

TIMELINE: Law Enforcement Awareness of Thomas Matthew Crooks on July 13, 2024
(as of August 29, 2024 – updated information is highlighted)¹

Text in Green is media reported information;

Text in Black is information learned from local law enforcement;

Text in Blue is from U.S. Secret Service Acting Director Ronald Rowe’s testimony;

Text in Brown from Federal Bureau of Investigation officials’ statements and testimony;

Text in Gray is from Butler Township Police Department body cameras;

and Text in Red is from Butler County radio communications.

- **4:26pm**—Per media reports, Beaver County officers first notice and send a text in a group chat about an individual later identified as Crooks.²
- **5:10pm**—A local law enforcement sniper positioned in the American Glass Research (AGR) building (AGR sniper 1) first spots Crooks.
- **5:14pm**—AGR sniper 1 takes two pictures of Crooks.
- **5:30pm**—According to Acting Director of the Secret Service Ronald Rowe, former President Trump arrives at the Butler rally site.³
- **5:32pm**—AGR sniper 1 observes Crooks looking at his phone and using a rangefinder.
- **5:38pm**—AGR sniper 1 sends a message to a group of other local law enforcement snipers working the rally about Crooks.
 - Per media reports, AGR sniper 1 includes the pictures he took of Crooks and a description, along with that Crooks was observed using a rangefinder in the direction of the stage.⁴
- **5:40pm**—AGR sniper 1 is told to call into command about Crooks.

¹ This is the third version of Senator Johnson’s timeline. New entries are highlighted. The senator entered an earlier version of this document into the Senate hearing record on July 30, 2024 during a hearing before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. The timeline was updated again on August 1, 2024.

² Sarah Rumpf-Whitten and Danielle Wallace, Trump Assassination Attempt: Texts Reveal Officers were Aware of Thomas Crooks 90 Minutes Before Shooting, Fox News, July 29, 2024, available at <https://www.foxnews.com/us/trump-assassination-attempt-texts-reveal-officers-were-aware-thomas-crooks-90-minutes-before-shooting>.

³ *Examination of the Security Failures Leading to the Assassination Attempt on Former President Trump: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Governmental Affs. and the S. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 118th Cong. (2024) (written testimony of United States Secret Service Acting Director Ronald Rowe at 6).

⁴ Sarah Rumpf-Whitten and Danielle Wallace, Trump Assassination Attempt: Texts Reveal Officers were Aware of Thomas Crooks 90 Minutes Before Shooting, Fox News, July 29, 2024, available at <https://www.foxnews.com/us/trump-assassination-attempt-texts-reveal-officers-were-aware-thomas-crooks-90-minutes-before-shooting>.

- **5:41pm**—AGR sniper 1 sends a description of Crooks and his use of a rangefinder to command over the radio.
- **5:45pm**—A sniper with Butler County sends the images and description given by AGR sniper 1 of Crooks to one of the Secret Service counter snipers at the rally, including that Crooks was seen using a rangefinder in the direction of the rally stage.
 - The Secret Service counter sniper responds, “**Roger. I’ll notify teams on AGR side.**”
 - Acting Director Rowe confirms the Butler County sniper sends the Secret Service counter sniper team leader a text with the images and description of Crooks.⁵
- **5:53pm**—According to Acting Director Rowe, the Secret Service counter sniper team leader emails the Secret Service counter sniper teams that “local law enforcement [is] looking for a suspicious individual outside the perimeter, ‘lurking around the AGR building’.”⁶
- **6:03pm**—Former President Trump takes the stage at the Butler rally.⁷
- **6:05pm:** According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), video from a local business shows Crooks climbing onto the roof of the AGR building complex.⁸
- **Approx. 6:08pm**—A video taken by James Copenhaver (who would later sustain gunshot wounds at the rally) appears to show Crooks moving across the roof of the AGR building.⁹
- **6:08:20pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio that there is someone on the roof of the AGR building.
- **6:08:32pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports there is an individual on the roof of the AGR building wearing white shorts.

⁵ Examination of the Security Failures Leading to the Assassination Attempt on Former President Trump: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Governmental Affs. and the S. Comm. on the Judiciary, 118th Cong. (2024) (written testimony of United States Secret Service Acting Director Ronald Rowe at 6).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Maurice DuBois, et al, Timeline of Trump Shooting Shows Secret Service was Aware of Suspicious Person 20 Minutes Before Assassination Attempt, CBS News, July 18, 2024, available at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/timeline-trump-rally-shooting/>.

⁸ Statement by Kevin Rojek, Special Agent in Charge, Pittsburgh Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Aug. 28, 2024, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/speeches/fbi-pittsburgh-special-agent-in-charge-s-remarks-to-media-on-updates-to-the-butler-pennsylvania-assassination-attempt-investigation>.

⁹ Audrey Conklin, Video from Trump assassination attempt victim's POV shows figure moving on roof moments before gunfire, Fox News, July 31, 2024, <https://www.foxnews.com/us/video-from-trump-assassination-attempt-victims-pov-shows-figure-moving-roof-moments-before-gunfire>; Alex Oliveira, Chilling new video shows Thomas Crooks moving across roof before Trump assassination attempt, N.Y. Post, July 31, 2024, <https://nypost.com/2024/07/31/us-news/chilling-new-video-shows-thomas-crooks-moving-across-roof-before-trump-assassination-attempt/>.

- **6:09:40pm – 6:09:46pm**—In a video recorded by a rally goer, a law enforcement officer can be seen walking toward the AGR building.¹⁰
- **6:09:59pm – 6:10:03pm**—In a video recorded by a rally goer, Secret Service counter snipers positioned on the roof of the southern barn behind the stage appear to reposition themselves to face toward the direction of the AGR building.¹¹
- **6:10:04pm – 6:10:19pm**—A rally goer records a video that appears to show Crooks on the roof of the AGR building in a prone position. In the video, a person can be heard trying to get an officer’s attention and another person says, “He’s on the roof. Right there.”¹²
- **6:10:29pm – 6:10:40pm**—A video recorded by a rally goer shows a law enforcement officer approaching the AGR building from the ground, looking toward the top of the building.¹³
- **6:10:42pm – 6:10:55pm**—Body camera footage from Butler Township Police Department shows an officer lifting another officer onto the roof of the AGR building.¹⁴
 - Crooks reportedly points his rifle at a local police officer who is boosted onto the roof of the AGR building.¹⁵
 - The officer that is lifted up quickly falls to the ground.¹⁶
- **6:11pm**—According to Acting Director Rowe, “a member of former President Trump’s protective detail contact[s] their Pittsburgh Field Office to inquire about the radio update that there was an issue local law enforcement was looking into near the perimeter.”¹⁷
- **6:11:03pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio that the individual on the roof of the AGR building is armed and laying down.
 - According to FBI Deputy Director Abbate, the officer who reports this is the same local police officer who was boosted on the roof.¹⁸

¹⁰ Trump Rally shooting: Timeline before gunman shot Donald Trump, WRAL, YouTube, July 21, 2024, at 1:30-1:36, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIDSS9Kbh-8>, (accessed Aug. 28, 2024).

¹¹ *Id.* at 1:42-1:46.

¹² *Id.* at 1:47-2:01.

¹³ *Id.* at 2:02-2:09.

¹⁴ BODY CAM: Police encounter Trump shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks on rooftop, WBFF FOX45 Baltimore, Aug. 8, 2024, at 1:40-1:53, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5Fal8i3YRc>.

¹⁵ Robert Legare, Andres Triay, and Melissa Quinn, FBI Says Trump Agreed to Victim Interview About Assassination Attempt, CBS News, July 29, 2024, available at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-fbi-interview-shooting-assassination-attempt/>.

¹⁶ BODY CAM: Police encounter Trump shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks on rooftop, WBFF FOX45 Baltimore, Aug. 8, 2024, at 1:40-1:53, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5Fal8i3YRc>.

¹⁷ *Examination of the Security Failures Leading to the Assassination Attempt on Former President Trump: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Governmental Affs. and the S. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 118th Cong. (2024) (written testimony of United States Secret Service Acting Director Ronald Rowe at 7).

¹⁸ *Examination of the Security Failures Leading to the Assassination Attempt on Former President Trump: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Homeland Sec. & Governmental Affs. and the S. Comm. on the Judiciary*, 118th Cong. (2024) (opening statement and testimony of Federal Bureau of Investigation Deputy Director Paul Abbate).

- **6:11:11pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio that the individual on the roof of the AGR building is armed with a “long gun.”
- **6:11:13pm – 6:11:32pm**—Video recorded by a rally goer shows people, apparently near the AGR building, running away.¹⁹
- **6:11:33pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio that shots have been fired from the AGR building roof.
 - Media reports place the first shot fired at 6:11:33pm.²⁰
- **6:11:34pm**—According to media reports, two more shots are fired.²¹
- **6:11:37pm**—According to media reports, additional gunshots are fired.²²
- **6:11:40pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio to lock down all roads.
- **6:11:52pm**—According to a media report, a final gunshot is heard.²³
- **6:11:52pm**—An “alert tone” is sent over multiple radio channels.
- **6:11:57pm**—An “Emergency Traffic only” announcement is sent over multiple radio channels.
- **6:12:11pm**—A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio that the **shooter is down**.
- **6:12:15pm**—Command confirms receipt of the radio report that the shooter is down.
- **6:12:20pm**—A sheriff’s officer reports on the radio that the shooter is down.
- **6:13:55pm – 6:14:06pm**—Body camera footage shows law enforcement officers approaching the AGR building and climbing to the roof. The officer that had previously been boosted to the roof tells another officer where Crooks is positioned and describes what Crooks looks like: “You’re about to hop up. He’s laying down . . . he’s got glasses, long hair.”²⁴

¹⁹ Trump Rally shooting: Timeline before gunman shot Donald Trump, WRAL, YouTube, July 21, 2024, at 2:20-2:35, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIDSS9Kbh-8>, (accessed Aug. 28, 2024).

²⁰ Maurice DuBois, et al., Timeline of Trump Shooting Shows Secret Service was Aware of Suspicious Person 20 Minutes Before Assassination Attempt, CBS News, July 18, 2024, available at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/timeline-trump-rally-shooting/>.

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Id.*

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ BODY CAM: Police encounter Trump shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks on rooftop, WBFF FOX45 Baltimore, Aug. 8, 2024, at 4:53-5:05, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5Fal8i3YRc>.

- **6:16:36pm – 6:17:16pm**—Body camera footage shows a law enforcement officer getting boosted to the roof of the AGR building. Crooks’ body can be seen on the roof.²⁵
- **6:22:29pm – 6:22:40pm**—A Butler Township Police Department officer, who is standing near the AGR building, can be heard on body camera footage saying, “I f–king told them they need to post the guys f–king over here. I told them that . . . the Secret Service, I told them that f–king Tuesday. I told them to post f–king guys over here.”²⁶
- **6:25pm**—Crooks is pronounced dead.²⁷

²⁵ *Id.* at 7:34-8:14.

²⁶ Body Cam Footage: Local Cop in Butler Complains He Warned Secret Service About Roof at Trump Rally, The Intercept, YouTube, Aug. 16, 2024, at 0:10-0:22, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hzeqSXuQeKM>.

²⁷ Statement by Kevin Rojek, Special Agent in Charge, Pittsburgh Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Aug. 28, 2024, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/speeches/fbi-pittsburgh-special-agent-in-charge-s-remarks-to-media-on-updates-to-the-butler-pennsylvania-assassination-attempt-investigation>.