

# Trump rally shooter leaves few clues, baffling classmates and family as authorities search for motive

**Authorities said they had been able to access the shooter's phone but had still not found anything pointing to a motive for opening fire on the former president.**

BETHEL PARK, Pa. — Authorities said Monday that they had accessed the phone of the person who attempted to assassinate former President Donald Trump and had completed searches of his car and his family's home in suburban Pittsburgh, as ongoing efforts to understand the shooter's motives have so far come up empty.

The FBI said its investigation remains in the "early stages," but the immediate lack of a clear motive for Saturday's shooting at a Trump rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, has only deepened the mystery around the gunman, Thomas Matthew Crooks, more than 24 hours after his name was released by authorities. The presumptive Republican nominee was whisked off the stage during the shooting, which claimed the life of a former fire chief and injured two others.

Gregg McCrary, a former FBI profiler who spent more than 25 years with the bureau, first as a field agent and then in the behavioral science unit, said the lack of information about Crooks, 20, poses a challenge for law enforcement.

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