

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 5, 2024

Mr. Ronald L. Rowe, Jr.
Acting Director
United States Secret Service
245 Murray Ln SW - BLDG T-5
Washington, DC 20223

Dear Acting Director Rowe,

We write to you as veterans and Members of Congress from the bipartisan For Country Caucus. We have grave concerns regarding the security failures surrounding the recent assassination attempt of former President Donald Trump on July 13, 2024. Together, we must understand how this failure occurred to prevent such an incident from ever happening again.

The assassination attempt, which claimed the life of one brave American and left others including the former President injured, represents the largest failure by the United States Secret Service (USSS) in a generation. This failure raises numerous questions about the tactical, strategic, and administrative decision-making within USSS.

As veterans dedicated to the security and well-being of our nation, we find this security breach deeply alarming. We believe that the safety of our national leaders is critically important and any lapse in their protection is a matter of national security. Looking forward, there will be numerous rallies and public appearances involving presidential candidates from both political parties. We seek to understand how the events of July 13th unfolded and request the following information to better understand how the USSS will prevent future occurrences.

1. Tactical Communication Improvements:

- It has been reported that radio communications were ineffective. How does the USSS plan to address this? Are there new communication devices being considered, such as updated radios or digital systems, to enhance reliability and effectiveness?
- What is being done to ensure all officers are proficient in using these communication tools?

2. Strategic and Administrative Enhancements:

- What strategic changes are being made to improve command and control, particularly in defining the rules of engagement and authority during such high-risk events?
- Have there been any developments in drone usage or other technologies to provide better surveillance and response capabilities?

- How are you coordinating with state and local authorities to ensure seamless communication and coordination during these events?

3. Future Security Protocols:

- What are the specific steps being taken to review and strengthen security protocols for future events?
- How will the USSS ensure that the protection of national leaders is not compromised by administrative or logistical oversights?

Your response to this inquiry will be critical in helping us understand and improve the security framework protecting our national leaders. Our collective experience in security matters will aid in evaluating current protocols and identifying areas for improvement through the legislative process.

We appreciate your immediate attention to this matter and look forward to your prompt response. Ensuring the safety of our national leaders is a shared responsibility, and we stand ready to support the USSS in its mission to protect those who have served our country at the highest levels.

Sincerely,



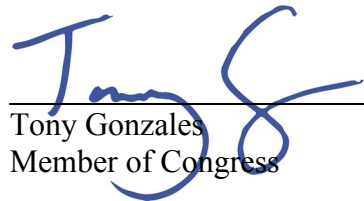
Nick LaLota
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



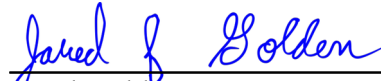
Brian J. Mast
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Tony Gonzales
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan
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Jared Golden
Member of Congress



Jeff Jackson
Member of Congress



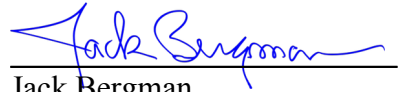
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