

Pre-publication draft for submission to third-party artificial intelligence (AI) for facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) check for a developing report on MHPProNews.

Brief History of Assassination Plots vs. Warren Buffett, Bill Gates and more Wealthy Corporate or Other Leaders. Westpoint Assassination and Asis International Corporate Security Studies. FEA

According to AsisOnline Security Management: **"The feared string of copycat attacks never emerged in the wake of Thompson's assassination. But a lasting shift in how corporate America views executive risk did when UnitedHealthcare's stock value dropped nearly 20 percent and lost more than [\\$110 billion in market value](#) in the two weeks after Thompson's death."** UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson murder by accused assassin/shooter Luigi Mangione or the Charlie Kirk assassination by accused assassin Tyler Robinson drew national and even global attention to the issue of higher profile corporate, organizational, or other leaders facing security issues. [MHPProNews](#) notes that it is arguably fair to say that certain billionaires, corporate, organizational, and political figures face a greater threat of such attacks to the population at large may have. According to a [Westpoint.edu study](#) of the "The Rationale of Political Assassinations" stated: "this study establishes that different processes trigger different types of assassinations, and that different types of assassinations generate distinct effects on the political and social arenas." That same [Westpoint.edu](#) said: "this study establishes that, in contrast to some expectations, processes of democratization can sometimes facilitate assassinations under specific conditions rather than impede them." Frustration seems to fuel assassination attempts and plots, per certain sources, and efforts to thwart public participation in the political (or economic, social, and businesses processes) can supposedly be a trigger for some to engage in plots for violence. With those preliminary thoughts in mind, it is a useful to pivot to the other headline topics. This facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) should best be framed with the obvious declaration that such acts of violence are a violation of the laws of [God](#) and the laws of civilized humanity. Whatever the negatives asserted against individuals such as [Warren Buffett](#), [Bill Gates](#), or others with enormous wealth and influence over our business, economic, and political processes, the proper response *is not* to gun them down without the benefit of a trial by as impartial a jury as could be mustered for such a hypothetical case and its various forms of legal appeal. Whatever the treachery that may exist in the halls of certain enterprise's and organization's in MHVille, morally speaking, violence should not be considered as the solution.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF--tpcwH8A>

1) According to [Google's artificial intelligence](#) (AI) powered overview was the [following](#).

★ AI Overview

High-profile corporate leaders, particularly Bill Gates and Warren Buffett, have been identified as targets of violence, primarily driven by extremist ideologies or ideological opposition to their philanthropy and global influence. While successful assassinations of top US corporate leaders are historically rare, security threats, assassination plots, and conspiracy theories are persistent.

Assassination Threats Against Bill Gates & Warren Buffett

- **Al-Qaeda "Hit List" (2015):** Al-Qaeda's online magazine *Inspire* specifically listed Warren Buffett, Bill Gates, and Mike Bloomberg as targets in an effort to "derail the US economy". They were targeted for representing "self-made" success and as symbols of American capitalist influence.
- **Extortion Plot (1998):** A 22-year-old Illinois man, Adam Quinn Pletcher, was put on trial for sending letters threatening to kill Bill Gates and his wife. He demanded \$5 million to open a nightclub.
- **Conspiracy Theories (2020-present):** Bill Gates, in particular, has faced intense harassment, death threats, and "spurious COVID conspiracy theories," particularly related to vaccines and the Gates Foundation's work.
- **Bio-terrorism Concerns:** Gates has highlighted the danger of terrorist attacks using synthetic pathogens, urging global leaders to prepare for such threats.

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Threats Against Other Wealthy Corporate Leaders

- **Elon Musk:** Musk has faced threats, including a "teflon" reputation allowing him to take immense risks and act as a controversial figure. He also notably challenged Russian President Vladimir Putin to single combat.
- **Mark Zuckerberg:** The Facebook/Meta CEO has been at the center of conspiracy theories and safety threats, particularly regarding platform content and misinformation.

- **Global Context:** In developing regions, such as Mexico, threats and physical violence against business leaders with political ties are common, such as the 2020 attempt on security official Garcia Harfuch.

The Wall Street Journal +3

Nature of Threats

The threats facing these leaders generally fall into three categories:

1. **Ideological/Extremist:** Targeting them as symbols of globalism or capitalism.
2. **Extortion:** Threatening harm to steal money (like the 1998 Gates case).
3. **Conspiracy-Driven:** Threats arising from misinformation regarding vaccines, technology, or pandemics.

UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson murder by accused assassin/shooter Luigi Mangione or the Charlie Kirk assassination by accused assassin Tyler Robinson drew national and even global attention to the issue of higher profile corporate, organizational, or other leaders facing security issues. It is fair to say that certain billionaires, corporate, organizational, and political figures face a greater threat of such attacks than the population at large may. ...

2) In response to this [MHPNews](#) inquiry to [GAIO](#): "Risk to corporate leaders of assassination attempts - cost for security how many such protected leaders are there in the U.S.?"

AI Overview

Assassination threats and violence against U.S. corporate leaders reached record highs in 2025, driven by political polarization, activism, and social media targeting, resulting in a dramatic increase in security costs. Following the December 2024 murder of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson, companies have rapidly shifted executive protection from a "perk" to a "strategic imperative," with roughly 31% to 34% of major U.S. companies providing security services to their CEOs.



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Risk to Corporate Leaders

- **Surge in Threats:** Incident levels targeting senior executives doubled by the end of October 2025 compared to 2024 levels, marking the highest point on record.

- **High-Risk Sectors:** Leaders in health care, insurance, technology, fossil fuels, and finance face the highest risks.
- **Nature of Threats:** Threats now combine physical stalking with digital surveillance, including "swatting" and "doxxing" (releasing private information online).
- **Primary Targets:** CEOs remain the main target, but threats are rising for other senior executives.

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Cost of Security

- **Rising Costs:** Median security spending for Fortune 500 CEOs jumped 16% to a record \$106,530 in 2024. By 2025, this median rose further to roughly \$76,000–\$94,000 for many, with high-end programs costing millions.
- **High-End Protection:** Elite protection details (including armed personnel, armored vehicles, and digital surveillance) can cost \$3,000 to \$5,000 per day.
- **Specific Examples:** Companies like Intel increased security spending by over 8,000% to roughly \$250,000, while others like Salesforce capped security/aircraft perks at \$4.6 million for 2025-2026.



Fortune +4

Number of Protected Leaders in the U.S.

- **S&P 500 Prevalence:** A 2025 report indicated 31.3% of S&P 500 companies provided some type of security perk to at least one named executive officer in 2024, up from 23.1% in 2022.
- **Rising Adoption:** In 2025, 25% of Fortune 500 companies explicitly provided personal and home security for their CEOs, representing a 36% increase from the previous year.
- **Growth in Smaller Companies:** Roughly 7% of Russell 3000 companies now provide personal security to their CEO, a 46.9% increase from a year earlier.



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Types of Protection Provided

- **Personal Security Personnel:** 33% of companies reported providing personal/close security personnel to executives.
- **Residential Security:** Installation and monitoring of home security systems.
- **Cybersecurity/Digital Protection:** Services to remove personal information from the internet and monitor for online threats doubled in 2024, rising to 7% of S&P 500 companies.
- **Corporate Aircraft:** Usage for personal travel to ensure safety is on the rise, with nearly 44% of S&P 500 CEOs using it in 2025, often framed as a security necessity.



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