



**South Carolina
Law Enforcement Division**

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
29221-1398

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

Tel: (803) 737-9000

MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

TO: File # 31-21-0061
FROM: Senior Special Agent David H. Owen *MD*
RE: Interview with Alex Murdaugh
COUNTY: Colleton

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

On June 8, 2021, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Senior Special Agent (SS/A) David Owen and Colleton County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Detective (Det.) Laura Rutland conducted an interview with Richard Alexander Murdaugh, herein after referred to as Alex Murdaugh, while seated in SS/A Owen's cruiser, parked at 4147 Moselle Road, Islandton, SC. His attorney, Danny Henderson was also present. On June 7, 2021, Alex Murdaugh found his wife Margaret B. "Maggie" Murdaugh and their

son, Paul T. Murdaugh died from apparent gunshot wounds on the family property. The audio-recorded interview began at approximately 12:57 a.m.

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.

Alex Murdaugh arrived at the canine kennels on the family property and knew "it was really bad." He could see his "boy", Paul Murdaugh's brain. He attempted to turn Paul Murdaugh over but "figured it out." Paul Murdaugh's cell phone "popped" out of his pocket and Alex Murdaugh started to "do something with it, thinking maybe...but then I put it down really quickly." He then went to "my wife...and I mean I could see." Alex Murdaugh attempted to check their pulse and touched them as "limited as possible." He called 911 "pretty much right away." *Agent's Note: According to Alex Murdaugh's phone, the call to 911 was approximately 10:06 p.m.* After speaking to the 911 operator, he told her that he was going to get off the phone to call family. Alex Murdaugh contacted his brother Randy (Randy Murdaugh) and John (John Marvin Murdaugh). He attempted to call a friend of Paul's, (Rogan Gibson) but did not receive an answer.

SS/A Owen inquired what Alex Murdaugh saw around the bodies when he arrived. He stated he did not see anything other than blood and body parts. He did not see anything else.

Paul Murdaugh worked for his uncle, John Marvin Murdaugh as handy man. Paul Murdaugh came home after work to deal with sunflowers. Paul Murdaugh returned home "pretty early" because he and Alex Murdaugh rode around for a "good little while...45 minutes to an hour." Alex Murdaugh did not provide a time, but said it was not dark and it was after lunch. SS/A Owen asked Alex Murdaugh what he did that day and if he was at his office. He replied, "No, I was home, I came home, Paul and I messed around."

The Murdaugh family were growing sunflowers in a "dove field." A farm hand, "CB Rowe" (Claude B. Rowe) sprayed the field with a chemical that killed the sunflowers. Paul Murdaugh planned to work in the field to rectify the damage. Alex Murdaugh helped his son. At one point Alex Murdaugh returned home and took a nap for about 25-30 minutes.

Maggie Murdaugh had a medical appointment in Charleston. She returned home “fairly late,” later than 6 or 7:00 p.m. It was not unusually for Maggie Murdaugh to be at the kennels that late playing with the dogs and letting them run.

Alex Murdaugh stated that Maggie Murdaugh did not normally go with him to check on his mother, but said that she “might ride” with him. When Alex Murdaugh woke up from his nap, he attempted to call and then text Maggie Murdaugh at approximately 9:08 p.m. that he was going to check on his mother. Both calls and text went unanswered. She was very good about calling him back or responding to his text, but she did not, which Alex Murdaugh thought was odd. *Agent’s Note: SS/A Owen verified the time on Alex Murdaugh’s cell phone.* Alex Murdaugh’s mother, Elizabeth Murdaugh “EM”, was in an advanced stage of Alzheimer’s and his father, Randolph Murdaugh was in a Savannah, Georgia, hospital.

Alex Murdaugh visited his mother “for just a little while.” On his return trip home, he attempted to call Maggie Murdaugh and then Paul Murdaugh at approximately 9:45 p.m. After no answer, he sent Maggie Murdaugh a text at approximately 9:47 p.m. that also went unanswered. According to Alex Murdaugh, Maggie Murdaugh was a dog lover, and he knew she went to kennels earlier to tend to the dogs, as she normally did.

When he returned home, “obviously” no one was home and he went to the kennels where he found Maggie Murdaugh and Paul Murdaugh. Alex Murdaugh called 911 at 10:06 p.m.

Agent’s Note: SS/A Owen obtained these times from Alex Murdaugh’s phone.

SS/A Owen questioned Alex Murdaugh about any thefts, break-ins, or trespassers at the Moselle property. “None that I know of,” he stated. The only thing that came to his mind was the boat accident Paul Murdaugh was involved in a couple of years ago (February 2019). Paul Murdaugh was charged as the driver and has since received a lot of negative publicity. A lot of people online said a lot of “vile stuff” about Paul. He was “routinely” assaulted. There were known direct threats of assault towards Paul Murdaugh all the time. Paul Murdaugh did not provide much information to Alex Murdaugh, and he could not provide any names of who assaulted Paul Murdaugh.

According to Alex Murdaugh, Maggie Murdaugh and Paul Murdaugh had not been arguing. Their relationship was “wonderful.” Alex Murdaugh and Maggie Murdaugh’s relationship was “wonderful...I’m sure we had little things here and there, but we had a wonderful marriage, wonderful relationship.” His relationship with Paul was as “good as it could be.” But also stated that Paul Murdaugh was a “wonderful, wonderful, wonderful person who would do anything for anyone.”

Since the boat accident of February 2019, Paul Murdaugh was attacked verbally and physically when he went out in public. Alex Murdaugh was not privied to the particulars about the assaults. Paul Murdaugh’s brother, Richard Alexander Murdaugh, Jr. (Buster) and Paul Murdaugh’s friends would have more information. Paul Murdaugh’s closest friends in Columbia, where he attended college, were Wills Chapman, Will Loving and Bobby Boyles. At home, his closest friends were Nolen Tuten and Rogan Gibson.

Alex Murdaugh could not provide any names that he was “overly suspicious of” off the top of his head. He did recently hire Rowe, who was not “cutting the mustard,” and Alex Murdaugh had not discussed the issue with Rowe. According to Alex Murdaugh, Rowe told Paul Murdaugh that when he (Rowe) was around high school age or just out of high school, Rowe fought some black males. An uncover Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) unit observed the fighting and hired Rowe and placed him with Navy Seals to kill radical Black Panthers. Although this story was relayed to Paul Murdaugh, Alex Murdaugh did not believe Rowe was involved with the deaths of his wife and son.

Rowe was off the day of June 7, 2021. He allegedly took his father to a doctor’s appointment in Mt. Pleasant, SC. Earlier that day, Alex Murdaugh had sent Rowe a text message to call about the sunflowers. Rowe called Alex Murdaugh as Alex Murdaugh was in route to his mother’s and while on the phone with friend Chris Wilson. Alex Murdaugh told Rowe that they would talk the next day. In reference to the phone call with Rowe the night of June 7, 2021, his demeanor seemed normal. Alex Murdaugh did mention the sunflower incident to Rowe. Alex Murdaugh believed that Paul Murdaugh and Rowe got along well. Rowe had worked for Alex Murdaugh for a couple months and had no issues with him, except the sunflower field.

Alex Murdaugh was not aware of any known or direct threat from anyone involved in the boat accident. There was “yip yap” about boat accident from people that did not know Paul Murdaugh. He did not go out much since the accident because of the talk. He did visit friends in the Charleston area. One time in Charleston, he sustained a black eye. Alex Murdaugh stated that Paul Murdaugh was not able to defend himself because of pending charges. “Paul was a real tough, man’s man.” He handled the boat accident well. “I’ve never been prouder of him and how he handled the pressure and adversity in that situation.” Paul was a “wonderful, wonderful, wonderful kid,” who got along with almost anyone.

Alex Murdaugh stated they did not normally store guns at the kennels, though he admitted that one may be left there sometimes. Alex Murdaugh could not recall the date, but sometime ago, a 12-gauge camouflage Benelli or Beretta shotgun was left at kennels. He believed the shotgun was put away but could not be positive.

When CCSO arrived, Alex Murdaugh was in possession of a shotgun, one he returned to his residence to retrieve. He stated he was “Probably overreacting.” He told the 911 operator that he was getting a gun and would put it away once law enforcement arrived.

Alex Murdaugh did not have a list of guns he kept at his residence, but he could make one. The guns kept at the residence consisted of 20-25 guns, rifles, pistols, shotguns, “all kinds... You name it across the board, we have them.” They were stored in a hunting room in the residence.

There were no security cameras on the property. There were deer cameras out in the field and on deer stand that were not near the residence or kennels.

The interview concluded at approximately 1:30 a.m.