



**South Carolina  
Law Enforcement Division**

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**MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

**TO:** File # 31-21-0061  
**FROM:** Senior Special Agent David H. Owen <sup>Mac</sup>  
**RE:** Follow up Interview with Alex Murdaugh  
**COUNTY:** Colleton

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**Name:** Richard Alexander "Alex" Murdaugh  
**Address:** 4147 Moselle Road, Islandton, SC 29929  
**Phone:** 803-942-1227  
**DOB:** [REDACTED]  
**SSN:** Not Obtained  
**Employer:** Peters, Murdaugh, Parker, Eltzroth and Detrick, PA

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On August 11, 2021, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Senior Special Agent (SS/A) David Owen and SS/A Jeff Croft conducted a follow up interview with Richard Alexander Murdaugh, herein after referred to as Alex, at SLED's Low Country Office, located at 104 Simmons Street, Walterboro, SC. Cory Fleming, Alex's longtime friend and a defense attorney, was also present. In communications with Alex to schedule the interview, Alex did not relay to SS/A Owen that he would be accompanied

by anyone at the interview. The video/ audio recorded interview began at approximately 11:09 a.m. *Agent's Note: The time stamp on the video is not correct.*

*Agent's Note: This Memorandum of Interview is a summary as documented by SS/A Owen. It is not a verbatim account of the recorded interview.*

On June 7, 2021, Alex found his wife Margaret B. "Maggie" Murdaugh (Maggie) and their son, Paul T. Murdaugh (Paul) dead from gunshot wounds on the family property. SS/A Owen previously conducted an interview with Alex in the early morning hours of June 8, 2021, and a follow-up interview on June 10, 2021. On July 23, 2021, SS/A Owen contacted Alex on his cell phone, 803-942-1227, to schedule a follow-up interview. Alex requested the return of his Chevrolet Suburban (vehicle). He was told the vehicle was inoperable and the reasons why, which was due to the OnStar and Infotainment Center (electronics) beginning removed for forensic examination. SS/A Owen scheduled a time with Alex for him to retrieve personal belongings from the vehicle.

On July 28, 2021, SS/A Owen met with Alex at the Colleton County Sheriff's Office where the vehicle was secured. Alex was allowed to retrieve personal belongings and a SLED Receipt for Property was completed. Before departing, Alex stated that he had questions about the murders and the investigation. SS/A Owen stated that he too, had questions. Alex said that he was leaving the next day for vacation with the Branstetters, Maggie's family. SS/A Owen told Alex to call upon his return and to schedule an interview. On August 4, 2021, Alex contacted SS/A Owen and an interview was scheduled for August 11, 2021.

SS/A Owen opened the interview on August 11, 2021 by explaining that he understood Alex had questions, but that SS/A Owen had questions for some clarification as well, and that the interview would start with those question. Alex stated that he understood, but Fleming interrupted, stating, "Wait a minute. Maybe I'm mistaken. I thought we were coming here so you can update him (Alex) on what's going on." SS/A Owen responded that was the intent. Fleming directed, "Let's do that first." SS/A Owen advised Fleming that the update was that the investigation was ongoing and there were some questions that SS/A Owen would like some answers too. SS/A Owen clarified that Alex did not have to answer any questions he was not comfortable answering. Alex stated, "I'm fine with that... Totally understand." Fleming again

interrupted, "Wait just one second. I need for you to tell me, are you going to give us information or are we just here for you to ask questions." SS/A Owen told Fleming that he intended to provide Alex with some information. Alex told Fleming that he did not mind. Fleming stated that, "I can't...I mean, I'm a friend, but I'm also a lawyer and I'd like to know what we are doing, I'd like to know what we are talking about." Fleming asked SS/A Owen if he was asking Alex questions "to further the investigation, or because you think Alex is a suspect." SS/A Owen stated the questions were to further in the investigation. Fleming stated he was not comfortable with SS/A Owen asking Alex questions as a suspect, that Fleming came to the interview thinking Alex would be told where the investigation stood and what had been done in the investigation. SS/A Owen told Fleming what he previously told Alex, which was when someone closely related to those killed, or when someone locates those killed, they are included in the investigation until they can be excluded, and that Alex could not be excluded at the time. Fleming stated he was comfortable with SS/A Owen's response. Alex stated he was comfortable and would do anything to help. The following is a summary of the information provided by Alex.

On the morning of June 7, 2021, Alex left his residence (Moselle) at approximately 8:30, 9:30 or 10:00 a.m. The electronic keypad at his office, Peters, Murdaugh, Parker, Eltzroth and Detrick, PA (PMPED), should have the time recorded as to when he arrived at his office that day. Alex stated that it could be, "a little bit on the later side of that." Alex added that Maggie left home earlier for an appointment in Charleston.

Alex returned home to Moselle, earlier than normal, around 5:30 p.m. He and Paul arrived about the same time. Paul may have been a little bit earlier or a little bit later than Alex.

Alex and Paul both rode around the farm in two different vehicles, one a white pickup truck, the other a black pickup truck. Alex did not recall seeing a rifle or shotgun in either truck. They had pistols though. Alex and Paul rode around and looked at the sunflowers (dove fields). Alex stated they rode around the farm for a substantial length of time. He stated it was more than an hour and believed it to be a couple of hours. As they rode, they just talked about everything. They talked about Paul's feet swelling and the stress from the boating accident. They talked about the farm. Alex stated that Paul had not seen a doctor about his feet. He resisted going to a doctor. Paul was very resistant and did not think he needed to see a doctor.

Alex and Paul did not discuss any injuries to any dogs at the kennels. Alex stated that Rogan Gibson, one of Paul's friends, had told Alex about a dog's tail. Alex heard that the dog's leg was possibly broken but did not believe it to be true. Rogan's dog was a "chocolate puppy," he thought.

Alex was not sure what time Maggie returned home from her doctor's appointment. He thought Maggie's appointment was good, but they did not get a chance to talk about the medical issue. She was having some issues, but he could not remember what the appointment was for. It was later then when Maggie returned home, a couple hours after he and Paul arrived home. After riding around the farm, Alex could not remember if Maggie met them at the shed (kennel area) or at the house.

Alex stated that Maggie was not supposed to return home that night, although he spoke with her earlier in the day and she stated that she might, but Alex later found out that she came home because she was worried about Alex due to his father, Randolph Murdaugh's bad health condition. Alex stated that Maggie was supposed to go Edisto, the family's beach house. Their housekeeper, Blanca (Simpson) had made dinner, which they ate as a family. The dinner conversation was normal. Dinner time was nothing out of the normal and last approximately 20 minutes.

SS/A Owen told Alex of video from Paul's Snapchat account that showed Alex in khaki pants and dress shirt, tending to a small tree. Alex did not recall this. SS/A Owen mentioned that when he met Alex the night of June 7, 2021, he was clothed in a white t-shirt and shorts. Alex was not sure when he changed his clothing. He thought he changed before riding the farm with Paul but guessed he must have changed clothes when returned home and before dinner.

After dinner, Alex "dozed off." The television was on, but he was not watching. When he woke up, Maggie and Paul were not there. Alex left Moselle to go visit his mother at Almeda in Varnville. Before he left Moselle, he attempted to call Maggie and Paul and text Maggie, which they did not answer or respond. It was not normal for Maggie to ride with Alex to visit his mother, but in a previous statement, he stated that Maggie might ride with him. During this interview, Alex stated, "It's not like we had plans for Maggie to go." After receiving no response from Maggie, Alex did not check on her or Paul before he left for his mother's.

Alex's stated he when he left Moselle, he traveled Moselle Road, turned on Dobson Road to Hwy 63 to Varnville and then to his mother's residence at Almeda. SS/A Owen asked how often he visited his mother that late at night. Alex stated it was "not infrequent, it wasn't all the time." He visited all times of day. He stated his mother was particularly agitated, with her husband, Randolph, not being home. Mrs. Murdaugh had Alzheimer's "pretty bad." Alex checked on his mother more in the days and weeks following his father's passing.

The visit with his mother was approximately 45 minutes to an hour that night, according to Alex. SS/A Owen asked Alex if he made any stops when he left to return home. Alex responded, "On the way there?" SS/A Owen clarified, on the way to his mother's residence at Almeda or the return trip to Moselle. Alex responded, "Stops. Uhm, no I did not go anywhere, I went straight there."

When Alex returned to Moselle, he entered the driveway with brick gates. *Agent's Note: SS/A Owen knows that there are two entrances to the property. The brick gate entrance is the main entrance. The other leads to the kennel and sheds.* Maggie and Paul were not at the house. He did not know how they got to the kennels, where he later found them. Alex was hoping that SS/A Owen would be able to give him that information. SS/A Owen stated that a black truck (Ford F150) was parked at the kennels. Alex stated that truck stayed at the kennels or the house, there was not set location. Alex stated that Maggie walked a lot, but Paul would not walk. If Alex were "shown proof" that Paul walked, he would be surprised. It was highly unusual for Paul to walk; he would talk Maggie into riding first. Alex stated that he did not go to the kennels after dinner. It was not until he returned from visiting his mother that he returned to the kennels.

SS/A Owen advised Alex of information obtained indicating that Paul was on the phone with someone and that someone had heard Maggie and Alex in the background. Alex stated that Rogan Gibson had asked him if it was him at the kennel because he thought it was Alex. SS/A Owen asked Alex if it was him. "At 9pm, no sir, not if my times are right." Alex did not know who it could have been that Rogan heard on the phone. It surprised Alex that Rogan believed he was at the kennels. Alex agreed that he had a distinctive voice, and that Rogan had been a close family friend for most of Rogan's life. Alex could not think of anyone that Rogan would mistake his voice for.

SS/A Owen asked Alex about a time on the 911 recording where Alex stated, “Here,” and if was talking to anyone or anything. Alex did not recall stating, “here,” or of the circumstances around that comment. Alex stated that all the dogs were in kennels when he returned and there was no one else at the kennels that he saw, when he arrived.

Alex did not recall telling SS/A Owen that Buster, Alex’s son Richard Murdaugh, Jr., would have information about the threats against Paul. Alex did not have any information about who possibly killed his family.

The shotgun Alex retrieved from his house the night of the homicides, was no “particular shotgun,” he “grabbed” what he could get his “hands on.” SS/A Owen had previously asked Alex about his guns and if he had a list of them that may help identify any missing guns or at least the shotgun used against Paul. Alex stated that to his best determination, three shotguns were missing; a black Benelli and a brown camouflage Browning, which both were automatic shotguns, and a green camouflage pump shotgun that was believed to a Remington.

Paul carried guns in his truck, whether it was a shotgun, rifle, pistol, or any combination of the aforementioned. Alex stated that it was unusual for Paul to not have guns in his truck.

Paul got physical with Alex one time, that Alex recalled. They were at Moselle and Paul had been drinking “too much.” Alex did not have a date, but stated, “It had been a while.” Alex did not elaborate what the altercation was about.

SS/A Owen asked Alex about a comment he made during a recorded interview on June 8, 2021, shortly after the discovery of the homicides. Alex told SS/A Owen that he recalled touching Paul’s phone when it fell from his pocket, and he stated that he thought of doing something with Paul’s phone. At the time of this interview, Alex indicated to SS/A Owen that he did not recall this comment, nor did he recall any intentions to do anything with Paul’s phone.

Alex stated that there were no security cameras on the property, but they had discussed installing them. Alex recalled a few things going missing over time from the property, like tools, and Milwaukee drills. Most of these missing items have occurred since Claude B. Rowe was hired. Alex provided the name of a previous farmhand at Moselle, Matt Luce. He

indicated that Luce may have additional information since he helped at Moselle in late fall of 2020 until Alex hired Rowe.

Alex was asked the status of the pending litigation involving Paul's boat crash. Fleming interjected and stated that he believed Alex should not speak about the case outside the presence of the case attorneys. Alex stated he did not mind and provided a statement on the status. The case was proceeding, and he was unaware of any civil motion decision that would have incited a response against his family such as the homicides, neither was he aware of any issues or confrontations with any of the occupants from the boat crash or their families.

Alex did hear from Nathan Tuten, a family friend, that an unknown occupant from the boat crash, or their parent, told Tuten that he could not be friends with them and the Murdaughs, that he had to choose. Alex did not know which occupant or parent the information came from.

Alex stated that Kyna Treherne possibly had information about Maggie and Paul's murders. Treherne was with an unknown friend at another unknown friend's party when Treherne overheard people talking, according to Alex.

SS/A Owen asked Alex if he killed Maggie, "No, did I kill my wife? No David." *Agent's Note: Alex was referring to SS/A Owen when he stated, "No David."* When asked if he knew who did, Alex stated that he did not know who did.

SS/A Owen asked Alex if he killed Paul, "No, I did not kill Paul." When asked if he knew who did, Alex stated, "No sir, I do not know who did."

Alex asked SS/A Owen if he thought that he, Alex, killed Maggie or Paul. SS/A Owen replied that he had to go with facts and evidence. Alex then asked if he was a suspect. Alex was told that, at the time, there was no evidence that removed him from the investigative circle and that SS/A Owen had to put his beliefs aside and look at the evidence. Alex stated that he understood.

SS/A Owen asked Alex if he would submit to a polygraph. Before Alex could answer, Fleming stated, "We're not going to answer that question...we're not answering that question." Fleming stated that if SS/A Owen wanted to "discuss it, we can have that discussion, but we're not going

to answer that question.” Fleming was asked what he wanted to discuss about taking a polygraph, to which Fleming firmly replied, “I will discuss it later.” He stated it would not be discussed that day.

SS/A Owen asked Alex if he had any questions of him that could be answered. Alex stated, “No sir.” Fleming told Alex to walk outside and let him finish talking with the agents.

Alex got up to exit. SS/A Owen escorted Alex out the Low Country office. Once outside and off camera, Alex stated that he knew SS/A Owen had to ask the questions he did, and thanked SS/A Owen for doing his job.

SS/A Owen returned to the interview room where Fleming was waiting. Fleming questioned if the interview was being recorded and why they were not told they were being recorded. SS/A Owen advised Fleming that he did not have to be told he was being recording. Fleming stated that the meeting was “not an interview.” Fleming stated that Alex came in looking for answers and accused SS/A Owen of “completely using it as an interview.” Fleming stated that he did not care if the interview was videotaped, he cared that agents did not tell them. SS/A Owen advised Fleming that this was the first time they had met or talked, and that SS/A Owen had previously communicated with Alex. During that communication, Alex stated that he had questions. SS/A Owen stated that he too, had questions and Alex was advised to contact SS/A Owen when he returned from a vacation to schedule a time.

Fleming reiterated that he was present only there as a friend. SS/A Owen told Fleming that when he spoke with Alex or whoever spoke with Alex about the polygraph, that the polygraph was used as a tool to assist in determining whether Alex had any involvement in the murders, and that it may assist to exonerate or clear Alex if he was not involved. Fleming interrupted SS/A Owen and adamantly stated that “Alex did not do this.”

The interview concluded at approximately 12:50 p.m.