



EPISODE 23: Alex Murdaugh Bond Set at 7 Million

Mandy Matney 00:06

I don't know if Alex Murdaugh will be let out of jail anytime soon. But on Monday, Judge Alison Lee gave Alex Murdaugh a \$7 million bond which would have to be paid in full. And that is a big deal. My name is Mandy Matney, and I've been investigating the Murdaugh Family for nearly three years now. And this is the Murdaugh Murders Podcast with David Moses and Liz Farrell. In the last episode, we warned you of shenanigans taking place at Monday's bond hearing. And it turns out we were right to a certain extent. On Monday, Alex Murdaugh appeared in court for the third time in three months for the 48 recent state Grand Jury charges judge Alison Lee the presiding judge over the state Grand Jury set Alex Murdaugh's bond at 7 million, which is unusually high for non capital charges. However, this is an extremely unusual case, as we have said over and over in this podcast, at the beginning of the virtual bond hearing, Judge Lee made a statement banning the use of recording devices and screen capturing for all participants, including media, she told journalists to take notes the old fashioned way.

Liz Farrell 01:32

There were a lot of things that were problematic about this. But I want to start positively and say a few good things about Judge Lee and the way she conducted the hearing. This was the first time either of us have attended one of her hearings, and there were a lot of things that we both found impressive, Judge Lee seemed very prepared and informed. She was very present and connected despite the literal distance between all the parties, and she was authoritative and dispassionate. She was not up for any nonsense from either side. And importantly, she took time during the hearing to address the questions the public had been asking about why she was suddenly presiding over Alex's hearing. When another judge had been assigned to the case. She thoroughly explained her role as the presiding judge of the state grand jury, and we appreciated the way she handled this head on. We can't say it enough, though. If corruption were a monster, it would be a vampire. It cannot survive in the sunlight. It needs the darkness to suck the life out of its victims. And as it turns out, to suck the settlements out of their clients pockets. The South Carolina Supreme Court issued an order in response to COVID That leaves it up to the judges discretion, whether they will allow recordings of their virtual courtrooms. So the decision to ban recording devices was completely on Judge Lee. Here's why this is a problem to start with. When Alex allegedly committed these crimes, he was a badge carrying member of the 14th Judicial Circuit solicitor's office, he had the power to prosecute cases and the influence to get charges dropped. In other words, regardless of who he is, as a member of the powerful Murdoch family and the broad interest in his case, he is a public official. And as such, the public has an absolute right to know how he was representing them. The next issue with the recording ban is that he's a member of the powerful Murdoch family. And by now you should all know what that means. The simple fact is that they're known around here for being able to make things



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work out in their favor. Because of this and their long history of wielding great influence over law enforcement, legislators and government officials. South Carolina's criminal justice system is also on trial here. Without transparency in court proceedings, the public does not have an opportunity to make their own informed assessment about whether this system is working the way it should without transparency, it allows for alternative narratives to emerge from the proceedings. Which brings me to our next point. After the hearing, there were several headlines in mainstream media that focused on this alleged apology that Alec made to the Satterfield family to be clear the quote unquote apology that Dick sort of gave on Alex's behalf, which let's pause for a second here Alex gave an eight minute monologue on his extremely pitiful state of affairs. He could have cut that speech down to two minutes and use the other six to actually say he was sorry to the family himself. So the apology that did give, let's just put it this way. If we could submit it for a DNA test, it would come back 100% robot. But you would not know this from the headlines mainstream media put forth because the public was for the most part, unable to listen to or watch the hearing. They have to rely on interpretations including our own skeptical one and it gives the Bulldog attorneys For our bulldogs and all Bulldogs, a huge opportunity to spin this however they want, with no checks and balances on it. And lastly, speaking of checks and balances by not allowing recording, Judge Lee made it more difficult for reporters to do their jobs, which I get it I'm really not trying to whine because our typing skills are pretty amazing. But journalists are avatars for the public, we help make sense out of the complex situations and barring recordings, even if Judge Lee had stipulated that the recordings could not be posted online only hurts accuracy. So the question we have is this who is Judge Lee protecting and her ban on recording? Was it herself? Was she afraid her words would be used against her? Was she protecting the defendant Alex from public scrutiny? Or was she helping the Bulldog attorneys by eliminating the possibility that Dick would be caught saying something horrible on a hot mic again, or maybe she was protecting the public from seeing what it looks like when Dick and Jim take up an entire frame sitting one inch from each other and yucking it up like the tooled men in the balcony on The Muppet Show?

Mandy Matney 06:08

Lucky for all of us, we have excellent note takers at the Murdaugh Murders Podcast. And we were able to transcribe all of the important parts of the bond hearing. There was a lot to unpack in this bond hearing that was over an hour long, and we want to take you through it step by step to understand why Judge Lee decided to set such a high bond for Alex and what that means. At the beginning of the hearing, prosecutor Creighton Waters with the South Carolina Attorney General's Office gave a brief summary of each of the 12 indictments handed down by the state Grand Jury since November. For a reminder suspended attorney Alex Murdaugh is accused of stealing and laundering over \$6.2 million from a number of clients including a longtime family friend, a law enforcement officer who was injured in the line of duty and Gloria Satterfield, the woman who raised his children Waters said that with these charges alone, Murdaugh faces 506 years in prison and about 3.5 million in potential fines. And we'll be back after this. Alex Murdaugh's bombastic attorney, Dick Harpootlian came out



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of the gates arguing again that his client is entitled to bond. So since we don't have recordings, David is going to read excerpts from our notes the old fashioned way.

DAVID MOSES 07:36

Your Honor, let me at the outset say that we would reiterate and we've done this in the memo, but I'm just going to reiterate the South Carolina constitution, and the statutes indicate that Mr. Murdaugh is entitled to a bond. Secondly, the Attorney General in their memo, I believe, conceded that he gets up on the question is how much bond, so this isn't a no bond situation. This is a situation where we should be determining what's appropriate to do to assure his appearance and protect the public.

Mandy Matney 08:11

Harpootlian then addressed what his idea of "protect the public" really meant.

DAVID MOSES 08:17

The only victims the only victims or victims as those alleged victims that he is accused of for purloining money in his role as an attorney. He is no longer he's suspended from the practice. He's no longer a member of the firm. He has no access to any clients to steal any money. So his continued if in fact, he committed these crimes, his continued commission of crime has been blocked by his inability to have clients to steal from that's number one. Number two, when you hear from the victims in a moment, I think each of them will indicate that the law firm or others have stepped up to pay the amount that Mr. Murdaugh is accused of stealing.

Mandy Matney 08:57

Basically, I think what Harpootlian is trying to say here is that the public is safe because Alex Murdaugh mostly steals from clients well, allegedly, and because the South Carolina bars suspended Alex's license, he can't do that anymore, so the public should be safe, according to him.

Liz Farrell 09:18

So the strangest thing kept happening to Dick during the hearing, he repeatedly forgot to at least pretend that his client is innocent before proven guilty. He stumbled his way through almost every sentence containing references to Alex's alleged crimes, it seemed very difficult for him to keep things straight. Which of the crimes Alex is accused of are ones that Dick and Jim have already admitted he committed and which are the ones that they're actually defending? It's a really weird scenario when the prosecution uses the word allegedly more than the defendants own high priced attorneys.

Mandy Matney 09:57

Harpootlian then conveniently announced that Alex Murdaugh confessed judgment in the Satterfield case. A confession of judgment is essentially agreeing to the amount owed in the lawsuit. But hold on. Wait a minute, did Dick and Jim just completely reverse course in the



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Satterfield case, because don't forget, on November 17, Harpootlian and Griffin filed a shocking motion asking the court to dismiss the Satterfield lawsuit against Alex Murdaugh because Murdaugh's alleged co conspirators have already paid the Satterfield family. The motion honestly claimed that Alex Murdaugh, quote, is entitled to a credit for more than the \$6 million paid by all other settling tortfeasors and that motion was filed after Alex Murdaugh confessed judgment and lawsuits against his own brother Randy Murdaugh and former law partner John E. Parker. These actions essentially prioritize Alex buddy's debt to him over the victims. So now after re victimizing the Satterfield in that shocking motion in November, the Murdaugh camp suddenly wants to reverse course and play nice, huh? Also, I thought that Alec had no money according to his own lawyers, how could he pay the Satterfield 4.3 million? Does the confession of judgment mean anything if you don't have any money, or is it just another empty promise to save face? And then Dick read an apology sort of from his client to the Satterfield family?

DAVID MOSES 11:31

I want to indicate that Mr. Murdaugh has agreed to confessing a judgment of 4.3 million to the Satterfields. So it has to be approved by the receiver, but we've offered to do that, and also that he apologizes and I'm reading from a statement from him to the entire Satterfield and Harriot, families for his financial transgressions committed in connection with a wrongful death settlement fund recovered in connection with the death of Gloria Satterfield and the pain it has caused. So everyone, as I understand it, except the two of the 12 they're talking about have been compensated for the amounts contained in the indictment, those two one the firm is currently looking for and can't find them. And the second they're waiting for approval by the court. And I think there's a medical lien waiting to be legitimately resolved.

Mandy Matney 12:19

So when Alex's freedom is on the line, he suddenly wants to apologize to the Satterfield family who trusted him like a family member. And he doesn't do that apology directly. He does it through his lawyer got it. Dick continued his argument with reasons of why he believed his client was entitled to bond and yes, he used the word entitled many times.

DAVID MOSES 12:43

Now, once you get past the no bond, then you've got to look at a person's criminal history under the statute. He doesn't have any these charges all arose after he was well, the charges not the conduct arose after he was charged with insurance fraud in Hampton County, where he attempted to have himself killed by an associate in an attempt to collect insurance money for his son. Those charges are pending. And he had a \$20,000 unsecured bond on that.

Mandy Matney 13:13

So what it sounds like Dick is saying here is that Alex, criminal history isn't really that violent or dangerous if you don't count the whole suicide for hire plot, where he allegedly handed Eddie Smith a gun and told him to shoot him in a fit of rage so his son could collect a \$10 million insurance policy, got it. Dick kept going and argued that his client isn't a flight risk.



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DAVID MOSES 13:40

Is he a flight risk? I would point out that on those Hampton county charges he was in a facility being treated for drug addiction. He surrendered himself on the second set of charges for which he's been held in jail. He was in in Orlando treatment facility. He offered to surrender himself but for some reason sled and the Attorney General decided it was appropriate for them to go down and arrest him at the facility again, he offered to return to the state of South Carolina without any expense to the state of South Carolina and voluntarily surrender himself. They didn't do that he has surrendered his passport. He has no passport.

Mandy Matney 14:22

So Harpootlian seems really sour about the fact that his client was treated like everybody else when he was arrested in Orlando, Florida in October, and they weren't warned about it. Dick brought this up the last bond hearing and he brought it up again this week, Dick needs to realize that while he's an expensive defense attorney and a powerful lawmaker in South Carolina, neither law enforcement nor prosecutors are obligated to give him or any other fancy attorneys a heads up so their client gets a cushy arrest. When he speaks about this. He acts like he's entitled to getting special treatment and he isn't and he needs to get that

Liz Farrell 14:59

When Dick brought up taxpayer money being wasted Well, that was very lol, SLED could have saved taxpayer money by not going to Florida to get Alex sure that's true. Another thing that's true SLED is devoting a lot of taxpayer resources to these investigations seems like another way to save taxpayers money is to not have four dozen charges against you with more coming.

Mandy Matney 15:24

But back to Dick's speech, Dick sticking true to the PR plan that has failed him from the beginning attempted to garner sympathy for his client was an alleged recovering opioid addict. He summarized a psychiatric evaluation that was ordered by Judge Newman in October.

DAVID MOSES 15:41

He indicates that he was severely depressed. His wife, his son were murdered. He had a severe oxycontin addiction, he was depressed, but I think you're going to hear from him in just a minute that since he's gone through rehab and been in jail now for 60 or 90 days without access to any drugs. He's a far different person in terms of his mental status and not a danger to himself and certainly not a danger to the community. Civil for Dick wrapped up,

Mandy Matney 16:07

he made some odd comments about the media blogging and the blogosphere. Yes, he said the word blogosphere.



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DAVID MOSES 16:16

This case has got a lot of notoriety. And your honor, you'd have to be living in a different world to not know that this has been written about blogged, about and it's got its intrigued. It's this case has intrigued a number of people out there in the blogosphere. But but but the notoriety of the case does not your honor in any way. And I know it won't with you indicate what kind of bond which is defined by our statutes. If somebody's got a problem with the statute, they can come up to the legislature and try to change it. If they've got a problem with the Constitution. They can go through that process. But right now under this Constitution in this statute, he's I believe entitled to a PR bond to be released on his own recognizance.

Mandy Matney 17:00

So a PR bond means that Alex would have to pay no money to get out. I am not aware of any state statutes that says that somebody who is accused of the crimes that Alex Murdaugh is accused of is entitled to such a low bond. But anyways, at the end of the speech, Dick did make one last odd comment that I want to talk about.

DAVID MOSES 17:24

I would finally point this out. There are those who would indicate because he has fallen so far from grace that that somehow indicates he should be punished by a high bond and kept in jail. We'd ask you to release him on a reasonable bond with house arrest. We have no problem with the electronic monitoring with the provision that should he be accepted. And this is going to take a while because insurance has to be applied for into a treatment facility. He continues to need that treatment.

Mandy Matney 17:56

Is anyone saying that Alex Murdaugh deserves to be punished because he fell far from grace? What people are saying is that Alex Murdaugh is dangerous because just in September, he allegedly paid a guy to shoot him in the head. People are saying he's dangerous because there are a lot of bodies surrounding this man and millions of dollars are missing. People are saying he's dangerous because he has a history of manipulating vulnerable people. They don't care about his fall from grace. At the conclusion of his argument. Dixit Jested that elec should be placed on house arrest with electronic monitoring. And they'd be cool with that. Also, they said that they would apply for insurance for the treatment center. They want to get Alex into even with insurance rehab centers are expensive. Could he really afford it? Which brings us back to the million dollar question. Where is all of Alex's money? And we'll be right back. Alex Murdaugh was next to speak at the virtual bond hearing on Monday. This was the first time that Alex has spoken in front of any camera since his wife and son were murdered in June. This was a big deal that Alex was speaking at the bond hearing and an even bigger deal that he was speaking at a time when media couldn't record it. I wonder if that was planned.

DAVID MOSES 19:20

Thank you for letting me speak to you this morning. Judge Lee, Your Honor, please understand that there may be concern over whether I'm a danger to myself based upon my



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actions on Saturday, September the fourth, what I'd like for you to know about that day when that occurred. I had just within the past 24 hours met with my brother and another partner to discuss my actions. I've divulged to them. That I had an opioid addiction that I had concealed for 20 years Things were moving really quickly and really negatively. A world was caving in much as it had three months prior to that particular day. A I was in the throes of withdrawals as I had not taken opiates as I had for so long.

Mandy Matney 20:06

So Alex was saying here that on the day before the Labor Day alleged shooting, he had met with his brother and another law partner at his now former law firm PMPED to discuss his actions. Notice, he didn't specify what those actions really were. However, PMPED partners have said that the firm found out that day that Alex was stealing millions of dollars from them. And then Alex admitted to the fraud. And also this part is really important. Alex said here that his world was caving in on that day, the day that as fraud scheme was allegedly exposed just as much as his world was caving in three months prior, which was when his wife Maggie and his son Paul were brutally murdered. That says a lot about him. And his bond hearing speech, Alex continued by naming a long list of people he said he disappointed by his alleged actions.

DAVID MOSES 21:07

I was grieving Judge, I knew this news was going to deeply deeply hurt every single person that I cared about Maggie's family my family, which is a designation with no distinction, as I love them all dearly. My partner's two are not co workers but our family and knew nothing and did nothing. My clients who I do care about my friends, two of my oldest and dearest friends, Chris Wilson and Cory Fleming. You didn't know anything, and didn't do anything wrong.

Mandy Matney 21:41

Okay, so Alex dropped a big bomb here. He publicly absolved his two attorney buddies who have been roped into his mask, Cory Fleming and Chris Wilson. For a reminder, Fleming was the Satterfield family attorney while allegedly stole millions of dollars from Satterfield wrongful death settlement. His law license has been suspended by the South Carolina Supreme Court, and Fleming has publicly stated that he was duped by Alex and Wilson was the Benbrook county attorney was mentioned in one of the November indictments. He recently made a public statement saying that he was the one who alerted law enforcement of Alex alleged scheme. So basically, both of these friends have publicly thrown Alex under the bus. And it's a big deal that Alex is going on the record here and saying that his buddies had nothing to do with a fraudulent activity. And then he continued on with a list of very specific people who would be disappointed and these alleged actions of his,

DAVID MOSES 22:41

I knew that this news was going to humiliate me humiliate my son who's trying to be a lawyer, who's one of the best young man I've ever known and deserve none of what he's



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gotten his very serious girlfriend, who's like a daughter to me, and who was a young lawyer, and again, Judge, I knew it would humiliate mine and Maggie's family who was very proud of me, who's proud of my family's legacy, which I know if tarnished badly. Judge, I have tried very hard in the three months leading up to this to keep a close relationship with my son Paul's friends. I fear that this was going to alienate them.

Mandy Matney 23:22

Now, we don't know this, but we're assuming that the speech was approved by Dick Jim and the PR team. And we're wondering why he wants to go on the record about Paul's friends. And why would news of him defrauding his law firm alienate his son's friends? Alex kept going and detailed his alleged addiction.

DAVID MOSES 23:46

All of this was crushing to me. I was in a very bad place due to the withdrawals. I made a terrible decision that I regret that I'm sorry about and frankly, that I'm embarrassed about. I'm not in that place. Now, I quickly realized that I made a terrible mistake that I needed to be there for my son, Judge. I've had 38 days of inpatient treatment, where I work very hard despite being very sick for several weeks. By my count, I have 98 days opiate free, which I'm proud of, and which is the longest stretch in 20 years. My head is on straighter. I'm thinking clearer than I have in a long, long time. I've been exercising what started out as just trying to break the monotony has turned into several hours a day of exercising, and I feel good. I feel better than I have in a long time. I've been humbled and surprised by the outpouring of love and support that I have received.

Mandy Matney 24:47

Can we talk about how offensive the statement is to victims? How does Alex feel better than he's felt in a long time knowing that there are at least over a dozen people out there I have recently found out that Alex scammed them. While I'm sure he's pointing out his new exercise routine to demonstrate a new healthy man who isn't a danger to society, it comes off as super offensive. And who are these people he's speaking about, who have shown him an outpouring of support and love recently, and where were they during the last bond hearing when it appeared that nobody showed up for him?

DAVID MOSES 25:26

I want to be there for my son. I want to deal with everything that I have to deal with, which is a lot. I want to deal with these charges appropriately and head on. I want to repair as much of the damage that I have done as I can I want to repair as many of the relationships as I can Judge Lee, I do need more treatment as Mr. Harpootlian said, Should you decide to grant me a bond, I will get that treatment, whether you order it or not, I was on my way to the next step in the recovery process after inpatient treatment called PHP, when I was detained on these charges, Judge, I know I need to be my best self to deal with everything that I have to deal with and to avoid relapse. I'm committed to doing that. And hopefully we can figure out a way to make the people who care about me do so again, in some small way. I guess in



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conclusion, Judge, you know, I have a clear head. As I said, I will obey any order you issued to the letter, I will appear whenever and wherever I'm asked to. Your Honor, I'm not a danger to myself. And I look forward to the opportunity to hopefully try to begin working to put all this behind me. Thank you again, for letting me speak with you.

Liz Farrell 26:48

Does it strike anyone else as odd that Alex barely talked about what I would say is probably the most significant part of his whole 2021 journey, and that's the murders of his wife and son. To be clear, when Alex talks about regret and being sorry, he's specifically referring to his decision to engage in the labor day shooting incident, not the crimes he's been accused of committing. This speech seems to have floored a lot of attorneys out there because of how unusual it is to allow your client to speak on his own behalf at a bond hearing, especially for that long, Dick and Jim and Alex really seemed sure that they had this one in the bag and that he'd be going home that day. Based on what our sources were saying before the hearing. We were also pretty sure he'd be going home. But something changed when Alex spoke all the arrogance and self pity and narcissism and the absolute lack of awareness he had while extolling all his neat achievements in jail, absence of a meaningful apology to the Satterfield and the fact that he failed to mention the harm he has done to his fellow attorneys in South Carolina. I think that got to Judge Lee, like couldn't have fixed everything with his speech, but he could have made things slightly better for himself by showing just a little remorse and some humanity. What we wouldn't give for the ability to hear Dix and Jim's inside voices during Alex's statement.

Mandy Matney 28:08

The Satterfield family attorneys were next to speak. Attorney Ronald Rector read a statement that said that the Satterfield family is pleased that Mr. Murdaugh has finally expressed his apologies in that the family believes in forgiveness as devout Christians. After the Satterfield family spoke prosecutor Creighton Waters made his final argument and responded to Dick and Alex's comments.

Liz Farrell 28:34

One of the more significant parts of Water spinal arguments was his mention of what happened during Alex first hearing. If you'll remember the conditions of Alex bond were posted online before his hearing, which was so unsurprising it's not even funny. It was gratifying to hear Waters acknowledge this because after this happened, there were a number of people outside the state who commented about how this is a normal thing. I spoke to attorneys at the time and asked them about Hampton County's procedures. And no, this is not how it usually works. It was encouraging to see that the prosecution thought this was bananas too. But it also made us wonder whether the Attorney General's office was



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sending a very pointed message to Dick, Jim, Alex, and maybe even Judge Lee at that moment. Don't even try it.

Mandy Matney 29:24

Again, Waters argued for a high bond for Alex Murdaugh and called him particularly unhinged and a stark danger to the community considering both his fall from grace and his drug addiction. He argued that Murdaugh is a flight risk considering the large amount of money he allegedly had access to.

DAVID MOSES 29:43

So this is an individual that we believe based on the investigation has significant personal family assets who has engaged in efforts to protect assets from liability. And I think that given the severity of the charges over 500 years to date, I should add that adds to the flight risk that we see here,

Mandy Matney 30:02

And then Waters dropped another bomb, this time about victims in this case.

DAVID MOSES 30:09

Some of the victims have claimed a backlash. Their one victim was called a snitch. People are afraid to come forward. And indeed for others to come forward. They need, I believe, to see a strong message about how serious that the system is taking these particular charges, regardless of the name that this man carries and the family prestige that he carries.

Mandy Matney 30:34

Wow. So they're saying hear that victims in this case, have claimed to face backlash, and one was allegedly called a snitch. That is a powerful statement considering that Alex Murdaugh's family influence is at the center of this case. Alex's father, grandfather and great grandfather all served as elected officials in the DA position overseeing the prosecution of a five county region. We have been hearing for years that people are terrified of speaking out against the Murdaughs. Because of the family's influence in the courts, and law enforcement here. Creighton is saying that it is important that the judges make it clear that the Hampton County Court shenanigans are not going to fly here, and that the judge is taking this case very seriously. And then again, Creighton makes another powerful statement about the victims that Alex chose.

DAVID MOSES 31:35

When we look at who he preyed upon, allegedly, they were either people with long standing family or personal contact with him, or they were people who were particularly trusting and vulnerable because they're unfamiliarity with the system, or both. And so it was the most trusting and the most vulnerable that the allegations show that this man preyed upon. And



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because of that, because he still retains that influence and that power in the community. Regardless of all these allegations that danger to the community is heightened.

Mandy Matney 32:13

Creighton Waters concluded his argument asking for a bond of 4.7 million with serious conditions attached. And before she made her decision, Judge Lee asked about the receivership and how much power the receivers had over Alex's money.

Liz Farrell 32:34

Dick and Jim didn't do any favors for Alex attorney in the boat crash case or his motion to unfreeze some of the Murdaugh's assets. So Buster can quote unquote buy some groceries at Monday's hearing, they actually seem to be using the receivership, which they clearly have no love for to help make Alex case for bond. Jim even told the judge that all of Alex money had been accounted for something the prosecutor highly disagreed with.

Mandy Matney 32:58

And then Water stressed just how much of a flight risk he thinks Murdaugh is given the amount of money he's accused of stealing recently.

DAVID MOSES 33:08

I would add, though, that while there is a very robust receivership out there, I would agree. I would also point out that, particularly when we look at the money that was allegedly stolen, in this case, over \$6 billion, much of that was cashed out through cash to associates and so that money is out there somewhere. So to say everything's all accounted for and all of the rest of it. That's just simply not accurate.

Mandy Matney 33:37

And then things started to go a little off course, Eric Bland, chimed in and commented about the \$2.8 million that was allegedly cashed out to Eddie Smith. Where was that money? Dick are politely and did not want people to talk about all of the missing money, though he quickly changed the subject and accused the AGs office of stacking charges.

Liz Farrell 34:01

Dick described Alex charges of money laundering and wire fraud and computer crimes with such disdain as if these charges were superfluous and nothing more than a nuisance to his client. No offense to Dick But the last person I want to hear complaining about computer crimes, which are felonies, by the way is the guy who calls the internet the blogosphere. The reason Dick might have been so disgusted by Alex's 48 charges is because of the metric the AGs office was using, which was \$100,000 in bond for every felony Alex was charged with which would have put Alex bond at nearly \$5 million. another slice of absolute nonsense from Dick at this point was that he expressed out loud the idea that between Alex October hearing when he faced a total of five charges, and now when he faces four dozen that his client quote, got no more dangerous.



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Mandy Matney 34:50

In this is when Judge Lee snapped back at her Paiute land for the first time. She said that she disagreed with the notion that Alex is no more dangerous than he was in October. Considering that he was facing five total charges then and he's facing over 50 Now and then Judge Lee appeared to shock the good ol boys when she said Murdaugh's bond at \$7 million. She immediately said with no 10%, which means that Alex has to pay the amount in full if he wants to get out of jail, Dick and Jim, not realizing that they were unmuted couldn't help a comment here. Dick literally said

DAVID MOSES 35:31

No 10%? and then repeating You said no. 10%? That's \$7 million.

Mandy Matney 35:39

She had to remind him that he was not muted. And then she said yes, I said 7 million with no 10%. She then gave the conditions for the bond, which included house arrest, with location being provided to the court mental health and substance abuse counseling, no contact with any victims, his passport stays surrendered. And GPS monitoring did seem floored by the 7 million figure. It looked like the walls closed and on him and he suddenly realized his Super Lawyer legislative powers were no longer working. He immediately started arguing with the judge and said the AGs office didn't ask for anything close to that. And then he added,

DAVID MOSES 36:22

Not that he could make that he's in precuneus. He's locked down. He's got no money, this is tantamount to no bond.

Mandy Matney 36:31

At this point, Dick appeared to be throwing a fit about how his client is so poor that he can't post a bond that high. Lee was not having it though, and told Dick to file a motion if he had issues with her bond. It's really important to note that Judge Lee said she was reluctant to set bond but felt obligated due to the state's constitution. And what's also important, she said that she set the amounts so high because she was concerned about contacts within the community and in those individuals who may want to support in assisting him financially outside of the receivership. This begs the question, will anyone show up for Alex and post his bond? And if they do, what will happen? And that brings us to probably the biggest story of this week that no one's talking about. Can Alex actually get out of jail if he post bond, considering Newman revoked his bond on two previous charges.

Liz Farrell 37:27

Despite what sources told us over and over last week, that Newman's decision to deny Murdaugh's initial bond on the two original charges would stick. It turns out that isn't really the case that switcheroo we told you all about in our bonus episode, it was real, Judge Lee never said a word about this during the hearing. Neither did Dick or Jim neither did



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Creighton Waters, but the two charges on which Alex is being held without bond got absorbed into the 12 indictments that were handed down by the grand jury in November and December.

Mandy Matney 37:57

This means that if Alex Murdaugh find some money to post the \$7 million bond, he could be let out of jail. And that is a big deal. We have a really great episode about Stephen Smith coming soon. Subscribe to fitsnews.com. And the Murdaugh Murders Podcast on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates in the case. The saga is just beginning. So stay tuned.

DAVID MOSES 38:46

There's so much to unpack in this case and Mandy works tirelessly to expose the truth but the truth is she works hard and she does get tired. If you believe like I do that Mandy is the best in the business and I'm a little biased visit murdaughmurderspodcast.com and click the support the show link to learn how you can help leave a five star review to offset the haters refer an advertiser and get a finder's fee or advertise your company product or service we can geo target across the globe and find the right audience to suit your needs. Help us get Luna some treats so she doesn't interrupt the show as much. And absolutely subscribe to fits news.com Mandy and Will are revolutionizing journalism and your subscriptions are invaluable to that mission. Plus you get awesome content every day.

Mandy Matney 39:33

And don't forget to leave a five star review unless you're going to be nasty and talk about my vocal fry. The Murdaugh Murders Podcast is created by me, Mandy Matney and my fiance David Moses, produced by Luna Shark Productions