



EPISODE 27: Alex Murdaugh's Sentencing Hearing Part One- The Bright Side and Becky Hill Update

Mandy Matney 00:02

I don't know how Alex Murdaugh's victims found the strength to forgive him this week. But Tuesday's sentencing hearing reminded us that goodness and grace will ultimately prevail, no matter how twisted things will get in this never ending horror story. My name is Manny Matney. This is True Sunlight, a podcast exposing crime and corruption previously known as the Murdaugh murders podcast. True Sunlight is a Luna Shark production written with journalist Liz Farrell. Hello, we are back. Can you hear the vocal fry? I have apparently been talking way too much since I've been spending time in my home state of Kansas this week. But to start off today, I want to say thank you to Eric Allen for his amazing work on the mountain mystery part two episode which gave our entire team a much needed break over Thanksgiving. Be sure to check out his YouTube channel linked in the description for new video episodes. And Lord knows we needed a break because the Murdaugh madness never ends, as we all saw this week, but before we get into the heavy stuff, let's talk about some good news. We are back on the blood on their hands book promo tour with the first stop outside of Kansas and South Carolina in Tennessee. David and I are coming to Nashville this weekend. And we can't wait to meet you at the co-op Hillsboro Village on Belcourt Avenue at 1pm. For a book signing on Sunday December 3, you know I won't lie. There have been many times when I started to regret writing my own book. The process was painful. And it brought up a lot of emotional distress. I wasn't ready to deal with David and I often wondered if it was worth it to add so many layers of pain and frustration to our lives. But I have to say, since publishing the book, I have been overwhelmed with feelings of peace and pride. Like I've never felt before. You'll know I'm an introvert. But these little book signings have been life changing. For me, it is inspiring and uplifting to be able to hug the people who have supported me through one of the

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toughest times of my life. I have been particularly moved by the short conversations I've had with folks at the recent book signings, people are tired of the good ol boy system. And I have met so many of you who are ready to change it. Sometimes when I get down, I stop to remember tiny things some of you have said to me in the last month. And I remember how important it is to keep fighting and how many people out there are supporting us. So on Sunday, we are so excited to see all of the pesky people of Nashville at the co-op for a little Sunday funday book signing in, we will keep the momentum going. Hopefully my voice will be back by then. Also check lunasharkmedia.com/events For more dates and locations coming soon.

Liz Farrell 03:25

We have some very quick updates before we get into it today, both of which are topics we'll be tackling in future episodes when we can spend more time on them. And when we hope our related foils get returned. So I think you all get this by now but I'm going to say it anyway. When it comes to the world of Alex Murdaugh we not only live in the land of no consequences we live in the land of no coincidences. That means when something seems suspicious it more often than not is suspicious. We've been right more times than we've wanted to be when we've suspected that there's good old boy nonsense afoot. With that in mind. Let's talk about the arrest of Colleton County clerk of court Becky Hill's son. Last week, two days before Thanksgiving, Jeffrey Colton Hill was arrested on a single charge of felony wiretapping, which is an unusual charge in South Carolina. When I say unusual I mean this a statewide search of our Public Index System meaning of all the non expunged charges people have faced or are facing, we only saw this charge eight times and in almost every case the charge was dropped. Additionally, no other person charged was given a bond of \$20,000 like

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Colt was they were given bonds that were much less than that. In the 14th circuit Colt is the only person to have faced or who is facing this charge according to the Public Index. Now we don't yet know beyond the gossip that's being spread by motivated and grossly misinformed individuals what's what with colts case and we don't know what if anything, it has to do with the question of whether back his interaction with jurors warrants a new trial for Alex but we can explain why we're hesitant to take the headline and just run with it. There are a few things to know about Colleton County beyond the fact that it's squarely located in Murdaugh country and has a long and sordid history with the Murdaugh family. The first thing to know is that one of the two people whose conversation cold is alleged to have recorded on July 20 of this year is reportedly Megan Nuzzi. Megan was the Public Information Officer for the county but is currently the Deputy County Administrator Megan's husband is 34 year old probate judge Seth Utes in June 2022. judge us he recused himself from handling Paul Murdaugh's estate because of his connections to the 14th circuit solicitor's office were judging us he was an assistant solicitor for some time. Interestingly, you'd see his name appears in the transcript of state vs. Emanuel Buckner, the one case that the 14th circuit could cite to Mandy when she originally asked them what cases Alex had handled as a quote unquote volunteer solicitor, a role that does not seem to exist in any other circuit in the state, a role that appears to have been created for Alex so he could carry a badge and use the influence of that badge for personal and professional gain. We introduce you to this strange case of Emanuel Buckner in Episode 73 of Murdaugh Murders Podcast. It's not clear what you'd see his role was in prosecuting the Buckner case which Alex and Randolph took a lead in that case, a drug trafficking case ended with a hung jury on the main charge. Additionally, from the outside, it appears that Randolph and Alex elbowed aside the original

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prosecutor to mica legit to take over though she too is present at the trial. According to the transcript. That's a lot of prosecutors behind the desk on two charges in a rural county, by the way, especially in a circuit that has a nasty backlog. This is all just to say that the UCS appear to be connected to the Murdaughs or at the very least are in their circles. It's not yet clear how Mrs. UT came to suspect that her call was allegedly being recorded. But we also want to know that we've heard of incidences where county administrators have had their calls recorded by it as a matter of protocol. We don't know if that was the case here, but it's an important question to ask. The second thing to know is that when all the Randolph Murdaugh's were in charge of the solicitor's office, they chose Hampton County as their main location, meaning all the solicitor's offices budgeting went through Hampton County's government. This made sense only insofar as the Murdaughs lived in Hampden County, but did not make sense in terms of where the 14th circuit saw the most action, which is Beaufort County. Beaufort County also shouldered a bigger portion of funding the Solicitor's Office. Now of the five counties that make up the 14th circuit Beaufort remains the center of that world. It has the biggest population, the biggest economy and it's where Duffy stones 14th circuit solicitor's office is located, in fact is a campus which he calls the Justice Institute. That campus is made up of two buildings which are owned by a nonprofit. More on that in a second. Even though the 14th circuit is located in Beaufort County. Even though Duffy Stone lives in Beaufort County, the solicitor's office budget is handled by Collington County. So real quick, the nonprofit it's called S O VSC. According to GuideStar, which is a service that reports on 501 C threes. The quote, sole purpose and business of SOV SC is to acquire own finance and operate the buildings and property located at 108 and 110. Traders cross Okatee, South Carolina and leasing the property in its entirety on a nonprofit basis for



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the 14th Judicial Circuit with the exception of tenants inherited from the previous owner, meaning the 14th circuit solicitor's office buildings are owned by this nonprofit which only exists for that purpose. So the tax money that pays for that office space goes to that nonprofit. They are the landlord. So who is behind SOV SC. There are three board members according to the latest tax filings that are publicly available. They are board president Shawn Thornton, Sean is Duffy's right hand man and Deputy Solicitor for the 14th circuit. He's also the longtime county attorney for Colleton County. County attorney's not only give legal advice to county governments, they have a say and when information is and isn't released in response to things like voices, they'd also likely be involved in handling any subpoenas or requests for information related to say an ethics investigation. You might be asking yourself, Wait a minute, how can he serve as a Deputy Solicitor and a county attorney in this circuit he serves and girl you're not alone. The question is often asked with good luck getting that answer. Also on the board is Jeff Kitt. Jeff used to work with us at the Island Packet he was hired by Duffy as his Pio which is public information officer some time ago and is now his chief of staff. Less on the board according to their 2020 tax filings is the treasurer and secretary of the board. John Carpenter. John Carpenter is the director of finance for Colleton County government. Now I'm sure we'll talk about this more in the future but there has historically been tension between Beaver County Council and Duffy at least when Beaver County is demanding accountability and asking to know how the money it pays into the solicitor's office budget is being spent, especially when at one point he admitted to having a six and a half year backlog. The answer they've gotten in the past at least has been go get that info from Colleton County. In other words, the county where Shawn Thornton gives the legal advice and we're John Carpenter is director of finance. As you can see Colleton County



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government is one my conjecture awfully tight with Duffy. Okay, so back to Becky Hilson. According to Renee Wonderlic at SLED Duffy Stone, who by the way was a protege of Decart Peruvians before going to the low country to work for Randolph Murdaugh contacted agents and ask them to take the Colton Hill case on September 8, just over a week after Fox nation surprise early release of the Docu series they worked on with Tim Murdaugh, and just three days after dick and Jim's highly coordinated press conference in which they alleged that Becky had tampered with the jury. So the point here is that it's obviously hard to trust a system like this one, one in which it appears that are Murdaugh backed and Harper Lee and connected solicitor, the one who gripped tightly to the murder case and who refused to recuse himself from it and who allowed Alex to tool around with not one but two Solicitor's Office badges until right up to the moment that's led sees them as evidence seems to have deep influence over Colleton County's government. Now, of course, Duffy would say he's just a solicitor being a solicitor that a potential crime was brought to his attention and that he did the right thing by forwarding it to SLED. And maybe that is the case. But until we have more information about this investigation and the arrest, we're just going to say that something doesn't seem right here. Every corner we seem to look around, there's a Murdaugh connection. At this point. It's just really hard to take any of this at face value. And we know that there's a powerful effort being made to get Alex a new trial and we know that taking down Becky Hill is critical to that mission.

Mandy Matney 12:24

Okay, now let's talk about the latest with the judicial merit selection committee in the two judicial candidates we have talked about before Judge Bentley Price and assistant solicitor David Miller, Judge Price will



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not be re-elected. So the judge it was overseeing Satterfield civil case and the Mallory Beach civil conspiracy case has been forced out, which at first glance, seems fishy, but we're not sure what to make of that one yet, because we know at least one part of the behind the scenes effort to remove him was led by people who are not connected to any of the Murdaugh nonsense and who wanted Bentley price removed because they were simply concerned about how he was conducting himself on the bench. The bigger news here in the news that they probably want us to forget about is that David Miller was nominated you know, the guy who not only cut a secret of sweetheart of a deal for thrice accused rapist Bowen Turner's lawyer, legislator attorney Brad Hutto, which backfired in their faces but who surprise surprise was also behind another messy and suspicious and basically secretive deal with lawyer legislator Todd Rutherford, he of Jeroid Price fame. This Commission, which swears lawyer legislators don't get favors from judges they Alext in which swears that South Carolina's system of electing judges is peachy and not at all quid pro quo just nominated someone who appears to have done some really sketchy things to help a state senator and a state representative, the family of Dallas Stoller a victim a villain who died as a result of the longtime and ongoing pressure she was receiving from the community after she accused him of sexual assault. They fought hard to block Miller's nomination as did victims advocate Sarah Ford. So this is a disappointment all around. But the fight is not over. yet. I spoke to Dallas' dad Carl yesterday he told me that he felt defeated but he wasn't giving up. We are still working on getting the transcript from the hearing were Carl Staller addressed the JMISC on his concerns about solicitor Miller. I think when we get that transcript, we will be able to have a clearer picture as to why the JMISC should be dismantled. Carl walked away from that meeting, feeling like a majority of the members agreed with him that Miller was not fit to become a



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judge, and yet they turned around, stabbed him in the back and gave Miller a stamp of approval. For the JMSC should prepare itself for sunlight like it has never seen before. They had a chance to show South Carolina that they could make decisions that reflect a better system, not one where the good ol boys continue to fail up and hurt the rest of us. If Dallas Stoller's father could not convince this committee to stop David Miller from becoming a judge, there is so little hope for any of us to get through to them on anything. I believe the decision on David Miller was made before Dallas his father entered the room in May, we're all just too cowardly to admit it. The next step for Miller is for the full House and Senate to vote on him when they reconvene and 2024 so let your elected officials know how you feel about this. We will start up another social campaign soon to get the word out. And in the meantime, we will be doing some serious digging for a future episode. Now we're gonna get into the most bizarre sentencing hearing one could ever imagine.

EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

Liz Farrell 16:12

So let's start with what this was. The Attorney General's office was according to numerous sources pressured into reaching a deal with Alex on his financial charges. With all the chaos going on with the murder case and Judge Newman and legislators reportedly putting pressure on the Supreme Court about the expense of Alex's future trials. This was the pragmatic solution. Dick and Jim reportedly wanted 15 years for Alex but the AG's office wouldn't budge on their offer of 27 years. That's the one bright spot and the one thing that those in support of the deal point to as a resounding victory. Obviously, the two of us feel differently only insofar as we don't believe for one second that Alex's plan isn't to get a new trial, get a jury to declare him innocent and then whittle his sentence in the financial case down to an early release. Despite what it looks like his plea deals offer no actual assurances to the



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public that he will spend the rest of his life in prison, which is where he belongs. Sure the math looks good. The chances of him scoring a new trial seem low. He's not allowed to appeal this sentence. But this is Alex Murdaugh, people want to apply logic and rational thought and their assessment of the steel but it's Alex Murdaugh. We're not trying to be cocky here. But it's been nearly five years of people telling us we're wrong about our takes on him only to find out that to their surprise and honestly to our constant surprise because of how crazy this case is. We weren't wrong. The biggest concern here obviously is that this deal does not prevent Alex potential early release in the future. All of Tuesday and Wednesday, sources and friends who don't want me to worry tried to convince me that this is the final word on Alex Murdaugh. I want to believe them. But I don't because I've been here before in the late 1990s, a disgusting serial rapist on Hilton Head Island was sentenced to 50 years in prison not for the rapes. But for a series of burglaries he also committed. Randolph Murdaugh assured the lead investigator at the time, a man who had put his blood sweat and tears into that case that didn't need to prosecute the guy on the rapes. Because this sentence for all practical purposes put the guy away for life. But just a few years later, a secret hearing was held. I say secret it was one that the lead investigator was not made aware of anyway, and the guy sentence was reduced to 20 years. That's 30 years shaved off his sentence and an instance he was released in 2014, after serving 85% of that new sentence, and oh, look at that, the guy pretty much immediately went and committed another brutal rape in Georgia. Less than a year after his quiet release, he was back in jail and another person's life was gravely affected by South Carolina's reckless and no account justice system. I was there when a fellow reporter called this lead investigator to tell him that the monster he thought was in prison for another three decades had actually been out for a year and had hurt another person. I spoke



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with that investigator afterward and I will never forget how dejected he was about the situation and how powerless he felt about the system which he sacrificed his life for daily. So telling me one more time with a straight face that this sentence will keep Alex Murdaugh behind bars for the rest of his life, telling me that knowing what you know about how our system works, tell me about knowing what you know about Todd Rutherford and his creepy little deals that put violent offenders back out on the street because they provided so called substantial assistance to prison leadership tells me that after seeing all the villages dick and Jim have burned down or tried to burn down in pursuit of getting Alex a new trial, to paraphrase Creighton Waters, everything with this case is unique and unprecedented. So pardon me for saying I'll believe it when I see it and pardon me for getting a little nervous when I watch people just off their hands and victory as that'll show Alex. Jim Griffin basically told reporters after the hearing this week that Alex is committed to getting out of prison and he noted that the lawyers in the room that day didn't seem too confident that Alex to life sentences for the murders would Deke, the one thing Mandy and I agree with the stain on is that this plea deal is good for the victims and it's good for the court. And it's good for the AGs office and SLED and Judge Newman. And frankly, it's good for us. It allows us to focus on Alex's unnamed co-conspirators and on other cases, but still it's so frustrating to see Alex and his sentence celebrating smirks. Okay, so this was a negotiated plea deal. There are three types of plea agreements. There's the one that was like Cory Fleming's that's called a straight plea, the state didn't offer a sentence recommendation and left it up to the judge. The second is a plea deal where the state recommends a sentence, but the judge ultimately decides and the third one is this one, in which the only say a judge gets is to accept the deal or not accept the deal. The sentence was previously determined by the state and Dick and Jim. So Tuesday's



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hearing was for Judge Newman to hear the facts of the cases hear from the prosecution and the defense hear from the victims. And as luck would have it here from Alex Murdaugh and what turned out to be a 50 minute acceptance speech for his Crimea award, the only question there was, was whether judge knew and would end up accepting the deal, even though he reportedly was one of the ones pushing for a meaningful attempt at a deal. Now, it seems like a foregone conclusion that Judge Newman would, of course, accept that deal. But after Alex's grimey speech, people started to wonder whether Judge Newman would spend his lunch break thinking about Alex narcissist sticks a little gray and come back with a surprise because you know what no other defendant would ever feel comfortable enough to do what Alex did Tuesday. No other defendant in this world would ever take the floor that way without any fear of angering the judge and negatively affecting their own case, but Alex feared nothing. Why? Because the only people who had anything to lose in that room were the good guys. Dick and Jim not only wanted judge Newman to be disqualified from hearing their motion for a new trial, they wanted him removed from the Satterfield case, even filing an emergency motion right after the Supreme Court was like Sorry, Dickie doodle, but judge Newman is still assigned to that case. According to Dick and Jim, Judge Newman was too biased to consider anything Murdaugh related. And yet they didn't seem to have a problem with Judge Newman ruling on the plea deal. Why is that? Because either judge Newman okayed the deal that they wanted, or he didn't. And if he didn't, the case would go to trial. And if the case went to trial, well, look at that, would you? It wouldn't be heard until next year, and maybe not even then because this plea deal meant that the state had lost its trial date, which was supposed to be November 27. So in the worst case scenario, Dick and Jim would have gotten their way anyway, and the financial cases would have been



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delayed, which is what they wanted in the first place. It's gross all the way around.

Mandy Matney 22:50

Now, at the hearing, there were no discernible Murdaugh's, Alex's sister and brothers were not there. Nor was Buster. Judge Carmen Mullen, however, was in attendance. Well, sort of her shiny happy portrait was anyway, there she was hanging from the wall of her courtroom watching her boy Alex accept his award for being an exhausting class a narcissist. Interesting side note about this portrait, we were told that it was commissioned during Alex stent as president of the South Carolina Association of Justice, aka the Trial Lawyers Association. We were told that Alex advocated for her portrait to be hung there. Molins portrait in the national television frame was a stark reminder of just how far we have to go to fix our justice system in South Carolina. I mean, think about it. Mullens signed off on the Satterfield settlement; she missed a number of glaring red flags in the shotty paperwork provided for the settlement. Like starting with the fact that Alex Murdaugh's name, who was the defendant, was removed from the top of it more concerning Cory Fleming, the plaintiff apparently asked Mullens to sign off on the settlement while keeping Alex name the defendant off the books entirely. This was in 2019. If Mullen was doing her job, then Mullen could have not only said no to signing these documents, but she would have recorded Cory and Alex for inappropriate and seemingly unethical behavior. Mullen could have stopped this mass thievery four years ago. And yet, here in the low country, the courts still idolized her as a symbol for justice and truth. Those in charge simply want us to forget those silly things we found out about Mullen because this is the land of no consequences for people like Carmen Mullen and apparently what they're telling us is that more lives have to be destroyed before anything



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will be done. The courtroom was packed with the victims, their families and their attorneys and members of SLED as well as a few people from the public who were there for fun. As for our least favorite so called victims, PMPED. And Palmetto State Bank, they were there too, sort of Bank Board President Jan Malinovski. And his attorneys were tucked in the corner of the courtroom not sure what they were doing there because the bank was not a victim in any of the cases that Alex was pleading guilty to. Also, there is PMPED partner Danny Henderson with PMPED Attorney Jim May, you know the former US attorney who left his federal job shortly after the murders and went on to score PMPED as one of his first private sector clients. Danny was the only member of PMPED there, which is something Alex should have noticed and point out during his little grimey speech that we will get into on part two of this episode next week. It looked as if Alex thought Danny was there to support him and not there to potentially give a victim impact statement on behalf of the firm which thank God he ended up not doing. For those of you who don't know who Danny is, he is the guy Alex would have feared if he had to comply with Mark Tinsley subpoena in 2021. Remember Mark's testimony, Danny was Alex's point person in the boat crash case. He was also the guy in the back of a SLED vehicle the night of the murders, serving as Alex's attorney while he was being questioned. Lastly, Joe McCulloch was in the courtroom the man who represented Connor Cook in a civil case against Alex Murdaugh, the man who has close friends with Dick Harpootlian the man who sat in the courtroom for six weeks taking notes during the murder trial. The man who paid for Becky Hill's birthday party in the media center in New York ultimately came to represent the jilted a lady juror in her tenant.



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Liz Farrell 27:07

Okay, before we get into the hearing itself, let's do a little more math. The plea deal was for 101 charges. Alex pleaded guilty to 22 Representative charges. Basically it works out to about one charge per victim. We asked the AGs office about the narcotics charge and the answer we got was that the representative charged Alex pleaded guilty to and that indictment for conspiracy is also considered a drug charge because the conspiracy included trafficking, there are only three charges left and those are from the roadside shooting. This means that this deal has also taken away the possibility of securing a three strikes life without parole sentence for Alex. This is significant only because we don't yet know the ultimate fate of his murder conviction. Speaking of the roadside shooting charges, will those even stick? We've seen no evidence that Alex had a life insurance policy. If anyone would know about Alex's assets, it wouldn't be Mark Tinsley and the receivership and they've apparently found nothing. Dick and Jim haven't produced proof of the policy. So will Alex simply be charged with lying to police? I mean, what a mess, right? Okay, so going into Tuesday's hearing, we were fully expecting Dick to object to Eric Bland talking. We just didn't think it would be before Eric had even spoken. Guess what guys? Dick is a listener. Hi Dick. Here he is asking Judge Newman to protect him from Eric's cup of honesty.

Dick Harpootlian 28:30

Your Honor, only to note that a juncture after Mr. Waters finishes, we're going to hear from victims. And I'm told this morning some of the lawyers My concern is the victims Bill of Rights guarantees the victims the ability to make presentations. I have no problem with that whatsoever. I'm sure there are extensive comments by them. But I'm concerned from what I read in social media that some of the lawyers



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are making comments today. Some of them have expressed they're going to express anger against me and Mr. Griffin and Mr. Murdaugh. Some of them are nakedly using this as an infomercial to sell coffee cups or T-shirts or bobbleheads in an effort to maximize their economic return on this process. I would I would ask the court either to have the victim speak or the attorneys but not both. And if the attorneys do speak they address their comments to you and not to us and the comments should exhibit the demeanor.

Judge Clifton Newman 29:46

All right. Thank you, sir. We will maintain the civility and proper decorum of the court. The parties are entitled, victims are entitled to representation and Lawyers can speak on the victim's behalf, addressing the court and not addressing counsel. You may proceed.

Liz Farrell 30:09

Don't worry, Dicks whining would come back to haunt him. When it was Eric's partner Ronnie Richter's turn to address the court, he took the opportunity to correct the record.

Ronnie Richter 30:18

Your Honor. In the opening, I heard Mr. Harpootlian say something about T-shirts and bobbleheads. And that is unquestionably a shot at my partner Eric Bland. And I do want to address that to the court. I want you to know, Your Honor, that my partner has gained some very well deserved notoriety for his courageous representation of our clients. And that yes, he has sold T shirts and other merchandise. And that all of that, all of those proceeds have gone to charities, including the Wounded Warrior Project and others. No one came here today to sell a



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t- shirt. We came here today to finish the job. We came here today for justice.

Liz Farrell 30:57

Shortly after that Eric and Ronnie's client, Jordan Jinks, who is Alex's childhood friend from whom he stole also weighed in on Dick's whining.

Jordan Jinks 31:07

Mr. Harpootlian, nothing to do with you. But you made a comment earlier about attorneys trying to sell bobble heads and cups. Can you represent this man to sell those bobble heads and cups to repay the victims that he stole from? Thank you.

Liz Farrell 31:26

Now that is how you do a bobble head burn. We talked to Eric after the hearing. Here's what he had to say about Dick.

Eric Bland 31:33

He looked like an asshole when he came out and he started belittling the fact that I'm selling t-shirts and mugs and bobbleheads.

Liz Farrell 31:40

So before the victims spoke Creighton carefully went through the facts of each case that Alex was pleading guilty to. It's always amazing to witness the amount of information this man stores in his head. One of the cases he talked about isn't one that has come up much but the details are pretty bad. Creighton shared it with the court because of how disturbed he was by this case. This case showed where Alex was headed after the Satterfield heist. Between November 2020 and



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December 2020. Alex stole every last dime from a woman whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver. Alex assured the woman that she had a high valued case but then started to temper her expectations eventually telling her that he'd only be able to get about 30 \$35,000 Ellicott nearly \$200,000 for her case, and he stole it all. The Satterfield case had taught Alex that he not only could take advantage of the people who trusted him by skimming money off their cases and charging them with fraudulent expenses. He could use their personal trust in Him to take it all that the woman he stole from is now raising her grandchildren, children who lost their mother in late 2020. Alex was emboldened not only by the success of his thefts, but by the fact that no one out there was even trying to stop him. Not his family, not PMPED, not Palmetto State Bank. He seemed to have carte blanche from everyone except Mark Tinsley, obviously, who didn't believe his lies for one hot second. That brings us to the last thing to note about Creighton's recitation of the facts. It became even more crystal clear how desperate Alex was on the night of June 7 2021. One false move and his entire scheme would have been discovered. Mark wasn't the only one who was a threat to Alex. Alex was constantly under the threat of default with the bank. And that raises even more questions about their complicity in this. They seem to have been so focused on getting their loan money back that they appear to have allowed Alex to do whatever he wanted, so long as they eventually got paid. Had they done their job just one time they would have seen what was going on.

Mandy Matney 33:50

Okay, let's talk about the most powerful part of the hearing. One reason why we are splitting this episode into two parts is because there is so much to talk about. And also we want to highlight what the victim said and not commingle their words with Alex's strange 15 minute



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acceptance speech for his worst criminal narcissist of 2023 award for several hours. This hearing was an emotional roller coaster before Hurricane Alex rolled in and managed to out monster himself again. The thing is Alex's speech was intentionally confusing and cryptic. This man never stops scheming. He wanted to drown out the victims voices with his chaos and leave the media wondering about what he said instead about what he actually did. There is a lot to dissect in Alex's speech. We still feel the whiplash from it, but we owe it to the victims to keep that separate. Not only did the victim show tremendous grace and addressing Alex about how his crimes affected them. They all made it clear that the crime against them wasn't just about the money stolen, it was about the fact that they trusted him. There was so much hurt in that room. Think about those moments when you have felt betrayed by a friend. It is not just the act that they committed against you. It's that they thought so little of you to commit that act at all. The person you thought cared about you, a person you cared for, actually thinks that you are nothing. It is a kick to the gut after a hard foul. That was heartbreaking to watch and brought so many people to tears. The victim statements started with our own cup of justice co-host Eric Bland, who talked about this betrayal. Eric's statement was a thing of beauty and he spared no punches after telling the court that Alex bass belonged on a Mount Rushmore for criminals. He educated the court about other victims people might not have even heard about before.

Eric Bland 36:07

We represented Sandra Manning; nobody ever heard of Sandra Manning. Her sister is Gloria Satterfield, \$28,000, was missing. She was also a victim of Alex Murdaugh. We've represented Blake Hodge. Now we've heard a lot of cases that talk about money theft. But there's a whole slew of other cases out there that deal with Mr. Murdaugh.



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Taking their cases. Blake Hodge was a paraplegic. And guess what he didn't do? He didn't follow cases on time. And case was lost on the statute of limitations. Those are victims too. We've represented Mellberg Edwards, who's the father of hockey and Pickney. We've talked a lot about Mrs. Pickney in hockey, but hockey Matt, a father, Melvin Edwards. And there are some issues that concern that

Mandy Matney 36:56

Alex took cases and then sat on them without filing claims. Was he hoarding them in hopes that if one didn't produce immediate money for him another word,

Eric Bland 37:07

and you know, I heard when he pled guilty? I wasn't in the courtroom a couple of weeks ago. He used the words I wrongfully obtained. That's not wrongfully obtained. He stole, use the right word. He was a thief. He used the word and said, I misrepresented. No you didn't misrepresent Eli. That's what that's what we have to talk about. In this courtroom. He was a thief. And he stole any lie to these clients, those that are closest to him. He lied to his law partners. He lied to his own brother

Mandy Matney 37:44

Eric told the court not to believe Alex when he says he is happy to finally be able to plead guilty to these crimes, as if he is unburdening himself of some tremendous guilt. Eric outlined for the court just how many times Alex has tried to get out of the Satterfield case right down to trying to rescind his confession of judgment and telling the insurance company to recoup the money he stole in the Satterfield case from the Satterfields.



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Eric Bland 38:15

During the trial, Mr. Harpootlian, who's a wonderful lawyer. Best probably one of the best our state has ever produced. Dan, a grade this guy on cross examination Tony Satterfield disrespected. That's not a man that's accepting responsibility. That's not Alex Murdaugh accepting responsibility. Yeah,

Mandy Matney 38:34

Eric called Dick, a wonderful lawyer. We will get to that in a second. But first, let's talk about the most fiery part of Eric's statement.

Eric Bland 38:44

We were supposed to have a trial but for his plea two weeks ago, what happened next, they attacked the jury pool in Beaufort County, incapable of being objective and fair because of all the publicity, the pretrial publicity, AD and ended there. They attack you. They filed a motion to recuse you from hearing the Satterfield case, saying that you who was given your time, your sweat and your blood, that you were conflicted, that you made any appropriate statements out of court. So the answer is no. He didn't want to do that. In September of 2021. Like he said, two weeks ago we sat in the courtroom. They did everything they could not to do. But the calendar forced that plea. The 102 charges forced the play. And there was all this about pretrial publicity that somehow I caused pretrial publicity and others the people who wrote about it podcasters or whatever, boys that Get Rich, the defense attorney himself a podcaster. He started a podcast they after the murder trial. They went to crime con. And they talked for two days about the case. They've done press conferences, they've done documentaries, they've gone on TV. If there's any pre trial publicity, it's



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caused in part by them. And they still came before you to say that Mr. Murdaugh couldn't get a fair trial.

Mandy Matney 40:32

Eric went on to say that the focus should be on the victims. Then Dick objected, using Eric's complement, in the smarmy list of ways we

Dick Harpootlian 40:44

support. I hate to interrupt this, especially Susan Moyers states ever produced, but he's talking about other people's lives. I asked the court restrict him to his clients. Thank you.

Mandy Matney 40:59

Judge Newman was like keep talking. Eric. We asked Eric after the hearing whether he regretted complimenting Dick during that statement. Here is what he had to say.

Eric Bland 41:09

Did I it didn't come out the way I wanted to say. I wanted to say at one time, you were one of the best attorneys recognized attorneys in the state, but I just used the wrong word choice. I'm just gonna be honest with you. And I regretted saying it now. He was in his day. He was an excellent trial attorney. I mean, multi million dollar verdicts a lot of when he was a prosecutor a lot of death penalty verdicts. When he was a defense attorney, he got a lot of not guilty verdicts, believe it or not. So he was a good attorney. He's not a good attorney anymore. He is expired. His expiration date on a yogurt Canada's long gone. He's a shadow of his former self, but he stuffed it down my throat and good for him.



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Mandy Matney 41:52

After Eric spoke, Ronnie Richter spoke telling the court that the victims weren't victims, but instead they were prey and then Alex had hunted them as prey. The people

Ronnie Richter 42:03

we represent are not victims, they are prey. And that man across the courtroom by any measure is a predator. And when I say to you that these folks represent the best of us, and I look across the aisle, and I see Alex there, who was once a contemporary of ours. All I can think of myself is for all the power, the privilege, the entitlement that he was born into that I mean, for God's sake, all that was ever asked to the man is that you wake up and be Alex Murdaugh every day to have taken it so afoul is hard to reconcile. He's made his behavior complicated. But we figured out what he's done. He's tried to hide his true nature from us. But we figured out who he is. So the only question we're left with is why? And I'll suggest to the court this answer. It doesn't matter. Because the only person who can answer that question is Alex Murtaugh. And he's demonstrated himself to be quite becoming wire.

Mandy Matney 43:02

All that was ever asked of the man that he wake up and be Alex Murdaugh every day. It was a beautiful line that underscored the heart of the issue, the power and privilege that was bestowed upon him at birth to things he could have used for good and instead he used for evil. In a monumental moment, Tony Satterfield set the stage for the victims to finally speak their truth. Tony stood with confidence on Tuesday. He was a different Tony Satterfield, from the one we saw a trial earlier this year. His voice was clear. He held his head high as he asked Judge Newman a very brave question,



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Tony Satterfield 43:44

sir, much more than your honor. I do have one request. You might have a face that way. That'd be fine. Because when I talk to people like facing him talking to thank you.

Mandy Matney 43:54

I swear the world shook when Tony said that. Think about the bravery that took for Tony Satterfield, who was so terrified to confront Alex for all of those years. Tony didn't say a whole lot, but every word cut deep.

Tony Satterfield 44:12

I really don't have words. He lied. He cheated. He stole he betrayed me and my family and everybody else. And you did that across my mom's death first of all he's covered everything ago you wrote half hearted I'm sorry letter which was half hearted because you're actually just not apology that you're really sorry. So I'm gonna read you I have an apology. I'm sorry that you felt like you had to betray us steal from us cheater amount of us. I'm sorry that your family has to now. Go through it. They're gonna have to go through the rest of your life because of your actions or what you did. I want you to know that I'll forgive you. I will pray for you every day.

Mandy Matney 45:07

Next up was Ginger, Harriet Gloria's sister, like Tony, Ginger didn't speak for long. But every word she said mattered.

Ginger Harriet 45:20

Gloria worked very hard for you for 20 years, you and your family. She loved Buster and Paul as her own. She loved Maggie, and she trusted and loved you wholeheartedly. She considered you and your family has



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her own family, to have her loyalty and love and trust the trade by you is very hard for our family to understand, we just will never understand and how you are able to profit from hard death is especially hard for us to understand and his and cause unimaginable hurt our family. The fact that you if only you had given Tony and Brian just a very small portion of the money you stole from them, they would have appreciated it and then fairly happy while thinking that you had kept your word, done your legal duty and looked out for them and their best interest. Instead, you chose to break the law that you had sworn to uphold. Be Greedy and look out for your own best interest. Notice

Mandy Matney 46:32

how she started off by reminding Alex how hard Gloria worked for them, and how much she loved Alex's family. Ginger kept the light shining on her sister ensuring that the world will never forget what a great human being she was Alex

Ginger Harriet 46:52

in time, the wrong you did to so many people may be forgotten. But in hopes that Gloria and her prayer heart full of kindness and love will not be forgotten. We started the glorious gift Foundation in honor of Gloria and her memory by providing gifts to some needy children during Christmas, so that Gloria will be forgiven Gloria will be remembered forever. And my heart goes out not only to my family, but today to all these families did you did wrong by those children that you stole from everything. They lost a mother and you saw every dime from them. I just don't understand. Did you live her soul? I don't get it. I can understand that. And I think God made me that I don't understand it. Because then I might be in the same situation as you. I just don't get it. I guess I never will get it. So hopefully God will forgive you because



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you're going to need forgiveness had this No, no, I'm lost for words. Like you are not the person that I thought I knew. And you come from a good family but you wasted your life. And that he did to family the way you did it you should do come from a good family. And I'm sorry, you throw your life away. Thank you Judge for allow me to address. Thank you and thank you for the state for everything y'all did. Justice.

Mandy Matney 48:31

I thank God, I don't understand it. Ha. The pain in Ginger's voice was heartbreaking. But Wow. It was such a genuine and honest thought. She said I'm so thankful I'm not like you. She said essentially, I am so thankful. I am not like you, a man who had everything who didn't think twice about taking from people who had nothing. Thank God. I don't understand that kind of thinking. After ginger Justin Bamberg spoke putting his classic Justin Bamberg twist on things. I'm

EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

Justin Bamberg 49:11

reminded of a quote. And I think it's very fitting for today. It's that fairy tales. Don't tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales show children that dragons can be slayed this process from the beginning of the investigation through the state grand jury process, as attorney Waters said earlier, a lot of people were afraid to participate. And it took courage that grand jury process this and entire criminal justice process, not even thinking about the Civil stuff, the criminal justice process. This has been the fairy tale. The children are the victims. It's the victim's family members. It's their closest friends. It's the people in our communities, whether you're talking about Collin County where some of the charges were pending, or Beaufort, or Hampton or Allendale or Bamberg or Orangeburg, those communities, the children. Today is such an important day. Because



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these victims, their loved ones, the community members, everyone knew that dragons existed. They've seen it. They watch TV, they read the newspaper, everybody knew that dragons existed today, this sentence, Your Honor, will show all of them that dragons can be slayed. And that is important in our society with regards to the sins, and it's tough to reach a decision and talking with the clients and explaining them what the options are, we do support we support the sense it is a lot of time in the quote unquote, legal white collar arena. But there's another aspect to this. And I understand I get it, I think the my clients, the victims understand that this entire ordeal for a lot of people, not just in our communities in South Carolina across the planet, this entire ordeal has been very entertaining to them. And I don't say that in a negative light. They're not involved. It wasn't their mother who died. They didn't have to bear their son. Right? There's a reason law and order is not one of the number one most watched shows, oh that's ever been on television, it is entertaining to them. But for a lot of people, this has been one of the worst nightmares, the worst fairy tale that anybody could ever actually have to live in, it needs to come to an end. Again, one of the most amazing things that that I've seen from my clients is the degree of grace wants to say and act justly love mercy and walk humbly with your God. And a lot of them live by that. There are people who would have every reason and right to hate this man. For betraying them for what he did to their families. It's not just about money. These are not just names on a piece of paper, or commas and decimal points. This was money that they needed for their lives, I believe their victims who ended up getting put out on the street, when their money got taken. If they had a reason to hate him, or hate anybody, they will be justified. But the degree of grace and mercy that they have displayed by forgiving him, because that is their religious belief. And they stand on that they don't just say that. They don't just do what Alex did and say I have your back



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or say this and do something else. They stand on that. And although they have every reason to be selfish, as it pertains to the pursuit of accountability, the pursuit of justice against an individual who truly does not deserve grace from the criminal justice system does not deserve any benefits from the criminal justice system. They're still willing to think about other people. And your honor. You know, I come from Bamberg County. We want on the smallest poorest counties in this state. Filled with good, hardworking people, much like all of the people that Alex victimized folks in Hamlin County, folks in Allendale County, where literally you try to wake up, do the best you can do. keep a roof over your head food in your fridge and a couple of presents under the tree at Christmas time. These victims are also thinking about those communities, their neighbors. The reality is is that if Alex were to have individual trials on all of these charges these victims neighbors and friends and community members what also Begin to suffer. Because those local governments poor Bamberg County, Allendale County, Hampton County, they're the ones who have to pay for it. The victims recognize that I as an attorney recognize that. And based on the the plea in the time that Alex is going to be sentenced, we understand and there is a degree of value in finality. There's a degree of value for not just these victims, but these communities and the criminal justice system. To be able to actually see the dragon be slayed in this courtroom and sentenced to prison for what will effectively be the rest of his natural life. It's no secret how tough SCDC is. People generally age a lot faster in there. And that's not something I celebrate, I don't say this. excited and happy to be here. As a lawyer. I hate looking at Alex and seeing another scene a former attorney sit there. I hate it. I hate to see somebody from our neck of the woods sit there. I don't celebrate that this process has sucked. If it wasn't for the commitment to shining light on things and standing up for folks like Miss Pinkney, and others who needed it. I



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personally don't know how I would have made it through the process, because it's not enjoyable. And I don't think any decent person celebrates the downfall of another living breathing human being particularly somebody that they knew. But it's necessary. This has been a horrible, tragic, sorrow field. Fairy Tale. And I think everybody's ready for it to come to an end, your honor to we'd like to thank Creighton waters in the AGs office. They've done a wonderful job. And your honor, if it wasn't for the encouragement that Craig and his team poured into people to let them know that the state had a true interest in accountability. I think that there would be far less charges because people wouldn't have wanted to testify the grand jury or have their their name public or their face public. And there's a lot to be said for that. Today, we'll make our system better. It will bring closure, um, then ideally will deter others.

Mandy Matney 57:48

It is important to note that Justin, a lawyer legislator, mentioned the need to make the system better. Justin always has infinite hope, even in the darkest of situations for people like Justin who grew up seeing how powerful the Murdaughs were and how untouchable Alex was Tuesday was monumental. To so many of us who see Alex as someone who deserves a 200 year sentence, it is important to remember that him being sentenced at all is a sign of progress. Dragons can be slayed. After Justin we heard from Pamela Pinkney, who quickly rose to hero status in this story soon after her family found out how Alex used her family's tragedy for horrific profit. It has been a while since we've talked about Hakeem and what Alex did to his family. Hakeem Pinkney was paralyzed in a catastrophic car wreck before his mysterious death in 2011. Hakim's mother Pamela and cousin Natasha were severely injured in that 2009 crash. Alex Murdaugh and his co-conspirators apparently



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work together in a fashion similar to the Gloria Satterfield scheme to defraud the pimping family of about \$1 million from a lawsuit that they filed on Hakim's behalf in 2010. The case apparently gave Corey and ellic the blueprint work for the Satterfield heist. After the accident in 2009, Hakeem was left paralyzed fighting for his life on a ventilator he was conscious and could communicate, but he was reliant on machines to keep him alive. Pamela was desperate to get her son in a better care facility, which she could have done if Alex wasn't a blood sucking monster who was stealing from them as they struggled to get Hakeem a better quality of life. Unfortunately, just four days after Alex Murdaugh settled Hakim's lawsuit in 2011 Hawkins ventilator was apparently left unplugged for 30 minutes before Pruitt health North Augusta employees noticed he died on October 11 2011. He was 21 years old. I wish there were more answers on a Hakim's death. But most of it still remains a mystery. We still don't know how a tragedy like that could happen. But what is clear is how Elliot continued to steal from the family after Hakeem died, Justin Bamberg found a paper trail of evidence showing the pillaging of Hawkins estate with Alex friends and family reaping the rewards. Just days before and during their first Christmas without Hakeem Alex wrote the following checks to the following people from Hakeem pink needs money \$100,000 To Russell's father Charlie a \$10,000 check to Maggie and more than a \$300,000 check to Alex's father Randolph, our former solicitor, which reminds me how far back did this scheme go? How much did Elux family members know? If we know that there was stolen money in Randolph's trust? Why weren't they forced to pay that back in? What about Charlie Luffy like Mark said, there are a lot of people who enabled Alex we hope that they will be held to account in the next frontier of this saga in we're glad that Mark is on the case. Oh Imen not long after that round of fevery as the pink knees were freshly grieving Hakeem Alex use Pamela's money

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to take his besties Chris Wilson and Corey Fleming on a private plane to the College World Series. Alex Murdaugh told Pamela he would fight for her. Instead, he lied to her, stole from her and continued to twist the knife even after her son died under mysterious circumstances. Now, after all of that pain and suffering Pamela Pinckney still manage to say this to Alex

Pamela Pinkney 1:01:58

Good afternoon, Your Honor. Good afternoon, Mr. Murdaugh, because I am Dana Vangelis. And I have Christ in my life. The 23rd Psalm says, Thou prepare the table before me know the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside the still waters. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art is with me, Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And because of what you did to me, I thank God for giving me strength to get through what I went through. Because without God, I wouldn't be here. And to you, Alex, Marta, I never thought that you were betrayed me, and did me and my family the way we did the way it was done. At a vulnerable time in our life at our lowest estate. We was in a terrible motor vehicle accident. And you just took us for granted. But all I want to say to you, is I forgive you from my heart. On this day and forevermore. My prayers and endeavors should be with you. And God bless you.

Mandy Matney 1:03:14

She forgave him, and she prays for him. After everything Alex did to her family. I want to pause and just come in Mrs. Pinckney, me and all of the victims who spoke this week for reminding the world that goodness



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and grace can overcome evil. It is so hard to remember that in a story like this one full of so much darkness.

Liz Farrell 1:03:46

Mark Tinsley spoke next. Not only did he say the things we were thinking at home, he reminded the court of the evil committed against his clients, the Badger family. It's a story we're committed to telling in a future episode not only because of how depraved Alex was in what he did, but because of the utter assist he seemed to have gotten from the bank in doing it, Mark Zero Dark Tinsley himself to the surprise of no one did not hold back.

Mark Tinsley 1:04:11

The longer I do this, the more I realized, I don't know. I don't practice in this courtroom in terms of criminal defense cases. I don't understand why the label of a white collar crime is given to these crimes, to the predatory acts that fail all of these people. The money that they were owed was owed. Because of blood, sweat and tears. Hakim Pinkney needed his money. The Badgers who I represent six children 23589 and 11 are left with a single father and he stole everything and so I stand up here to say that I believe in accountability. I don't know that justice is served here. And I don't know that, that the punishment, in this case is justified. And I don't want to be the odd man out. So I'll just keep it to myself and thank you. Lucky or broken person, I don't think you're gonna lie in bed at night, and have people come to you. I don't think that those people matter. And I don't know when that happened. But clearly it happened where you matter more. And I feel bad for you, as a result that I knew Paul, and I knew you, a lot of people thought they knew you. Clearly we did. I don't think you've always been this way. But



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somewhere along the way, you became broken. And you've justified it, and he's justified at every step of the way.

Liz Farrell 1:05:55

Then Mark finally went where we have been wanting this to go for a long time to the money.

Mark Tinsley 1:06:01

And I stand up here, Your Honor to simply correct the record. They didn't steal \$1.325 million from my clients, the bank didn't help. The bank was complicit in every step of the way in enabling it to steal and pull this off. You asked about Eddie Smith, Eddie Smith was a check cashing scheme. Eddie Smith was being paid to cash checks, but that money is still out there. And he knows where it is. He didn't spend all that money on drugs. If he wants to be accountable, he wants to be contrite. He ought to tell these people where their money is, that's not going to happen. The same as he's not going to lay in bed at night, and think about the wrongs and feel sorry for what he did. I don't envy you in having your job and the decisions you make. I recognize that there's value in finality. And maybe this is the right decision. I respect your honor. I respect the system. I stand up here merely to correct the record that my people have not been made whole. We are going to continue to seek accountability from the people that enabled him that helped him that were complicit in the thefts of their money. And so that's the reason I'm here today. Thank you, Jana.

Liz Farrell 1:07:25

We where is the money. One thing to note here is what Mark said about continuing to seek accountability from the people who enabled Alex This is not over. Maybe it's over for now for Alex but there were others



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and now that law enforcement is freed up from having to testify in these many trials. It's time to pull out the big guns and get Steven Smith's case solved and do something about the obstruction of justice that's alleged to have occurred in the boat crash investigation and charge everyone and anyone who has helped Alex commit these crimes or who was criminally negligent and not stopping them. The biggest bombshell of the day came from Alex childhood friend Jordan Jenks, who is now a Hampton county council member, Mr. Jenks, his statement was emotional and so powerful the betrayal he felt by Alex was palpable. But there was something else going on there too. First, he started with a sweet compliment for Judge Newman in

Jordan Jinks 1:08:20

new Jana Hello. First of all I want to say I do respect your job and this entire case. I admire what she did Sir Alex waiting on this day I've been waiting on this date looking at your eyes I wanted to sit down with you one on one when I found out what you did just wonder why I guess excuse me on like a lot of these people here these victims got a lot intimate stuff that I can say. You remember all those wildlife haunts had for law enforcement. Your entire family was the guest of honor. Mr. Buster insisted on me taking care of them for the day. You don't know how many brownie points you've got in my life suggest that I trusted you read it if

Liz Farrell 1:10:21

you heard that right. Intimate stuff, intimate stuff with Alex grandfather, intimate stuff with Judge Clyde Eltz Roth, who was one of the named partners of PMP D intimate stuff that Jordan Jenks says Alex should remember. Now I have to know when Jordan Jiang said intimate Alex's face changed entirely. He blinked and his brow furrowed and he looked



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at Jordan in a way I have never seen Alex look at anyone with fear. When Mr. Jenks first started talking, it was really the first time that Alex look close to genuinely bothered by what he was hearing briefly. He nodded along with Mr. Jenks until that moment, when Mr. Jinks said intimate stuff. Alex seemed to halt and then got steely.

Jordan Jinks 1:11:06

You're gonna break. Excuse me, excuse me, I knew I was gonna break. But I got some notes here. I don't even know if I can go through our family got deep relationship. You remember making a coma to me after I found out? After we discuss the possible amount this loss was worth and you made a comment to me. And you said don't spend all this money foolishly. Tell me what you did with \$20 million that you stole a lot of being mine. And you know, I'm sitting there crying and I want everybody to judge I need you to know I'm not crying because of what he stole from me. I'm crying for what he did. F body and these kids these people dying I didn't want to come up here and bash you. But I got to ask you. What kind of animal are you? I can't even I can't even go over my notes. I'm not here to be your judge. Ultimately, that belongs to the good Lord and Savior. Or may he have mercy on your soul? At didn't want to see when I saw you on TV and orange jumpsuit hurt me. Still what mattered? Was this judicial system put together a system to deal with people that make bad choices. And my friend, you chose to make the choice you made. So I need the judge to know that I am full favor and full favor of the court's recommendation for 27 years. I can go back to us going to mediation that you affected my wife. You chose to have Maggie deal with us. Those two days we were in Charleston in mediation. She catered to us hand and foot you told me where to go and check into my room we did from that point we never drove another foot neither does you know Maggie drove us everywhere we went when



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all this came about Paul Paul and Maggie. I couldn't believe it. I didn't believe it. But after sitting here today and hearing some of the devious things that you did to people these victims here change my mind. Once again, I asked you the animal all you boy I gave you my all I would do the money you stole from me you could ask me for it and I wouldn't give it to you if that's how I felt about you and your family. You'd have to steal it from me man. And I still, if there's any way possible you set it up. For me to be on your visitation list. I will sit down with you. I want to look in your eyes and talk to you You want to really talk to you? We got some intimate things we can talk about

Liz Farrell 1:15:11

why? Why such a talent? Do you know what you just throw away? I'll tell you. When Mr. Jang said talent Alex nodded in recognition of this alleged talent, it's not clear obviously of Alex thought Mr. Jenks was talking about his talent with the law or his talent at using the law to steal because we all know that was his skill set. So that was a moment someone with generations worth of direct knowledge of the Murdaugh family skeletons was either reminding Alex of that deep personal history to say me, You did this to me, or he was reminding I like that didn't mess with the wrong person. Maybe he meant both. We'll talk next week about Alex speech, but we want to point out a few things. One is that Alex was very receptive to Jordan jinxes invitation to sit down eye to eye to is that Alex seem to realize that all this forgiveness could maybe work in his favor in the future. And the last is that he went on for so long talking about himself and his family and seemed only to show what I would call vaguely true emotion during that time, that we started to get really angry. After all those moving moments and the bravery it took for the victims to speak. And this is what the court was going to be left with, with the echo of ellex narcissism bouncing off the



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walls. That's when the universe intervenes. There was another victim. Alex would not have the last word. The daughter of blonde Bulgaria came to the microphone Alex had stolen \$112,500 from her in April 2019, which is the same month that Paul Murdaugh was charged and Mallory beaches death but around the same time that Ellicott are two very expensive defense attorneys to represent his son. I think you know their names. Also around the same time judge Carmen Mullen signed off on Alex multimillion dollar theft in the Satterfield settlement, you know the one she could have stopped how she'd done her job. We haven't heard from Angel blonde Dells daughter before she was visibly upset when she got up to address Alex Murdaugh whom she had retained as her lawyer after her mother's death. At the recommendation of Miss Pamela Pinkney. Talk about betrayal, Alex stole over a million dollars from Miss Pinkney and made her believe he was good enough to recommend for her friend who he stole from the layers of damage destruction and betrayal in this case, are on real.

Angel Gary 1:17:54

Good afternoon. I just want to thank everybody for giving me this chance on your judge, Judge Newman. I want to address Mr. Murdaugh, Mr. Murdaugh? Is it's been years since my mother blonde Dale Gary had passed an ambulance accident on old Sheldon Church Road. When when he took the case, I I just I trusted you. I really trusted you. Like a lot. I have had a lot of faith. Because my friend Miss P. She had she had told me about you. So I entrusted you. But you know why? today? I think God, you know, God gave me this time just to tell you that I forgive you. I forgive you. And I hope and pray that you would look to Him. And ask him truly in your heart to forgive you of everything that you have done all of your sins because once you did all of the families, it's just so



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wrong. It's wrong. So just ask him just just just ask him to forgive you. I forgive you. Okay, just know that I do. Thank you. Thank you, everybody.

Mandy Matney 1:19:50

Like I said, I don't know how they have the grace in their hearts to forgive him. But they all did. After the hearing, I noticed two headlines one from the Island Packet newspaper and one from the Associated Press, that specifically mentioned the victims anger during the hearing. I pointed this out on Twitter because in today's media world we're so few people actually click on stories and even fewer people actually read the articles, headlines matter. Word choice really matters. It was unjust to use the word anger about the victims in the headlines not that anger is a bad word. The victims had every right to be angry, but anger did not dominate the conversation. The victims showed grace, forgiveness and ultimately hope despite all of their pain, and they showed bravery in facing the man who did so much to their families. This matters because Alex Murdaugh is still chipping away at the public for any chance he can to get a break headlines that make it look like he got a bitter tongue lashing from his victims are a win in his publicity campaign. The press has got to be more careful. On another note Anne Emerson of ABC News 4 did really great journalism. Following this plea deal. She noticed the Thomas Moore the state trooper who Alex stole from was it in the courtroom and she asked him why he told her that the plea deal did not feel like justice to him. And he was angry that the state made a deal and all went Alex Murdaugh. This is important because there are so many victims in this plea deal didn't do it all for all of them. Justice is never perfect, but the system will never improve if we blindly praise the state for accepting any deal other than life in prison for Alex Murdaugh. Now, after angel spoke Creighton waters brought the court back to Earth by telling the world again who Alex Murdaugh actually is. I



EPISODE 27: Alex Murdaugh's Sentencing Hearing Part One- The Bright Side and Becky Hill Update

Creighton Waters 1:21:54

think that he talked about the special recollections. It's good to know he has recollections about some things. But he's good. He can look people in the eye. But we've seen it all before we saw it for two days at the murder trial. We saw it and Dave Owens car. And all of these victims have seen it over and over again, in their interactions with him and in his office. But even as we heard that entire soliloquy, even now his only concern, the main thing he was concerned about was how he felt others perceived him his perception in the mind of others. And I'll just close with saying what I said to you right before sentencing and murder, that when he sat there and looked all these victims in the eye, it was the same thing that he had done when he stole from them. It's the same thing that he's done in his interactions with the police. And the reality is, is that not one single person who thought they knew this man and they were so many who thought they did not one single person knew who he really was. And your honor, is tied for at least in these proceedings. Respectfully for the system to be done with him. And we would ask you to accept the 27 years thing.

Mandy Matney 1:23:18

Not a single person knew this man. So what is with Dick and Jim? Why did they keep fighting for this man who has lied, cheated, stolen and murdered? With that we will see you next week for part two of Alex Murdaugh sentencing. Stay tuned, stay pesky and stay in the sunlight. True Sunlight is created by me, Mandy Matney, co-hosted by journalist Liz Farrell and produced by my husband David Moses. True Sunlight is a Luna Shark Production.