

What we know about Luigi Mangione, suspect charged in UnitedHealthcare CEO's killing (Dec. 11 Update)

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Luigi Mangione has been charged with murder in last week's deadly shooting of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson. The 26-year-old, who was identified earlier as a person of interest, was arrested on firearms and other charges in Pennsylvania on Monday after being spotted at a McDonald's in Altoona amid a massive manhunt for the shooter.

Here's what we know about Mangione:

Luigi Mangione identified as suspect in CEO shooting

Mangione, who police said went to Pittsburgh and then Altoona after leaving New York, was arrested at a McDonald's after a customer alerted an employee who called police. Officers questioned Mangione, who they described as acting suspiciously.

According to court documents, the Altoona officers found Mangione sitting at a table in the back of the McDonald's wearing a blue medical mask and looking at a laptop with a backpack on the floor near the table. When the officers asked him to pull the mask down, they recognized him from photos released to the media.

Mangione was carrying multiple fraudulent IDs and a U.S. passport, NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch said at a news conference. One of the IDs matched the fake New Jersey ID that the shooting suspect used to check into a Manhattan hostel before the shooting, the commissioner said.

When the Altoona officers asked Mangione for his ID at the McDonald's, he gave them the New Jersey ID, according to an affidavit submitted with the criminal complaint. When one officer was checking the ID with dispatchers, the other asked Mangione if he had been to New York recently, and Mangione "became quiet and started to shake," according to the affidavit.

Mangione provided his real name after he was told he would be arrested if he lied about his identity, according to the affidavit. When an officer asked Mangione why he lied about his name, he allegedly said, "I clearly shouldn't have."

Officers found a gun and a suppressor that were consistent with the weapon used in the Dec. 4 shooting of Thompson, Tisch said. Police said the gun found in his backpack appeared to be a 3D-printed ghost gun, with a loaded Glock magazine with six 9 mm full metal jacket rounds and a 3D-printed silencer. Clothing and a mask consistent with those of the suspect in the case were also recovered, police said.

Mangione was charged Monday evening with five counts in Pennsylvania: forgery, firearms not to be carried without a license, tampering with records or identification, possessing instruments of crime, and false identification to law enforcement. New York filed the murder charge later that night.

Pennsylvania State Police Lt. Col. George Bivens said Mangione was initially cooperative and then stopped cooperating with investigators.

Held without bail at hearing, fighting extradition

At an extradition proceeding on Tuesday afternoon in Pennsylvania, Mangione was denied bail. He is contesting extradition, and Pennsylvania has 30 days to get a warrant from New York Gov. Kathy Hochul to start the process.

A defense attorney for Mangione, Thomas Dickey, argued that the state of New York did not provide the defense with the official second-degree murder charges in documents they were given and now the defense has 14 days to request a writ of habeas corpus for those. In New York, the office of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg confirmed to CBS News that prosecutors will seek a governor's warrant to secure Mangione's extradition to Manhattan.

As Mangione entered the Blair County Courthouse ahead of Tuesday's proceedings, he was aggressive and had to be contained, shouting that what was happening to him was "an insult to the intelligence of the American people." While inside the courtroom, he quietly mumbled and mouthed words while sitting at the defense table.

At his office Tuesday evening, Dickey told reporters he hadn't seen video footage of Mangione's outburst but said, "Hopefully, there won't be any more of that."

Dickey said he was hired to represent Mangione and not appointed to the case. He wouldn't identify who hired him, and he wouldn't comment on what Mangione has said to him.

Dickey said Mangione would plead not guilty to the Pennsylvania charges, and said he'd advise Mangione to enter the same plea to the New York charges. Asked to clarify what specific charges Mangione would plead not guilty to, Dickey said, "Every charge."

"Remember — and this is not just a small thing — the fundamental concept of American justice is the presumption of innocence and until you're proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, and I've seen zero evidence at this point," Dickey said.

Police say Mangione had handwritten note expressing views

A three-page handwritten document that "speaks to both his motivation and mind-set" was also recovered from Mangione when he was apprehended by police, according to Tisch. NYPD sources referred to the notes as a claim of responsibility where Mangione attempted to justify his actions.

Mangione wrote that the U.S. had "most expensive healthcare system in the world" but lamented that the country "ranks #42 in life expectancy," according to NYPD sources. Intelligence officers within the NYPD believe Mangione's grievances about UnitedHealthcare and other health insurance companies motivated the murder, NYPD sources said.

Mangione also referred to corporations as "mafiosa [that] have gotten too powerful," and said such companies abuse the United States "for immense profit." He wrote that others had shone a light on corporations' "corruption and greed" in the past and claimed that he was "the first to face it with such brutal honesty."

NYPD intelligence officers believe Mangione might have been inspired by "Unabomber" Ted Kaczynski, with the handwritten note reflecting a similar mindset.

Kenny told reporters that officials "don't think that there's any specific threats to other people mentioned in that document," but NYPD sources said police are concerned about the risk of extremists viewing Mangione as an example to follow. Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro expressed this concern in his Monday remarks, and strongly condemned both the murder and those who celebrated it online.

“The suspect is a coward, not a hero,” Shapiro said.

He worked at TrueCar, has Ivy League degree

According to his LinkedIn account, Mangione worked as a data engineer at the car-buying website TrueCar. But a company spokesperson told CBS News that Mangione hasn’t worked there since 2023.

Mangione graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2020, a Penn spokesperson confirmed to CBS News. He received a Master of Science in engineering with a major in computer and information science, and a Bachelor of Science in engineering, majoring in computer science with a minor in mathematics, the spokesperson confirmed.

While at Penn, he worked as a teaching assistant and founded a video game development club, according to his LinkedIn account.

At Stanford University in California, Mangione was a head counselor for a pre-collegiate studies program during the summer of 2019, the university said in a statement to CBS News.

Mangione appeared to suffer from severe back pain

Mangione’s last known address was in Honolulu, Hawaii, Kenny told reporters. The Surfbreak co-living community in Honolulu told CBS News that Mangione had been a resident at the location in 2022.

Sarah Nehemiah, who knew Mangione during his time at Surfbreak, said he left the community in April 2022 due to a lifelong back injury exacerbated by physical activity on the island. According to posts on his Reddit account, Mangione’s back pain had been persistent for several years and worsened after surfing in Hawaii in 2022. Nehemiah and other members of the Surfbreak community “lost contact” with Mangione “after he left,” she said.

R.J. Martin, a close friend of Mangione’s in Hawaii, told CBS News that Mangione was often social except for “when he was in severe pain.”

“There were times where he would kind of hide out and I’d only hear about it afterwards, but he’s one of those people that was such a gentleman,” Martin said. “He never complained. He would only tell me about things after the fact.”

Martin said the pain “inhibited him from doing a lot of activities he wanted to,” but said Mangione was active when not in pain.

Martin grew emotional during the interview. “I just feel heartbroken, you know, somebody that I loved and cared about ... could have done something so hideous,” he said.

The background image on Mangione’s X account shows an X-ray of a spine with hardware in it, reflective of previous surgery. It is not known if this is an X-ray of Mangione’s spine. An orthopedist told CBS News that the image appeared to show a hardware fusion, likely for a condition called spondylolisthesis, which is when a vertebra slips out of alignment. Mangione referenced the condition on Reddit and other social media accounts.

Mangione said on Reddit that he had spinal surgery in July 2023. In October, he indicated that the operation had gone well, saying that he was “taking zero pain meds” and hadn’t “had a bad day” since the surgery, eight days before. In February 2024, Mangione said the surgery came “after 1.5 years of failed conservative treatment.”

He’s related to a prominent Maryland family

Mangione was born and raised in Maryland, Kenny said. He is related to a prominent Maryland family that owns country clubs, health care facilities and real estate companies, CBS News Baltimore reported. He’s also a cousin of Maryland state Delegate Nino Mangione, who represents parts of Baltimore County.

Mangione’s paternal grandparents, Nicholas and Mary Mangione, were real estate developers who purchased the Turf Valley Country Club in 1978 and Hayfields Country Club in Hunt Valley in 1986. They founded Lorien Health Systems in 1977, and operated WCBM, a Baltimore radio station.

Mangione’s family said Monday in a statement, “Unfortunately, we cannot comment on news reports regarding Luigi Mangione. We only know what we have read in the media. Our family is shocked and devastated by Luigi’s arrest. We offer our prayers to the family of Brian Thompson and we ask people to pray for all involved. We are devastated by this news.”

Mangione graduated in 2016 from the Gilman School, an all-boys private school in Baltimore, according to his LinkedIn account. He was the school’s valedictorian and captained its robotics team. He also received a scholarship prize in 2014. He also volunteered at Lorien Health Systems in 2014, according to his LinkedIn.

A former classmate, who wishes to remain anonymous out of respect for the Mangione family and said he met Mangione in middle school and remained close with him through high school, told CBS News that Mangione “a good guy” who “didn’t have any enemies.” The former classmate said the two lost touch after high school, but said they felt sympathetic when they heard Mangione was a person of interest in the shooting.

“I don’t think he is a crazy person,” the former classmate said. “I hope that there’s a public trial and he gets the chance to explain how all of this happened in court.”

Mangione appeared isolated before his arrest

In the months leading up to Mangione’s arrest, posts tagging his account on the social media platform X indicate his friends may have been trying to contact him. His last post on the site was in June.

“Nobody has heard from you in months,” one post from October read.

Another post from July read, “I don’t know if you are okay or just in a super isolated place and have no service. But I haven’t heard from you in months.”

Mangione traveled to Asia for several months in early 2024, according to social media posts and people who spoke to him at the time. He posted about his travels on Reddit in April, saying he had visited “various countries” during the past two months. Gurwinder Bhogal, who said he corresponded with Mangione via email and a video call during this time, said he believes Mangione was in Japan until at least early May.

He reviewed Unabomber’s manifesto, books about back pain

On the book review site Goodreads, Mangione often reviewed and rated books. His activity there included a four-star rating and review of “Industrial Society and Its Future,” written by Theodore John Kaczynski, also known as the Unabomber.

Two health care-related books are on his read tab from 2022, including “Crooked: Outwitting the Back Pain Industry and Getting on the Road to Recovery” and “Back Mechanic.”

Nehemiah, from Surfbreak, said that Mangione returned to Hawaii “briefly in early 2023” and started a book club. However, “several members left due to discomfort in book choices.” She did not elaborate on what those books were.

Lilia Luciano and Anna Schecter contributed to this report.

The Ted K Archive

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