9 counsel with the task force majority staff. I want to thank you for coming in here today
10 for this interview. The task force recognizes and appreciates that you are here
11 voluntarily. You're allowed to have an attorney present to advise you during this
12 interview.

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

15 [REDACTED] Yes.

16 [REDACTED] Will the counsel please identify themselves for the record?

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED] Thank you. Is there also an attorney present representing the
19 Butler Township Police Department here today?

20 [REDACTED] There is not.

21 [REDACTED] Thank you.

22 For the record, can the Members of Congress present please introduce
23 themselves with their name, the district they represent and affiliation with the task force.

24 Chairman Kelly. Representative Mike Kelly, PA 16.

25 [REDACTED] Thank you. Next, starting with the majority and then minority, can

1 the additional staff members please introduce themselves with their name, title, and
2 affiliation.

3 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], senior counsel, task force majority.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], senior professional staff member, task force
5 majority.

6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], task force minority. We also may be joined by
7 our staff director, [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], investigative counsel for the task force minority.

9 [REDACTED]. Thank you, all.

10 [REDACTED], before we begin, I'd like to go over the ground rules for this interview.

11 The way this interview will proceed is as follows:

12 The majority and minority staff will alternate asking you questions 30 minutes per
13 side per round until each side is finished with their questioning. The majority staff will
14 begin and proceed for 30 minutes, and then the minority staff will have 30 minutes to ask
15 questions. We will then alternate back and forth in this manner until both sides have no
16 more questions.

17 If either side is in the middle of a specific line of questions, they may choose to
18 end a few minutes past an hour to ensure completion of that specific line of questioning,
19 including any pertinent follow-ups. In this interview, while one member of the staff for
20 each side may lead the questioning, additional staff may ask questions.

21 There's a court reporter taking down everything I say and everything you say to
22 make a written record of the interview. For the record to be clear, please wait until the
23 staffer questioning you finishes each question before you begin your answer, and the
24 staffer will wait until you finish your response before proceeding to the next question.

25 Further, to ensure the court reporter can properly record this interview, please

1 speak clearly, concisely, and slowly. Also, the court reporter cannot record nonverbal
2 answers, such as nodding or shaking your head, so it is important that you answer each
3 question with an audible verbal answer.

4 Do you understand?

5 [REDACTED] Yes.

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

10 Do you understand?

11 [REDACTED] Yes.

12 [REDACTED] If we ask specific questions or events in the past, and you are
13 unable to recall the exact words or details, you should testify to the substance of those
14 conversations or events to the best of your recollection. If you recall only a part of a
15 conversation or event, you should give us your best recollection of those events or parts
16 of conversations that you do recall.

17 Do you understand?

18 [REDACTED] Yes.

19 [REDACTED] Although you are here voluntarily, we will not swear you in, you are
20 required, pursuant to 18 U.S. Code Section 1001, to answer questions from Congress
21 truthfully. This also applies to questions posed by congressional staff in an interview.

22 Do you understand?

23 [REDACTED] Yes.

24 [REDACTED] If at any time you knowingly make false statements, you could be
25 subject to criminal prosecution.

1 Do you understand?

2 [REDACTED] Yes.

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

5 [REDACTED] No.

6 [REDACTED] Please note that if you wish to assert a privilege over any statement
7 today, that assertion must apply with the rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.
8 For the chair to consider assertions of privilege over testimony or statements, witnesses
9 or entities must clearly state the specific privilege being asserted and the reason for the
10 assertion on or before the scheduled date of testimony or appearance.

11 Do you understand?

12 [REDACTED] Yes.

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

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

19 We plan to take a 5-minute break at the end of each 30 minutes of questioning,
20 but if you need a longer break or a break before that, please let us know, and we are
21 happy to accommodate. However, to the extent that there's a pending question, we'd
22 ask that you finish answering the question before we take a break.

23 Do you understand?

24 [REDACTED] Yes.

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

1 [REDACTED] I do not.

2 [REDACTED] It is now 11:40. The majority staff will now begin its questioning.

3 EXAMINATION

4 BY [REDACTED]

5 Q [REDACTED], can you describe your job with the Butler Township Police
6 Department?

7 A Yes. My job with the Butler Township Police Department is the
8 investigation unit. I am a detective. I handle incidents from high-dollar theft to
9 suspicious thefts. Pretty much any case that takes a longer time to process and
10 investigate, I'll either get from patrol, or it will come directly to me; cases involving
11 children, ChildLines with Butler Township, our investigation unit handles a broad
12 spectrum of cases.

13 So I'm not specialized in just juveniles or deaths. It just kind of whoever is there
14 in the detective's office and a case comes in, it's yours.

15 Q Thank you. And how long have you worked at the Butler Township Police
16 Department?

17 A So I got hired in 2017, February 2017, with Butler Township, and then a few
18 years later was promoted to detective in 2020.

19 Q So you've worked as a detective at the Butler Township Police Department
20 for approximately 4 years?

21 A Approximately 4 years.

22 Q Thanks. So for the July 13th event at the Butler Farm Show grounds, when
23 did you first become aware that former President Trump would be arriving to deliver a
24 campaign rally in Butler?

25 A So at the station we have a -- like a white board where overtime details are

1 posted. I'd say approximately 3 to 4 days before the rally, the overtime sheet was
2 posted for officers to sign up. And that's when I became aware that Butler Township
3 would be involved with the rally.

4 Q So 3 to 4 days before the event, July 8th, July 9th?

5 A Approximately.

6 Q Approximate. And you find out that there's going to be an overtime
7 assignment for the July 13th event. Can you describe what that means to us?

8 A So, like with the overtime event, are you asking, like, what that means for
9 just overtime in general, like signing up for it, like, how that works?

10 Q Thank you. I mean, would you be working overtime if you were assigned to
11 work for the July 13th event?

12 A Yes. You would be working overtime. We had officers that were working
13 the road that day, but with the overtime detail, that was for specific officers who were
14 either off that day or had, you know, not started work until later on. So they would be
15 off and then be signing up for the overtime.

16 Q Okay. I'd like you to describe the involvement of the Butler Township
17 Police Department leading up to the July 13th event.

18 Do you recall any meetings that you participated in that were about the July 13th
19 event, and can you describe those for us?

20 A So I never attended any meetings for the rally or planning of the rally at all.

21 Q Can you describe to us how you came to learn your assignment for the July
22 13th event?

23 A Yes. So on July 13th, I arrived at the station -- police station at
24 approximately 9:30 a.m. The detail began at 10:00 a.m. I was provided a packet that
25 had my post listed on it, my duties, which would have been the intersection of Meridian

1 Road and Buttercup Road.

2 Q Prior to 9:30 arriving, did you receive that packet, or did you receive that
3 packet at that time? Did you have any knowledge that you'd be receiving that packet
4 before then?

5 A I had no knowledge I was going to be receiving that packet, and I did not see
6 that packet until I arrived at the station at 9:30.

7 Q Okay. I'm going to introduce this document for the record. This will be
8 majority exhibit 1.

9 [REDACTED] Exhibit No. 1
10 was marked for identification.]

11 BY [REDACTED]:

12 Q Do you recognize this document?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Was this a packet that you received when you arrived at the station at
15 9:30 -- approximately 9:30 on Saturday, July 13th?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And this is the Butler Township Operational Plan.

18 Did you have any briefings related to this document at the station prior to arriving
19 at your post?

20 A Lieutenant [REDACTED] and two other officers that signed up for the detail met
21 in our conference room where Lieutenant [REDACTED] just advised us of the intersections
22 that we were supposed to be posted at, and he discussed that, due to limited staffing,
23 that we were there to monitor traffic, not necessarily get out of your vehicle.

24 The weather was hot that day. There was no restrooms or food, drinks
25 anywhere where I was located. So he wanted us to stay in the area at our post but be in

1 the vehicle unless needed otherwise.

2 That was pretty much the -- the limit of his conversation besides parking. We
3 talked about parking and if they -- the attenders would be parking on the road, our game
4 plan for that would be to call the zone tow and have the tow truck remove them. And
5 that was basically our conversation that morning.

6 Q And what time did you report -- at about what time did you report to your
7 station where you'd be working a traffic assignment?

8 A Yes. So right before 10:00, I would say, I arrived at the intersection of
9 Meridian Road and Buttercup.

10 Q I'm just reading from page 2 of exhibit 1 here. That assignment -- there's a
11 description of your assignment on this page. There's also a description that you'd be
12 stationed at the entrance for the event.

13 A So on the document, it says that I will be at the entrance for the event,
14 which, that is not correct. I am on the intersection of the road, which would be
15 Buttercup, and Buttercup would be the entrance to the event. So I was not at the
16 entrance. I was at the intersection where you turn onto Buttercup.

17 Then from there, approximately a half a mile down Buttercup Road westbound
18 would be the entrance. So, no, I was not at the entrance of the event.

19 Q Okay. And did you stay at the intersection of Meridian Road at Buttercup
20 Road the entirety of the event?

21 A So in the beginning traffic was nonexistent. I went on foot patrol, spoke to
22 the residents about parking. If they needed anything, I let them know where my
23 location was so they could come down and get me due to the nearest officer was quite a
24 ways up at Whitestown and Meridian.

25 There was kids with lemonade stands and water. I stopped and spoke with

1 them. Pretty much just got out in the community and, you know, spoke with them for
2 approximately an hour, 45 minutes before I returned to my post and waited for traffic to
3 begin lining up.

4 Q Okay. And about what time did traffic start lining up?

5 A I would say around 11:30 traffic began to flow into Buttercup without any
6 issue.

7 Q Going to page 3 of exhibit 1, there's a description for detail encounters, and
8 there's a header that's labeled, "suspicious activity and behavior." Member will -- it
9 reads, "Member will contact the command post, CP, to advise them of issue and provide
10 description of actor and behavior. If not threatening, member will continue with their
11 detail."

12 For detail encounters, did you have any discussions before you arrived at the
13 event on July 13th about encountering a suspicious -- suspicious activity or suspicious
14 behavior?

15 A I do remember the drones. I remember if a drone was spotted to report
16 that. That's the only suspicious activity that, you know, we spoke about.

17 Q Uh-huh. And did you view any drones at the July 13th event that day?

18 A I did not see any drones. I could not see the event, or really anything from
19 my location, just because I was so far away from it.

20 Q And just for logistics and getting in touch with the -- with the other local law
21 enforcement entities that were at the event and Secret Service -- Secret Service who was
22 at the event, how would you use your radio communications that day? Can you
23 describe that for us?

24 A Yes. So Lieutenant [REDACTED] advised us that we would be on ops 3, which is
25 a station for our radio. The officers that were handling the road and being dispatched to

1 calls, they would be on control 2. And then I know that the State police have their own
2 radiofrequency, so we could not communicate with them.

3 And then later on after the event, I'd come to find out that there was ops 4 being
4 operated on, which I did not know. So multiple different channels.

5 Q And on page 4 of exhibit 1, there's radiofrequencies that are -- that are
6 discussed in the document.

7 Ops 4 is attributed to Team 400. Can you describe what Team 400 is?

8 A I would imagine that would be the SWAT teams. Whether that is Beaver,
9 Butler, I would not know which -- which team would be using ops 4, or both.

10 I was advised to stay on ops 3, unless needed a tow, which then I'd go back to
11 control 2, your normal traffic with the dispatcher.

12 Q Around -- around 11:30 you returned to your original assignment post after
13 conducting foot patrol, correct?

14 A I returned to my post closer to 10:45 after being on foot patrol.

15 Q And can you describe your actions leading up to when campaign rally
16 attendees started to enter into the event around 1:00?

17 A Yes. So traffic was flowing smoothly, cars were able to turn in. They were
18 taking turns. There was no honking, no issues.

19 The only issue that arose was a lady's car broke down shortly after turning onto
20 Buttercup. From there, I was able to push that vehicle off the roadway, and a State
21 trooper also saw me pushing the car and got out of his patrol car and helped me push the
22 car into a driveway on Buttercup. And then from there, called a tow truck for them to
23 remove the car.

24 But traffic flowed smoothly, and only had that one incident with the car breaking
25 down.

1 Q So during the campaign rally when folks were starting to get into the Butler
2 Farm Show grounds and when you were at your post, did you see any suspicious activity
3 or behavior?

4 A No, I did not.

5 Q And as we got closer to when former President Trump arrived and your
6 posts are in foot patrol, did you identify any suspicious behavior or activity? When did
7 you first encounter any report or identification of suspicious activity?

8 A So at my post, I did not see any suspicious activity, any suspicious person.
9 It wasn't until after the arrival of former President Trump that I had knowledge of
10 suspicious activity.

11 Q And how did you become aware of that suspicious activity?

12 A Yes. So I went from Buttercup Road and Meridian up to Pinecrest Court
13 and Meridian Road when former President Trump arrived, and I assisted with the brigade
14 coming down Brady Paul Lane. From there, I saw Patrolman [REDACTED], who was at that
15 intersection. I informed him, due to not having any restrooms or water or anything
16 down at my -- where I was, I was going to go back to the station which was nearby, and if
17 anything was going on at Buttercup and Meridian, just call me on the radio, and I'll get
18 back.

19 So after, you know, shortly stopping at the station, I go past Brady Paul Lane, give
20 Patrolman [REDACTED] a wave and let him know I'm going back. And as I go back to
21 Buttercup and Meridian, I see that there's no traffic at all at that point. Former
22 President was -- his time of arrival kept getting pushed back. All the rally-goers were
23 mainly all in there. There wasn't traffic lined up anymore. From there, I just did a
24 quick loop around, parked my vehicle.

25 I was on my cell phone at the time, and I had Patrolman [REDACTED] over ops 3 say that

1 command post was looking to detain an individual, and he provided a description of the
2 individual, and I remember the gray shirt as a part of the description. But never at that
3 time from Patrolman [REDACTED] was there any mention of a firearm or threat. It was a
4 very -- a very short description and a very short reason of why we were detaining him.

5 And in my mind, I just thought maybe Butler City maybe where we have trouble
6 with individuals mouthed off at the gate or something along those lines, and that's why,
7 you know, they wanted to detain this individual. There was no real reason for what was
8 going on.

9 And that was the first time that I found out about a suspicious person that
10 command wanted to have detained.

11 Q And that communication would have been made over ops 3?

12 A That communication would have been over ops 3 by Patrolman [REDACTED].

13 Q Okay. Can you describe your activities after hearing that report of a
14 suspicious person and how you came to come back to the site?

15 A Yes. So I heard the northern units -- and by northern units, I mean
16 Sergeant [REDACTED], Patrolman [REDACTED], and I believe some other ones that were closer to
17 Sheetz and Route 68, which is quite a ways from me, I heard them talking about their
18 location and seeing a male at this location, and they were describing, like, their actions
19 on, like, what they're doing.

20 But minutes had passed, and I did not hear one detained. And I just figured, you
21 know, this is just probably a Butler City resident or some resident that was doing
22 something silly at the gate or, you know, they just wanted him out of there or was trying
23 to get in. I thought it would be quick and easy. I would just go up there.

24 I was very confident in my abilities to, one, locate this individual and then detain
25 him, and then I can go back to my post. So that was my thought. I thought that I

1 would just go up there and help out those guys and be able to -- if it was a foot chase,
2 those guys were a little bit older, I just thought I would be able to get up there and get
3 the job done.

4 So I leave in my patrol vehicle. Those guys are still talking. I head north on
5 Meridian Road. And right before Whitestown on the left-hand side is a wooded area,
6 and I thought to myself, Well, if I was trying to hide or if I was trying to get away from
7 people, like, I would be in that wooded area.

8 And next to the wooded area is a dirt path that I passed up, and I then put it in
9 reverse and then went up that dirt path because I figured that would be a great location
10 to attempt to locate this -- this male at that time.

11 At the end of the dirt path is a water tower, and at the top of the hill is a State
12 police car. It just so happens that the trooper that's inside there is the same trooper
13 that helped me push the lady's car off the road earlier.

14 So I pull up to him, knowing that we're not on the same radio frequency. I said,
15 you know, have you heard about command post looking for an individual? Did you hear
16 the description? Just, like, a conversation along those lines.

17 As I'm speaking with him, we both have our vehicles pointed west facing the AGR
18 building, and we're both looking forward. And we see this male which appeared to have
19 a gray shirt or a light shirt on running from the north end of the building to the south end
20 of the building towards the fence of the outer perimeter of the rally.

21 I don't know if I say to him, Well, that's him. Let's go, or if he says, you ready?
22 But we either exchanged head nods or exchanged a word, but it's not a conversation.
23 We both just instantly, at high speed, go towards AGR.

24 Q [REDACTED], if I could, do you remember the name of the State police officer
25 that was there with you?

1 A I do not, no.

2 Q Okay.

3 A So the trooper and I arrive at the southeast corner of the AGR building.

4 And as I was coming -- as I was approaching the AGR building, I could still see the male
5 running and there was, I want to say, a tree or a bush, but it's a pretty large tree that
6 covers above the roof, and that's where I lost sight of him.

7 In my training and experience, I thought the man would just continue to run south
8 and then come off the building trying to get away from whoever he was running from.
9 So I immediately went to the south end because I thought maybe he was trying to get
10 into the event or he would jump down there.

11 Once I arrived and he wasn't there, I then backtracked to the other units. At that
12 time there was probably me and the trooper pulling up, I'd say maybe one or two cars to
13 the right of me going towards the AGR building. So I knew I had units there. And then
14 when I came back around, there was units outside the core now.

15 The trooper had his firearm out, and he was standing in the front of the, let's just
16 say the alleyway, which is the grass area that I was at to get up onto the roof. So I go
17 over there thinking that he has the male with him, and he's there by himself.

18 So I see Patrolman [REDACTED] standing there. And I tell him, I say, We need to get
19 up on the roof and get this guy. And from my body footage, you can see me motioning
20 with my hand to have him get me up on the roof.

21 Would you like me to continue with the story or --

22 Q Yes.

23 A I get over towards the wall with Patrolman [REDACTED] And how I describe it
24 is like chicken in the pool where one person is holding another one and you're kind of
25 wobbling. So I'm telling him loudly, like, to the left, closer, Okay, I got it, things like that.

1 And from there, I'm able to lift my hands above my head and get my fingertips on
2 the top of the roof. Now, I'm close to six foot, and so is he. And once I was able to get
3 my fingertips on and start pulling myself up, I realize I had no support from the bottom.
4 He wasn't holding me anymore. So now I was just dangling on the roof.

5 From there, I was able to pull my hands to my chest. And as I began to try to,
6 how I describe it is, like, getting out of a pool with your hands, like pushing up, my head is
7 coming up, and luckily for me, I'm looking left as that happens. And that is when I first
8 view Crooks on the rooftop.

9 I see Crooks facing downrange towards the stage, but his eyes are back at me as
10 I'm coming up. And I would say, like, his facial expressions was surprised. His eyes
11 were very big, like, what are you doing up here?

12 And from there, he just slowly turned on his waist, like -- he was proned out like
13 this, and he kind of slowly turned around. And as I came up, that's when he pointed his
14 firearm in my face. And at that time, I could see, you know, he had a bookbag with him,
15 I could see mags. I knew he had a long gun, like an AR platform.

16 And as I'm coming up and he's got the gun pointed at me, I don't know if I reach
17 for my gun, if I slip, but all I know from that point is I'm looking at him, and all my weight
18 is on my, like, arms, my hands, and I don't have a grip. As you can tell by the video, it's
19 just my fingertips. And I have no support from the bottom from Patrolman [REDACTED]
20 anymore. The next thing I know is, I'm smack against the ground and fall. Yeah.

21 And from there, I just start yelling out to the guys that are there, I yell on the radio
22 right away. I start saying, you know, South end, He's got a long gun, Male on the roof.
23 I just kept repeating, He's got a gun, He's got a long gun. I'm telling the guys that are
24 around, like, He's right up there, guns up, eyes up, still screaming on the radio.

25 And, you know, me, myself, I'm still trying to engage on the roof to see if I can see

1 him lift up with his body position and the rooftop. I would describe it as, like -- like a
2 peak, and then like into a flat where, like, if you were at a higher peak, you could see.
3 But if you were at a lower peak, you wouldn't be able to see. It wasn't just like a flat
4 surface. And I just never saw him come up.

5 And I would say approximately 10 seconds after I hit the ground and started
6 yelling on the radio and tell other officers that shots began to rang out. I knew that he
7 had a long gun. I only had my handgun.

8 So I went back to my patrol vehicle and grabbed my rifle, and that is when I
9 remembered that my body cam footage was not activated yet and that's where I took a
10 second and pressed the button to activate my body cam footage. And that's why you
11 get the sound after that, because I activated it.

12 Guys are still in the area. I still believe Crooks is up on the roof. At this point,
13 you know, I don't know if he's running on the roof or what he's doing up there. But
14 SWAT members are arriving, so now we have people in tactical gear with the helmets.
15 They've got their rifles, they've got rifle plates.

16 So they start approaching the building from there. I tell the guys, you know, I
17 popped up, he's on this building, this side of the building. They were trying to get up on
18 the right side. So let's just say the gap where I climbed up splits that side of the building,
19 and they were trying to get up on the most north end.

20 I said, Just to let you know, there's a gap in between you and the building he's on.
21 Just trying to provide as much information to these guys that are going up there with gear
22 and suits and all that. There was an officer or two that I knew that I tried to call out to,
23 like, they would listen to make sure they heard me.

24 And as I'm talking and I tell them, I started seeing a couple SWAT guys go toward
25 where I was. So they started going back towards that alleyway. Well, I just wanted to

1 make sure, like, they hear me, and they're not going over there with their heads down.
2 So that's when I run over there and start yelling to him, like, he was right up there, he was
3 right up there.

4 And I see -- one officer actually made it up on to the roof as I got over there. And
5 then I see the other SWAT members, how I describe it -- I'm not trying to be -- they were
6 struggling to get each other up there. I mean, they were larger officers, and they had
7 gear, and they were hugging each other trying to -- and I knew the officer that was up on
8 the roof, and I was like, Well, there's one guy up there, and I need to get back up there.

9 So I saw [REDACTED] in the crowd as I was still pointing towards the roof of these
10 SWAT guys trying to get up, and nobody is getting up. And I just run over to Patrolman
11 [REDACTED] and I tell him, you know, you got me up there once, like, just get me up there
12 again. We need to stop this threat. The officer that was up there was [REDACTED]. I was
13 like, [REDACTED] is up there by himself, like, I need to get up there.

14 So I go to [REDACTED]. A lot easier that time because I had one officer on each foot.
15 So that was a much easier push up and was able to actually get my chest up on the roof
16 and then eventually be able to get back on the roof. And once I got up there, yeah,
17 Mr. Crooks was laying there. I could see the blood coming down the angle of the roof.

18 Q [REDACTED]?

19 A Yes.

20 Q We're almost at time for our end. I don't mean to interrupt your story, but
21 we just had a couple more questions before we go to our colleagues.

22 [REDACTED] You can keep telling your story.

23 BY [REDACTED]

24 Q Keep telling your story, please, for us. Thank you.

25 A I look over at [REDACTED], who was the officer I saw, and [REDACTED] had recently went

1 through an incident working for Butler City, and I knew that would be a lot for him if that
2 was him that -- so I was like, [REDACTED], are you okay? And I, like, I point at Crooks, and he's
3 like, he was done before I got up here.

4 And I could hear them, like, say, Let me see your hands, and I could hear [REDACTED] say
5 that up on the roof. So I knew I had to urgently get back up on the roof for the second
6 time. And then there was actually another individual. He was wearing all black, so I'm
7 assuming he was another SWAT team that wasn't Butler. And I looked at him, and he
8 said the same thing, that he was down when he got up there.

9 We both -- or all three of us were able to get cuffs on Crooks and then call in for
10 medics. And then at the same time, you know, we weren't sure how many people. So
11 Mike's -- I'm telling him, eyes up; he's telling me eyes up. We're looking around. Yeah.

12 And then other people started -- other SWAT officers started approaching the roof
13 and coming up on the roof, and we do get a medic, and she looks at Crooks, which -- I
14 mean, I'm not a doctor, but at that time it was apparent.

15 And I don't want to just keep going, so I'll stop there for now.

16 [REDACTED]: Thank you, [REDACTED] Can I ask just a couple questions real quick
17 before we transition over to our Democratic colleagues?

18 [REDACTED]: Sure.

19 BY [REDACTED]:

20 Q [REDACTED] on the roof, can you describe him and what department he's from?

21 A Yeah. So [REDACTED], who works for the city of Butler, he is a member of
22 the Butler County Emergency Service Unit.

23 Q Thank you. And by SWAT team members, are you referring to Butler ESU,
24 Beaver ESU, local police emergency service units?

25 A Yes. So when I talk about SWAT members, I just mean like guys that are

1 wearing all the gear. They got the rifle plates, they got helmets on. They got
2 everything you need.

3 I know our local Butler ESU team, SWAT team is green. So I know most of those
4 guys, one, because they work in local departments, but I knew that -- but the other
5 individual is black -- in all black, and I didn't know what team that was or what SWAT
6 teams were there that day.

7 Q Was an official from the Secret Service on the rooftop when you were up
8 there?

9 A So when I was on the rooftop, I received a phone call -- or it was over the
10 radio, one of the two, from Lieutenant [REDACTED] He advised me that there were guys
11 going in the AGR building, and he asked if I could go help them, like, go with them. And
12 he's like, If you guys are secure up there, they're getting guys together to go because
13 there was mention of a second suspect.

14 So I went to [REDACTED], and at this point, there's numerous SWAT guys on the roof, and
15 I said, I don't know who is in charge in here because I'm the only one in patrol clothes. I
16 said, but it looks like everybody has got it under control. They're talking about the
17 second shooter, they're looking for more guys. I got to go help those people.

18 And I get down of off the roof, and as I'm getting down, I believe that's when the
19 Secret Service agent went up on the roof.

20 Q Okay. Discussions of the second shooter, did those occur over your radio
21 with the Butler Township Police Department on ops 3?

22 A On ops 3. I was on ops 3 besides calling the tow. That's the radio station I
23 was told to be on, and that's what I was on.

24 But, yeah, Lieutenant [REDACTED], I remember talking about they're getting guys.
25 Whether it was over my phone or over the radio, I don't recall. But I knew that they

1 needed guys to get into this large building and try to get it searched and secured.

2 Q Thank you.

3 [REDACTED] I'll stop there and go off the record.

4 [Discussion off the record.]

5 [REDACTED] Why don't we go back on the record then. We're back on the
6 record at 12:18. This is [REDACTED] for the minority.

7 Now present in the room is [REDACTED], the staff director for the minority.

8 BY [REDACTED]:

9 Q Before we start, Detective [REDACTED], I'll turn it over to you to the extent you
10 want to clarify any statement, please.

11 A Yes. I spoke about approaching the AGR building myself and the State
12 trooper and other patrol cars that could see to the right of me. There was radio
13 communication that there was a male on the roof.

14 Once we were approaching, it was being said over the radio, and when we got
15 out, I know -- whether it was myself or another patrol officer, you know, we're on our ops
16 3 and we're announcing that, you know, there's a male on the roof, there's a male on the
17 roof and, you know, which direction he was at and his location.

18 And then just one more thing is I'm watching this male go across the roof. At no
19 point did I see a firearm or see him armed, to be honest. I just thought getting up there,
20 I was going to run into a civilian that was trying to get away. And at no point did
21 anybody else there yell out firearm or make it clear to me that, you know, he was armed
22 before getting up there.

23 But, yeah, I just wanted to mention that we were on the radio communicating that
24 there was a male on the roof. Thank you.

25 Q Absolutely. I appreciate that, Detective. And sort of, as an initial matter,

1 obviously, we want to make sure you are clear that we appreciate what you did that day,
2 appreciate your service. I'm sure having a rifle in your face was difficult, and you
3 handled it with grace and compassion. So we do appreciate it.

4 Also, to reiterate what my colleague said in the opening, this is a back-and-forth.
5 To the extent you or, I'm sure, your counsel have any questions or want any clarity,
6 please feel free to interrupt me. And in addition to this being a chance for us to learn,
7 there's also a chance for you to say anything you feel like needs to be corrected, either in
8 here or public record. So, again, you'll have that opportunity.

9 You know, my colleagues, of course, asked many of the same questions that I will
10 ask. I will try to stay chronological. We may whack-a-mole a little bit going back and
11 forth, but I will try to stay relatively straightforward.

12 The first thing I want to do -- and I'm not from this area. And we talked about it
13 a little bit before in the ante room earlier, about the layers of police and law enforcement
14 in this area. So tell me if any of this is wrong, and I'll just try to make it clear for the
15 record.

16 There's Butler City Police, and that's separate from Butler Township?

17 A Yes.

18 Q From your knowledge, awareness, Butler City Police wasn't involved in this
19 event. Is that correct?

20 A That is correct.

21 Q All right. Butler Township, some officers from Butler Township also
22 participated in Butler ESU. Is that correct?

23 A That is correct, yes.

24 Q Are you in Butler ESU?

25 A I am not in Butler ESU.

1 Q What is a typical level of coordination within your day-to-day work with
2 other local entities, either Pennsylvania State Police, sheriff's office or the ESU?

3 A So I would say my specific interaction --

4 Q Yes, sir.

5 A -- is very limited to other departments. I have little to no interaction with
6 the ESU team of Butler. They do assist on drug task force search warrants. I see them
7 on the few that I go out. State police, I do not have much interaction unless we discuss
8 ChildLines or certain cases that we have, maybe similar actors or similar victims. But it's
9 very limited.

10 And Butler City, I do interact with them a lot just because, to be frank, some of our
11 suspects are Butler City residents. So we communicate with them pretty often.

12 Q And just to clarify in ESU, some of your colleagues at the township police
13 department are members of ESU as well?

14 A Yes. I could name them, but there's approximately four.

15 Q Is that sort of a -- a collateral duty where they're pulled off when they're
16 needed to be on ESU, but otherwise they're Butler Township PD?

17 A For the most part, to my knowledge, they have to put Butler Township first.
18 But I know there has been occasions where, if there's something going on with the ESU,
19 that the department will let those guys go partake in whatever event if they're needed
20 and what level they are within the SWAT team of importance, if they need to be there.

21 Q You mentioned sort of prioritization. Those discussions would happen, let's
22 say, Lieutenant [REDACTED] your chief level, the ESU level?

23 A Yes. They would not come into the detectives office or anything I'd be
24 involved with.

25 Q Understood. Have you done prior political events, rallies, anything along

1 those lines? Have you been involved with those?

2 A Yes. So I worked for the City of Pittsburgh, Zone 2 for approximately 2
3 years. During that time, you know, large events coming in, brigades from Presidents
4 coming into the city.

5 At no time was I actually policing an event or rally, but in the similar job
6 requirements of blocking off an intersection or directing traffic during those, I have done.
7 But nothing as far as working at a rally for a presidential before.

8 Q Were you involved in the 2020 rally at the airport for then-President Trump?

9 A I was not. I was working -- Butler Township is not -- that would be Penn
10 Township Police Department.

11 Q Appreciate it. Sorry for not understanding the geography.

12 Well, let me ask you this: When you worked for Pittsburgh, did you ever
13 interface with Secret Service or were you sort of beyond their perimeter?

14 A I never interacted with Secret Service. Like I said, I was very limited to -- I
15 was just a patrolman down there, so it was intersections of roadways and roadblocks.

16 Q Got it. Okay. I want to move on a little bit to the events of July 13th.

17 You're talking about your station, which was Meridian and Buttercup Road. Is
18 that right?

19 A That is correct.

20 Q And you said the entrance was a little bit down Buttercup Road. Is that
21 right?

22 A Approximately a half mile, yes.

23 Q Was that at Buttercup Lane? Do you recall?

24 A I know that's going to be within the State police jurisdiction.

25 Q Got it.

1 A I'm not familiar what they call the lane that comes off Buttercup into the
2 farm show.

3 Q You were never down that way, though?

4 A I was never down that way. I was at my post.

5 Q Okay. Are you familiar with the area around the AGR grounds?

6 A Yes, I'm familiar with -- not specifically the AGR grounds, but Whitestown, it
7 runs near it. We have a nursery which is on the other side, and then 68 is one of our
8 main stay-abouts that's near AGR.

9 Q Did you -- understanding that, again, was outside of your patrol area where
10 you were assigned, did you have any concept of who would be in charge of security
11 around AGR during the event?

12 A I had no concept of that.

13 Q All right. Did you hear any comms from your colleagues maybe who were
14 on Butler PD about their ESU duties?

15 A I did not hear that.

16 Q Any reflections on AGR generally as it pertains to its relationship to the event
17 in terms of either a security threat or in terms of any of your feelings about that being
18 outside of a perimeter?

19 A Could you repeat that question?

20 Q Absolutely. That was a terrible question. Let me rephrase.

21 So AGR complex outside the security perimeter established by the Secret Service,
22 is that right, to your knowledge?

23 A AGR building was outside of the --

24 Q Of the Secret Service perimeter?

25 A I did not know that until the day of. I didn't know where the perimeter,

1 where the fence line was. Again, I was quite a ways south at -- until I arrived at the AGR
2 building by the water tower is the first time that I saw the setup.

3 Q Understood. Your communications that day, you had a radio on ops 3. Is
4 that right?

5 A That is correct, yes.

6 Q Did you ever scan or go off ops 3, or were you dedicated solely to that
7 channel?

8 A I dedicated solely to that channel besides the short period of time when I
9 requested a tow for the lady's car that broke down on Buttercup. And at that time I
10 went to Butler control 2, which is the -- the guys working the roads channel.

11 Q I've seen in what I believe is majority exhibit 1 that was referred to as control
12 2. Are those kind of all the same?

13 A The 2 is the same, yeah. It's control 2 or Butler control 2 or control 2. It's
14 all the same radio station.

15 Q Makes sense. And I think -- I'm trying to understand the concept of radios
16 and all these communications. I feel like I had one radio could pick up patrol 2, ops 3,
17 ops 4. Is that right?

18 A Correct. Everything except for the State police. There's no way to
19 communicate.

20 Q And is it standard practice that if you are assigned to duty that requires you
21 to be on one of those channels that you keep your communications on that channel?

22 A Yes. Because that is your form of communication with the other officers
23 that are on that detail. And through ops 3, I was able to hear other -- for instance, let's
24 say Lieutenant [REDACTED] I was able to hear his number being
25 called by command post on ops 3.

1 So I knew other people were on my station as well. So I stayed on that the entire
2 time.

3 Q Understood. All right. I want to accelerate because our friends across the
4 aisle hit most of the questions in the planning stage. I want to move up a little bit on to
5 the date of July 13th.

6 Body camera, did you ever activate it prior to moving up and assisting in the
7 search for Crooks?

8 A On that day?

9 Q Yes.

10 A No.

11 Q Was it activated when you went up on to the roof?

12 A No.

13 Q Just tell me -- help me understand a little bit. Because I know there's video
14 but no audio from that point. Is that right?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Walk me through how that happens?

17 A So not being in patrol for quite some time and body cams actually being
18 somewhat new to Butler Township, I don't wear my body cam very often as a detective.
19 In our policies, it's not required just because we don't wear vests.

20 But when I activated my body cam footage, I was at my patrol vehicle. That is
21 the time where, as I'm loading my rifle, it comes to me that I need to activate this. From
22 right there, that is when sound comes on.

23 So the way body cam footage is, there's a certain amount of time that it will go
24 back and capture before the sound kicks on, whether it's 45 seconds or a minute, but it
25 will go back to what you were doing before. The only problem is there's no audio to

1 that. The audio only comes on once you actually activate it.

2 So that's why you have a minute of, let's say, back time prior to hearing my voice.

3 Q That makes sense. And understanding your priority was not to get your
4 body camera on. Your priority was to assist in finding Mr. Crooks?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Got it. And that's -- but then you retreat to your vehicle eventually, and
7 then at that point you realize, Hey, this should be activated and you activate it?

8 A I felt that I was in a place of cover at least to activate my body cameras at
9 that time.

10 Q Understood. So I want to show you what has been premarked as exhibits
11 Bravo and Alpha. I'm actually going to start with Bravo. So that's my fault for not
12 having those organizationally marked. I want to start with Bravo. Just for the record,
13 that is an overhead map of the Butler Farm Grounds.

14 If possible with this Sharpie that I'm handing you, could you just mark a line
15 starting from where you initially were posted, if it is on this map, to then where you
16 pulled in your vehicle. I believe that's actually flipped. If we want to flip it north-south
17 orientation, that may be more helpful.

18 And I'm directing the witness to the AGR building. These are the barns at which
19 the former President was stationed and then Meridian Road. So if you can just draw a
20 line from where you were, and then maybe a finishing arrow to where you pulled in your
21 vehicle.

22 A Okay.

23 Q And again, this isn't -- if it's not specifically correct, that's fine. Just a
24 general direction is also helpful, if you recall.

25 A So I'm still quite a ways south, so it doesn't show my intersection on here.

1 I'm still even further south. I would say I'm not right there, but very south of where this
2 picture is cut off and then quite some travel up Meridian Road into the dirt path that
3 leads me to a water tower where I make contact with the trooper, and then I pull my
4 vehicle at the very most southeast end of the building, thinking Crooks would continue
5 running south, and I would catch him when he comes off the building.

6 Q Understood. Give or take, do you recall approximately the time at which
7 you first exited your vehicle?

8 A I do not know the approximate time.

9 Q How about how many minutes prior to you going up on the roof with
10 Patrolman or Officer [REDACTED]?

11 A I would say it took me a couple of seconds to get to the end of the building,
12 the most south end, waiting for him to jump down or come off. Once I realized that he
13 was not coming off, probably another couple seconds to get back to where the trooper
14 was and my vehicle. And so, maybe one to 2 minutes from the time I exit the vehicle
15 until I'm telling [REDACTED] that you got to get me up on this roof.

16 Q All right. I'm now handing you a pen because it's a white background.
17 That will be a little easier. Could you show me from -- beginning where you first saw
18 Mr. Crooks and then an arrow down to where you eventually saw him on the roof?

19 A So mark where I first saw him --

20 Q Yes, sir.

21 A -- when I came up the first time, and then mark again where I got on the roof
22 the second time I saw him?

23 Q So maybe -- just when you pulled up, you had visibility on him initially, and
24 then you lost him. Is that right?

25 A I lost him on my travels from the water tower to the building.

1 Q Understood. So if you could mark then just where you first saw him with
2 an X -- no, no. I'm sorry, where he was when you first saw him?

3 A Approximately.

4 Q Got it. And then maybe, could you put a circle where you eventually saw
5 him with the long gun?

6 A Just with the way the -- it looks in this picture, my first initial sight of him at
7 the water tower could have been further back, because I felt like it was some time that I
8 was standing there with the trooper watching this guy run. So he could have easily
9 been -- I apologize to make a second mark -- but further back on the building when I first
10 saw him before losing him behind the trees that come above the rooftop.

11 Q That's very helpful. So I want to clarify then. So you initially saw him
12 when you were still in your vehicle. Is that right?

13 A As I was stationary next to the State police vehicle, that is when me and the
14 trooper initially saw him on the roof running.

15 Q So can you then -- I'm going to ask you to do this one more time and then
16 we're done with our art projects. Can you circle the tree behind which you lost him just
17 to help me orient. I mean, just circle that tree.

18 And if it's more helpful, minority exhibit Alpha has a different view. I'm not sure
19 if that would provide you a better sense of which tree it was. This is looking from the
20 north overhead down to the south.

21 A Yes, it would.

22 Q Understood. So that was a tree. This will be, of course, reflected on the
23 exhibit.

24 But for the record, that's a tree immediately adjacent on the eastern side of the
25 AGR complex. Is that right?

1 [12:35 p.m.]

2 [REDACTED] Yes.

3 [REDACTED] Okay. I'm going to take back the exhibits, because I think we've
4 done enough to them. Give me one moment, sir. Actually, let me open up to the
5 extent the majority or anyone else has questions on the map for consistency, is there
6 anything else you want me to raise?

7 [REDACTED] No questions from me.

8 BY [REDACTED]:

9 Q Okay. I want to take a brief step away from this and understand, you
10 know, I would assume when you saw the rifle pointed at you, obviously, at that point, the
11 point of lethal force would have been allowed. Is that right?

12 A Yes.

13 Q I want to get a little bit into the general rules of engagement/escalation of
14 force that you trained in. What -- first of all, let's start with the range finder. Had you
15 seen someone with a range finder, I assume that doesn't escalate lethal force. Is that
16 right?

17 A That is correct.

18 Q What would you have thought if you had seen someone with a range finder
19 at that event, assuming you were on patrol?

20 A I would say that is suspicious activity.

21 Q So help me understand someone not from a law enforcement background,
22 given laws of the State of Pennsylvania, which you are obligated to carry out, at what
23 point would it have escalated to where you would have felt required to use lethal force
24 understanding that it is an open carry State, understanding that people are allowed to
25 have weapons?

1 A I would say when I made contact with Mr. Crooks the first time would be
2 lethal force.

3 Q Right. Where -- dropping down from that, dropping down from someone
4 having a weapon pointed at your face, of course, where would that line have then been
5 crossed in your mind, or is it completely situationally dependent?

6 A Yeah, I would say it would be independent. If somebody is in harm of
7 serious bodily injury or death, that is where you come into the lethal force aspect of my
8 profession.

9 Q All right. Taking a step back, and I promise I will try to avoid going back and
10 forth, but I want to get to the point my colleague asked you about, which is when
11 Patrolman [REDACTED], I believe? Is that right? Patrolman is his official title? Or is it
12 officer? What's the better nomenclature?

13 A Patrolman.

14 Q Patrolman [REDACTED], when he radios out about, Hey, we have this person we
15 want to be detained, orient me about when that time is. If you don't know specifically,
16 just maybe minutes before, minutes after, whatever else you have.

17 A I would say shortly after President Trump arrived, because once President
18 Trump arrived and he was going down Brady Paul Lane, I returned to the station. That
19 maybe took approximately 10 minutes. So back to my post, maybe another five, so
20 maybe 20 minutes after the President arrived, that is when I heard Patrolman [REDACTED] on
21 operation three, ops 3 give a very short description of a male that command wanted
22 detained.

23 Q What was the time frame from when you heard that to then traversing north
24 on Meridian to come up on the water tower? Was that immediate or was there a
25 delay? What was the thinking there?

1 A I gave those guys time. I thought, you know, they were talking, they were
2 communicating, but minutes had gone by, and I still did not hear one detained. And
3 again, you know, I am confident in my ability to locate people and get the job done, so I
4 took it upon myself that, you know, it's been a while, these guys are still looking. Traffic
5 is nonexistent at my intersection. I'm going to go assist these northern units and, you
6 know, have command be able to speak with this individual and get him detained.

7 Q Got it. So fair to say, you're initially letting them handle it. You're at your
8 post. Not necessary for you to be there, and you feel at this point, Hey, these guys need
9 some help, I'm going to go help them out.

10 A Correct.

11 Q Got it. Talk to me about Officer [REDACTED], or Patrolman [REDACTED]. When
12 was the first time you saw him? Was it right before you went up on the roof?

13 A So driving towards the AGR building with the State trooper, I could see units
14 to my right. And as I said before, they were calling out a man on the roof, and I knew I
15 had people with me. So I would say when I came back around the south end of the
16 building, because my initial thought was this kid is going to keep going, this gentleman is
17 going to keep going off the roof and I'm going to get him at the end and this will be over
18 with. Once I came back around, that's when I saw the trooper, Patrolman [REDACTED], in
19 that alleyway for the first time.

20 Q So your expectation when you saw Crooks kind of walking south was that
21 maybe this is just someone up there and he's going to get on the roof because maybe
22 he's running away from law enforcement, or something like that.

23 A Yeah. He was running fast. Again, no firearm in his hand. I didn't see a
24 weapon. I saw the light-colored shirt, so I figured this is the description [REDACTED] provided,
25 and I just thought he just continuously run south, and I lost him in the trees. And then

1 after realizing he didn't go south, I figured he's laying down up there by the trees where I
2 last saw him, and that's where I told [REDACTED] I need to get up there.

3 Q Did you see he had a backpack on?

4 A I didn't see a backpack from where I was at the water tower.

5 Q Did you see him carry anything?

6 A I did not.

7 Q All right. So go -- [REDACTED] brings you up. You're in that middle section.

8 You look. You see Crooks. You drop off. Sequence of events about right?

9 A Yes.

10 Q All right. When you come off, you fall off, from your body camera, it
11 appears you then kind of run out around the AGR circle south. Is that right?

12 A Correct. I guess in my thought of things that now I know he has a firearm,
13 he's got to probably want to get closer to the stage, and south is towards the stage, so I'm
14 trying to put myself in between Crooks, the stage so I can stop the threat thinking that he
15 would continuously head towards the stage and I would be able to stop the threat, and
16 again, he was not coming off the roof.

17 Q That makes sense. At that point when he came off, I assume at some point
18 you drew your firearm, your sidearm?

19 A Once I made impact with the ground, once I was able to recover from that,
20 that's when I was able to get my firearm out, but my main thing was to get it over the
21 radio and let everybody know, and especially the guys that were -- because there was
22 people -- there was guys standing there when I fell. They were just standing there, so I
23 just, you know, get your guns out, get your eyes up, get your heads up, he's up there, he's
24 got a long gun, and same thing over the radio.

25 Q And that's what I was going to clarify. You're on ops 3 at that point?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And you're yelling -- doing everything you can to alert someone that there's
3 a weapon.

4 A The entire time, yes.

5 Q And anyone listening to ops 3 would have heard the urgency and would have
6 heard that?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. You circle around. You have your sidearm, but at no point then do
9 you have visibility on him given where he is on the roof?

10 A That is correct. No visibility. We're yelling back and forth to each other,
11 you know, who has eyes, who has eyes. But, I mean, at this point, shots have already
12 been fired, but we don't know the condition that Crooks is on the roof. I mean, my
13 belief that he's just still laying down up there prone. I couldn't tell the difference
14 between, like, a countershot and his shots that rang out. I just wanted to stop the
15 threat.

16 Q Okay. And I think we should be done in a little bit. I want to clarify
17 approximately, because obviously there was an audio at that point. Approximately
18 where were you when shots were first fired?

19 A I would probably say running to try to get myself in between Crooks and the
20 stage.

21 Q Circling back around the south side of the AGR complex?

22 A Yes. Trying to get there, and then I realized that I didn't have any cover or
23 concealment there, and I can hear his rifle now going off, and I'm there with a handgun,
24 and I know I need to get my rifle and try to get back up on the roof.

25 Q Were you ever -- you know, eventually you circle around and meet up with

1 other law enforcement. Was there ever a vantage point that you had along the east
2 side of the AGR complex in the parking lot where you were able to see where Crooks had
3 been?

4 A There was no time that I was able to see him from the ground, nor was
5 anybody else able to see him from the ground, because I would imagine somebody would
6 have called it out, somebody might have, you know, tried to discharge a firearm, but with
7 the way the roof is sloped, and he's -- he wasn't close to the edge at that time, so you
8 wouldn't be able to see it, so the only time that I had visual contact is climbing on the roof
9 the first time and then climbing on the roof the second time.

10 Q When you eventually go back on the roof and you see Mr. Crooks, pretty
11 obvious that he was deceased?

12 A Correct, yes.

13 Q Anything from your vantage point on the roof seeing him, seeing his
14 weapon, seeing the other individuals that gave you a different perspective on the
15 situation, or did it sort of conform to what you had experienced or had thought would be
16 happening?

17 A He had moved up. I believe his book bag or one of the ESU guys' stuff, but I
18 would say he was probably approximately 5 feet from me when I had my head up, and he
19 was quite a distance away from where I first saw him when he was deceased on the
20 rooftop.

21 Q So he had moved horizontally westward across the roof? I can show you a
22 diagram if that's helpful.

23 A He had moved further south, which would have been closer to the stage,
24 most likely getting closer to the edge of the -- obviously, you know where he ended up at,
25 but that was quite a distance from I first made contact with him.

1 Q Got it. That would have basically moved him away from someone who was
2 originally looking up where you had been.

3 A Yes. That moved him away further south on the roof.

4 Q The only other question I have for you, you said he looked around and was
5 kind of surprised to see you there.

6 A I get asked a lot, you know, did he say anything or what did he look like, and
7 the best way I described it, he looked young. He had the long hair and he had the
8 glasses. He had his firearm pointed in my face, but his eyes were just -- it was just, like,
9 what are you doing up here? Like, you shouldn't be up here. Like, he was just
10 completely caught off guard with seeing me, and I would imagine -- I know he heard me
11 and [REDACTED] talking, because that's the only reason why he was looking back, but his body
12 and his firearm was pointed down range -- I would say down range, but pointed towards
13 the stage. So I believe he heard me coming, because he was looking, but just the look
14 on his face was very wide-eyed and very surprised is how I would describe it.

15 Q I understand. I have a few more questions but I'm going to save them for
16 the next round, but again, we very much appreciate you doing what you did and for being
17 here. Thank you. We'll go off the record at 12:47.

18 [Recess.]

19 BY [REDACTED]:

20 Q Did you have an expectation of when at any point you would ever have to
21 contact Secret Service, if there was ever that expectation in the first place?

22 A Just to clarify, during the incident or --

23 Q For the purposes of the event, regardless of the incident. At any point was
24 there any guidance about when you would reach out to Secret Service about anything?

25 A There was at no point a time where communication with the Secret Service

1 was a thought process or relayed to me. Strictly traffic, the intersection of Meridian and
2 Buttercup.

3 Q And was there any guidance about when you would have to, if at all, speak
4 with the local command?

5 A Again, just general --

6 Q In general terms, uh-huh.

7 A At no point was it relayed to me, or did I think that I have to speak with
8 command, and I -- the only thing would be from the operation plan, if I did see
9 something, my only thought would be to, you know, call it over the radio, but that didn't
10 happen.

11 Q Uh-huh. That would have been on ops 3?

12 A Correct, yes.

13 BY [REDACTED]:

14 Q Just by the command post that you understood to be in place at the July
15 13th event, who did you understand to be in there for Butler Township Police
16 Department?

17 A I knew my lieutenant was going to be attending the event in a working
18 capacity. I knew that he was on the ops 3 channel that I was on, but I didn't know if he
19 would be in the tent, or if there even was a tent. I just knew that's who I had to speak
20 with if there was any concerns or suspicious activity, I guess.

21 Q Uh-huh. In that vein, did you know where the local command post was
22 located?

23 A No, I did not, no.

24 Q So you would not have known if there was a Secret Service official in the
25 local command post?

1 A I would not, no.

2 Q Did you know that the Secret Service had a command post that was separate
3 from the local command post?

4 A I did not, no.

5 Q What do you think about that?

6 A I mean, my training and experience, I don't really have anything with
7 command post, so I really couldn't speak on behalf of two separate command posts, if
8 there's a strategy or technique for that, so I don't really have a comment for that.

9 Q Thank you. When you heard radio traffic from Patrolman [REDACTED] to go to
10 the AGR building and that command wanted a suspicious individual detained, you
11 understood that by command that he was referring to was where Butler Township Police
12 Department was located, and they're aware of that suspicious person and they observed
13 suspicious person needing to be obtained from where they were?

14 A It was my understanding that Patrolman [REDACTED] was also a member of the
15 emergency service unit, so it was from my understanding that he got that information
16 from his team, but he was working in patrol at that time. So he received that
17 information, I'm assuming. I don't know how or what that means. Not over ops 3. I
18 know that. And from there, he obtained that information and gave it to the three guys
19 that were working the event from Butler Township, because if not, then we would have
20 never heard of it.

21 Q When you arrived at the water tower, and you met with the -- you met up
22 with the State police official that was there, did you all both observe Crooks on the
23 rooftop at the same time?

24 A If not the same time, very close, because I know we were both looking
25 towards AGR as we were having a conversation. It was mainly me just trying to clarify

1 over your radio, did you hear this, and I was trying to tell him, you know, what I heard.
2 And, like I said, either we both said okay, or there he is, or let's go, but we were both
3 looking at the building and both observing it and simultaneously traveling towards AGR
4 quickly.

5 Q Did you observe the State police officer radio in on his frequencies similar
6 information which you were communicating at that time?

7 A When we were outside the vehicle and we could no longer see Crooks on the
8 roof, I know I was grabbing my radio. I was looking around. And I felt like we were all
9 saying the same thing, you know, he's up on the roof, he's up on the roof, south end of
10 the building. Whether it was specifically that trooper saying that he saw it but there
11 was just a very few of us, but we were all kind of saying either over the comms or to each
12 other.

13 Q Okay. When you were on the rooftop the second time, when you climbed
14 on to and you were walking around the rooftop and you observed Crooks dead and you
15 observed other officials from other entities on the roof, can you -- did you look back
16 towards the campaign rally stage? Could you see it?

17 A Yes, I could see the stage from my -- where I was standing at the second
18 time.

19 Q Did you know when you were on the roof looking back at the stage that the
20 countershot that you had heard earlier or the shot that you had heard earlier when you
21 were on the ground getting your rifle, could you see where any countershots could have
22 been fired?

23 [REDACTED] Do you understand the -- do you want him to clarify the
24 question?

25 A I do. I guess I'm kind of more thinking --

1 [REDACTED] Is your question about where other law enforcement assets
2 were located? Could he see them, like the countersnipers from the Secret Service?

3 [REDACTED] Yes.

4 [REDACTED] Do you understand now?

5 [REDACTED] Yeah. I couldn't see anything from the stage side, but we talked
6 about the second story or the second story of the AGR building, and the windows there.
7 I could see that area, but I couldn't tell who was where by the stage as far as law
8 enforcement.

9 BY [REDACTED]:

10 Q And how long approximately did you spend on the rooftop after Crooks was
11 neutralized? About how long did you stay up there?

12 A Once we were able to get Crooks in the handcuffs, call for medical
13 treatment, medical treatment arrived, and maybe 4 to 5 minutes it took for other SWAT
14 officers to arrive. And then once I received information that they were going to the AGR
15 building, I wanted to go help and get in that building and, you know, start looking for that
16 second actor. So I would say 5 to 10 minutes I was on the rooftop.

17 Q And how did you know that -- that reports of the second actor, that that
18 second actor was located inside the AGR building?

19 A I just know Lieutenant [REDACTED] advised me that there was a group of men
20 who I believe he said, you know, was short -- wasn't that many guys, but they were
21 getting ready to go in and if I could free up, and I agreed immediately, and that's when I
22 spoke with the SWAT guys and said I don't know who's in charge. But obviously, he's in
23 custody. We've cleared the rooftop the best we could. There's guys going in. I'm
24 going to go with them. And that's when I left.

25 Q And did you find the second person that was identified as suspicious?

1 A So when I left the rooftop, I ran into the bomb squad. I don't know if it was
2 Allegheny County, but the gentleman from the bomb squad I assisted with the -- they
3 wanted pictures -- he wanted pictures of the device from Crooks, so we were in
4 communication with -- like, [REDACTED] was still on the roof. We were in communication with
5 the guys that were on the roof.

6 Once they were able to get the information they needed for the bomb squad, I
7 moved on to where the bike and the tree where we thought that it might have been his
8 bike and explosives. There was a gas line by there. We were trying to figure out how
9 to turn that gas line off just in case those explosions were going to go off there.

10 Again, more units started to arrive everywhere, and that's when I went back in the
11 other side of the building to try to join up with that squad going into the building. So I
12 kind of, like, assisted as I got off the roof, but then as more people came, I kind of cleared
13 and kept moving on.

14 Q Uh-huh. And when did you conclude your search inside the AGR building?
15 About when?

16 A So I got to the west end of the building, and then I was put on perimeter of
17 the north end of the building outside, so the team that went in was already in there, and
18 then I was posted on the northern end of the building to watch if anybody would come
19 out the north end, because we were limited on guys on the north end of the building to
20 have that covered on the outside.

21 Q And when did you -- can you describe the conclusion that there was or
22 wasn't a second individual in the building?

23 A Just when the team came out from there, and I believe either one of the
24 sergeants or somebody said, you know, all clear inside, and then there was a team of
25 individuals. I don't know where from. But obviously, the structure was outside of

1 AGR, and that's when I guess, you know, a secondary search of the perimeter structures
2 were beginning, like containers, and just any little areas where you can go and tuck and
3 hide in.

4 Q Did you observe any searches after the shooting of the water tower where
5 you initially arrived?

6 A I never went back to the water tower after I first made contact with the
7 trooper.

8 Q When you arrived at the water tower initially, did you observe any other
9 suspicious activity, other than identifying Crooks?

10 A I did not.

11 BY [REDACTED]:

12 Q Was the call about the potential shooter or what may have been a call, may
13 have been a radio correspondence the only time your cell was involved in any
14 communication with any of your other officers?

15 A My cell phone?

16 Q Uh-huh.

17 A The only time I believe I had my cell phone would have been my
18 conversation with Lieutenant [REDACTED] I cannot remember if that was over ops 3 where
19 he told me that there's a team coming on, or he called my cell phone. I don't recall
20 which one was used, but I know that information was relayed to me from him.

21 Q Uh-huh.

22 A And I wanted to go assist.

23 Q Then when you had -- going back as a point of clarification, when you had
24 referred to you seeing what you later appreciated to be Crooks running, was that running
25 on the rooftop?

1 A Yes. From the point of the water tower, Crooks was on the roof the entire
2 time. Never, at any time, did I see Crooks on the ground. He was running north,
3 starting north and running south on the building, on the rooftop the entire time I saw
4 him.

5 Q And did you know this Secret Service agent who you saw after the shooting
6 when was coming up the roof?

7 A I didn't see Secret Service coming up the roof. I just know shortly after he
8 was up there, but I don't know who that agent is or what his name is.

9 Q And did -- at any -- to clarify, I know you had discussed this a bit earlier. At
10 any point, had you received guidance from or received guidance about Secret Service?

11 A At no point did I receive guidance from the Secret Service or any
12 communication.

13 BY [REDACTED]:

14 Q In terms of just after-action reports, I know that [REDACTED]. About
15 when did you leave the Butler Farm Show grounds on July 13th?

16 A Yeah. So once the searches were done on the outside perimeter and we
17 had numerous officers, agents, you know, SWAT team members, everybody was there.
18 Substantial time had passed since the officers left AGR. And then I was walking over to
19 one of my sergeants, Sergeant [REDACTED], and he advised me, he's said you know you're
20 [REDACTED] right? I still had adrenaline and didn't even realize it. That's when I said, Oh,
21 yeah, you know what, [REDACTED], and he told me where the medics were.
22 And I just wanted them to wrap it up real quick and I'd just go back. And then once they
23 [REDACTED], they were just, like, you're going to
24 have to go to the hospital. So I would say maybe, like, a half hour after everything was
25 cleared, that's when I left.

1 Q After the July 13th event, were you responsible for preparing any type of
2 after-action report for Butler Township Police in terms of any written memos or
3 summarizations, oral or otherwise, to Butler Township Police?

4 A For Butler Township Police, no, I was not required to, nor did I, any type of
5 post incident report.

6 Q Uh-huh.

7 [REDACTED] What about for any other law enforcement entities?
8 Pennsylvania State Police? Secret Service?

9 [REDACTED] You mean a written report?

10 [REDACTED] Written or oral.

11 [REDACTED] Oral, yeah. He was interviewed by the FBI and State police
12 together as part of their criminal investigation. But no others, right?

13 [REDACTED] Correct. You guys are the first I've talked to besides the State
14 police and FBI. I haven't talked to anybody else.

15 BY [REDACTED]:

16 Q Just arriving at the Butler Farm Show grounds, arriving at the water tower
17 when you first saw Crooks, did you observe any rally attendees pointing out Crooks on
18 the rooftop? Did you observe anyone on the south side of the AGR building that wasn't
19 law enforcement that was pointing, directing law enforcement at Crooks?

20 A At no time did any civilian or rally goers speak to me or give me information
21 about Crooks, including his whereabouts. No civilian or attendee pointed in any
22 direction to assist me. No civilian -- I had no encounter, besides screaming at the
23 civilians to get out of the area just prior to coming off the roof, just trying to clear them,
24 because there was a handful by the roof, but there was no communication. It was quite
25 a distance and I was just yelling to clear the area.

1 Q As we continue our investigation, is there anything that you haven't talked
2 about thus far that you'd like to cover with us of your experience of the July 13th event,
3 including the planning of it, that you'd like to get on the record and share with us?

4 [REDACTED]: Can we confer for a moment?

5 [REDACTED]: Yeah.

6 [REDACTED]: Yeah. No, I have nothing additional to add.

7 [REDACTED] Okay. Thank you. I'll go off the record.

8 [Recess.]

9 The Chairman. So detective, first of all, thank you for your service that day and
10 your continued service. I keep looking through the phone -- the communication logs.
11 If I go back to 17:42:58, right? Just an FYI, we had a younger white male, long hair,
12 lurking around the AGR building. He was viewed with a range finder sighting the stage.
13 He was up against a building. Believe he was looking. This is from [REDACTED].

14 He was looking up at us and he walked around the side of the building. We lost
15 sight of him there. It was a large bike with a large backpack sitting beside his car in the
16 rear of the building that wasn't there.

17 So what I'm trying to put together, I keep trying to figure out if we knew back
18 then, now, is this communication being shared with other people?

19 [REDACTED] Ops channel 4?

20 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED] ESU, so he would have been on a different --

21 The Chairman. So State police?

22 [REDACTED] No.

23 The Chairman. ESU. Okay.

24 [REDACTED] ESU, sorry.

25 The Chairman. All right. And I think in the position you're in, communication is

1 the most key part of it.

2 [REDACTED] Correct.

3 The Chairman. And it's bizarre to me that we did not know until this whole thing
4 started that we didn't have the ability to communicate with everybody at the same time
5 with the same message, and I know it can be crowded at times, but going back to almost
6 20 minutes to 6:00 we're aware of this person.

7 What I'm still trying to understand, where was the communication then with the
8 people that were personally handling Trump? I can't imagine if somebody was saying to
9 him, you know what, we see somebody, we're not sure, he's very suspicious, let us find
10 him first and make sure it's safe, right? This is just as just a civilian. I would just
11 assume if that's your job and that is your profession, that at some point, and I hate to
12 keep going back to this, but I cannot understand why the former President of the United
13 States was allowed to go out on that stage when we had someone under suspicion.

14 We're talking about he's got a backpack, he's got a range finder, he's got all these
15 things. This is not the normal attire of somebody who's going to a rally. And I think
16 that stands out so much in my mind and in the conversation you and I had. I -- being
17 there the other day, I'm still trying to get my mind around the fact that none of this had
18 to happen. None of this had to happen.

19 We talk about Corey Comperatore being dead. The Crooks family also lost their
20 son that day. And in my mind, I can't say why didn't we react when we knew way
21 before the shooting had took place, your -- you're very blessed to still be alive.

22 Who's quarterback? Who was in charge of saying we need to do this right now?
23 Just keep Trump in. Don't let him out until we find out who this person is. I would just
24 assume, and I, again, I'm not in this business, but if you see somebody on a rooftop
25 running around with a backpack and a range finder, wouldn't somebody think this is kind

1 of odd behavior but, hey, it's okay?

2 I can't imagine that you all were put in the position also of danger, because that's
3 what you do. You run to danger. You don't run away from it. It's just so bizarre to
4 me that we keep going through this and everything keeps going back to where was the
5 pregame information? Where did we come up with our game plan for that day and the
6 communication?

7 I don't know -- you all just showing up, I mean, it's like you show up the day of the
8 game, but you haven't been there for any of the offensive coordination or defensive
9 coordination. It's, like, okay, fine, glad you're here, go do this. This is -- I don't know
10 about the rest of this, but this is just so bizarre to me.

11 Somebody -- somebody could have, and I don't know how they quarterback this,
12 but somebody should have right then called an audible, hold Trump, just hold him until
13 we find out that everything is clear. You guys were also placed in a very dangerous
14 position for that. Okay.

15 I hate to go on like this, but having been there, having my grandchildren there, my
16 wife there, one of my sons there, and a lot of friends there, the aftermath of that, I am
17 just surprised that it's Corey who gets killed, it's the President who gets wounded and two
18 other people get wounded. None of it had to happen. There was enough lead time.
19 You're telling people hey -- first of all, thank you.

20 [REDACTED] Thank you.

21 The Chairman. And I know we talked a little bit. I'm hoping in the aftermath of
22 all of this as you continue to go through this process, and I know you're doing reruns in
23 your head all the time about what happened. I know when you were describing
24 climbing up there, holding on and trying to see him, and then the guy turning around with
25 a gun at you, well, you seem very calm about it now.

1 I will tell you I'm now 76. In my mind, I go back and I remember all these things
2 that happened, and I think for all of us, you go back and say I wish I had known, I would
3 have done something different at that time. So pardon me for going on about it, but
4 I've got to tell you, I have so many miles on my speedometer that everything that went
5 wrong in my life for the most part was something I should have been aware of, or I was
6 aware of and didn't think I had to do anything about it at that time. That's the stuff that
7 sticks with me.

8 So thank you. Thank you for your service. Thank you for what you've done. It
9 really is bizarre to me. I just can't make it fit. Okay. I'm sorry to take up time.

10 [REDACTED] Did you have one clarifying?

11 [REDACTED] Yes. I just want to thank you again for your service and being here
12 today and speaking with us. We'll go off the record now.

13 [Recess.]

14 BY [REDACTED]

15 Q We are back on the record at 13:23. Again, this is [REDACTED], minority.
16 My colleagues are here as well, and they may have questions. So a couple quick hitters,
17 then I have some other questions as well. I want to follow-up on something the
18 Congressman said. Certainly, the befuddlement, frustration is very much bipartisan
19 here. One thing the Congressman hit on that I want to ask about is this sort of
20 communications channels. You're on ops 3, right?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Take me through your perception of the events. You see -- let's say you see
23 something crazy like a whole bunch of guys with guns moving towards the event, and this
24 is, you know, obviously a worry for you. Your protocol from that point to alert anyone
25 of that is what?

1 A To radio over ops 3.

2 Q What is your understanding of what would happen then? And I know this
3 is speculation, so feel free to caveat in any way you so wish.

4 A Hearing command speak on ops 3 that day, my understanding would be my
5 message would go to command post. Who that intel is, I don't know specifically names
6 or what agencies, but my message, or my concerns, would be going to command post
7 over ops 3.

8 Q Got it.

9 A It was my understanding.

10 Q And there are different people on ops 3 at the command post that day?

11 A I do not know that answer.

12 Q You don't know who was listening on ops 3, other than there were people
13 speaking on it from the command post.

14 A Yes.

15 Q Got it. We're using command post. I know this is outside your level of
16 where you were. When you say command post, are you aware of whether they were in
17 a building, in a trailer, where that command post was?

18 A I do not where they were.

19 Q Okay. Maybe we can avoid another art project, but I just want to check. I
20 am looking now at exhibit bravo. When -- were you adjacent to the water tower when
21 you were chatting with the PSP trooper?

22 A We were parked side by side next to the water tower with our patrol, with
23 our marked patrol vehicles facing the AGR building.

24 Q Got it. And then you both drove up, parked in the parking lot in the next
25 few seconds, minutes after that?

1 A That is correct, yes.

2 Q Give me a rough time span from shots fired working backwards to when you
3 were talking with him at the water tower. Give or take how many minutes is that?

4 A Seconds to get there from the water tower. A minute to check the south
5 end of the building. Ten minutes approximately.

6 Q Short time frame?

7 A Very short time frame.

8 Q The last question I have for following up on some of my colleagues questions
9 was talking about seeing civilians, seeing citizens speak to you. You said no citizens ever
10 sort of discussed anything with you about seeing Mr. Crooks on the roof. Is that right?

11 A At no time did a civilian talk to me at all.

12 Q I do want to clarify, though, you were -- for the entirety, you were on the
13 east and/or south side of the AGR complex. Is that right?

14 A During the call, in fact, I was on the southeast end of the building, and then
15 at moments I was on the south end in between the stage and the AGR building.

16 Q Prior to the shots being fired, you never then went up towards the west side
17 overlooking the AGR complex. Is that right?

18 A The only time I went on the west end of the side was after the event had
19 ended and I was assisting the bomb squad with the gas line and the suspicious bike
20 against the tree. That's the only time I was on the west side.

21 Q Did you have the occasion when you were on the west side to look back
22 towards the AGR rooftop?

23 A No, I did not.

24 Q Okay. I want to go now towards where my colleague also finished at
25 talking about things after July 13th and give you the opportunity to expound upon

1 anything.

2 Step back. One thing I do want to ask you, before this morning, when we were
3 sitting in the room across the hallway, I showed you a video. Is that right?

4 A Yes.

5 Q I showed you video of someone talking saying I warned them, I warned the
6 Secret Service. Is that right?

7 A Yes.

8 Q You identified that voice as Patrolman [REDACTED]?

9 A In the video, yes.

10 Q All right. That was his body camera to your perception?

11 A To my knowledge, yes.

12 Q Got it. My colleague talked about other interviews you participated in. It
13 was just that FBI and PSP interview. Anything from that interview that you or your
14 counsel think that was covered there that we haven't covered or that you think would be
15 relevant for this committee, this task force to know about?

16 A No.

17 Q Easy day. Okay. I'm sure you have seen, and we talked about it earlier,
18 media, people talking about this, the political dialogue, all the coverage and the things
19 being said. Anything out there that you think is relevant for us to know either to dispel,
20 to emphasize, to reprioritize? I'm sure you have many thoughts. Anything you want
21 us to know on the record?

22 [REDACTED] Can't imagine there is, but that's up to you.

23 [REDACTED] At no time did I use a ladder to get on the roof. No time was there
24 a ladder. No time did I retreat. No time did I run away from the threat. I was there
25 to stop the threat and try to save lives.

1 BY [REDACTED]

2 Q And it certainly seems like that's what you did, so we appreciate that. And
3 this question very much is in that line. You know, you're dealing with an emergent
4 situation, a matter of seconds to react. Reflecting back on it, is there anything that you
5 feel like you should have been told that would have put you in a better position to
6 respond to that threat? Again, understanding that your initial assignment was not at all
7 related to that complex.

8 A I think that's it in a nutshell is my duty was to stay at that intersection and
9 direct traffic, and that was -- the information I was provided was just about that
10 intersection. It was only the actions of myself that I talked to assist and go above and
11 beyond, so I didn't have any prior knowledge to what I was getting into. The only
12 knowledge I had was what am I supposed to do at that intersection, which I did.

13 Q Understood. All right. I may have one or two more things. For now I'm
14 going to turn it over to my colleague for questions she has, if she has any.

15 [REDACTED] Yeah, just a few.

16 BY [REDACTED]:

17 Q Again, [REDACTED], minority counsel. And thank you again for your
18 service, and I hope that you recover quickly. Just a few follow-ups, and I apologize, I'll
19 dart around a bit just to follow up on a couple blank spots in my own notes from our time
20 together today.

21 Going back to the -- I'm not sure if it was the beginning of the day or even perhaps
22 when the overtime sheet first went up. I believe you said Lieutenant [REDACTED]
23 mentioned something along the lines of there would be limited staffing that day. What
24 did he mean by that? Was it limited Butler Township Police that were available? Was
25 it overall at the site that he had concerns about the number of law enforcement

1 personnel?

2 A So, again, we have a white board at the station where overtime sheets are
3 posted. Some, for instance, a detail at the high school for prom would have two to
4 three slots. That's all you need. The sheet had unlimited lines for as many officers that
5 wanted to sign up or could sign up. I think the realization was when there was no
6 names on the sheet, I think the realization I walked in that morning at 9:30 and there was
7 only two other guys, I would consider that, you know, short-staffed.

8 But on the other hand, later on, two of the intersections got another guy, so those
9 guys had two people at each intersection, so staffing did come later. The individual that
10 was supposed to be with me at the intersection called off, so I was the only officer by
11 themselves at the intersection. And I think for the purposes of covering intersections is
12 what my understanding was, I felt, you know, two guys at an intersection is plenty
13 enough for staffing for that.

14 Q So to your mind, by the time you got there that day, traffic patrol -- traffic
15 direction perspective, did you personally feel short-staffed? Obviously, putting aside
16 once the incident occurs, but that morning.

17 A I would definitely have liked two guys at my intersection.

18 Q Okay.

19 A Things might have went differently. But I felt like the northern guys had
20 main highways, such as 68 and Whitestown, you know, where traffic would be heavy.
21 And I also understood that even though I wasn't at the main entrance, I was at the
22 intersection to go through the main entrance, so I knew my intersection would be busy as
23 well. But like I said, for the purposes of directing traffic, I felt like Butler Township
24 would have been able to handle those three intersections with the guys that we had.

25 Q And on that day, we've spoken about your interaction with one of the State

1 troopers. What other -- and we've gotten at this a few different ways, but what other
2 law enforcement agencies were you aware of both before you went on duty that day and
3 who did you see there?

4 A So I knew that the Butler ESU team would be there at the event. As far as
5 other SWAT teams, I didn't know if Allegheny County or PSP would be there. All I knew
6 was we would have the intersection, and just because there's guys on the ESU team,
7 Butler ESU team that work for Butler Township, I knew that they were going to be there,
8 and that's the only reason why I did. While at the event, I saw the same trooper twice,
9 obviously. And that's the only other law enforcement that I saw during the time,
10 besides my other Butler Township units.

11 Q And I'm looking back at what I believe was marked earlier as the majority's
12 exhibit number 1, which was the Butler Township operation plan. Appreciating you've
13 probably not been studying it in the time since, but really for my curiosity, on page 3, I
14 see something about administration and logistics. We've got Secret Service head agent
15 here [REDACTED], what looks to be a Pennsylvania State Police trooper officer in
16 charge, Lieutenant [REDACTED]. Do you have an idea of how the agencies, how these officers
17 in charge are supposed to work together? Is this a hierarchy at all of which agency is
18 supposed to sort of take the lead at the site?

19 A I do not have knowledge of that.

20 Q And putting aside this listing, did you have a sense of, like, who was the head
21 person that day, or the lead agency?

22 A I had my assumptions, but I had no knowledge of who was in charge or what
23 agency was in charge.

24 Q What is your assumption?

25 A I assumed that the State police would be there, the Secret Service would be

1 there. Obviously, SWAT teams would be there, but I did not have knowledge of
2 which -- who would take lead, nor was I a part of that.

3 Q And on page 6 of that same document, there was a reference here on
4 command and control. PSP is responsible for motorcade and inside issues and will be
5 overall in command. Does that mean that they're in command of the whole site, that
6 they are in the command post that we were talking to you? Any understanding of how
7 we should read that or how did you take that?

8 A When Lieutenant [REDACTED] provided me the packet, you know, we described
9 all our duties that were in here and any concerns that we could come up with we did ask.
10 At no point did, you know, we discuss the command control and go into further details of
11 it or clarification of what was said in that section.

12 Q And for you personally that day, was Lieutenant [REDACTED] your direct
13 reporting line?

14 A Yes. He is the acting chief of my department and was the acting supervisor
15 for Butler Township officers that day.

16 Q And just one more question on this document. On page, what I've marked
17 for myself as number 8, there's a title that says intersections of responsibility. A map
18 that looks like it was printed from Google or Bing with a few posts here. What is this
19 showing me or what was this supposed to show you that day?

20 A So I know at the very bottom, you see Meridian at Buttercup. That's my
21 understanding of --

22 Q Where you're supposed to be?

23 A Correct. A picture of a map, but Meridian Road is a straight line, so I see
24 Meridian Road. I see the Brady Paul entrance is where former President Trump arrived
25 at. That would be a post. Whitestown at Meridian was another post. And I would

1 assume that units were up into Greenwood, because it was my knowledge that's how he
2 was approaching the event coming off 422 and the roads would have to be blocked at
3 that intersection.

4 Q So that sort of tracks what's on the prior page showing Trump's motorcade
5 routes from A to B. It seems to track along that Meridian Road. So these postings here
6 on back on page 8, those are all Butler Township.

7 A Those are all within Butler Township jurisdiction, yes.

8 Q And Butler Township postings. Not other law enforcement -- I'm focusing
9 on the intersections of responsibility, but it's within your own law enforcement agency.
10 It's not with State police. It's not with --

11 A Correct. To clarify, I believe that there was officers within Butler Township
12 that went up to 422 and closed that off just for his arrival. Nobody was stationed up
13 there. The only people that were stationed were Whitestown, 68, which is the only
14 thing that's written to the left, but Evans City Road it's also called. I've been saying 68
15 the whole time. That's the State route. I apologize, it's Evans City Road. But those
16 bottom four intersections were the only ones that we had officers stationed at, and really
17 only three of them were listed in the beginning.

18 Q Understood. Thank you for walking us through that. One other very
19 quick. I think earlier, you said something about there was no restroom, there was no
20 food near where you were, so at some point you went back to the station. Was
21 that -- what did that refer to? Was that the Butler Township Police Station or was that
22 the FOP lodge that folks were posted up in?

23 A Yeah. No. When I say, "the station," I mean back to the Butler Township
24 station, which is 290 South Duffy Road is where I went to get a drink of water and refill
25 my container and stuff.

1 Q Understood. And then fast forwarding a bit back to obviously the event
2 we've been focused on, you've got several calls over the radio that command wanted
3 someone detained, and I think you said maybe there was somebody at the gate sort of
4 running their mouth. Was that just your speculation? Was there any communication
5 as to why this was a suspicious person that command wanted detained?

6 A Yeah. So there wasn't multiple calls. It was just one dispatch from
7 Patrolman [REDACTED] that was very short and very limited on information. And after that
8 short radio transmission that he put out. That was really it as far as any type of
9 description of what's going on or who we're looking for. It was just command post, this
10 description, and detained. And to be -- like I said, I wasn't able to hear fully of it.

11 And then when I talk about, like, the conversations, I was just talking about, I'm so
12 far south on Meridian Road where the guys on north, they can see each other. So, like,
13 they're talking and then they're on the radio about, I'm assuming their location or
14 somebody saw somebody, but minutes have gone by since [REDACTED] had put that out, and
15 the northern units talking before I said I'm going to go do something.

16 Q Got it.

17 A I'm going to go assist.

18 Q Understood. And we spoke a little bit about, or our colleague spoke a bit
19 about any communications from the crowd. You said nobody said look up there, there's
20 somebody that has a gun, anything suspicious, but while this is happening, what is
21 happening with the crowd? Are they sort of running away? Is there -- I would imagine
22 personally if I see law enforcement starting to run around, I'm going to try to get out of
23 the way, but help me understand -- my understanding is that there are folks sort of
24 watching the rally in from outside the perimeter near AGR. What's -- how many civilians
25 are there? Where are they going?

1 [1:43 p.m.]

2 [REDACTED]: So when I first arrive, you know, at this point, we just have a male
3 running on the roof. That's being relayed over the radio, that's being relayed to the
4 guys that are in the area. My eyes are up. They're on the roof the entire time.

5 I don't really see the reaction of civilians or where they were, but there was none
6 by my general area. It's not until I come down on the ground from falling off the roof
7 and circle to the south end where I'm keeping my eyes up, but I saw a very limited
8 amount of civilians near the fence when I'm putting myself in between the stage and
9 Crooks. And all I do is just yell to them that they need to get out of there.

10 But again, I would say within seconds of me falling shots are being fired and
11 people are starting to clear out of that area.

12 BY [REDACTED]:

13 Q Understood. And my last very quick question, I believe you said the second
14 time you were hoisted onto the roof, there was a second officer besides Patrolman

15 [REDACTED] Who was that?

16 A I do not know the officer who grabbed my other leg. I know that there was
17 five or six guys trying to get up, and I just saw [REDACTED] in the crowd and just said, you
18 know, you got me up once, [REDACTED] is up there, get me up again.

19 Q Understood. Thank you for doing all that.

20 [REDACTED] That's all I have. I don't know if [REDACTED] has a few more questions.

21 [REDACTED] I'm a curious person and I just have three more questions, and I
22 will be sated.

23 BY [REDACTED]

24 Q The PSP trooper you mentioned, you don't know his name?

25 A That is correct.

1 Q Could you just give us a physical description, anything that could help us try
2 to identify him? I'm sure they'll be able to provide it, but could you State what you
3 recall?

4 A I would say like a build like me, like, taller, seemed to be in shape. He
5 helped me push a car. I couldn't tell you hair color, eye color. He was Caucasian.
6 That's about all I remember.

7 Q I will assume that not many troopers pushed cars that day, so that should
8 help us track that down.

9 Your understanding -- I understand you guys at Butler Township were outside the
10 general perimeter on the roads. Did you have any understanding of anyone -- or, if you
11 did, whom -- would be patrolling in the AGR area around those forests?

12 A I have no idea.

13 Q Got it. You also mentioned -- I believe it was in my colleague's discussion,
14 maybe it might have been [REDACTED], yours -- that things could have gone differently. I
15 think directly in response to another individual at your intersection.

16 I think I know what you meant. I don't want to put words in your mouth. Can
17 you tell us what you generally are thinking things that could have gone differently?

18 A Just through my training and experience, when you have a partner in a car,
19 you know, you communicate about what you're doing and what your stats are. I mean,
20 there's another person involved. Those guys at those intersections had two people. I
21 had one. I mean, I really didn't mean anything by it. Just that -- to clarify that I was by
22 myself down there.

23 Q Another set of eyes, another set of hands?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Got it. All right.

1 [REDACTED] Well, we understand, certainly, you sign up for a lot of tough
2 things as police officers. We know it's been a uniquely difficult time for you, your family,
3 your colleagues. We really do appreciate that.

4 With that --

5 [REDACTED] Thank you.

6 [REDACTED] -- I don't have anything else. At 13:46, we are off the record.

7 [Whereupon, at 1:47 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.

Witness Name

Date

Page	Line	Change
4	8	CHANGE “the” TO “a”

Minority Errata Sheet for the Transcribed Interview of
██████████ dated September 6, 2024

Page	Line	Change
22	18	STRIKE “of”
24	2	CHANGE “you” TO “you’ve”
24	8	ADD “the” AFTER “or”
24	18	CHANGE “knowledge, awareness” TO “knowledge and awareness”
25	12	CHANGE “in” TO “on”
27	9	ADD “it” BEFORE “was”
27	21	CHANGE “So AGR complex outside” TO “So the AGR complex was outside”
29	6	CHANGE “Body camera” TO “Your body camera”
33	15	ADD “to” AFTER “escalate”
33	21	CHANGE “So help me understand someone” TO “So help me understand, as someone”
36	17	CHANGE “he” TO “you”
37	17	CHANGE “an” TO “no”
53	8	CHANGE “colleagues” TO “colleagues”
54	2	CHANGE “Step back” TO “Let me take a step back”
58	8	ADD “about” AFTER “you”
59	19	ADD “question” AFTER “quick”
62	2	CHANGE “State” TO “state”
62	17	ADD “on” AFTER “thinking”