



Attempted assassination of Donald Trump

On July 13, 2024, Donald Trump, a former president of the United States and then the presumptive nominee of the Republican Party in the 2024 presidential election, survived an assassination attempt while speaking at an open-air campaign rally near Butler, Pennsylvania.^{[5][6]} Trump was shot and wounded in his upper right ear by Thomas Matthew Crooks, a 20-year-old man from Bethel Park, Pennsylvania,^{[2][7]} who fired eight rounds from an AR-15–style rifle from the roof of a nearby building.^{[2][8][9]} Crooks also killed one audience member and critically injured two others.^[2] He was subsequently shot and killed by the United States Secret Service's Counter Sniper Team.^[10]

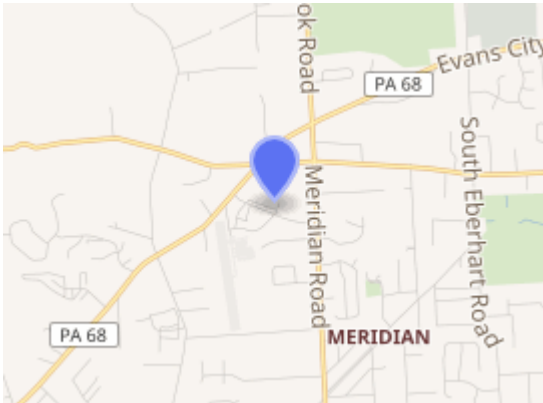
Video shows Trump clasp^{ing} his ear and taking cover behind his lectern, where Secret Service agents shielded him until the shooter was killed. Evan Vucci, a photojournalist for the Associated Press, captured photographs of a bloodied Trump pumping his fist in the air and mouthing the words "Fight! Fight! Fight!" as agents escorted him offstage; the images went viral on social media. Trump was taken to a hospital, treated, and released later that same day.^{[2][11]} He made his first public appearance after the shooting two days later at the 2024 Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, wearing a bandage on his ear.^[12]

The incident is regarded as the most significant security failure by the Secret Service since the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan in 1981.^{[13][14]} The director of the Secret Service, Kimberly Cheatle, faced bipartisan calls for her resignation when she testified before the United States House Committee on Oversight and Accountability on July 22; she stepped down the following day.^{[15][16]} President Joe Biden ordered an independent review of the security arrangements.^[17] Biden also condemned the violence and called for a reduction in heated political rhetoric, emphasizing the importance of resolving political differences peacefully.^[18]

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Butler Farm Show Grounds (right), 6:01 p.m. EDT, 10 minutes before the shooting



Location	Butler Farm Show Grounds in <u>Connoquenessing Twp. / Meridian</u> , near Butler, Pennsylvania, U.S.
Coordinates	40°51′25.3″N 79°58′15.6″W﻿ / ﻿
Date	July 13, 2024 6:11 p.m. (UTC−04:00)
Target	<u>Donald Trump</u>
Attack type	<u>Attempted assassination by gunshot</u>
Weapon	<u>AR-15–style rifle</u>
Deaths	2 (including the perpetrator) ^[1]
Injured	7 (3 from gunfire, ^[a] including Trump, and 4 officers from debris) ^{[2][3][4]}
Perpetrator	<u>Thomas Matthew Crooks</u>
Motive	Under investigation

Misinformation and conspiracy theories spread on social media after the shooting.^[19] Lawmakers called for increased security for major candidates in the election,^[20] and the Secret Service subsequently approved enhanced security measures, including the use of bulletproof glass at Trump's outdoor rallies.^[21]

Background

At the time of the incident, Donald Trump was the presumptive Republican nominee in the 2024 presidential election.^[22] The shooting occurred two days before the July 15 start of the 2024 Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.^[23] A previous attempt at violence toward Trump during one of his rallies happened in 2016, when a man attempted to grab a security officer's gun at a rally outside of Las Vegas.^[24]

On July 3, 2024,^[25] it was announced that Trump would hold a rally on July 13 at the Butler Farm Show Grounds in Connoquenessing Township and Meridian, near Butler, Pennsylvania.^{[26][27][28][29]} On July 10, an advance team began setting up for the rally, including the installation of generators in a large open field.^[30] The rally was part of the Trump campaign's attempts to garner votes in Pennsylvania, a swing state,^[31] the state has 19 votes in the Electoral College.^[23] David McCormick, the Republican nominee in the state's concurrent U.S. Senate election, was invited to appear onstage during the rally to increase support for his campaign.^[32]

Security arrangements

The Federal Bureau of Investigation had no information about any particular threats before the event.^[33] The Secret Service had increased Trump's security detail in earlier weeks because of intelligence indicating that Iran was plotting to assassinate Trump,^{[34][35]} leading the Secret Service to boost security measures before the incident.^[36] The acting Iranian minister of foreign affairs rejected the claim and said it wanted a "legal path to bring [Trump] to justice" for ordering the assassination of Qasem Soleimani.^[37]

U.S. Representative Mike Kelly said he had contacted the Trump campaign to recommend holding the rally in an area that could handle a larger crowd than the Butler Farm Show Grounds, and that their response was, "We appreciate your input but we've already made up our minds".^[23]

Attendees at Trump rallies are screened for prohibited items, including weapons.^[2] The Secret Service routinely screens and monitors nearby buildings and businesses, including structures outside security perimeters.^[38] The event had security stationed into one outer area, patrolled by state police, and an inner perimeter, holding Secret Service agents.^[39] Also, four separate counter-sniper teams were assigned to the event, two from the Secret Service and two from local law enforcement.^[40] One of these teams, comprising three snipers (local SWAT officer Greg Nicol, SWAT team member from Beaver County Jason Woods, and a third shooter from Butler County's SWAT team), was assigned to be positioned inside a building owned by AGR International.^[41]

The Pennsylvania State Police, which serves as the law enforcement agency for Connoquenessing Township, were also involved in security matters. Butler Township police were given traffic duties.^[29] Butler City did not send any law enforcement personnel, and the event was not within that city's boundary.^[42]

Shooting

On July 7, 2024, Thomas Matthew Crooks visited the Butler Farm Show grounds, the site of a future campaign rally announced by Trump four days earlier. He spent 20 minutes there and registered to attend the rally. On July 12, Crooks went to a shooting range and practiced with his rifle,^[43] a DPMS Panther Arms-produced AR-15-style rifle with a 16-inch (41 cm) barrel, chambered in 5.56×45mm NATO, which he had bought from his father.^{[44][45][46][47]}



The rifle used by Crooks in the attempted assassination

On July 13, the day of the assassination attempt, Crooks bought a five-foot (1.5-meter) ladder before driving to the site of the rally in the morning. According to ABC, a team of Beaver County SWAT officers, tasked with supporting the Secret Service, had taken its position at the security perimeter by mid-morning.^[48] Crooks left the rally site and bought 50 rounds of ammunition from a gun store, before driving back to the rally at 3:35 p.m. EDT, armed with his rifle and with an explosive device in the trunk of his car.^{[49][43]} Crooks did not undergo security screening, as he had been outside the Secret Service's security perimeter for the rally.^{[50][51]} Around 3:50 p.m., Crooks flew a drone for about 11 minutes, showing the scene behind his eventual firing position.^{[39][43][52]}

At 4:26 p.m., a local law enforcement countersniper ended his shift and spotted Crooks around the southernmost warehouse of a complex owned by AGR International, in which police countersnipers were positioned. The countersniper text-messaged his colleagues about Crooks, noting that he may know about the police presence inside the building. The New York Times retrospectively described the text messages as suggesting that Crooks aroused police suspicion more than 90 minutes before the shooting.^[53] At 5:14 p.m., one of the countersnipers still in the building saw Crooks directly underneath the warehouse and photographed him. The countersniper saw him "scoping out" the rooftop of the building and carrying a golf rangefinder, which particularly alarmed officers. The countersniper text-messaged images of Crooks to other members of law enforcement before heading outside to find him and keep visual contact while backup arrived. Crooks ran from his position and evaded a search joined by four other local police officers.^{[54][55][43][56]} Law enforcement officers spotted Crooks between 20 minutes and 30 minutes before the shooting.^{[57][58]} Multiple local law enforcement officers identified Crooks and believed that he might have been acting suspiciously near the event's magnetometer weapon detectors;^[59] they expressed their suspicions over radio, and the Secret Service was informed of this at some point.^[40]

Trump arrived onstage at about 6:03 p.m.^[60] At 6:05 p.m., he began speaking.^[61]

At 6:06 p.m., Crooks scaled an air-conditioning unit between the northernmost AGR International buildings to reach the roof of the complex, rather than using his ladder.^[62] He walked across a series of interconnected roofs to reach his eventual firing position on the southernmost roof,^{[43][62]} between 400

feet (120 meters) and 450 feet (140 meters) north of the venue stage.^{[2][8][9][63]} The building housed three police snipers tasked with covering the rally, but, because of a shortage of personnel, none of them were on the roof.^{[64][65]} Several bystanders witnessed a person on the roof carrying a rifle and alerted the police about him minutes before shots were fired at Trump.^{[66][67][61]}

The slant of the roof that Crooks had been on may have prevented Secret Service snipers from seeing him as he crawled into a firing position; the northern sniper team's view of Crooks's position had also been blocked by trees.^{[68][69]} Using a three-dimensional simulation of the shooting, the *New York Times* reported that "the gunman was largely concealed by two trees and the slope of a warehouse building roof, which he used as his perch."^[70]

At 6:08 p.m., a local law enforcement officer reported over radio, "Someone's on the roof".^[62] Police bodycam video footage has revealed that, at this point, a search operation began in which at least four Pennsylvania law enforcement officers focused on the roof Crooks was on and its immediate surroundings, attempting to reach Crooks.^[71] Hoisted by another officer, a Butler Township police officer attempted to climb to the roof of the building in search of the reported man. Crooks spotted the officer while the officer's hands were clinging to the edge of the roof and aimed his rifle at the officer, at which point the officer let go, falling 8 feet (2.4 m) to the ground and severely injuring his ankle. According to ABC, this encounter, which occurred about 40 seconds before Crooks opened fire, was "the first time any law enforcement saw that the person on the roof had a gun".^{[72][71]}

Crooks undertook the shooting immediately after the confrontation with the officer.^{[75][76][3]} A few minutes into Trump's speech, starting at 6:11:33 p.m., Crooks fired eight shots into the rally,^{[77][78][60][79]} striking Trump and three rallygoers, one fatally, before being killed seconds later by a sniper from the Secret Service.^{[80][81]} As the shots were heard, rally attendees yelled "Duck!"^[82] Police bodycam footage captured the movements and responses of some of the law enforcement officials at the rally to the detected threat on a rooftop, which the *BBC* would later describe as "moments of frustration, confusion and miscommunication".^[83] A total of two shots were fired towards Crooks. The first shot, fired by a member of Butler County's Emergency Services Unit six seconds after Crooks had started firing at Trump, hit Crooks's rifle stock, which fragmented into debris that hit his face, neck, and right shoulder, causing Crooks to stop shooting and reposition himself.^[84] Located on a building behind Trump's left shoulder, a team of Secret Service countersnipers were facing in a different direction and reoriented toward Crooks to aim the second shot at him before he could resume firing; a member of that team then fatally shot Crooks 16 seconds after Crooks had begun firing.^{[68][69][85]}



Approximate locations, including Secret Service counter-sniper teams^{[73][74]}

The upper part of Trump's right ear was grazed by the first bullet fired by Crooks.^{[86][87]} He raised a hand to his ear before dropping down on his podium behind the *lectern* for cover.^{[88][89][80][90]} Secret Service agents lunged toward Trump and shielded him. After the assailant was declared "down", agents helped Trump get up. Blood was visible on his ear and face. He asked the Secret Service agents to let him get his shoes.^[91] According to Trump, the agents "hit me so hard that my shoes fell off, and my shoes are tight".^[92] They also offered to put him on a stretcher, but he declined.^[93] As he was walked off the venue

stage, Trump told the Secret Service agents to wait and then raised his fist, pumped it at the crowd, and mouthed the words "Fight! Fight! Fight!"^{[94][91]} The crowd responded with cheers and chants of "U-S-A!"^[91]

When I rose surrounded by Secret Service, the crowd was confused because they thought I was dead. And there was great, great sorrow. I could see that on their faces as I looked out. They didn't know I was looking out, they thought it was over. But I could see it, I wanted to do something to let 'em know I was ok. I raised my right arm, looked at the thousands and thousands of people that were breathlessly waiting and started shouting, Fight! Fight! Fight!

—Donald Trump^{[95][96]}

Trump was then escorted to a vehicle and taken to the nearby Butler Memorial Hospital.^{[80][97][91][98]}

Trump credited a large chart displaying immigration statistics with saving his life. Immediately before the first shot, he turned his head to his right, toward the chart, and pointed to it. The movement narrowed the profile of Trump's skull toward the direction of the shooter, possibly saving him from a direct gunshot wound to his skull. Trump later said, "If I hadn't pointed at that chart and turned my head to look at it,

that bullet would have hit me right in the head."^{[99][92][100]} Trump had said "That chart's a couple of months old and if you want to really see something that's sad, take a look at what happened...", when the would-be assassin cut him off.^[101]

Timeline

Time (EDT)	Event	References
~9:30 a.m.	Thomas Matthew Crooks purchases a ladder from a <u>Home Depot</u> store in Bethel Park.	[43]
~10:00 a.m.	Crooks drives to the Butler Farm Show Grounds, the rally site, staying slightly longer than one hour.	[43]
~11:10 a.m.	Crooks drives back to Bethel Park and purchases 50 rounds of ammunition from Allegheny Arms & Gun Works.	[43]
~3:35 p.m.	Crooks arrives again at the rally site.	[43]
~3:50 p.m.	Crooks flies a drone for about 11 minutes, showing the scene behind his eventual firing position.	[39][43]
4:26 p.m.	After a local law enforcement countersniper positioned in the AGR International warehouse ends his shift and spots Crooks while leaving, he notifies other countersnipers in the warehouse that Crooks saw him leave the warehouse and may now know that law enforcement is positioned inside.	[43]
5:06 p.m.	Crooks is twice videotaped outside the secured perimeter by a citizen filming the crowd.	[56]
5:14 p.m.	Police officers twice photograph Crooks near the event's magnetometer weapon detectors, having assessed him as acting suspiciously.	[54][43]
5:38 p.m.	Photographs showing Crooks as he uses a rangefinder are shared among Beaver Country Emergency Services Unit members.	[43]
5:44 p.m.	A Pennsylvania State Police officer, located in a trailer approximately 300 yards (270 m) from the rally venue, is informed of Crooks through a call from Ed Lenz, the tactical commander of the Butler County mobile unit. Lenz then text-messages a photograph of Crooks to the officer.	[62]
5:51 p.m.	The Pennsylvania State Police officer forwards the image of Crooks to his Secret Service counterparts in the trailer.	[54][55][102][62][66][67][56]
5:52 p.m.	The Secret Service notifies its counter-sniper team and response agents of a suspicious person with a rangefinder on the ground.	[102][54][55][66][67]
5:54 p.m.	Lenz reports to traffic-control officers that his unit has lost sight of Crooks.	[62]
6:02 p.m.	As Donald Trump prepares to walk onstage, a Beaver County sniper locates Crooks, who walks with a backpack into a dead end between the northernmost AGR buildings.	[62]

6:03 p.m.	Trump walks to his podium.	[60][102]
6:05:12 p.m.	Trump begins speaking.	[61]
6:06 p.m.	Crooks scales an air-conditioning unit to access the roof of the AGR International complex while officers search for him on the ground.	[63][62]
6:08:21 p.m.	As Crooks walks across a series of interconnected roofs to reach the southernmost warehouse of the AGR International complex, a local law enforcement officer reports via radio, "Someone's on the roof". At least four Pennsylvania law enforcement officers begin an effort to reach Crooks.	[62][103][71][104][63]
~6:09 p.m.	Several bystanders notice a person carrying a rifle on a distant roof and report their sightings to law enforcement officers.	[66][67][62][102][61][52]
6:10:55 p.m.	Hoisted by another officer, a Butler Township police officer attempts to climb onto the rooftop on which Crooks is located. Crooks aims his rifle at the officer, and the officer releases his grip, falling 8 feet (2.4 m) to the ground and severely injuring his ankle; the officer's bodycam records the event. The officer reports via radio that Crooks is armed with a "long gun". Lenz requests deployment of the Butler County quick response force, located near the AGR International complex.	[76][62][105][106][63][52]
6:11:33 p.m.	Crooks fires the first of eight shots into the rally venue. Trump pauses his speech midsentence as the shot is fired.	[61][102][77][78][107][52]
6:11:34 p.m.	Trump raises his hand to his right ear. Crooks fires two more shots.	[61][102][88][97][89][80][90]
6:11:35 p.m.	Trump drops down behind the lectern of his podium for cover as Secret Service agents start moving toward the podium to surround him.	[61][88][97][89][108][80][90][52]
6:11:37 p.m.	Crooks fires five more shots. An outbound shot is fired by a member of Butler County's Emergency Services Unit, hitting Crooks's rifle stock, which fragments into debris that hits his face, neck, and right shoulder. Crooks stops firing and repositions himself.	[102][85][84][68]
6:11:49 p.m.	After a team of Secret Service countersnipers, located on a building behind Trump's left shoulder, reorients toward Crooks, a member of the team fatally shoots Crooks.	[68][69][85][78][107][108][61][102]
6:12:25 p.m.	Secret Service agents lift Trump, preparing to walk him offstage.	[61]
6:12:33 p.m.	Trump requests that the Secret Service agents wait while he gets his shoes.	[61]
6:12:47 p.m.	Secret Service agents begin escorting Trump offstage while Trump raises his fist, pumps it at the crowd, and begins mouthing the words "Fight! Fight! Fight!"	[61]
6:14 p.m.	Trump is escorted to a vehicle and taken to the nearby Butler Memorial Hospital (BMH) for examination.	[102]

6:40 p.m.	The BMH emergency room is cleared, and Trump begins receiving treatment.	[102]
6:51 p.m.	The Trump campaign releases a statement describing Trump as "fine" as he is medically examined.	[61][109]
8:42 p.m.	Trump posts a statement on Truth Social about the assassination attempt.	[61]
8:53 p.m.	Trump's motorcade leaves the BMH, bound for Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT).	[61][110]
10:49 p.m.	Trump's motorcade arrives at PIT. Trump is "held in place" at the airport.	[102][110]
11:21 p.m.	Trump leaves PIT on a flight heading toward Newark Liberty International Airport.	[102][111]

Victims

Corey Comperatore of Sarver, Pennsylvania, was killed by gunfire.^[2] Comperatore, aged 50, worked as a project and tooling engineer and was the former chief of the Buffalo Township Volunteer Fire Company.^[118] According to Comperatore's family and Pennsylvania governor Josh Shapiro, he died while shielding his wife and two daughters from gunfire.^{[116][119]} In addition to Trump, a number of other people were injured.^[120] Two other male audience members, aged 57 and 74, were shot and critically injured.^{[121][122][123]} Both victims were listed as being in stable condition the following day.^[124] The 57-year-old victim was discharged from the hospital on July 24;^[125] the 74-year-old was discharged on July 26.^[126]



Trump standing alongside Corey Comperatore's fire department uniform while delivering his July 18 acceptance speech at the 2024 Republican National Convention

U.S. representative Ronny Jackson stated that a bullet grazed his nephew's neck,^[4] which was treated by medical personnel at the scene.^[127] Four Pittsburgh Police officers, who were feet away from Trump, suffered minor injuries from flying debris when bullets struck objects nearby.^[128]

Perpetrator

On July 14, the FBI identified the shooter as 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks of Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, which is about an hour's drive from the rally venue.^{[7][129][130]} Crooks is believed to have acted alone. The rifle Crooks used had been legally bought by his father in 2013, who sold it to Crooks in October 2023.^{[43][131][79]} He had no criminal record.^{[98][130]} The FBI said that there had been "no indication of any mental health issues" regarding Crooks.^[132]

Crooks attended Bethel Park High School and graduated from Community College of Allegheny County two months before the shooting.^{[133][134]} He worked as a dietary aide in the kitchen of a nearby nursing home.^{[135][9]} Some people who knew him characterized him as quiet, and a former classmate said he had

been bullied "every day" at school for wearing camouflage to class.^[130] Most neighbors also described Crooks as quiet and as a "normal person".^[136] He was a member of the Clairton Sportsmen's Club, which has a 200-yard (180 m) rifle range.^{[137][9]}

After the shooting, the FBI uncovered a social media account "believed to be associated with the shooter" with about 700 comments from 2019 to 2020. Reports regarding the content of the posts are currently not unanimous. One account from Gab CEO Andrew Torba said that posts requested from his platform by the FBI were "pro-Biden's immigration policy",^[138] whereas a public statement from FBI deputy director Paul Abbate described Crooks's activity on social networking services as antisemitic, anti-immigrant, extreme, and espousing political violence.^[139] Crooks's Internet activity before the attack included searches related to the 2021 Oxford High School shooting and for other politicians and their events.^[140]

He was a registered Republican;^{[130][141][142]} his voter registration had been active since September 2021, the month he turned 18.^{[143][130]} Federal campaign finance records show that on January 20, 2021,^{[144][145]} when he was 17,^[146] Crooks donated \$15 to a voter turnout group, the Progressive Turnout Project, through a platform called ActBlue, which is used by Democrats and progressive organizations.^{[147][134][148]}

Aftermath

Trump was transported to Butler Memorial Hospital for examination immediately after the shooting.^[149] The Secret Service had already called hospital officials and asked that the hospital be put on lockdown, putting into action an emergency plan that was created for when Trump spoke at another nearby rally in 2020.^[150] The lockdown lasted for approximately three hours, with law enforcement from the Secret Service, FBI, Homeland Security, Pittsburgh police, and Butler police guarding the hospital's entrances.^[150] Shortly after his arrival, a Secret Service spokesperson confirmed that Trump was safe.^{[2][88]} Trump's motorcade left the hospital at around 9:30 p.m. EDT bound for Pittsburgh International Airport.^[110] Trump landed in Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey in the early hours of July 14 and spent the night at Trump National Golf Club Bedminster.^[111] Security at Trump Tower and the RNC was strengthened after the shooting.^{[151][152]}

Approximately two hours after arriving at the hospital, Trump released a statement on his own social media platform Truth Social.^{[153][154][155]}

I want to thank The United States Secret Service, and all of Law Enforcement, for their rapid response on the shooting that just took place in Butler, Pennsylvania. Most importantly, I want to extend my condolences to the family of the person at the Rally who was killed, and also to the family of another person that was badly injured. It is incredible that such an act can take place in our Country. Nothing is known at this time about the shooter, who is now dead. I was shot with a bullet that pierced the upper part of my right ear. I knew immediately that something was wrong in that I heard a whizzing sound, shots, and immediately felt the bullet ripping through the skin. Much bleeding took place, so I realized then what was happening. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

—Donald Trump

No information about Trump's medical care was released during the week that followed the shooting.^[156] Representative Ronny Jackson, Trump's former White House physician, released limited statements about Trump's injury and treatment on July 20 and 26,^{[157][158]} however, neither Trump's attending physician nor physicians at Butler Memorial Hospital made any statements, and some questions about Trump's diagnosis and treatment remained unanswered.^{[159][160]}

Trump attended the Republican National Convention (RNC) on July 15 with a bandage covering his entire right ear.^[161] Several RNC attendees began wearing fake ear bandages during the convention,^[162] with a Republican strategist telling the *Washington Post*, "It was truly a surreal moment that people are still processing, and this is a recognizable show of solidarity in a meme-ified political moment."^[163] The fad reportedly started with Arizona delegate Joe Neglia, with Neglia stating he made his bandage on the way to Milwaukee after seeing Trump wearing one during his first appearance after the attempt.^{[164][165]}

The Trump campaign organized a GoFundMe fundraising campaign for the rally goers who were wounded or killed, raising over \$2 million by July 14.^[166] Comperatore's firefighting uniform, with his name misspelled by the fire department as "Compertore",^[167] was brought on stage during Trump's speech at the RNC. Trump kissed Comperatore's helmet.^{[168][169]} Comperatore's funeral was held the next day on July 19.^[170]



Trump wearing a bandage on his ear at the 2024 Republican National Convention

After the shooting, stocks linked to Trump's media and technology interests experienced a significant surge, as well as shares of other companies that could benefit from a Donald Trump presidency, such as cryptocurrency stocks and gun stocks. Trump Media & Technology Group shares soared 31%, lifting its stock market value to \$7.7 billion, and major cryptocurrency-related stocks, including Coinbase and bitcoin miners Riot Platforms and Marathon Digital, saw increases of 11% to 18%.^[171]

According to CNN, the exchange of public interventions in the aftermath of the event has been followed by tensions between local law enforcement officials and the Secret Service.^[172]

Investigation

The FBI is leading an investigation with the United States Department of Justice National Security Division, the U.S. Secret Service, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.^{[173][2]} The incident is being investigated as an assassination attempt, and also as an act of domestic terrorism.^{[174][175][75]}

Police removed Crooks's corpse from the rooftop.^[73] He was carrying no identification.^{[176][177]} The FBI confirmed his identity via fingerprint biometrics and DNA profiling.^[2] Explosives were found at Crooks's home and in the car he used to travel to the rally.^{[1][178]} A remote transmitter was found in his pocket.^[179] Crooks owned two smartphones and at least one laptop.^[180]

Soon after the shooting, FBI Laboratory staff performed mobile device forensics on his smartphones, which entailed defeating the device's security measures. This, according to an Electronic Frontier Foundation researcher, was probably done using a Cellebrite device or an undisclosed in-house method.^{[181][180]} They found that Crooks had searched for images of Trump, Biden, and several other

public figures, and that he had looked up dates of Trump's rallies and the Democratic National Convention.^[180] Investigators also found that in April 2024, he had made searches about major depressive disorder, although there has not been a determination about whether he was diagnosed.^{[182][183]} FBI director Christopher Wray had discovered that on July 6, Crooks had made a search about "how far was Oswald away from Kennedy", referencing the assassination of John F. Kennedy, and that he had registered for Trump's rally on that date. The FBI had also discovered that two hours before the assassination attempt, Crooks flew a drone near the rally.^{[184][185]}

On July 25, the FBI said it wanted to interview Trump, as a crime victim, to obtain his victim statement.^[186] In a July 29 Fox News interview, Trump said that he expected the FBI interview to take place on August 1.^[187] FBI's Office of Public Affairs released a statement on July 27 saying "What struck former President Trump in the ear was a bullet, whether whole or fragmented into smaller pieces, fired from the deceased subject's rifle."^[188] An analysis from the New York Times of the events including bullet trajectories and other information, concluded that the first bullet fired by Crooks grazed Trump's ear.^[86]

During a Senate hearing, Secret Service acting director Ronald Rowe was unable to answer how Crooks got his rifle onto the rooftop of the AGR International warehouse in Butler; the BBC described it as a "remaining mystery" of the ongoing investigation.^[189] There was some conflict in Senate testimony about the FBI's investigation of what wounded Trump, with FBI director Wray stating on July 24 that there was some question about whether a bullet or shrapnel hit Trump's ear, and FBI deputy director Abbate stating on July 30 that there was never any doubt that a bullet had struck Trump's ear.^{[190][191]}

A U.S. House task force was launched on July 29 to investigate the attempted assassination.^{[192][193]}

In response to a public records request weeks after the assassination attempt, police bodycam footage from the day of the rally was released.^[194] According to the *New York Times*, the footage provided more clarity about the movements of nearby law enforcement officers with respect to previous releases of data.^[195]

Motive

Authorities and experts have offered several speculative theories as to the motive of the attack and Crooks's intentions as the investigation has gone on.

One investigative lead is looking into whether the attack was politically motivated.^[196] The FBI said that Crooks's political beliefs are unclear; the limited information relating Crooks's political views has been called contradictory, for example Crooks being both a registered Republican and having donated to ActBlue.^{[197][130][134]}

Another line of thinking proposed by authorities is that Crooks may have intended to carry out a larger mass-casualty attack or mass shooting at the rally, rather than singularly target Trump. This is based on discoveries made on Crooks' phone, including internet searches about the 2021 Oxford High School shooting and a photo of its perpetrator, Ethan Crumbley, on the device. The discovery of an explosive



Thomas Crooks' car trunk with two improvised explosive devices inside

device, bulletproof vest and additional magazines in Crooks's vehicle at the rally has also been suggested as further indication of a larger attack being planned. Additionally, a number of explosive devices were recovered from Crooks' home.^{[198][140]} The assassination attempt fits some definitions of a mass shooting, but it is unclear if this was intentional on Crooks's part.^[199]

Experts have offered varying opinions on this. James Densley, founder of the Violence Project, a research organization focused on mass shootings and their perpetrators, suggested "(this might be) somebody intent on perpetrating mass violence, and they happened to pick a political rally".^[200] Kathleen Pickett, a former behavioral analyst for the FBI, suggested that Crooks was "[not] ready for an assault", citing his lack of body armour and use of a singular firearm.^[198] Domestic terrorism expert Javed Ali stated "in my assessment, this was only about killing Trump. It wasn't a mass shooting. He didn't empty the magazine on fully automatic and kill as many people as he could. Instead, he was firing controlled bursts."^[201]

Officials maintain that no confirmed motive has been determined and remains under investigation.

Criticism of security arrangements

The Secret Service security detail responsible for protecting the former president during the rally is facing criticism and intense scrutiny for not securing access to the roof of the building from which Crooks committed the shooting.^[202] Three police snipers were present in the building, but none were present on the roof or able to cover it.^{[64][203][204][205]} Local law-enforcement sources interviewed by *BeaverCountian.com* said this was due to "extremely poor planning" and manpower shortages.^[54] Both Democratic and Republican lawmakers expressed concerns about what they perceived as errors or oversights that exposed Trump to gunfire.^[206] The Secret Service stated that it added protective resources to accommodate campaign travel schedules, disputing claims that it did not provide requested extra protection for Trump.^[207] Director of the Secret Service Kimberly Cheatle admitted that the lapse was "unacceptable".^[208] In a reversal, the Secret Service later acknowledged denying requests from the Trump campaign for additional security for the past two years. The requests included additional snipers and special teams for outdoor events.^{[209][210]} A failure in inter-agency communications has also been pointed out.^[211]

Several prominent politicians and officials, including Tim Burchett of Tennessee and Cory Mills of Florida, argued that DEI hiring of more women by the Biden administration had compromised Secret Service training.^[212] Secret Service director Kimberly Cheatle and female agents serving in Trump's security detail faced scrutiny, especially after the release of video showing one of the agents struggling to holster her weapon, and crouching behind Trump.^{[212][213]} Trump spoke in defense of a female agent who shielded him as he was escorted off stage, and commended her bravery.^[214]

President Joe Biden ordered an independent review on the federal security provided by the Secret Service in order to comprehend how the gunman nearly assassinated Trump with a clear view of sight. The findings of this review will be made public. Additionally, Biden instructed the Secret Service to reassess all security protocols for the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, where Trump was expected to be officially nominated as the Republican candidate for the presidential election on November 5.^[215]

The independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was approved to receive Secret Service protection two days after the assassination attempt against Trump. Kennedy had previously sought protection from the Secret Service but was denied by Department of Homeland Security Secretary

Alejandro Mayorkas. Kennedy had instead been relying on a private security firm for the duration of his presidential campaign.^{[216][217]}

On July 22, Cheadle testified before the United States House Committee on Oversight and Accountability; the *New York Times* reported that she failed to answer basic questions about the assassination attempt. Lawmakers from both parties called for her resignation.^[218] On July 23, Cheadle's resignation was announced.^[219]

According to *The New York Times*, the law enforcement agencies that assisted the Secret Service the day of the shooting were the Pennsylvania State Police, the Butler Township Police Department, the Butler County Sheriff, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, and multicounty tactical teams.^[220] The Pennsylvania State Police commissioner testified that officers at the event were busy responding to over 100 heat-related emergencies, and handling multiple reports of suspicious individuals at the rally, which was not considered unusual.^[43]


According to a report in the *New York Times*, the Secret Service did not accept offers to use a drone to support their surveillance at the Butler rally site.^[221]

Photographs

The photojournalist Evan Vucci of the Associated Press captured widely praised images of a bloodied Trump pumping his fist in the air, surrounded by Secret Service members, with an American flag in the background.^[224] The photos quickly spread on social media and television and were widely circulated by Trump's allies, including the National Republican Senatorial Committee, family members, and Republican members of Congress.^{[225][226]} The images were seen as encapsulating strength, resilience, patriotism, Donald Trump himself, the United States, as well as the ongoing culture war in the country.^{[227][228][229][230]}

Also widely reproduced and discussed was an image by *New York Times* photographer Doug Mills apparently showing a bullet passing Trump.^{[231][232][233]}

External image

 Photograph of a bloodied Trump raising his fist shortly after the assassination attempt (https://i.guim.co.uk/img/media/807899b700262d9c38068432dfa68f9c87019fb9/0_0_4189_2514/master/4189.jpg?width=1300&dpr=2&s=none). This image was part of a series of photographs by the photojournalist Evan Vucci that were widely circulated after the attempt.^{[222][223]}

Reactions

The incident was the most serious attempt to kill a U.S. president or presidential candidate since Ronald Reagan was shot in 1981.^{[75][234]} Political scientists,^{[235][236]} historians,^{[237][236]} and many Democratic and Republican political figures^[238] pointed to the shooting as a consequence of political polarization in the United States.^[239] The shooting led to widespread sympathy for Trump on social media,^[240] and public figures across the political spectrum both domestically and internationally^[241] urged a decrease in tensions, condemning the assassination attempt.^{[236][242]}

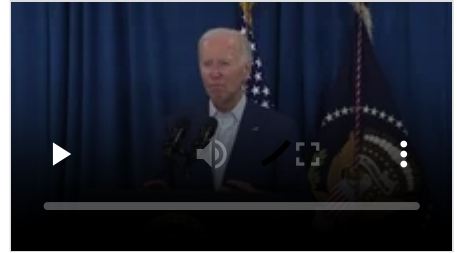
Domestic

After the shooting, President Joe Biden said: "Look, there's no place in America for this kind of violence. It's sick. It's sick. It's one of the reasons we have to unite this country... Everybody must condemn it." In a separate statement, he said he was grateful that Trump was safe.^{[243][18][244]} Biden also publicly expressed his condolences for Comperatore, hailing his actions as a father.^[245] Biden and Trump spoke on the evening of the incident.^[246] On July 14, Biden ordered an independent security review of Trump's rally and warned against political violence in an Oval Office address.^{[247][248]}

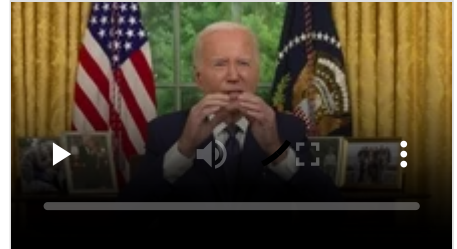
House Speaker Mike Johnson pledged to open an investigation into the shooting, seeking testimony from federal law enforcement and national security officials. Senate Republicans urged the Democratic-controlled Senate to conduct hearings as well.^{[249][250]}

Republican U.S. Representative Mike Collins argued that Biden "sent the orders" on Twitter, referencing a quote from Biden during a conversation with other Democrats: "I have one job, and that's to beat Donald Trump... It's time to put Trump in a bullseye."^{[19][251][252]} Reuters said that "many of [Trump's] supporters began laying blame on Democrats, seeking to flip the script on who has stoked America's heated political rhetoric as cases of political violence reach historic heights",^{[253][254]} including Texas representative Keith Self, who argued that his language had incited violence.^{[255][246]} Biden later apologized for the remark, saying "It was a mistake to use the word. I didn't say crosshairs. I meant bullseye, I meant focus on [Trump]. Focus on what he's doing."^[256]

Republican Senator JD Vance—later chosen as Trump's running mate^[257]—blamed the Biden campaign's political rhetoric, while Republican Senator Tim Scott blamed messaging by "the radical left and corporate media".^[258] Republican House Majority Leader Steve Scalise, who was seriously injured in the Congressional baseball shooting, said that Democratic leaders had been fueling "ludicrous hysteria" about Trump and called for the "incendiary rhetoric" to stop.^[259] Republican Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene criticized Democratic Representative Bennie Thompson for having introduced a bill that would strip Secret Service protection from convicted felons, including Trump.^[259] Jacqueline Marsaw—a member of Thompson's staff—was fired after a social media post that read "I don't condone violence but please get you some shooting lessons so you don't miss next time oops that wasn't me saying that".^{[260][261]} Steven Woodrow, a Democratic member of the Colorado House of Representatives, posted on Twitter in



U.S. president Joe Biden commenting on the assassination attempt, July 13



On July 14, Biden gave an address condemning political violence, including the attempted assassination of Trump, arguing for the need to "lower the temperature" in American politics.

Statement from President Joe Biden

I have been briefed on the shooting at Donald Trump's rally in Pennsylvania.

I'm grateful to hear that he's safe and doing well. I'm praying for him and his family and for all those who were at the rally, as we await further information.

Jill and I are grateful to the Secret Service for getting him to safety. There's no place for this kind of violence in America. We must unite as one nation to condemn it.

Joe Biden, The White House (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/20>

response to the assassination attempt: "The last thing America needed was sympathy for the devil but here we are."^[262] His post was widely criticized, including by the Colorado Democratic Party;^[263] Woodrow deleted his account about three hours after his post. Afterward, he told the Washington Examiner that he condemned the shooting "on the strongest terms".^[262]

24/07/13/statement-from-president-joe-biden-6/), July 13, 2024

Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro denounced political violence and ordered flags to be lowered to half-staff in honor of Comperatore, who was killed.^{[264][265]} Colorado Governor Jared Polis called for Biden to extend Secret Service protection to independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr.^[266] Requests for protection by the Secret Service of independent presidential candidates are considered on an as-needed basis. Biden directed the Secret Service to do so on July 15.^[267]

The former president George W. Bush called the shooting "cowardly" and applauded the Secret Service's response.^[268] The former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton and the former secretary of state Hillary Clinton, who was Trump's opponent in the 2016 presidential election, also condemned the attack and wished Trump a swift recovery.^{[269][270]} Mike Pence, who served as Vice President of the United States under Trump (2017–2021) and launched a rival bid to Trump in the 2024 Republican presidential primaries, released a statement saying "Karen and I thank God that President Trump is safe and recovering following yesterday's attempted assassination", praising the Secret Service for their quick response which Pence opined "undoubtedly saved lives", adding "There is no place in America for political violence and it must be universally condemned."^[271] The Carter Center, founded by the former president Jimmy Carter, condemned the attack and called for Americans to "embrace civility".^[272] John Hinckley Jr., who attempted to assassinate Ronald Reagan in 1981, said "violence is not the way to go".^{[273][274]}

Mark Webb, a bishop of the Global Methodist Church—the Christian denomination in which Corey Comperatore held church membership—stated that the assassination attempt was a "senseless act of violence and hatred" and implored all to "comfort those who mourn and boldly offer the promise of resurrection and new life through Jesus Christ".^[112]

The National Council of Churches condemned the assassination attempt, along with "toxic polarization, hate rhetoric, and the demonization and denigration of those who hold different opinions".^[275] Archbishop Timothy Broglio, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, issued a statement condemning the shooting as political violence, emphasizing that it is never a solution to political disagreements.^{[276][277]}

International

Many heads of state and of government, as well as of international organizations, condemned the shooting and expressed good wishes to Trump.^{[278][279]}

The prime minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, issued a statement on social media that he was sickened by the attack, adding "my thoughts are with former President Trump, those at the event, and all Americans." Trudeau spoke to Trump on the phone after the attack.^[280] In the United Kingdom, Prime Minister Keir Starmer led condemnation of the shooting saying that he was appalled by the attack on Trump, stating that political violence had "no place in our society".^[281] Buckingham Palace confirmed on July 15 that

King Charles III had written to Trump after the assassination attempt.^[282] First Minister of Scotland John Swinney also condemned the incident.^{[283][284]} On July 14, the Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas sent a letter to Trump, which the latter posted on his social media site.^[285]

Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India strongly condemned the incident, stating that "violence has no place in politics and democracies" and wished Trump a speedy recovery.^[286] Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia condemned the shooting, saying there was "no place for violence in the democratic process" and added that he was relieved to hear Trump was safe.^[287] Prime Minister Christopher Luxon of New Zealand said he was shocked to hear of what had occurred, adding that "no country should encounter such political violence".^[288]

Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany condemned the shooting as an "attack on democracy", describing the attack on Trump as despicable and wishing the former president a quick recovery.^[289] Other European leaders to condemn the shooting included Viktor Orbán of Hungary,^[279] Simon Harris of Ireland,^[290] Giorgia Meloni of Italy,^[291] Luc Frieden of Luxembourg^[292] and Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine.^[279] President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan of Turkey held a telephone conversation with Trump and praised his "bravery".^[293] Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel released a video condemning the shooting and said it was an attack on democratic institutions everywhere.^{[294][295]}

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg expressed shock at the shooting, condemning the attack on Trump, and wishing the former president a speedy recovery.^[296] António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, was confirmed by a UN spokesperson to have unequivocally condemned the attack, describing it as an act of political violence.^[297] The President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen issued a statement saying that she was "deeply shocked" by the events at the rally, and offered condolences to the family of the deceased audience member, Corey Comperatore.^[298]

Dmitry Peskov, the press secretary of Russian president Vladimir Putin, condemned the event, adding that the shooting took place in an atmosphere created by Biden's leadership, in the context of what he argued to be attempts to remove Trump from the political arena.^[299] Cuba blamed the U.S. arms industry and increased political violence in America.^[241] Georgian Prime Minister Irakli Kobakhidze and other Georgian government officials blamed the attack on the "Global War Party", a recurring conspiracy theory of the Georgian Dream party alleging a mysterious international organization that exerts influence on the Western world from the shadows.^{[287][300][301]}

Online

The event garnered much commentary by Internet users.^{[19][302]} There was much activity on Twitter.^[303] Tweets about the event gained millions of views in the first hour;^[304] "Trump" was the top trending topic, with over 228,000 posts;^[304] one livestream had hundreds of thousands of people in its audience.^[304] Posts, pictures, and videos related to the event not only were seen from accounts users were following, but also appeared prominently in users' algorithmic "for you" feeds.^[19] While much larger audiences posted on Twitter,^[304] the event was also discussed on 4chan,^{[254][305]} TikTok,^[254] Reddit,^[254] and Meta-owned Instagram and Threads.^[304] Similar bursts of activity happened on pro-Trump website patriots.win^[306] and Telegram,^[304] on the latter of which some far-right groups carried out a "pattern of mass deletion of posts [...] in case it was one of their own".^[307]

Topics of discourse (on both the left^[302] and right wings^[306]) involved details of the security setup, who was to blame for the attack,^[19] what kind of weapon the shooter had used,^[307] and whether language used by politicians and the media had "inflamed tensions" and played a role in motivating the attack.^[19] The *Atlantic* described posters as "trying to make their own order amid intense disorder".^[308] A very large number of claims made in the period immediately after the attack were unverified or conjectural, including multiple failed attempts at identifying the attacker.^[304] Many turned out to be false, while others were jokes or deliberate hoaxes.^[304]

While some people on the Internet (including left-wing users,^[302] right-wing users,^[306] and bots) suggested or claimed that the attack had been staged as a false flag, and the words "Trump" and "staged" were briefly the two highest-trending topics in the period immediately after the attack,^{[303][309][308]} no evidence emerged to support that this was the case.^[303] Some false claims that gained significant circulation were derived from early media reports, superseded by later reports, including the claim that Trump was hit by a glass fragment flying at him from a teleprompter purportedly shattered by a bullet; the teleprompters were intact after the shooting.^{[310][311]}

Misinformation and conspiracy theories

Misinformation, disinformation, and conspiracy theories about the assassination attempt quickly spread on social media, gaining popularity within minutes of the shooting.^{[19][309][307][312]} MIT misinformation expert Adam Berinsky described the fast spread of such theories online as reflecting the extensive political division prevalent in the United States,^[306] and author Colin Dickey opined that the spread was due to the "long love affair with conspiracy theories of all kinds" in the country.^[313] BBC News disinformation and social media correspondent Marianna Spring said that "the real change... is how this kind of lingo is being widely used by the average social media users" rather than being on the fringe, further noting that many of the "most-viral" false posts "came from left-leaning users who regularly share their anti-Trump views".^[19] The Associated Press described the two competing conspiracy theories that are being established online—that the shooting was either staged by Trump or orchestrated by Biden—as being "one for each end of America's polarized political spectrum".^[314]

Claims were made that the incident was:

- planned by Democrats. Many right-wing conspiracy theories circulated on social media. "Antifa" became a trending topic after posts on Twitter blamed the shooting on a "prominent Antifa activist",^[304] while other posts claimed the perpetrator was Jewish or transgender.^[307] A photo of an unrelated transgender woman was claimed on social media to be of Crooks.^{[315][316]} CBS News wrote that users on Twitter alleged that "Secret Service resources were diverted from Trump's rally", an unsubstantiated claim denied by a spokesperson and echoed by Elon Musk, as part of the "baseless theory" that the agency is part of "a conspiracy to get rid of the former president".^[305] Many Trump supporters claimed the event was a deep state plot to prevent Trump's re-election.^[317] Several antisemitic conspiracy theories have also been reported.^{[318][319][320]}

Marjorie Taylor Greene, based on Biden's "bullseye" comments, said that "Democrats wanted this to happen",^[254] and U.S. representative Mike Collins made the false claim that Biden "sent the orders".^{[321][322]} According to *The New York Times*, the claim that Biden orchestrated the shooting was "perhaps the most dominant" conspiracy theory.^[306] The Institute for Strategic Dialogue described this as part of a "massive online spread of false claims".^[306] Biden later apologized for the remark, saying "It was a mistake to use

the word. I didn't say crosshairs. I meant bullseye, I meant focus on [Trump]. Focus on what he's doing."^[256]

- staged by Republicans. Within minutes of the shooting, the word "staged" became the second-highest trending topic on Twitter,^[304] generating approximately 600 million views with the help of bot accounts.^[303] Left-wing users posted conspiracy theories of a "false flag" operation,^[308] dubbed "BlueAnon", in reference to QAnon.^{[302][323][324][325]} False claims included that the shooting and blood on Trump were faked; that crisis actors were used;^[326] that the victim who died was a "'sacrifice' to make the attempt look more realistic";^[303] that the shooting was intended to improve Trump's likelihood of winning the election;^[306] and, according to a Democratic strategist, that the shooting was staged by Republicans to improve Trump's image.^[308] *The Washington Post* journalist Taylor Lorenz wrote that "As more Americans lose trust in mainstream institutions and turn to partisan commentators and influencers for information, experts say they are seeing a big uptick in the manufacture and spread of left-wing conspiracy theories, a sign that the communal warping of reality is no longer occurring primarily on the right."^[302] A poll by *Morning Consult* two days after the shooting implied one in five Americans believe the shooting was staged, including one third of Biden voters.^{[327][328]}
- planned by BlackRock. BlackRock is the world's largest asset manager.^[329] In the days after the shooting, a conspiracy theory centered on BlackRock, and propagated by cryptocurrency promoters, as a continuation of previous conspiracy narratives involving the company. This was spurred by the fact that Crooks had appeared in a BlackRock advertisement in 2022, which had been filmed at his high school.^{[330][331]} In less than a day, a tweet revealing Crooks's appearance in the advertisement video was viewed more than 17 million times.^[331] The video was then removed by the company.^[332] The conspiracy theory that some people had foreknowledge is based on the fact that on July 12, 2024, one day before the assassination attempt, the investment company Austin Private Wealth filed a report with the Securities and Exchange Commission indicating that it had shorted 12 million shares of Trump Media & Technology Group (ticker symbol DJT), thus betting that the value of the stock would decrease.^[333] Four days later, the filing was amended to 1,200 shares, and the company apologized for what it asserted was a "filing error".^[333]

Entertainment affected

In the wake of the assassination attempt, MSNBC and Comedy Central preempt the Monday broadcasts of Morning Joe and The Daily Show, respectively, with MSNBC continuing to air breaking news coverage of the assassination attempt and Comedy Central canceling its plans to host from Milwaukee during the Republican National Convention. Both shows returned to air the following day on July 16.^{[334][335]}

Channel 4 in the UK pulls The Simpsons season 7 episode Lisa the Iconoclast from its air in the wake of the shooting.^[336]

The Boys changes its title of the season four finale episode was from "Assassination Run" to "Season Four Finale", following the shooting that aired on July 18. A "viewer discretion advised" warning was added at the beginning of the episode, with Amazon, Sony Pictures Television and the producers of *The Boys* opposing real-world political violence and clarifying that "any scene or plotline similarities to these real-world events are coincidental and unintentional".^{[337][338]}

Jack Black canceled his world tour for his comedy band Tenacious D on July 16, after bandmate Kyle Gass joked onstage about the assassination attempt. Black later said via Instagram that he would never condone hate speech or encourage political violence in any form.^[339]

See also

- 2024 United States presidential election in Pennsylvania
- List of mass shootings in the United States in 2024
- Security incidents involving Donald Trump

Notes

- a. A claimed fourth injury from gunfire—U.S. representative Ronny Jackson's nephew—has not been confirmed by independent sources; the sole source is Ronny Jackson.

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External links

- "Former President Donald Trump Campaigns in Butler, PA", July 13, 2024 (<https://www.c-span.org/video/?536813-1/president-donald-trump-campaigns-butler-pa>), C-SPAN
- Corey Comperatore (official obituary) (<https://www.redmondfuneralhomeinc.com/obituary/Corey-Comperatore>)
- BUTLER ESU DJT FPOTUS DETAIL PLAN (https://www.grassley.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/butler_esu_djt_fpotus_detail_plan_redacted.pdf)
- FBI, Butler Investigation Updates (<https://www.fbi.gov/news/press-releases/butler-investigation-updates>)

External videos

-  FBI Briefing on Trump Rally Shooting, July 13, 2024 (<https://www.c-span.org/video/?537020-1/fbi-briefing-trump-rally-shooting>), C-SPAN

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