

DOJ cites suspect's photo in detention bid

Aysha Bagchi
USA TODAY

Actions that were “premeditated, violent, and calculated to cause death.” The “most serious” crimes in U.S. law. A “possible sentence of life in prison.”

The Justice Department isn't holding back in its bid to keep the man accused of attempting to assassinate President Donald Trump locked up.

In an April 29 court filing asking a federal judge in Washington, DC, to keep suspect Cole Tomas Allen in custody in the lead-up to his trial, government lawyers essentially said there are no bail conditions that would keep others safe if Allen were to go free.

“So long as the President and members of his Cabinet continue to appear publicly, which they undoubtedly will, the defendant's motivation for violence remains,” they said.

The DOJ also revealed a new photo of Allen, allegedly taken by him shortly before the attack. An enhanced version of the image shows him wearing a sheathed knife, pliers, and wire cutters – consistent with items later recovered when law enforcement arrested him, according to the DOJ.

Allen has been charged not only with attempting to assassinate a president, but also with transporting a gun and ammunition to commit a felony, and firing a gun during a violent crime. U.S. Attorney Jeanine Piro, whose staff is prosecuting the case, has vowed to bring additional charges as the investigation unfolds.

If Allen is convicted, he could spend the rest of his life in prison.

The case arose after Allen was arrested during an incident at the White House Correspondents' Associa-



The Department of Justice revealed a new photo of suspect Cole Tomas Allen, allegedly taken by him shortly before the attack. PROVIDED BY COLE TOMAS ALLEN VIA UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

tion Dinner at a Washington, DC, Hilton hotel on April 25. Several top officials were present at the dinner, including Trump, Vice President JD Vance and House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-Louisiana.

Allen attempted to storm the dinner on foot, carrying multiple guns and knives, and planned to kill top officials, starting with the highest-ranking, according to the charges. Prosecutors said he emailed family, friends, and a former employer about his plans minutes before the attack.

Tezira Abe, one of two lawyers appointed to represent Allen, previewed what the defense may argue as it seeks conditions that will free Allen from jail at an April 27 proceeding in the case. Abe told a judge that Allen has no prior arrests or convictions and is presumed innocent under the law.

Government lawyers agreed in their new filing that Allen has a clean criminal record, but still said he's a danger to the public.

“Although the defendant apparently has not had prior contact with the criminal justice system, his personal history and circumstances demonstrate that conditions less restrictive than detention will not reasonably assure the community's safety while this case proceeds,” the lawyers said.

Recent investigations appear to undercut speculation by online observers who have pored over videos of the shootout that a Secret Service agent shot in the attack may have been injured by friendly fire. The agent, who has not been identified, was protected from serious harm by a bullet proof vest.

Contributing: Josh Meyer, USA TODAY

Obituaries

TODAY'S DEATH NOTICES

Name	Age	Town, State	Passed	Arrangements	Service Time	Service Location	Interment
*Bennington, Barry A.	85	St. John, KS	Apr 27	Minnis Chapel	May 02 11:00am	First United Methodist Church	Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John
*Hinshaw, Steven	28	Sterling, KS	Apr 23	Birzer Funeral Home	--	--	--

**Additional information in display obituaries
Obituaries appear in print and online at hutchnews.com/obituaries*

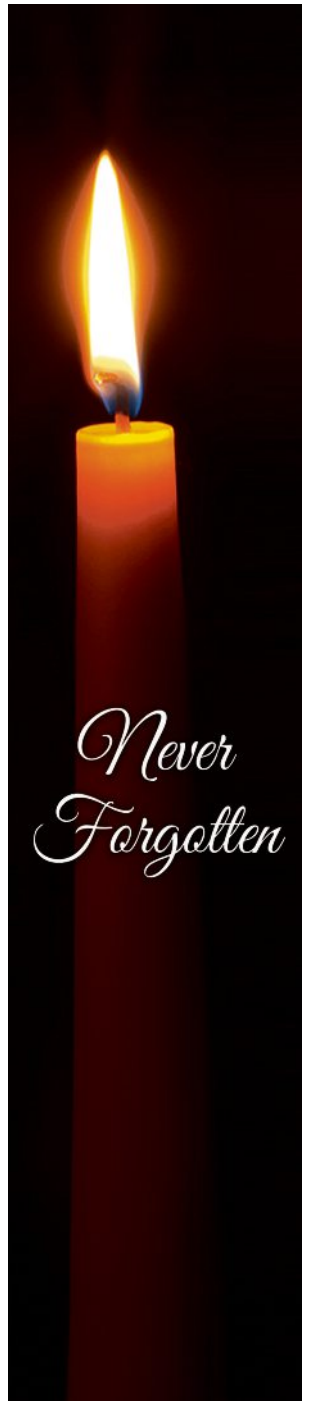
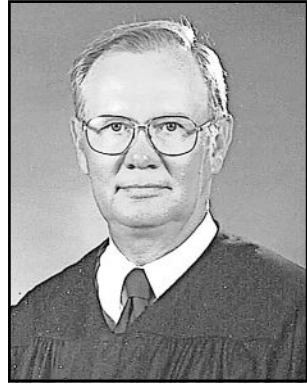
Steven Hinshaw

STERLING - Steven Douglas Hinshaw, 28, of Grandview, Missouri, passed away April 23, 2026, at Overland Park Regional Hospital, Overland Park, Kansas. He was born October 20, 1997, in Hutchinson, Kansas, the son of Dr. Douglas Hinshaw and Darla Hinshaw. Steven has resided in Grandview for the past three years, formerly of Sterling, Kansas. He graduated from Sterling High School, with the class of 2016, and received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Washburn University in 2020. Steven worked as a freight broker for Shamrock Corp. and was a bouncer at Guitar and Cadillacs both in Overland Park. He was a member of the Boy Scout Troup #369 of Sterling, and attended CrossPoint Church, Sterling. Steven enjoyed water sports, riding his motorcycle, shooting guns, dancing, attending concerts and theater shows. He was an avid Kansas City Royals, Pittsburgh Steelers, Garden State Warriors, and New York Yankees fan. Steven loved to live life to the fullest and never met a stranger. He is survived by his significant other, Bailey Salmon of Grandview, MO; father, Dr. Douglas Hinshaw of Sterling, KS; mother, Darla Hinshaw of Port Aransas, TX; three brothers, Chris Hinshaw and wife Ashley of Boerne, TX, Phillip Hinshaw and wife Christina of Oklahoma City, OK, and Austin Hinshaw and wife Brittany of Sterling, KS; three nieces, Aleigha, Sansa, and Madi Hinshaw; and his beloved dogs, Capone and Pablo. Steven is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Floyd and Norma Roll; paternal grandparents, Dr. Rolland Hinshaw, Bill Henderson, Joy Mise, and Jessie Mise; and niece, Ahryah Hinshaw. A visitation will be from 5:00 until 7:00 P.M., Friday, May 1, 2026, at Birzer Funeral Home, Sterling, with family present. Funeral service will be at 10:00 A.M., Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the Celebration Centre, Lyons, with Pastor Marty Dewitt officiating. Burial will be at 2:00 P.M., Saturday, May 2, 2026, at Waco Cemetery, Haysville, KS. A reception will be held at 6:00 P.M., Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the Celebration Centre, Lyons. A celebration of life will be held at Guitars and Cadillacs, Overland Park, KS, at a later date. Memorials may be given to Midwest Transplant Network in care of Birzer Funeral Home, Sterling.



Barry A. Bennington

ST. JOHN - Barry A. Bennington, age 85, passed away on Apr. 27, 2026 at his home due to Pulmonary Fibrosis. He was born on Jan. 27, 1941 in St. Louis, MO, the only child of Hugh and Jessie (Long) Bennington. Barry graduated from Cheney High School, Cheney, KS in 1959 as Salutatorian of his class. He joined the United States Marine Corps and served 3 years (1963-65) in the USMC Reserves. He attended the University of Kansas receiving a B.S. degree in Business Administration in 1963 and later attended the School of Law there receiving his Juris Doctor degree in 1967. He moved to St. John joining Emerson Shields in the practice of law. In 1980, he was appointed as a District Judge, Division One, of the 20th Judicial District of the State of Kansas serving on the bench for 24 years. After retiring from the bench, he served as Senior Judge for the Supreme Court until his second retirement in July 1, 2011. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, St. John Lions Club, Masonic Lodge, Stafford County & Kansas Bar Associations. He was also a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church in Cheney and St. John, and had a private pilot license. After retirement, Barry and Lynette enjoyed traveling to national parks and visiting their grandchildren. They enjoyed fishing in Belize, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic but especially enjoyed their 19 years of fishing in Bahia de Kino Mexico on the Sea of Cortez. Survivors include his wife, Lynette S. (Hargett) Bennington, St. John; a son, Eric (Marka) Keddie, Fort Smith AR; 3 daughters, Wendy (Kenneth) Hacker, St. John, KS; Valerie Vidmar, Rochester, NY; Mandi (Brian) Dunn, Olathe, KS; brother and sister-in-law, Kevin (Melva) Hargett, Shawnee, KS; 11 grandchildren, Kendra (Kevin) Hayes, Kyler Keddie, Derek (Jordan) Hacker, Trey (Marissa) Keddie, Gannon (Abby) Keddie, Mason Dunn, Mackenzie Hacker, Sarah Dunn, Henry Dunn, Zoe Vidmar, Harper Vidmar, one great granddaughter on the way, 2 nieces and 2 nephews. Barry was preceded in death by his parents, Hugh and Jessie Bennington. Visitation will be on Friday, May 1, 2026 from 1-7 PM at Minnis Chapel, St. John, with family receiving friends from 5-7 PM. Funeral service will be 11:00 AM, Saturday, May 2, 2026 at the First United Methodist Church, St. John, KS with Pastor Benjamin Simba presiding. Burial will follow in the Fairview Park Cemetery, St. John KS. Memorial checks may be written to: First United Methodist Church, Friends of the Library, or Stocking Stuffers of Central Kansas all in care of Minnis Chapel, P.O. Box 34, St. John, KS 67576.



THE HUTCHINSON NEWS

Customer service

To view our most recent disclosures and important information regarding your subscription, please visit aboutyoursubscription.hutchnews.com. Contact The Hutchinson News for questions or to report issues at 800-766-5730. **Correspondence may be mailed to:** The Hutchinson News, Gannett Local Markets, PO Box 20982, El Paso, TX 79998. **Operating hours are:**
 • Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 • Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 • Sunday: 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Full access print and digital subscriptions

Subscribe and save today by visiting hutchnews.com.

Contact us

Customer Service 800-766-5730
Newsroom 620-694-5700
Advertising 620-694-5791
Celebrations 620-694-3462
Obituaries hutchnews.com/obituaries
Classifieds classifieds.hutchnews.com

Postal information

The Hutchinson News (USPS# 254820) is published daily excluding Saturday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving (observed), Christmas Day (observed) and New Year's Day (observed) by Gannett Media Corp., 300 W. Second Ave., Hutchinson, KS, 67504-0190. Periodicals postage paid at Hutchinson, KS and additional mailing offices. **Postmaster:** Send all UAA to CFS. (See DMM 507.1.5.2); **NON-POSTAL ONE AND MILITARY FACILITIES:** Please send address corrections to The Hutchinson News, 401 W. Main St. #600 Louisville, KY 40202.