



One Hundred Eighteenth Congress
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 14, 2024

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

Yesterday evening, a gunman attempted to assassinate President Donald J. Trump at his presidential campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, wounding him in the ear. The Committee is grateful for the swift response of Secret Service agents to protect President Trump from further harm and quickly neutralize the shooter, though tragically one rally attendee was killed, and two others have been critically injured.

The seriousness of this security failure and chilling moment in our nation's history cannot be understated. No assassination attempt has come so close to taking the life of a president or presidential candidate since President Reagan was shot in 1981. Had the bullet's trajectory been slightly different, the assassination attempt on President Trump might have succeeded. As the U.S. Secret Service (USSS) investigates, the Committee on Homeland Security (Committee) is dedicated to conducting rigorous oversight to ensure that the American people receive answers and presidential candidates receive proper and adequate protection.

According to the USSS, the shooter "fired multiple shots toward the stage from an elevated position outside of the rally venue."¹ This raises serious concerns regarding how a shooter was able to access a rooftop within range and direct line of sight of where President Trump was speaking. Additionally, some reporting, suggests that the Department of Homeland Security (Department) "rebuffed" multiple requests from President Trump's security detail to increase protective resources in the weeks preceding this event.²

To assist the Committee in its oversight of the government's security and response efforts surrounding the attempted assassination of President Trump and the Department's responsibility to provide adequate security for President Trump and all presidential candidates, please provide the following documents and information as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 19, 2024:

¹ @SecretSvcSpox, X.com, (July 13, 2024, 8:49 PM), <https://x.com/SecretSvcSpox/status/1812288378596982908>.

² @seanmdav, X.com, (July 13, 2024, 8:10 PM), <https://x.com/seanmdav/status/1812278386514870623>.

1. Documents sufficient to show the security plan to secure the perimeter of the event site, to include areas such as the building from which the shooter attempted the assassination on President Trump, and other locations that were considered as possible vulnerabilities or lapses in providing security for the July 13, 2024 presidential campaign rally;
2. All documents and communications, including but not limited to, e-mail, text messages, internal memoranda, and guidance, between or among any office within the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Secret Service, and the Executive Office of the President, referring or relating to any potential increase or addition of protective resources to President Trump's security detail from November 15, 2022, to the present;
3. Documents sufficient to explain the U.S. Secret Service's rules of engagement or protocols to assess and neutralize threats towards a protectee, particularly for possible assassination attempts;
4. Documents sufficient to explain the coordination between the U.S. Secret Service, Transportation Security Administration, and state and local law enforcement to screen the July 13, 2024 presidential campaign rally attendees; and
5. Copies of any and all briefing materials created by the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Secret Service, to include talking points used by Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas or Director Kimberly Cheatle, to brief President Joe Biden about the assassination attempt on President Trump.

Additionally, the Committee requests that the Department provide a briefing to inform Members of the Committee on the attempted assassination of President Trump no later than July 22, 2024.

An attachment contains instructions for responding to this request. Please contact the Committee on Homeland Security Majority staff at (202) 226-8417 with any questions about this request.

Per Rule X of the U.S House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security is the principal committee of jurisdiction for overall homeland security policy, and has special oversight functions of "all Government activities relating to homeland security, including the interaction of all departments and agencies with the Department of Homeland Security."

Please contact the Committee on Homeland Security Majority staff at (202) 226-8417 with any questions about this request.

Secretary Mayorkas
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark E. Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "G".

MARK E. GREEN, M.D.
Chairman

Encl.

cc: The Honorable Bennie Thompson, Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security