

**BUTLER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY PRODUCTION REGARDING LOCAL
LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT TO THE USSS FOR THE BUTLER, PA
PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN RALLY HELD ON JULY 13TH**

FOIA REQUEST

On July 26, 2024, I sent a Pennsylvania Right To Know Request to the Butler County District Attorney's Office, Butler, PA. The FOIA requested:

Judicial Watch, Inc. ("Judicial Watch") hereby requests that the Butler County District Attorney, produce the following records pursuant to Pennsylvania Right to Know Law and other open records laws.

All records and document related to President Donald Trump's presidential campaign rally that was held in Butler, PA, on July 13, 2024, including but not limited to:

- 1) site security plans, risk or threat assessments, designation of security perimeters, plans for responding to suspicious activity or an active threat or attack, memoranda of understanding, or other documents establishing roles and responsibilities of federal agencies and state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) law enforcement partner agencies, and associated chains of command.
- 2) All audio/video/photographic recordings captured on body-worn cameras or other electronic devices in your possession.

Please provide records from July 1, 2024, to present.

PRODUCTION

The Butler County DA's Office produced two photographs and four pages of documents.

BACKGROUND

On July 13, 2024, during an open-air campaign rally near Butler, Pennsylvania, Donald Trump, the former president of the United States and the presumptive nominee of the Republican Party in the 2024 presidential election, survived an assassination attempt. During the rally, Thomas Matthew Crooks, a 20-year-old man from Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, fired eight rounds from an AR-15-style rifle from the roof of a nearby building. Trump was shot and wounded in his upper right ear, and Crooks also killed one audience member and critically injured two others. The United States Secret Service's Counter Sniper Team subsequently shot and killed Crooks. Trump was taken to a hospital, treated, and released in stable condition later that same day. Multiple law enforcement agencies provided support to the campaign rally.

SUMMARY

PAGES 01 OF 04 PAGES: On July 9th, Sgt. Edward Lenz, elenz@adamstwp.org, Adams Township Police Department, Mars, PA, emails Richard Goldinger, RGolding@co.butler.pa.us, with a "cc" To William Mayhugh, WMayhugh@co.butler.pa.us, with the subject: "Butler ESU Deployment" Request/ Presidential Rally 7 /13/24". The email states:

QUOTE:

I just want to ensure you have the information and details regarding the request for Butler ESU to assist this Saturday at the presidential candidate rally:

Butler Twp PD and the US Secret Service have requested our assistance at the rally. I have had several discussions with the USSS, and as of today they are requesting assistance from us with providing sniper/ overwatch support, counterassault teams, and a quick reaction force. Our current plan is to provide 2 sniper elements, 2 mobile counterassault teams, and a quick reaction force.

- The sniper elements would provide overwatch for the rally and would work in conjunction with the secret service counter-sniper unit.
- The counterassault teams would be dedicated teams that would respond to and address an attack directed at the presidential candidate inside of the venue, whether it be a coordinated attack with multiple assailants, or a single attacker.
- The quick response force would be dedicated to respond to and address any high-risk incidents occurring outside of the venue. They would not respond to civil disturbances - this would be handled by uniformed members of PSP. The QRF would assist PSP at the request of incident commander, and upon the approval of the ESU commander.

This will be manpower intensive, and Beaver County ESU and Washington County SWAT have agreed to supplement with manpower - Beaver ESU is going to send their armor with 6-8 operators, and Washington County SWAT is going to send a sniper element along with 3-4 operators. The request for assistance will be officially made through Region 13. Our current plan is to rally at 0900 for a briefing, and to be operational by 1100. As long as the timeline doesn't shift, we should be releasing the assisting agencies by 1830, but I expect Butler ESU to remain operational until a majority of the farm show grounds has been cleared. We have a law enforcement walkthrough at the farm show Thursday at 1000 , and Bill is coming to that as well I believe. As always, if you have any questions let me know, and I will follow up with more information should anything in our plan change!

END QUOTE

PAGES 01 OF 04 PAGES: On July 10th, 2014, Goldinger responds to Lenz's email, "Thanks for letting me know Ed. Will be a long, hot day. Stay hydrated!"

PAGES 02-04 OF 04 PAGES: On July 9th, 2014, Lenz sends an email to Steven Bicehouse, SBicehou@co.butler.pa.us, with a "cc" to Kevin Mikulan, kmikulan@zelenoplepolice.org, with the subject: "Region 13 Tactical Support Request". The email states:

QUOTE

Butler ESU has been requested to assist Butler Township Police and the US Secret Service at the presidential rally this Saturday, July 13, 2024. Throughout my discussions with the USSS, they have requested we provide sniper teams and counterassault teams, as well as an additional element

available outside of the venue. This will be manpower intensive, and I spoke with Pat Young from Beaver County ESU and Guy Kuzak from Washington County SWAT to ask for some assistance. Both offered to send a squad of guys with equipment to assist but asked that an official request be submitted for Region 13 assets. I have never submitted a request for a pre-scheduled detail, and I'm not exactly sure what information you would need:

Date: 7/13/2024

Tactical Team Deployment Type: Dignitary Protection w/ counterassault and sniper deployments

Event Details: Presidential Candidate Rally

Event Location : Butler Farm Show Grounds

Staging Location: 121 Sparks Ave, Butler PA 16001, Butler Township FD

Arrival Time: 0900

Expected End Time: 1830 (Region assets will be released as soon as it is operationally feasible, Butler ESU assets will expect to remain later)

Beaver County: Butler County ESU is requesting assistance from Beaver County ESU, specifically their armor asset, manpower, and tactical equipment as determined by operational needs.

Washington County: Butler County ESU is requesting assistance from Washington County SWAT, specifically with manpower and tactical equipment as determined by operational needs.

END QUOTE

On July 10, 2024, Bicehouse forwards the email stating, "Please see the below request from our ESU team for a planned event Saturday. Consider this an official request from Butler County. Let me know if you approve or cannot fulfil the request. The email signature block shows Bicehouse's position as Director of Butler County Emergency Services.

On July 10, 2024, Eric Brewer, ebrewer@beavercountypa.gov, responds to the email from Bicehouse with "cc" to Gerald Coleman, gerald.coleman@co.washington.pa.us, Scott Hoffman, SHoffman@co.butler.pa.us, Kevin A. Whipple, kwhipple@beavercountypa.gov, and Brian Murray bmurray@beavercountypa.gov, stating "Beaver's team is able to support. Same as Washington, if you need something else let us know. Except I'll be out of the country starting Thursday-Tuesday but Whipple and Murray will be around."

On July 10, 2024, Bicehouse emails Lenz informing him "FYI. Washington also gave approval."

Two photographs are provided of Matthew Crooks, deceased, taken by local sniper teams; however it is not annotated who specifically took the exact time they were taken before his assassination attempt on former President Trump.



