

Mandy Matney 00:00

I don't know if anyone shot Alex Murdaugh, but law enforcement recently released 3 911 calls in the allege shooting which frankly raise more questions than answers in this endless southern saga. My name is Mandy Matney, and I've been investigating the Murdaugh family for more than two and a half years now and this is the Murdaugh Murders Podcast. Previously on The Murdaugh Murders Podcast on September 4 2021, which was a Saturday of Labor Day weekend FITS news first broke the story that Alex Murdaugh was allegedly shot almost immediately. Sources close to the situation told FITS news that Alex's story was suspicious and not adding up the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, which is the same agency that is investigating nearly all of the alleged crimes associated with the Murdaugh family released a statement the day after the shooting that said that Alex head wound was superficial. They never called him a victim. They never gave any suspect descriptions of the shooter and they kept her statements simple, which to me was a hint that the story that the Murdaugh camp was feeding the media was false. Around the same time Alex Murdaugh's lawyers Dick Harpootlian and Jim Griffin started to embark on a week long spin campaign and an attempt to control the narrative and make Alex appear like the victim. They repeatedly fed the media a story that did not make sense that Alexwas changing a tire on the side of a rural Hampton county road when a man drove up to him and shot him. And then things got weirder on Labor Day. That would be two days after the alleged shooting incident. A family spokesperson released a statement saying that Alex Murdaugh was going into rehab and resigning from the law firm built by his family and that would be PMPED. So keep in mind the Murdaugh camp was really pushing this opioid addict storyline hard right after the alleged shooting, which they'd never done before. On that same day. PMPED, the law firm started by Alex's great grandfather in 1910 released a statement to the media claiming that Alex Murdaugh misappropriated millions of dollars from their law firm. So on that same week, which would still be days after the Labor Day alleged shooting, the South Carolina Supreme Court suspended Alex Murdaugh from practicing law due to evidence of misconduct that is under investigation the next day, which would be September 8 2021. A few days after the shooting. Sources close to the situation told us that police recovered the knife that slashed Alex Murdaugh's tires from the alleged shooting scene, and that knife was connected to Alex Murdaugh. Murdaugh's attorneys claimed that Alex had an entry and exit wound and was temporarily blinded in the shooting. They also told reporters that he was released from the hospital two days after the alleged shooting. So which is it? Was it



a serious injury or was he released two days later? The injury certainly we're not the only holes poked in the stories coming from the Murdaugh camp this month. They told reporters that Alex was airlifted to MUSC in Charleston, but he was actually flown to a hospital in Savannah. They told reporters that Alec was changing a tire on the side of the road. But the Mercedes Benz SUV had run flat tires that he was driving that day. They told reporters that Alex was on his way to Charleston from Moselle. But the road what he was on was out of the way from that route. FITS news appeared to be the only media outlet holding the lawyers to account and calling out their lies. Everybody else was just running around acting like it was a normal thing. However, the Murdaugh spin campaign was abruptly thrown off course on September 10, when SLED officials arrested 61 year old Curtis Eddie Smith. Smith was hit with several serious charges including assisted suicide, assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature pointing and presenting a firearm insurance fraud and conspiracy to commit insurance fraud. In the arrest warrants. We learned that Alex Murdaugh admitted to setting up a suicide scheme so his son Buster could collect a \$10 million insurance policy. News of Eddie Smith's arrest broke late at night on September 10, around 11pm. But just hours later Dick Harpootlian appeared on The Today Show the next morning where he continued to push this opioid narrative. Harpootlian claimed that Murdaugh was trying to get off opioids on the morning of September 4, and decided to end his life.

Dick Harpootlian 04:43

He called this guy who met them on the side of the road agreed to shoot him in the head and this fake car break down 30 minutes later, this guy shooting him in the head.

Mandy Matney 04:57

However, Eddie Smith's attorney tells a total We different story about what happened on September 4 2021.

Eddie Smith's Attorney 05:03

He received a call from Alex Murdaugh that asked if he could go to the Murdaugh parents house and said to bring the truck, which was the he understood the main his work truck. And that work truck made me believe that while he was going to do some kind of odd job, and that's where he first encountered Mr. Murdaugh in a suicidal, very agitated state that was requesting that Eddie essentially assist him in shooting at the scene at that time, which he refused. And the state of Mr Murdaugh continued to deteriorate and there was a struggle for the weapon that went off at



some point, and he left the scene and Mr. Murdaugh was still there with no visible signs of injury.

Mandy Matney 05:51

Now two days after Smith was charged Alex was also charged with three felonies in this alleged suicide for hires game. Less than two weeks after the alleged shooting, Alex Murdaugh showed up at the bond hearing without a scratch on his head. This raises all sorts of suspicions in the public eye was Alex Murdaugh ever even shot while Alex Murdaugh's bond was set at \$20,000 Smith, on the other hand, was set at \$55,000 cash in Hampton county court that week, we watched two systems of justice play out in live action, one for people like Alex Murdaugh, and one for people like Eddie Smith. On Friday, October 22, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division also known as SLED release, 3 911 calls from the alleged Alex Murdaugh shooting on September 4 2021. We're going to walk you through all 13 minutes of these calls. The first call we will play is from two witnesses who passed by Alex Murdaugh by himself on the side of old Salkehatchie Road in Hampton County, South Carolina, which is about 80 miles west of Charleston, South Carolina.

911 Operator 06:31

Hampton County 911, What is your emergency?

Speaker 07:00

Yes um we're on Salkehatchie Road, theres is a man on the side of the road he's waving his hands

911 Operator 07:39

He's just laying there waving his hands around?

Speaker 07:42

He looks fine, but it kind of looks like a setup. So we thought

911 Operator 07:45 oh, I don't blame you.

Mandy Matney 07:47



So here the woman is saying that she saw a man on the side of the road waving his hands with blood all over him but she said that it looked like a setup. And the operator in response says I don't blame you for not stopping.

911 Operator 08:00

What area on Salkehatchie Road are you on?

Speaker (2) 08:05 Oh, I can tell you we're like halfway down Salkehatchie Road.

911 Operator 08:09 Okay. All right. And this was shortly after you turned off. Walterboro. Come across Walterboro highway or?

Speaker (2) 08:15 let <mark>me let me</mark> pull over so I can look at my GPS.

911 Operator 08:19 Okay Yeah, I'm trying to pull up a location as well on your phone.

Speaker (2) 08:26 I know that we we barred to the left. There's a what's called a Sylvester road.

911 Operator 08:31 Yes, Sylvester Road

Speaker (2) 08:33 Okay when you barre to the left there is he's probably two miles down.

911 Operator 08:39 Okay. About two miles from the Sylvester Road barre off?

Speaker (2) 08:42 Roughly Yeah,

911 Operator 08:42

Roughly. Okay. All right. Well, let me get my deputies in that area to see what's going on. We can you give me a description of that male.



Mandy Matney 08:48

So what's weird about this, the Hampton 911 operator says that she is dispatching Hampton County deputies here. Well, we don't know what time this call was placed. It was likely around the same time or slightly after Alex Murdaugh called 911 which was at 1:34pm. The Hampton County Sheriff's Office wasn't even dispatched to the scene until 12 minutes after Alex placed that 911 Call which is very odd considering that they labeled that call an attempted murder in the police report. It took Hampton County deputies more than an hour to arrive on scene at Salkehatchie road.

Speaker (2) 09:27

Um I'm going to say he's probably 40s, hes not very large. But he's kind of heavy set. White hair and it's a black some kind of as you say like a smaller Kia SUV or something.

911 Operator 09:42 And Is it stopped where he's at?

Speaker 09:48 Say what?

911 Operator 09:49 And the Suv is stopped where he's at?

Speaker (2) 09:52 I couldn't understand you.

911 Operator 09:53

is the SUV right where he's at as well?

Speaker (2) 09:56

Its pulled over on the side of the road. There's no damage to the SUV I don't think so, the trunk of it was open.

911 Operator 10:05



Okay. All right. Well, let me get my deputy Headed to that area., What's your name and contact number for you? I have my deputies headed out that way. I will definitely send it out that way. Okay. All right, so thank you no problem.

Mandy Matney 10:17

But again, it took Hampton County deputies more than an hour to arrive on scene, which raises several questions what took them so long to dispatch deputies to the scene and what took them so long to get there? Hampton is not that big Alex Murdaugh first called Hampton County 911 at 1:34pm September 4, here is the beginning of that call.

911 Operator 10:59 Hampton County 911 What is your emergency?

Alex Murdaugh 11:02 Oh I'm on Salkehatchie road.

911 Operator 11:05 Okay what's thh address on Salka Hatchie Road?

Alex Murdaugh 11:07 I'm by the church.

911 Operator 11:10 What church what church are you talking about?

Alex Murdaugh 11:17 I don't know the name of it with the red roof.

911 Operator 11:21 Okay, sure. Where at Salkehatchie Road because I don't know what you're talking about.

Alex Murdaugh 11:27 At the Hampton county side.

911 Operator 11:30 Okay, what's going on?



Alex Murdaugh 11:33

I stopped I got a flat tire. Somebody stopped to help me. And when I turned my back they tried to shoot me.

911 Operator 11:43 Oh, okay. Were you shot?

Alex Murdaugh 11:45 Yes. But okay, and I'm okay.

911 Operator 11:48 You shot where? Where were you shot at?

DAVID MOSES 11:51

As early as 49 seconds into Alex's first call. We realized that I second 911 operator is speaking with the bystanders the 911 calls are happening simultaneously.

911 Operator 12:06 Did actually shoot you, or they tried to shoot you?

Alex Murdaugh 12:09 They shot me, but

911 Operator 12:11 okay, you need EMS?

Alex Murdaugh 12:15 Well, I mean, yes. I can't drive. Okay, and I'm bleeding a lot.

Mandy Matney 12:22

A couple things here. Alex tone of voice sounds more like he's ordering pizza then reporting to 911 that he was shot in the head by an unknown assailant. Second, he tells the 911 operator that his tire was flat before he says that he was shot in the head third Alex does not in any way appear to be afraid of the alleged shooter. And finally, He doesn't sound like he's in any pain whatsoever.

911 Operator 12:46

What what part part of your body.



Alex Murdaugh 12:49

Uh I'm not sure it's somewhere on my head.

911 Operator 12:52 Your head?

Alex Murdaugh 12:53 Somebody just stopped for me ma'am. I'm on the phone with 911.

911 Operator 12:58

Okay. Still. Okay, let me speak to him. See if he can tell me exactly where you are okay okay, what's your name? I'm still here. I'm gonna stay on the line with you. What's your name?

Alex Murdaugh 13:25 Alex Murdaugh.

911 Operator 13:29 Alex Murdaugh?

Alex Murdaugh 13:31 Yes, ma'am.

911 Operator 13:32

And you were driving and you got a flat tire? And then Somebody stopped to help you and then shot you.

Alex Murdaugh 13:36

They pulled over, Yes, ma'am like they were going to help me.

911 Operator 13:43 Okay, stay on the line with me. and we can-

Alex Murdaugh 13:46 I'm bleeding pretty bad.

911 Operator 13:48



Okay, John's missionary truck John's Missionary Truck? Stay on the line.Okay and can you give me a description of the person who shot you or shot at you?

Alex Murdaugh 14:02

Yes Ma'am it was a white fella' I'd say

911 Operator 14:14

A white man?

Alex Murdaugh 14:17

A fair amount younger than me, really really short hair um, You have an ambulance coming here?

911 Operator 14:26

Yes<mark>, s</mark>ir. Yes<mark>, si</mark>r. Stay on the line. I got them on the way.

Mandy Matney 14:32

Here Alex Murdaugh is describing the man who allegedly shot him. But here's the thing this man, Alex is describing is completely different from the man who sled arrested for shooting Alex Murdaugh, who was Curtis Eddie Smith. Eddie Smith looks much older than Alex. He's 61 years old. Well, Alec is 53 He does not have short hair. He has long curly hair. And we're going to talk to Curtis's attorneys about this later. later in this episode, but it's something to take note of and something else he quickly changes the subject. He really seems to not want to answer questions about who allegedly shot him. He appears to want to get off the phone.

Alex Murdaugh 15:13

You think one of yall can take me to the hospital?

Speaker (3) 15:17

You're going to have to get in the trunk cause I got the baby -

Alex Murdaugh 15:25

They're gonna drive me to the hospital.

Mandy Matney 15:28



Alex Murdaugh is apparently flagging down to people who were on old Salkehatchie Road that afternoon. He asked them if they can drive him to the hospital. One of them says that they have a baby in the backseat and he would have to ride in the trunk but without mentioning that he's bloody or anything like that. Apparently the call drops and that's the end of the call. Then Alex placed a second 911 call. This is four minutes after he first placed a call to 911 at the beginning of that call. You can hear him instructing another person on how to start his car.

Alex Murdaugh 16:07

Yeah, it should be (mumbling).

911 Operator 16:08 911, what's your emergency?

Alex Murdaugh 16:17 Yes ma'am this young lady is driving me to the hospital.

911 Operator 16:22 She's carrying you to the hospital. Okay, and who is this?

Alex Murdaugh 16:28

This is Alex Murdaugh. I was on the phone a minute ago.

911 Operator 16:31

Okay. All right. He said this. somebody's taken him to the hospital. Okay. We got a flat tire, Ma'am I need an ambulance. You need to ambulance. Okay, where are you? Are you still in the same location?

Alex Murdaugh 16:51 Yes, ma'am.

911 Operator 16:53 Okay, which way are yall headed? Are yall driving down the road?

Alex Murdaugh 17:02 No, ma'am. Not not. I got a flat tire.

911 Operator 17:05



Okay. All right. You should sit tight right there. Okay. Okay, yes, sir. We're still here. We're still here. Hold on we're dispatching now giving them information where where are you at?

911 Operator (2) 17:30

Old Salkehatchie Road. Near to St. John's.

Alex Murdaugh 17:32

Now they're taking me to the hospital.

911 Operator 17:35 Okay, so what? Where are y'all traveling?

Alex Murdaugh 17:40 We're coming out old Salkehatchie road to go to the Hampton hospital

911 Operator 17:43 You're coming down Salkehatchie?

Alex Murdaugh 17:46 Ma'am?

911 Operator 17:47

You're coming down Salkehatchie road to your to the hospital. Okay, there they said theyre coming down, theyre coming down Salkehatchie road heading towards the hospital, but I we're gonna keep EMS in route to you. Okay.

Alex Murdaugh 18:09

Okay.

Mandy Matney 18:10 It seems as though they're driving a white Nissan, which is not his vehicle.

911 Operator 18:16

Are you coming off a Walterboro highway

Speaker 18:20

We'll be at Walterboro highway in 10 minutes as



911 Operator 18:24

They said in about 10 minutes or so there'll be at Walterboro highway what kind of vehicle are you in?

Speaker 18:37

a white Nissan rouge.

911 Operator 18:42

It's a white Nissan rouge. And you're still heading down the road. Mr. Murdaugh? Yes, ma'am. Okay, you're still heading down the road? Yes, ma'am. Okay. Okay. And what's a good call back for you Mr. Murdaugh.

Alex Murdaugh 19:01

We're at crossroads.

911 Operator 19:03

You're at crossroads now? 10-4 they are going down Waterboro Highway in a white Nissan Rogue. Is the flashers on? to have this sound there's no tune 17 to the hospital. Yeah, so. Okay, yeah, so 17 Do you have your flashers on the vehicle is the flashes or is the flashers on?

Alex Murdaugh 19:43

Yeah.

911 Operator 19:44 Yes, got that 12.

911 Operator (2) 19:46

Where is the location where the individual has been actually on way to the hospital.

911 Operator 19:55

there are on Walterboro highway.

Alex Murdaugh 19:58

But we see the ambulance so we're gonna pull over. we're in a white car.

911 Operator 20:02



There on a white Nissan Rogue on one of our highways. They are pulling over. They see the EMS okay do you y'all stopped?

Alex Murdaugh 20:18 I see them

911 Operator 20:18 Yall at Waterboro Highway? and Where?

Alex Murdaugh 20:21

they're here.

911 Operator 20:21 Okay

Alex Murdaugh 20:24 I'm gonna hang up now.

Mandy Matney 20:30

At this point it's at least 10 minutes after Alex Murdaugh initially called 911 and he was getting into an ambulance and the plan was to take him to the Hampton hospital. Careflight officials told me that the medical helicopter the transported Alex Murdaugh from a landing zone about seven miles from the alleged shooting scene was dispatched at 1:43pm, approximately nine minutes after Alex Murdaugh called 911, So who called a medical helicopter for Alex Murdaugh when he apparently had minor injuries and was Alex intentionally trying to divert law enforcement away from the scene. And eyewitness at the scene of the helicopter landing showed me pictures that were time stamped, and said that the helicopter landed at the scene along Charleston highway and Bournville around 2:15pm. In the helicopter left around 2:25pm, the helicopter which is based in Collington County transported Alex Murdaugh to the hospital in Savannah, Georgia. This leads to so many questions again, who called the medical helicopter and why isn't that apparent on these 911 phone calls? What was the point of all of this? Was he trying to end his life? Was he trying to get drugs at the hospital? Was he trying to do something to get the public to feel sorry for him? Or did he want people to believe that drug dealers were after him and his family? Or was all of this just a big distraction from the double homicide investigation? The 911 calls unfortunately didn't answer any of those questions. And neither did a few pages of medical records released by Alex defense team last week. I don't trust those records. And I'm not going to waste my time analyzing them. We



can clearly hear that Alex was not suffering after this alleged shooting and he told the dispatcher that he is fine. So what does this mean for Eddie Smith? After the 911 calls were released, I took another look at the arrest warrants against Eddie Smith, the man charged in this alleged shooting and I noticed something the arrest warrants contain everything we know so far about SLEDS case against Eddie Smith. And it's concerning to see that Alex's statement appears to make up a lot of the backbone of those affidavits, at least from what we can see Alex has proven to be completely unreliable. So why was his statement even mentioned in those arrest warrants? And another thing Alex was supposed to be the mastermind behind this operation? Why is he facing significantly less time in prison than Eddie who is charges five felonies in two drug counts related to the search warrant in this case, Eddie faces up to 65 years in prison for charges related to the assisted suicide scheme. While Alex only faces 20. From what we know the only thing Eddie has admitted to is being there on old Salkehatchie road and disposing of the gun afterwards. Curtis has told his attorney and multiple media outlets that he wrestled the gun away from Alex and the gun went off but did not hit him so does SLED have any more evidence against Eddie Smith. In the last few weeks. I've had a lot of long conversations with one of Eddie Smith's attorneys Johnny McCoy McCoy has spent most of his career fighting for the wrongfully accused including himself in 2009 when he was a young attorney McCoy was wrongfully arrested himself by Columbia, South Carolina police officers in Five Points which is a popular bar district downtown video evidence shows McCoy asking Columbia police officers why they were arresting his friend and then officers shoving him multiple times before placing him under arrest. He was charged with resisting arrest and forced to spend a night in jail at the same Detention Center where Alex Murdaugh is now during that time he was in jail. He watched a man hang himself. Those few hours in jail forever changed McCoy's life while dealing with scars that just won't heal. McCoy became determined to use his law degree for good and fight for those who have been wronged by the system. He eventually won a \$300,000 settlement with the city of Columbia which he then used to start his own law practice in one McCoy's cases he won over \$11 million in a civil rights lawsuit involving a Myrtle Beach man named Julian Benton bet and was shot nine times by police officers while inside his home. I plan on getting into more details of that case in a later episode. But you all need to understand the McCoy comes from a different place than most defense attorneys. So I started this conversation by asking him McCoy what he thought of the 911 call.

Johnny McCoy 25:25



I mean, Alex Murdaugh said that the guy who shot him was a guite a bit younger than him. We all know that Curtis is 61 years old that he was had very, very short hair, which we all know Curtis has got those beautiful golden locks. And I mean, at the end of the day, you're watching a mass manipulating liar con man lying. You're what you're listening to him create a false narrative, right from your eyes and for sled to say, okay, okay. Right, right. But this time, the second story, he said it was a confession. So you know, the guy looks like, you know, the guy looks like a a, a godlike figure. So if he's saying, I, this is my confession and this, then it must be true. And that is the craziest thing I've ever heard of, as a criminal defense lawyer, to think that an individual in a position of power can literally say, This guy did something to me somebody that they don't like, this guy did something to me. And that person would just be be arrested based on their words and their words alone with nothing. I mean, it's there's evidence to the contrary, there's not even evidence, obviously showing that anything Alex Murdaugh said was the truth. There's evidence to the contrary, all the way through it. There are no text messages. There are no phone calls. There's no you know, scheme drawn out on maps, there's no discussion about it. He was Alex Murdaugh was making it up as he went along, including the calling Eddie to the scene. He was making it up as he goes along. And, and the entire goal was to make himself a victim, and to change the public's perception of him. As you know, this guy is out killing and shooting and doing all these other things into somebody who is you know, he's on the back end of violence. And when you think of it that way, you start to understand that this guy got his ultimate goal. What's the ultimate goal, the narrative change, and then what's the secondary ultimate goal, opioids in his veins, and he did both, both on the side of the road.

Mandy Matney 27:46

After pursuing justice for his clients and himself in South Carolina, for more than a decade, McCoy has earned a unique perspective on inequity in our court system, he gets frustrated that the sort of justice seems to be swinging, but the scale is as imbalanced as ever. This is

Johnny McCoy 28:03

business as usual. In the state of South Carolina, when it comes to powerful people versus quote unquote, nobodies. I was a nobody, Julian Benton was a nobody, Curtis Smith was a nobody. But not anymore. Not anymore. The only the only thing that's changed in the course of this case, as the Today Show, interview, and all the others, all the other stuff has been brought to light, as is. These people in positions of power, are starting to second guess who we can pick off? Who's our next victim? Is it? Is it it? Can? Can we continue going after no names. And that's the message that we



hope to have sense to people in powerful positions, who are who are ensuring that nobody's watching the watchers, that the watchers are finally going to be watched. And they're going to have to answer for what they've been doing around the state of South Carolina, and they're gonna have to answer for what they did to Curtis Smith, And Julian Benton, and me, they're gonna have to answer for it, finally. And that to them, is completely foreign. Because because they have never, ever had to answer. Well, what happened with the Johnny McCoy investigation? What happened with the Julian Benton investigation? What's going on with the Curtis Smith investigation? So for the first time ever, on a national scale, the country is seeing either gross incompetence or NIT and I don't think that they're going to be able to just get away with business as usual after this.

Mandy Matney 29:35

We hope to learn more information about the Eddie Smith case in the next few weeks. Stay tuned to the Murdaugh Murders Podcast and FITS news.com That's f i t s news.com. For the latest updates. Follow me on Twitter at Mandy Matney that's Mandy, M a n d y Matney, M a t n e y. And follow me on Instagram at Mandy underscore in underscore Hilton Head for more updates. So, before we end this episode, I want to tell you all about a fabulous event coming up in Columbia, South Carolina this month on October 30. a fundraiser will be held for the Stephen Smith family as the capital club and Columbia proceeds will go to Sandy Smith legal expenses and a scholarship fund in Stephens name. I will be there, Cody Alcorn of Fox Carolina News will I be emceeing. Check for links in the description and you can donate to the GoFundMe, and I will be writing about this event at fitsnews.com

DAVID MOSES 30:28

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 Murdaugh Murders Podcast.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 fitsnews.com Mandy and Will are revolutionizing journalism and your subscriptions are invaluable to that mission. Plus you get awesome content every day.

Mandy Matney 31:16



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

MURDAUGH MURDAERS PODCAST

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