

CURRENT EVENTS

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF TRUMP
& MORE

WHITE HOUSE DINNER

- The White House Correspondents' Dinner is an annual event held in Washington, D.C., hosted by the White House Correspondents' Association, founded in 1921.
- It is intended as an opportunity to engage with the press.
- The sitting president traditionally attends and delivers a comedic speech that roasts themselves, other politicians, and the media. A celebrity comedian also typically performs.
- Trump skipped it all 4 times during his last term, so this is the first one he has attended.

2026

WHCA

- The 2026 dinner was framed as an annual celebration of the First Amendment.
- The planned agenda included journalism awards and scholarships, remarks from WHCA president Weijia Jiang, a speech from Trump, and a performance by mentalist Oz Pearlman.
- The WHCA chose a mentalist (like a magician) rather than a comedian this year, perhaps to avoid a comedian roast.
- Trump's aides described his planned speech as "entertaining," though journalists speculated he would use it to criticize news outlets.
- Approximately 2,600 attendees were present, including senior officials such as VP Vance, Kash Patel, RFK Jr., Marco Rubio, and Lee Zeldin.

WHAT WE KNOW

- 8:00 p.m. Dinner begins. ~2,600 attendees seated.
- ~8:40 p.m. Suspect Cole Allen charges a Secret Service checkpoint, fires around 5–8 shots. Agents yell "shots fired" inside the ballroom.
- ~8:40 p.m. Allen is chased and tackled. One agent is struck in a bullet-resistant vest.
- ~8:40 p.m. Secret Service evacuates Trump, Melania, Vance, and cabinet members from the ballroom.
- ~8:40–9:45 p.m. Trump holds in the secure area while law enforcement assesses the scene.
- ~9:45 p.m. Trump departs the Washington Hilton for the White House. Law enforcement declares the area a crime scene. (Same hotel Ronald Reagan was shot)



Donald J. Trump ✓ +

@realDonaldTrump · 15h

Law Enforcement has requested that we leave the premises, consistent with protocol, which we will do, immediately. I will be giving a press conference in 30 minutes from the White House Press Briefing Room. The First Lady, plus the Vice President, and all Cabinet members, are in perfect condition. We will be speaking to you in a half an hour. I have spoken with all the representatives in charge of the event, and we will be rescheduling within 30 days. President DONALD J. TRUMP



8.05k



13.4k



67.7k



Donald J. Trump ✓ +

@realDonaldTrump · 15h

Quite an evening in D.C. Secret Service and Law Enforcement did a fantastic job. They acted quickly and bravely. The shooter has been apprehended, and I have recommended that we “LET THE SHOW GO ON” but, will entirely be guided by Law Enforcement. They will make a decision shortly. Regardless of that decision, the evening will be much different than planned, and we’ll just, plain, have to do it again. President DONALD J. TRUMP



5.98k



10.7k

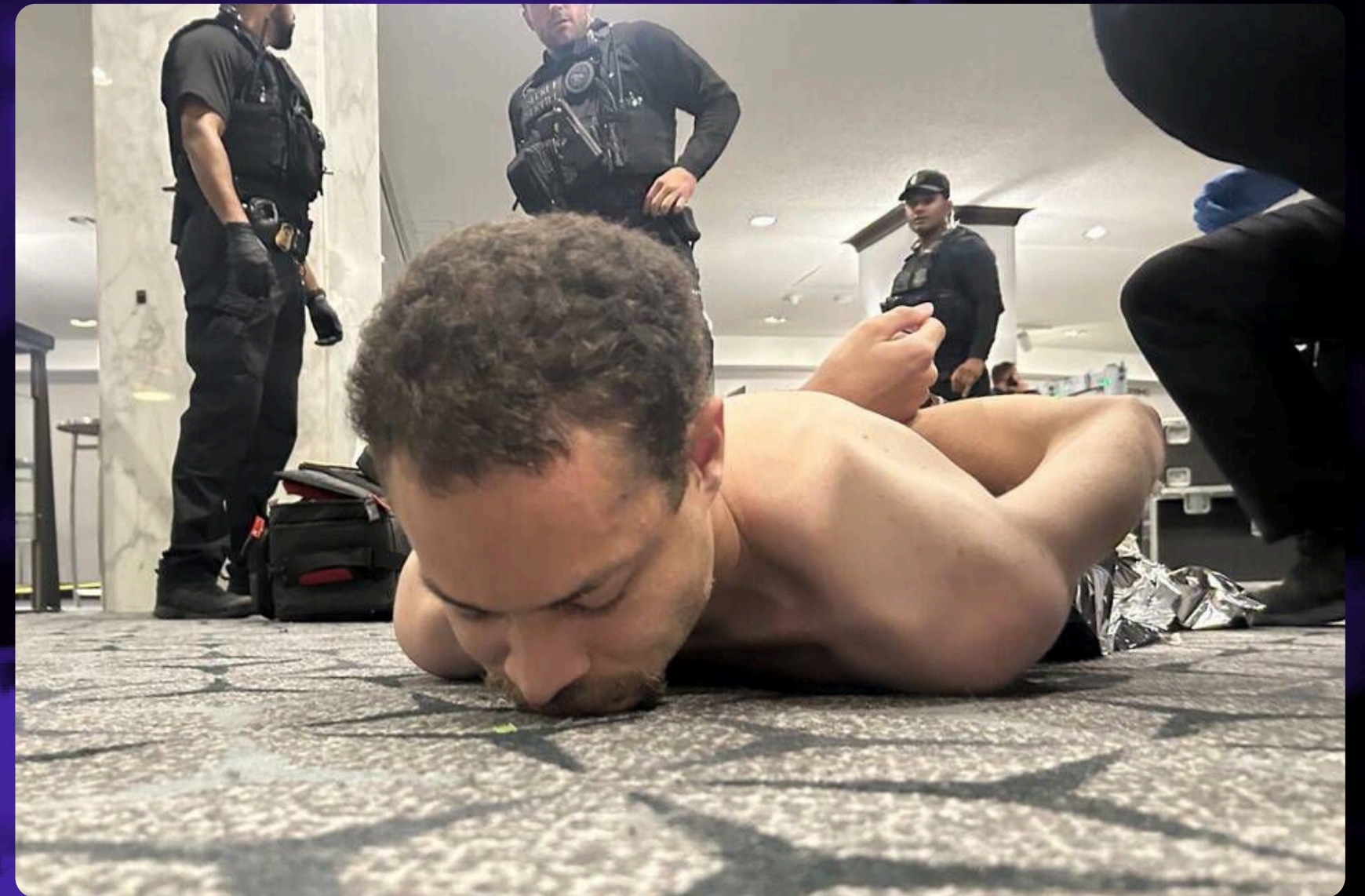


50.6k



THE SUSPECT

- Cole Tomas Allen, 31, from Torrance, California. A part-time teacher.
- Graduated from Caltech in 2017 with a degree in mechanical engineering.
- Described himself as an indie video game developer.
- Authorities found a written manifesto in which he clearly stated his intent to target Trump administration officials.
- Investigators believe he traveled by train from LA and acted alone



SECURITY

- This shooting occurred at the same Hotel that Ronald Reagan was shot
- Rep. Mike Lawler stated there was no photo ID requirement or verified attendee list, and no magnetometers before entry to the ballroom.
- The suspect is believed to have bypassed the outermost security layer simply by being a hotel guest. The hotel was closed to the public from 2 p.m., but guests already checked in retained access.
- Trump has claimed that this is a reason why the ballroom is necessary.



Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

What happened last night is exactly the reason that our great Military, Secret Service, Law Enforcement and, for different reasons, every President for the last 150 years, have been DEMANDING that a large, safe, and secure Ballroom be built ON THE GROUNDS OF THE WHITE HOUSE. This event would never have happened with the Militarily Top Secret Ballroom currently under construction at the White House. It cannot be built fast enough! While beautiful, it has every highest level security feature there is plus, there are no rooms sitting on top for unsecured people to pour in, and is inside the gates of the most secure building in the World, The White House. The ridiculous Ballroom lawsuit, brought by a woman walking her dog, who has absolutely No Standing to bring such a suit, must be dropped, immediately. Nothing should be allowed to interfere with with its construction, which is on budget and substantially ahead of schedule!!! Thank you for your attention to this matter. President DONALD J. TRUMP

6.98k ReTruths **27.1k** Likes

Apr 26, 2026, 8:46 AM

DISCUSSION

- Thoughts on the event being a “celebration of the First Amendment,” given that Trump has been criticized for restricting the press?
 - Ex: Threatening to revoke the licenses of news stations
 - Kicked the press out of the Pentagon
- Do you think that they invited a magician/mentalist instead of a comedian so as not to upset Trump (Question raised by a CNN article)
- Do you think that this justifies a white house ballroom (as raised in Trump’s statements)?
- Other thoughts?

MAHA

- Led by RFK Jr., HHS Secretary, a former Democrat and longtime vaccine skeptic
- Core claim: chronic illness epidemic caused by Big Food, Big Pharma, and environmental toxins
- Banning petroleum-based food dyes; closing FDA loopholes on untested food ingredients.
- 18 states now block SNAP benefits from being spent on candy and sugary drinks
- Autism prevalence is cited at 1 in 31 children, and Kennedy claims environmental causes, including vaccines, are responsible, despite no scientific consensus supporting this.
- Measles outbreaks increased by late 2025, directly tied to anti-vaccine rhetoric from the movement.

The White House as it stood



What Trump envisions

