

Global Safety and Security Monthly Report

# 2024 US Elections

July

Not for External Distribution



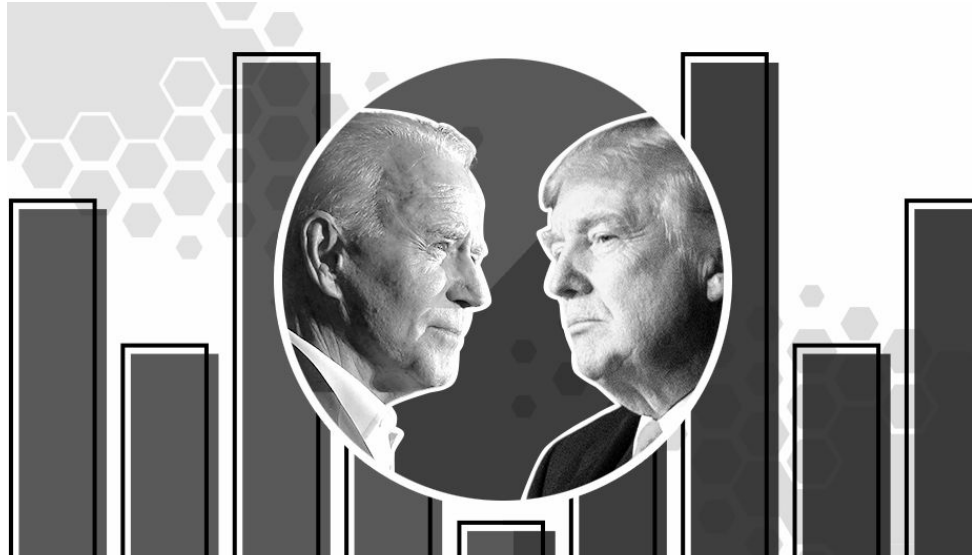
# REPORT OVERVIEW



SRA will prepare a monthly report on security incidents leading to the 2024 US elections. This report will focus on events, protests, regional incidents, and critical dates.



The report will switch to a biweekly format from September through November to acknowledge the increasingly complex domestic threat environment.



## UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTION



**2024:** On March 12, President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump secured their nominations as the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates, setting the stage for a rematch of the 2020 presidential election. Polls show that the election remains highly competitive.

# INDEX

*(select a section to jump to a specific page)*



Executive Summary



Extremism Update



Protest Activity



Incident Map



Corporate Stances  
and Impacts



Important Dates

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For this report, SRA identified several key factors that could cause unrest and disruption in the months leading up to the US presidential election.

## KEY FACTORS

- 1 Far-right Extremism**

Far-right groups intensified their online rhetoric and presence at pro-Trump events following the former president's conviction for business records falsification.
- 2 Political Protest Activity**

The media covered multiple protests concerning the politically polarizing issues of abortion rights and the Israel-Gaza war. In June, several political demonstrations occurred near campaign fundraisers and other appearances by both Biden and Trump.
- 3 Security Incidents**

On July 13, a gunman fired on former President Donald Trump at a rally in Butler, PA ([view incident map](#)). The Federal Bureau of Investigation described the incident as an assassination attempt. Investigations into the gunman's motives are ongoing. On July 6, a bomb threat caused authorities to evacuate the Pennsylvania state capitol; an email sent to members threatened to detonate planted devices until President Biden publicly announced his support for Palestine. In June, authorities arrested several individuals with alleged ties to Islamic State (IS). A few days earlier, the Director of the FBI warned Congress about the threat posed by an open border.
- 4 Mis- and Disinformation**

Former President Trump once again raised doubts about the legitimacy of the 2020 election, similar to the claims which contributed to the Capitol attack on January 6, 2021. Trump and far-right media outlets are promoting conspiracy theories.
- 5 Election Interference**

SRA is monitoring social and news media for foreign interference in the US elections. Intelligence agencies warn of potential incitement of violence and disorder by countries including China, Russia, Iran, and Cuba during the election period.

## FORWARD LOOKING

Protests and rallies will likely occur outside the Democratic National Convention in Chicago from August 19-22.



# ELECTION-RELATED SECURITY INCIDENTS



### 3 JUNE San Francisco

Pro-Palestine protesters occupied the lobby of the Israeli Consulate (approx. 2.2 miles from the **Airbnb** SF office).



### 6 JUNE San Francisco

A Trump fundraiser in Pacific Heights attracted protesters (approx. 3 miles from the **Airbnb** SF office).



### 23 JUNE Los Angeles

Violent protests erupted outside the *Adas Torah* synagogue.



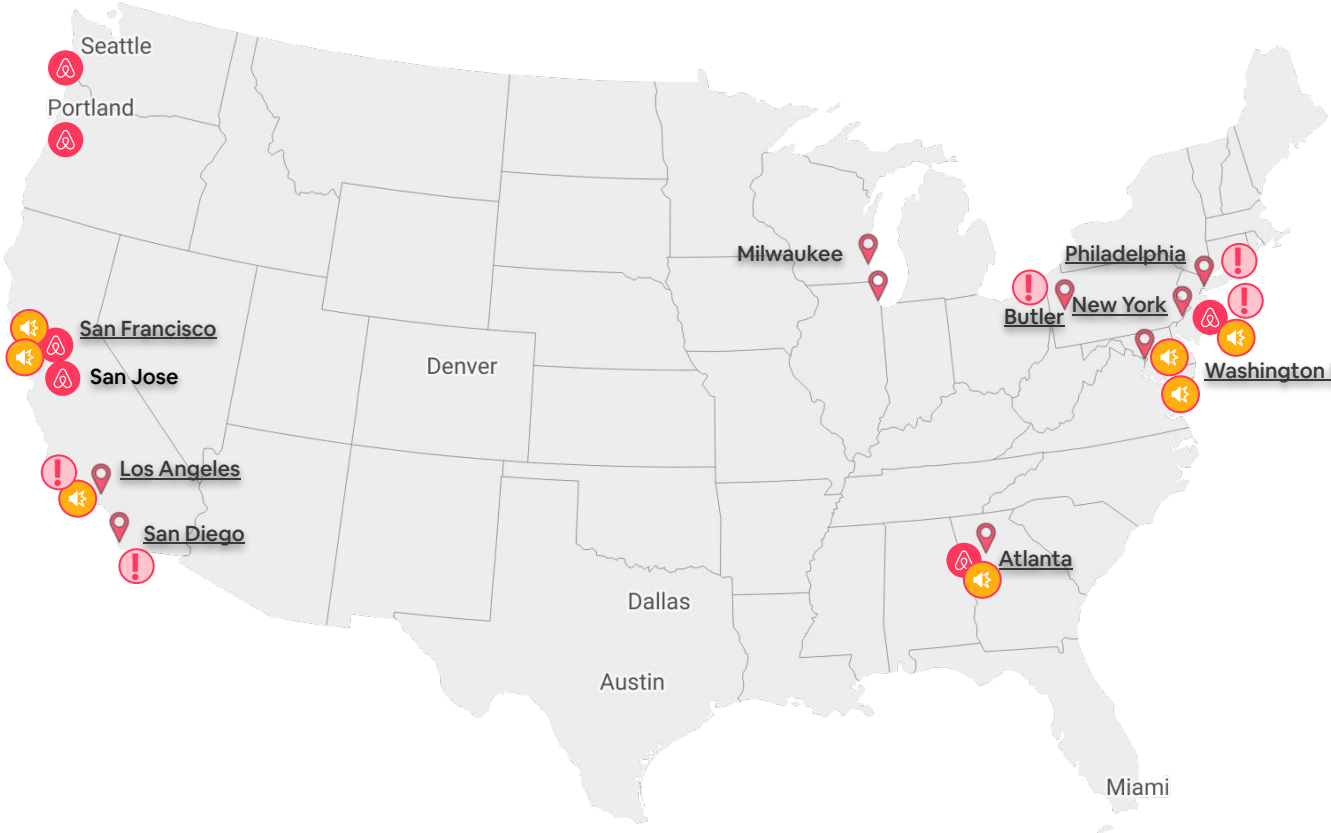
### 14 JUNE Los Angeles

Authorities arrested several men with alleged ties to IS in Los Angeles, New York, and Philadelphia.



### 2 JUNE San Diego

Faith-based groups reported increased threats from far-right groups.



### 13 JULY Butler

A man fired shots toward Trump during a rally in Pennsylvania.



### MULTIPLE DATES New York

The Proud Boys threatened trial jurors and the judge during and after Trump's trial.



### 24 JUNE Washington DC

Pro-life activists rallied in multiple US cities.



### 8 JUNE Washington DC

Pro-Palestine protests occurred outside the White House.



### 27 JUNE Atlanta

Activists rallied ahead of the first presidential debate (approx. 2.7 miles from the **Airbnb** SF office).



AIRBNB Office Location



Incident



Protest



Security Threat

## ELECTION-RELATED SECURITY INCIDENTS

# BUTLER, PA



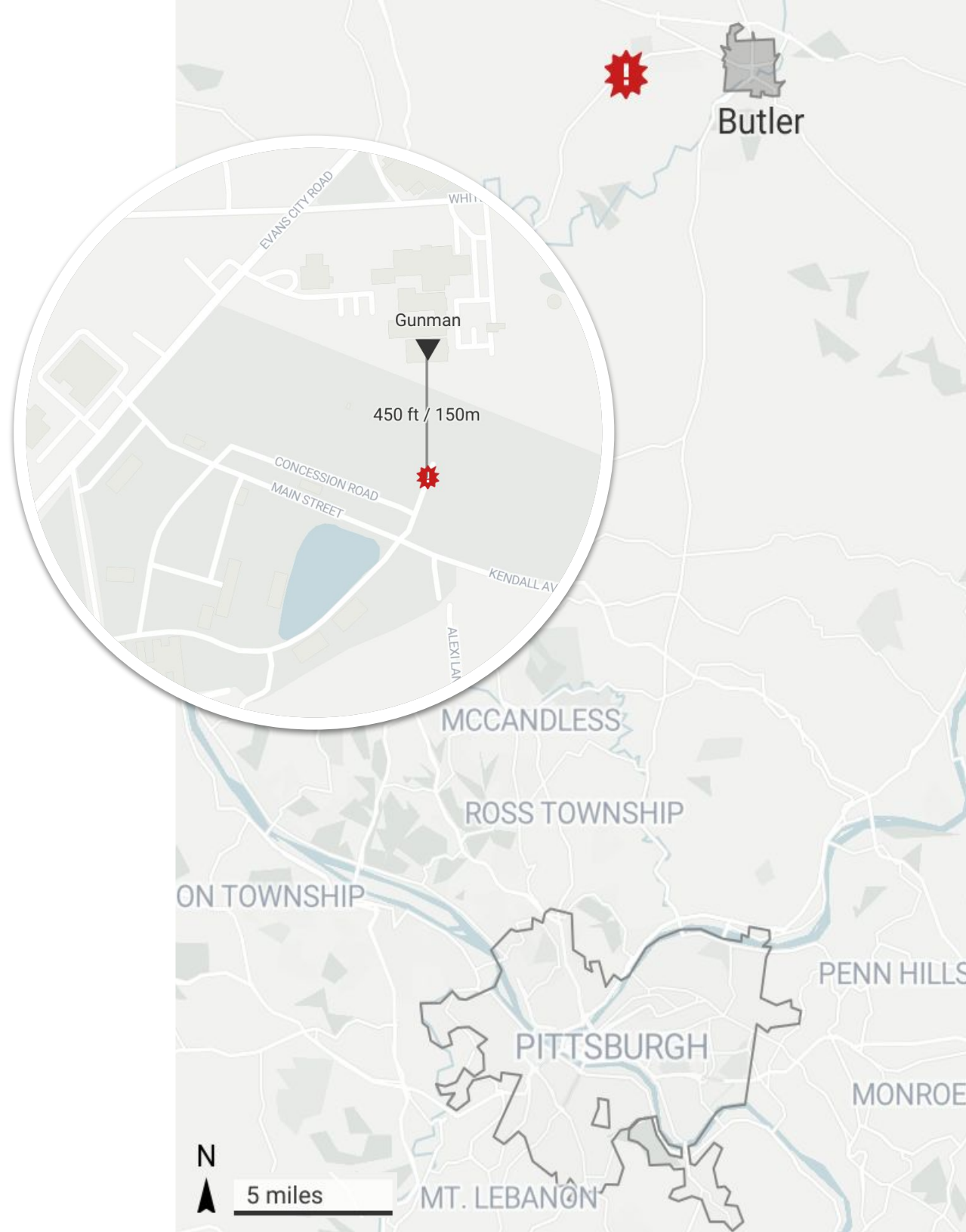
### Major Incidents

#### JULY 13

A lone gunman with a semiautomatic rifle fired on former President Donald Trump at a campaign event in Butler, PA. The FBI described the incident as an assassination attempt. Trump sustained minor injuries during the incident, and a bystander killed.

Democratic and Republican leaders unanimously condemned the attack. Misinformation about the incident quickly circulated online, with several political commentators blaming heated rhetoric for the attack.

GSI assesses that political violence risks will likely remain elevated, but localized, in the run-up to elections on November 5. Prominent politicians, election officials, campaign rallies and booths, and voting stations face the most pronounced risk.



## SECURITY CONCERNS

### Extremism Update

- Some faith-based groups that assist migrants have recorded increased threats and harassment by far-right extremists.
- On **June 3**, a Reuters article reported that the **Proud Boys** criticized Trump's May 30 conviction. In the aftermath of the ruling, sympathizers stepped up appearances at pro-Trump events. Far-right and white nationalists increased racist posts online, threatened the judge, and called for jurors to be doxxed.
- On **June 14**, authorities in **Los Angeles, New York,** and **Philadelphia** arrested eight Tajik nationals with alleged ties to the Islamic State group (IS-K). The individuals reportedly crossed the US-Mexico border and claimed asylum. The arrests highlights potential US border vulnerabilities – a topic amplified due to the election in November. (*SRA has compiled a primer on IS-K [here](#).*)
- On **July 6**, a bomb threat caused the evacuation of the Pennsylvania state capitol. It appears the threat sought to push Biden to make a statement denouncing Israel.



## SECURITY CONCERNS

### Protest Activity

- On **June 27**, Biden and Trump arrived separately in Atlanta for the first presidential debate ahead of the November election. Protesters and activists gathered outside CNN in Atlanta, GA (approx. 2.7 miles from the **Airbnb** office). Police monitored the gathering and commented that most protesters appeared to be pro-Palestinian.
- On **June 24**, pro-choice and pro-life activists rallied in several US cities to mark the second anniversary of the Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Biden's campaign criticized Trump's views on abortion.
- On **June 23**, violent protests erupted outside the *Adas Torah* synagogue in Los Angeles. Protesters attempted to block an entrance to the synagogue where an event on real estate investment in Israel and the West Bank was ongoing. President Biden condemned the protest as antisemitic. Pro- and anti-Israel protesters criticized the police for not intervening.



## SECURITY CONCERNS

### Protest Activity

- On **June 11**, the Milwaukee Common Council restricted most weapons (aside from firearms) in the multi-block, access-controlled zone around the Republican National Convention site.
- On **June 6**, Trump supporters rallied outside Trump Towers in New York City. Police arrested several individuals, including a known far-right figure.
- On **June 3**, pro-Palestine protesters occupied the Israeli Consulate lobby in San Francisco to voice their opposition to Israel's incursion into Gaza. Police arrested 70 protesters for trespassing (approx. 2.2 miles from the **Airbnb** SF office).
- On **June 8**, pro-Palestine protests occurred outside the White House in Washington D.C. Participants protested the Biden Administration's policies toward the Israel-Gaza war.





## CORPORATE IMPACT AND REACTIONS

### Corporate Stances

- On **July 10**, Democratic fundraiser and actor George Clooney called on President Biden to step down. Clooney's statements come in response to Biden's performance during the first presidential debate and after Clooney co-hosted a Los Angeles fundraiser for the Biden campaign that raised USD 30 million.
- On **June 7**, Trump supporters called for a boycott on Kohl's due to the clothing store's refusal to donate to the Republican National Convention.
- On **June 6**, Trump attended a fundraiser in Pacific Heights, San Francisco, which attracted protesters and saw a number of Silicon Valley venture capitalists in attendance (approx. 3 miles from the **Airbnb** SF office).
- The CEO of Marvel Entertainment, along with several other billionaires, donated over USD 10 million to Trump's election campaign, according to Forbes.

### Impacts

- After Trump's guilty verdict, his campaign reportedly received USD 53 million in the 24 hours following the verdict as Republican donors rallied behind him.



## UPCOMING KEY DATES

### Notices and Reminders



#### July 15-18 [Campaign]

Republican National Convention in Milwaukee. Multiple protest groups plan to rally and march.



#### August 19-22 [Campaign]

Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Protest groups plan to march on the DNC.



#### September 10 [Campaign]

Biden and Trump will participate in a second debate.



#### September 18 [Legal]

Trump supporters, as well as opponents of the former president, could rally outside the Manhattan criminal court during sentencing. Trump is unlikely to face incarceration.



#### October [Legal]

Appeals court ruling on election interference case in Georgia



#### November 5 [Election]

Election Day



#### December 11 [Election]

States issue Certificates of Ascertainment



#### January 6, 2025 [Election]

Congress meets to count the electoral votes.



#### January 20 [Election]

Presidential inauguration





PRODUCED BY **GLOBAL SAFETY AND SECURITY** JULY 2024