



27 December 2024

United Healthcare CEO Shooting

Tracked by: HSEC 8; SNCTC 1, 2, 6.15

(U) Overview

(U//FOUO) The Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC) assesses that violent rhetoric and threats to healthcare and other corporate executives will increase following the fatal shooting of CEO of United Healthcare, Brian Thompson^{USPER}. Since the incident, online rhetoric has shown support of the shooter, Luigi Mangione^{USPER}, and criticism of the public health care system and corporate executives. The praise of vigilantism has led some companies to remove the personal information of their executives from their websites.¹ Increased operational security measures are encouraged for corporate executives and healthcare establishments within the SNCTC's area of responsibility (AOR).

(U) Shooting of United Healthcare CEO

(U//FOUO) On 4 December 2024, a targeted shooting resulted in the death of United Healthcare CEO, Brian Thompson, who was walking to an annual investor conference in New York City. The shooter, later identified as Luigi Mangione, fled the scene and was arrested in Pennsylvania on 9 December 2024, after law enforcement received a tip from a private citizen.² National media outlets widely publicized the incident and alleged motive for the attack, resulting in online rhetoric praising the shooting and expressing discontent for the healthcare industry.

(U//FOUO) During his arrest, authorities discovered Mangione was in possession of a three-page handwritten claim of responsibility. In the writings, he made several references to a "parasitic" healthcare system filled with "corruption and greed". The shooting spurred support online from racially motivated violent extremist (RMVE) groups, anti-capitalists, anarchist/anti-government/anti-authority violent extremist (AGAAVE) groups, and unaffiliated individuals.

(U//FOUO) During the course of the investigation, law enforcement discovered "delay", "deny", and "depose"^a written in permanent marker on the bullet casings used in the shooting.^b Since the media release of the writing on the casings, the words have appeared on merchandise, social media memes, roadway signage, high school student walkouts, and graffiti across the United States, including Southern Nevada. Individuals posted "Wanted" signs targeting high profile executives around Manhattan, and supporters of Mangione have taken to social media, posting the hashtag #FreeLuigi.

^a (U//FOUO) Comparison has been made between the words etched into the bullet casings and the book "Delay, Deny, Defend: Why Insurance Companies Don't Pay Claims and What You Can Do About It", published in 2010. These terms are used by many critics of the insurance industry. Following the shooting, the book allegedly climbed to second on Amazon's nonfiction best seller list.

^b (U//FOUO) Media outlets initially reported the words written on the bullet casings were "deny," "defend" and "depose." These terms have continued to be used in online rhetoric pertaining to the shooting and threats to corporate executives.



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(U//FOUO) Social Media Posts; Source: X.com

(U) Recommendations for Corporate Executives

(U//FOUO) Previous threats to high-profile government and private sector individuals encouraged physical attacks at their homes, doxing^c, and swatting^d. DHS suggests implementing personal security practices to include:³

- (U//FOUO) Removing personally identifiable information (PII) from online platforms, such as employment credentials, license plates, medical information, family information, and identification cards. Removal of PII may also be requested from public data collection websites.
- (U//FOUO) Set privacy settings on social media accounts to reduce as much PII as possible, including accounts of family members.
- (U//FOUO) Utilize target hardening measures around personal residences. These can include physical security, camera systems, motion-censored lights, or fences.
- (U//FOUO) Report suspicious activity to law enforcement, including individuals loitering around the executive's home or office, asking suspicions or probing questions, vandalism of an executive's home or

^c (U) Doxing involves the release or publishing of private information about someone, specifically for harassment, harm, or to encourage violence.

^d (U) Swatting is the action of making a prank or false call to emergency services in order to elicit a law enforcement response. This can cause harm or injury to the victim of the swatting, as law enforcement attempts to stop the potential threat.



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office, threatening letters, phone calls, or social media posts directed toward the executive, and breaches or attempted breaches of the executive's home or office.

(U) Implications on Southern Nevada

(U//FOUO) As media outlets continue to publicize the arrest and trial of Mangione, we assess violent rhetoric and threats to healthcare and other corporate executives will continue to occur. Southern Nevada hosts numerous special events, conventions, and festivals, drawing executives from varying industries and organizations. The highly publicized incident and social media rhetoric may encourage or inspire likeminded individuals to commit acts of violence against corporate executives in Southern Nevada due to perceived grievances. The SNCTC's area of responsibility (AOR) is not immune to these incidents and has experienced activity targeting executives/CEOs.

- (U//FOUO) On 12 December 2024, an unidentified subject graffitied the side of a medical building in Southern Nevada.⁴
- (U//FOUO) On 7 December 2024, an identified subject made explicit violent threats to a Southern Nevada medical professional.⁵
- (U//FOUO) On 3 October 2024, SNCTC received reporting of an identified subject in Southern Nevada who made threats toward a high-profile businessperson.⁶
- (U//FOUO) On 23 January 2024, SNCTC received reporting of an identified subject who made harassing communications directed toward a resort corridor property in southern Nevada, where he was previously employed.⁷
- (U//FOUO) On 15 April 2018, two executives of the Venetian Resort were shot by a former employee during a company picnic at Sunset Park. One executive was killed and the other was injured.⁸

(U//FOUO) SNCTC encourages its partners to practice continued vigilance and reporting of potential indicators of terrorist pre-operational surveillance and planning activities at any commercial establishment, transportation venue, or public gathering place. Report any suspicious activity 24/7 to SNCTC Fusion Watch at 702-828-7777 or online at www.snctc.org.



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(U) ENDNOTES

¹ (U) Wise, Alana; NPR; 9 December 2024; New York prosecutors charge suspect with murder in death of UnitedHealthcare CEO; <https://www.npr.org/2024/12/09/g-s1-37509/brian-thompson-shooting-arrest-luigi-mangione-united-healthcare>; UNCLASSIFIED

² (U) Sisak, Michael, et. al; AP News; 9 December 2024; A timeline of the fatal shooting of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson and search for his killer; <https://apnews.com/article/unitedhealthcare-suspect-ceo-assassin-shooter-b5ff640798d799271ddd8db9f3d2a20e>; UNCLASSIFIED

³ (U//FOUO) Department of Homeland Security; 11 March 2024; Threat to High-Profile Officials and Secondary Targets Likely Increased as Online Messaging Promotes Targeting Private Residences; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

⁴ (U//LES) Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Event #LLV241200044131; UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

⁵ (U//FOUO) Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center; 20241207_2036; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

⁶ (U//FOUO) Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center; 20241003_1657; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

⁷ (U//FOUO) Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center; 20240123_1324; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

⁸ (U//FOUO) Apgar, Blake; Las Vegas Review Journal; 21 November 2019; <https://www.reviewjournal.com/crime/courts/man-who-fatally-shot-las-vegas-casino-executive-sentenced-1897955/>; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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