



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

MTL Operator 00:06

Hello, this is an MTL operator calling from Alvin s Glenn detention center with a prepaid collect call from Alex to accept this prepaid collect call press one. All phone calls are subject to monitoring and recording. Thank you for using them till

Mandy Matney 00:31

I don't know what we expected Alex Murdaugh's jailhouse phone calls to be like, but after listening to them, we are more certain than ever of Alex's extraordinary ability to manipulate and control those around him, even his own family. My name is Mandy Matney. I've been investigating the Murdaugh family for three years now. This is the Murdaugh murders podcast with David Moses and Liz Farrell. This week marks the third anniversary of Mallory Beach's death. Our hearts are with the beach family as well as Mallory's friends and everyone who loves and misses her. We are thinking of Morgan, Miley Connor and Anthony who have to relive the worst nights of their lives in the national spotlight over and over again, through no fault of their own. It's important to recognize that none of the victims or their family asked to be in this international news story. We wish all of the victims and their families peace this week and ask anyone who would like to honor Mallory to do so by donating to her charity Mal's Pals at malspalz.com. That's malspalz.com. All funds go directly to building a new shelter in Hampton County and support local shelters because Mallory loved animals. This week. David, Liz and I spent hours listening to recordings of some of the phone calls Alex Murdaugh has made to family members since his arrest in October in January we filed a Freedom of Information Act request for a number of phone calls that Alex had made from the Richland County Detention Center between his arrest last fall and December 9 Alex made almost 100 phone calls, most of them to his son Buster, his brothers Randy and John Marvin, his sister Lynn and his sister in law lives. These phone calls have given us a lot of insight into the Murdaugh family dynamic and a closer look at Alex sociopathy, which is beyond anything we could have imagined. The calls were mostly short because inmates at the Richland County Jail are limited to 15 minutes per call. The first phone call is from October 24 2021 which is 10 days after sled arrested Alex while he was in Orlando, Florida on charges related to the Gloria Satterfield settlement. Remember he was arrested after allegedly completing more than 30 days of rehab following his so called suicide for hire incident on September 4 In this call Alex is speaking to his 25 year old son Buster who was on Hilton Head Island with his girlfriend Brooklyn Just after he got home from a trip to Las Vegas with his uncle John Marvin, you probably remember this trip



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

because a photo of Buster gambling was circulated online, which Buster references in this phone call. It's that photo that led the victim's attorneys to file an emergency request with the court to freeze Alex and Busters assets and assign a receiver to comb through their finances.

Buster Murdaugh 04:02

Yeah, hello. Yeah.

Alex Murdaugh 04:05

I've no idea what

Buster Murdaugh 04:08

I was talking to Brooklyn.

Alex Murdaugh 04:10

I wouldn't go to Brooklyn. Brooklyn. Congratulations.

Buster Murdaugh 04:15

Yeah.

Alex Murdaugh 04:18

Can I speak to her?

Buster Murdaugh 04:20

Yeah, you can speak here.

Brooklyn 04:22

Hello.

Alex Murdaugh 04:25

Hi, I'm so proud of you.

Brooklyn 04:28

Thank you.

Alex Murdaugh 04:31

Are you excited to find out?



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Brooklyn 04:34

Yes, sir.

Alex Murdaugh 04:35

It was when exactly they grew in that Buster said it was when y'all were in the mountains. I wasn't trying to bother y'all because I needed that service.

Brooklyn 04:47

That was last Friday to October 15.

Alex Murdaugh 04:51

Did you know you're gonna find out?

Brooklyn 04:55

Yes, I did.

Alex Murdaugh 04:56

So you knew you were gonna know up in the mountains.

Brooklyn 05:00

Yeah, they told us on Wednesday, I believe that the scores were getting released on that Friday for so yeah, I knew whenever we were going up there,

Alex Murdaugh 05:12

you weren't really worried. Where are you?

Brooklyn 05:14

Oh, I was a nervous wreck.

Alex Murdaugh 05:20

so clearly I'm so proud of you.

Brooklyn 05:24

Well, thank you.

Alex Murdaugh 05:27

I know y'all are tired. I know you haven't seen Buster so I'm not gonna keep y'all but a second. I just wanted to make sure he made it home. Okay.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Brooklyn 05:34

Oh, yeah. And here you can talk to him.

Alex Murdaugh 05:37

I miss you.

Brooklyn 05:38

I miss you too. I love you.

Alex Murdaugh 05:40

Love you.

Mandy Matney 05:42

Brooklyn who has dated Buster since 2019. Just passed the bar exam in which Alex congratulates her. You'll notice throughout these phone calls that being a lawyer is something Alex Murdaugh absolutely values and identifies with and later you'll see that he seems fixated on Buster getting back into law school. According to our sources, Buster was asked to leave USC School of Law after a cheating scandal. It is clear from this phone call that LA considers himself to be close with Brooklyn who offered an unsolicited I love you before quickly hopping off the phone and handing it back to Buster.

Alex Murdaugh 06:21

What time y'all get back

Buster Murdaugh 06:27

to where

Alex Murdaugh 06:30

Home

Buster Murdaugh 06:30

like five o'clock this morning.

Alex Murdaugh 06:32

How'd y'all get back at five o'clock this morning? If y'all left at 1053 there



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Buster Murdaugh 06:38

Time Change

Alex Murdaugh 06:40

Yeah, nobody's 1053 out there. Y'all left, right?

Buster Murdaugh 06:44

No, we left at 930

Liz Farrell 06:46

9:30 out there. We left at 930. It's a four hour flight. So you really land that, you know, around one. And then you traveled through three times which added three hours. So we landed at about 430 at night to be tired. Yeah, I am tired. I am full. It was easier for me because they dropped me off my car which is in Columbia and I just went to my apartment and slept for several hours alone. Me. Where did y'all fly into? Charlotte? Well, I'll do that.

07:22

You know, it's just that was where the cheapest flight was.

07:27

Which flew.

07:29

Spirit airlines.

07:30

How was that is better than

07:33

I expected it to be.

07:39

What does that mean?

07:41

Well, I mean, I don't know. I just you know, it was better than you know, I just thought it was a real cheap airline, but I mean, it was nicer than I thought it was going to be.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

07:51

Because I really knew see,

07:54

you know, the seats were in They but you know it was you know, it's totally it's just a different like the seats don't recline, because they can sit more if they don't recline. It's just you know, it's just different. So you went

08:07

for hours with no recline.

Liz Farrell 08:10

I'm sure you guys noticed Alex knowing little laugh at Busters economy airlines experience sources have always told us that the Murdaughs weren't extravagant people but we do know that they tended to fly private I like obviously thinks it's adorable that his a heinous crimes have led to his adult son having to slum it.

08:29

But yeah, I mean, no, everyone's fine. Everyone was fine.

08:34

So was it a good trip? Or you know, just sort of okay.

08:37

No, it was a good trip. It was you know, it's different going into Vegas with young children. But, you know, everything was so fun and then going into Savannah was a JSON, you get the gambling? Yeah, yeah. So I did go gambling and then the next day, there was an article created about how I'm misusing funds by gambling. Yeah, someone took a picture of me and John Martin in the casino. You're kidding me?

09:08

What a fucking you. Are you kidding me? No,

09:14

I may recognize, man I guess that I mean, I'm a national figure, I

09:18



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

think. I guess you're gonna have to wear a hat and shit when you go to places.

Mandy Matney 09:23

So four days before this call. Our founding editor Will Folks of FITSnews published an exclusive report about Buster and John Marvins trip to Las Vegas less than a day after Alex bond hearing in Richland County. When judge Clifton Newman denied Alex bond John Marvin and Buster were spotted at a blackjack table at the Venetian. It was relevant because at the time Buster had just been granted power of attorney over his father's assets. Also notice Alex never apologizes to a son who is obviously under national media scrutiny because of him. He just tells him to wear a hat while he's in public, which isn't very helpful. Now I want you to pay attention to the next part. In all of these calls, we noticed a pattern with Alex after he warms up the person he's talking to. They'll start to end the call but strategically uses the wind down moment to ask his family members to do things for him right before it's hanging up time. The other day a man who knew the Murdaugh family for decades told me that Alex had a real talent for getting people to do things for him which explains how he was able to get away with what he did for so many years. Anyway, this part coming up I want you to listen carefully.

10:43

Where are you gonna be tomorrow

10:45

I'm here the year

10:48

it please don't jump on the dash to see about that stuff and Mark ball in any of those other funds to put all that

10:55

being taken care of in the morning. So marks do not do it yet. They're writing the check in the morning to check I'll be ready at 830 Johnson and someone to pick it up and then simultaneously running it over to Palmetto State to apply it and I'm driving to Charleston in the morning to pick up the check

Liz Farrell 11:11

in our planet to correct me now see how they first when everything's being applied to the bank. Yeah, I mean, June 4, so all that'll be done, all that'll be done by lunch



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

tomorrow. It makes me feel better. So it'll be 350 How much has been put on it so far?

11:30

Data I don't have an exact figure you know a couple 10s of 1000s Maybe you know just selling pieces of equipment.

Liz Farrell 11:39

I love you and well this call turned out to be a real who's who of Alex money moving shenanigans. First you remember our friend Mark Ball, right? He was directly involved in the old jellyfish Gambit. And he was also Alex's colleague at PMPED seems like just a few days after attorneys called for Alex finances to be frozen and handed over to a receivership that Mark Ball was cutting Alex's check. This check was so critical to Alex that Buster is told to stay on John Marvin about it. But he doesn't have to do that because John Marvin has already arranged for somebody to go get the check and run it over to Palmetto State Bank to apply it to something we don't know what it is. But anyone who knows simple math is aware that Mark ball plus Palmetto State Bank plus a quickly cut check divided by Elek equals I hope sled is listening to this. Anyway, Buster asked his dad about his court proceedings. Before they

Mandy Matney 12:37

At the end of the phone call Alex and Buster chat about sports scores and we get why that's so important to him in a later phone call. We'll be right back. Now November was another really bad month for Alex Murdaugh. As a reminder on November 2 Judge Daniel Hall froze Alex and Buster Murdaugh's assets on November 10. Judge Clifton Newman denied Alex Murdaugh's bond for the second time on November 19, Alex was indicted on 27 counts of financial crimes including fraud and money laundering. The next call happened on November 30. The week after Thanksgiving Alex Murdaugh called Buster who just got back from a fishing trip somewhere off the coast of South Carolina the to start with a little routine father son talk

13:36

good we doing

13:41

nothing I'm in Brooklyn's conduct.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Liz Farrell 13:44

I get wounded in a minute. Oh, yeah. Yeah, last night. I did good. How's she doing? Good.

13:52

Did she have a good Thanksgiving? Yeah. Oh, good. fishing trip. It was good to get caught, called a selfish and a couple Taylor Blackfin Yeah, no one no one is that I mean when you fishing on a boat like that? I don't mean, even again, catching up and you feeling pretty good. He

Mandy Matney 14:16

They go back and forth about the fishing trip for a few. Buster seems a little short with his father and starts to sound annoyed as Alex turns the conversation to Buster making arrangements to re-enroll in law school in January.

14:32

Not trying to build your baggage. You got to get that thing reset with law school.

14:36

Awesome. Actually email to Hubbard this morning.

14:39

Okay. All right. We'll get data and everything else. Okay. Yeah. What have you been doing? I know you talk to me Friday. Yeah, I thought you did when you got back. No, no, that's right. Because it's Thursday afternoon. We will not go down Friday.

Alex Murdaugh 14:58

I like to start to ask gang Buster about his financial situation. This call is one that later gets referenced by prosecutor Creighton Waters during Alex bond reconsideration hearing as evidence that Alex hasn't stopped his financial shuffling behind bars.

15:15

I told John to give me money until I get everything sorted out where I'm paying

15:20

they are happy. Yeah, but I mean, I haven't really needed any money.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

15:25

Yeah, but you have to pay rent now.

15:28

Well, the ones I'm on time I paid for tomorrow so I can ask him for money.

15:38

One time he paid rent money. For

15:41

one time I paid rent. I was out of my account, but I have to pay to him for being stuck and asked him for been expired.

15:47

Did he feel uncomfortable asking him?

15:49

Not not uncomfortable? It's just mean it's not very clear to him?

15:54

Well, but I mean, I've got him keeping up with all of it so I can pay him back. Now I understand. You don't worry about that. I mean, I've even asked him if he wanted me to do other things because there's other options. And he's absolutely. I mean, he's absolutely, I mean, I've talked with him at length about here. So he said he's glad to do it. So don't be bashful.

16:16

Now Alex is telling his son Buster to go to John Marvin, Alex, brother and Buster's uncle to ask for money. Mind you, Buster is 25 years old with a full time job at Wildwood Cafe corporate offices, as a recruiter noticed that Alex is not acting like he is impecunious as his attorneys have said, but rather he insists that there is money there. And he has quote unquote, options, whatever those were.

Liz Farrell 16:43

Okay. And lastly, you need to get ready for this last rule now, okay. I mean, you got to really buckle down and you got to I mean, you got to treat it like a job, you're gonna have to read these cases two or three times if you don't fully understand them. I mean, you're gonna have to treat it like a job. Promise? Yes. Because you know,



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

there's not going to be another chance. I mean, no way is no way shape or form. Is there going to be another chance? Obviously, you do truly understand that. Yes. So you're going to be on the road this happened is, yeah, totally, I will be able to call again, I got Jim supposed to come by me with him. I'm trying to get the finances straight with them. And then I got to talk to John and see whether we don't do a loan, and then I'll pay it back out of the account later. Or we don't have a letter from an opinion from a lawyer who does retirement accounts, rolling it over. Because I mean, if you pay interest on something for six years, it could end up being more than the penalty. But we got to make sure he doesn't open it up to the creditors.

Mandy Matney 18:04

If there ever truly was a question about whether or not dick and Jim were getting paid for representing Alex in this mess, there is your answer. And then at the end of the conversation, Alex again asks Buster to do something for him.

18:22

Well, please feel Brooklyn Hello. Okay. Did you by chance talk to grandma about a property.

18:29

I did mention it to him. And I told him that I never really got a private moment with him. I didn't want to keep talking about it in front of people. But I did mention it to them. And they said that they would like to do it. But they were concerned that they wouldn't be able to figure it out via the phone.

18:47

If you think they really would rather wait until I get out. It ain't gonna hurt my feelings. I understand. What's your opinion?

Liz Farrell 18:55

I don't have an opinion. I tried to talk to him about how it was always around our family and I didn't, really. So I tried to talk to him about it, but we were never, we're never not around the entire family. So I didn't really feel like talking about it in front of everybody. Understand, so we're not entirely sure what this is about, but it seems sketchy. It seems like Alex is asking Buster whether he has spoken with Grandma and Papa T who were told are Maggie's parents. Buster seems uncomfortable. Clearly, whatever Alex wanted him to ask them about is something Buster doesn't want to bring up in front of other family members. Since Alex's entire world seems to



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

be about money. It would not be a stretch to think that he might be instructing Buster to talk to his other grandparents about finances. The next day on Wednesday, December 1 Alex called Buster again. Alex starts by bragging about winning jail bets on NFL games.

19:56

What you do is

19:58

that's it. I'm in bed. Charlotte, am I waking you up? No, that's probably

20:05

what it's not about. Yeah, I hit nine out of 11 games on Sunday in the pro games. Well, I'm just the Eagles. And I missed the Steelers. The Eagles were three and a half point favorites over giants. And they lost to the Steelers were four and a half point underdogs to the Bengals. And they lost that 20 But I had nine out of 11. That's pretty damn hard. Yeah, I won like 64 B sticks. Bunch of crackers and cookies and a bunch of candy and it was like therapy and I was playing everybody put in something, you know. All right. I want to start doing things. Anyway, how you doing?

Mandy Matney 20:51

Obviously Alex appears to be hustling in jail. Maybe he's bored. Maybe his real addiction is just breaking the rules. Whatever it is, he sure was proud about those beef sticks. Alex then asks Buster. If he's talked to his Attorney Jim Griffin, about his habeas corpus petition that was filed on November 10. After Judge Newman denied Alex bond for a second time. Note that Alex sounds like he's just learned a new fun fact about the law.

21:21

Jim, have you talked to Jim lately? I haven't jumped over to talk to him today.

21:26

What did he say about them expediting this may expedite this appeal. It's called habeas corpus that deals with a constitutional issue. You have a constitutional right to bail for any non capital offense. And so when he did not bond they filed a habeas corpus petition. And the Supreme Court first said they weren't going to expedite it. Then they wrote back and gave the Attorney General 10 days to respond. You would assume at least the lawyers assume that if they weren't going to do something, they



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

would just let it sit. But I mean, I don't get my hopes up. You know, but they seem to have your hopes up? I hear Yeah.

Mandy Matney 22:08

It would seem that Dick and Jim did get Alex hopes up over nothing. Spoiler alert. The supreme court denied the writ of habeas corpus in January after Judge Lee set Alex bond at \$7 million. It is interesting to note that Dick and Jim thought they had a shot with the Supreme Court and it makes you wonder why they had that assurance. Anyways, on the phone call. Lester then tells Alex that John Marvin is trying to get his guns back from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, also known as SLED.

22:40

What else? What else did he tell John? Well,

22:47

John said that he was going to talk to me about something that said he got to talk to me about it in person, that's probably what it was.

22:53

No, that wouldn't be that wouldn't make sense. So I want to talk to you about that in person. But mostly, I've had John calling David Allen's every day

23:04

to try to get my guns back. And prior to Thanksgiving, David Allen said that we could have him back in two days that he couldn't have that. So that's what John was calling to tell me. And then he called and told Jim what David Allen said about not being able to get them. John said that he used the language out of an abundance of caution. And then John said, Well, have you not run the ballistics on him? And apparently, he was like, No, we have and he was like, well, are these guns used in the crowd? And they're like, No, and I was like, and he was like, Well, fuck it. We haven't done so. I don't know how he's been trying to get some of our stuff.

Liz Farrell 23:42

From this conversation. It sounds like Alex is trying to sell off expensive tools and machinery so that the victims can't claim them as assets. In October Alex brother Randy filed a lawsuit claiming that Alex Odom \$90,000 and wrote in the suit that he had been paid back in part by equipment that Buster had signed over to him



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

24:03

Hey, Jim, have a nice day. You know that Becky and Packard are your mom and Lynn is in the skin and she has made a very huge one. Yeah, he needs to go pick that up before you know Jake it like they're just man. Yeah. On the board there's a bunch of young barbers tools in the shop. I told him he needs to get out. There's no walkie tools, all those jacks, all that stuff. And I borrowed a lot of teeth.

24:35

Yeah, we're gonna go we're gonna be going to this one kid hot coil and he talked about going over the greens or going over to green. Going over the Mojo and getting some of that stuff.

Mandy Matney 24:48

Then Alex starts asking questions about Blanca. According to sources Blanca was Maggie's housekeeper at the Edisto Beach House where Maggie was staying by herself. before the murders

25:04

received no and I still haven't called Blanca,, I keep forgetting to call Blanca.

25:09

Okay. Do you want me to get somebody else to do it?

25:12

No. I mean, I'm trying to do it. It's just, I don't know, for some reason I keep forgetting.

25:17

Okay, well, are you going to remember me? Because I'd like to call her soon. And I don't mind getting somebody else to do it. I know you got a lot going on. No, I

Liz Farrell 25:25

i mean, do you have one? Because number? No, that's what I say. I told you, I gotta get her number. And I wonder if you let her know. I'm gonna be calling in to make sure that she's good with that. Number one, the number two kind of tells her what she's got to do. Simple. Yeah, I'll

25:43



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

do that in the morning. Yes. And weekly show her that. I'd asked you to do it before Thanksgiving. He just had a lot going on and forgot.

25:52

You promised promised time to remember the moment

25:59

and you said you didn't really want to mean she irritated you. And if you don't want to call her I promise you I'll get Lizzie and grandma or somebody else.

Mandy Matney 26:08

So we don't know what's going on here. But Alex seems really determined to get a hold of Blanca from our sources. We know that Alex seeks to control the narrative and he puts himself square in the face of people he's trying to persuade or even just monitor before he was in jail. Alex was known for having sit down talks with people who might have a reason to be upset with him or his family. These sit downs According to my sources, were a classic manipulation tactic that Alex frequently used. Alex then changes the subjects to apparently one of his favorite topics: Buster's future in law school.

26:50

Not known from email the other day, you know, the beginning of this week, and I haven't I haven't heard back. I emailed him and I

Liz Farrell 26:59

did email him and ICCB Associate Dean and I hadn't heard back yet. Okay, if you don't hear today, this is Monday. He did it Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Tomorrow, he might use you to follow up. Yeah, I mean, if I don't hear tomorrow, and

27:19

if I don't like it, you can call them and say that I've been trying to get in touch with his book and paid all the money that he was.

27:29

Yes. It was upfront. And it was 30 grand up front and 30.

27:38



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Contingency and if it was excessive. I don't want to call on the guy have the skinny has a

27:46

no, he feet. He knows totally. But I mean, would he be willing to do something like that? Absolutely. But I would do it yourself. First, I just say hey, just following up, you know, a holiday.

28:00

If you got to get back into this week, and we get into the middle of next week. We

Liz Farrell 28:05

got to be done. That's what I'm saying when your classes start. January the fifth? Fifth. Yeah, that's why you really need to send it tomorrow. And if you haven't heard from him by Friday, I'll say something really nice. Just like, hey, just following up on my email. I know this is a busy time of year but was hoping we could meet to decide that we could get a meeting set soon. Or reset to is what I'd say. Instead just say thank you for your attention. For some real nice things like that. But you have a Senate tomorrow to give him a chance to respond on Friday. This conversation reveals something disturbing that we are looking into elegant Buster refer to Butch who we've been told is Butch Bowers, a highly influential Columbia attorney from Hampton County, which has represented our state's governors including Henry McMaster and State Senator Lindsey Graham recommended him to be a member of President Trump's impeachment team. He is incredibly connected to the University of South Carolina. Another fun fact about Butch his father and namesake, Carl S Bauer Sr. was an ex con he was federally indicted in 1980 on 15 counts related to the fraudulent sale of homes in Hampton County. He was found guilty of tax evasion and served time in prison. Then, the good old boys named a bridge after him not just a bridge, but one of the bridges to one of the state's most important sources of tourist revenue Hilton Head Island, which his father was also awarded the Order of the Palmetto which is supposed to be the state's most prestigious award. You might remember that Alex's brother was also awarded the Order of the Palmetto if you haven't noticed it by now. Good old boys really like to give trophies to other good old boys. Anyway, it seems like Alex has paid Butch Bowers \$60,000 to do something in connection with Busters re admittance to law school but it's not clear what Alex encourages Buster to write an email to Dean Hubbard, who was William Hubbard. William Hubbard is a former colleague of ours at the politically powerful Nelson Mullins Riley Scarborough law firm. I call in late Friday afternoon and that way he can



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

be prepared to call them first thing Monday morning Are you willing to do that?
Yeah, I'm

30:30

the one that came up with that deal. This telephone call bus traditionally when I get out of here Lord Emerson, this anyway, I love you are proud of you I am. Yes, sir. I don't want to talk about faces. love you more.

Liz Farrell 31:01

This is the only time in these calls that we got. Alex says that he's proud of Buster. And it appears to be while they're talking about some shady money shuffling in order to get back into law school. We'll be right back.

Mandy Matney 31:21

On the same day, December 1. Alex called his brother John Marvin, John Marvin reminds Alex that he is cautious about talking over the phone with Buster, which indicates to us that he's wary of his phone being tapped for some reason.

31:37

Oh, no, no, everything's good. You know, I just when we start talking about things over the phone, it always bothers me.

Liz Farrell 31:47

Especially this phone. So remember

Mandy Matney 31:48

Then Alex gets a little cryptic. He mentioned the financial situation involving Jim and Dick, his attorneys as well as a mysterious letter.

31:59

I've got to get this finance stuff straight with Jim and I put some thought into it. And I want you to have what you have that letter with you tomorrow when I call you

32:13

give it out. But that letter really was nothing more than saying that

32:19

they had received a request to get to look into what it seems



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

32:25

it would be a move.

32:28

I'll try to find out later and try to really come in. I'm gonna talk to you about this other stuff. And let's figure it out. I mean, I think about figuring it out, but let's figure out what to do because I'm not gonna be able to talk but about another minute.

Liz Farrell 32:43

After getting off the phone with John Marvin on December 1. Alex called their older brother, Randy Murdaugh. Now remember, Randy, who is also an attorney at the firm is currently suing Alex for \$90,000 of alleged unpaid debt. We say alleged because this lawsuit was seen as a scheme to help Alex retain his assets and keep them away from victims on this phone call. The two brothers do not act like one of them just sued the other for unpaid money, they are downright chummy with each other. Also, Alex talks about another of his favorite jail phone topics, his workouts.

33:19

I'll tell you what I've started doing, you'd be proud of me, really started exercising pretty dang hard. I mean, like, I mean, I was like, almost two hours and 40 minutes today, just because we were shut in the room this morning. But I mean, I've been like an hour and 15 or 20 minutes a day. This is the start of my I started on Friday, the 12. And I mean, I can tell a distinct difference. You know when I was exercising 25 years ago. Me there actually. I mean about laying around and rehab. And then really from the South for 38 days, I did very little. The last, the last about seven, I was up a lot more, but I still wasn't doing anything strenuous. So a week. And then when I came in here, I obviously thought I was getting out on the 19th. So I didn't do anything and then I thought I was getting out shortly after that with Donna Maddox. You know, so I didn't do anything for about two and a half weeks here. Right? Really it's longer than that. And then I started doing as he approached us with the summaries that made my head hurt after about a few days, but now it's not doing that. I guess it told me that I've gotten in better shape.

Mandy Matney 34:55

I like to tell Randy he's been hearing a high pitched ringing noise in his ear. yours, and wonders whether it's a side effect of his alleged drug addiction.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

35:04

I would think it's more to do with your hereditary and your shooting, you know,

Liz Farrell 35:12

I am clearly optimistic about getting out of jail soon here. He sounds very hopeful about Dick and Jim's habeas corpus motion, but also quite appallingly. He makes it a point to say that he didn't know what a habeas corpus was before now, apparently, neither did Randy. Both of these men have been attorneys for decades. But okay. You're never too old to learn something new. Hey, maybe you were teaching them about the Freedom of Information Act today?

35:44

And he's talking to Jim and BIC or whomever else about filing bankruptcy, bro.

35:50

Yeah, I mean, we've discussed it. But there's some time and I mean, it's almost like you're sucking bankruptcy right now.

35:58

But you got all the bad from it. But none of the good from

36:01

it. You don't I'm saying? So they're talking about? I'm not really familiar with this. But apparently, there's a civil remedy. What is it? I've heard of the writ of mandamus. But I don't really know what it is. But it must be something that gives you a quick turnaround. Right?

36:16

Which immediately, Supreme Court? Yeah.

36:20

So I mean, that's what they're gonna do. If, you know, he's gonna not do it. But they told me they can see me yesterday and told me that the Supreme Court, you know, they found a, I've heard of this thing, but I didn't know what it is, you know, what a habeas corpus. a writ of habeas corpus is. I know, it's directly to spring forth about Uther. Net. Apparently, apparently. There's nobody with this kind of stuff that has never not gotten a bond and might be, you know, a huge bond that they get upon and you're constitutionally entitled to a bond for non capital offenses is what they



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

call me. Cops rightfully entitled. And because it's a constitutional violation. You can file a writ of habeas corpus, same thing like a mandamus for a civil charge. Habeas corpus is for a criminal charge. I think they're the same thing just once criminal and civil. And anyway, they initially said they weren't going to expedite it. But then they said, they are going to expedite it. And they gave the Attorney General 10 days to respond. I don't get my hopes up about anything, because I, you know, I don't think normal rules apply to me right now. But they seem to think that if the Supreme Court wasn't going to do something, that they wouldn't have done that. So they're at least optimistic they're gonna do something. Right. The Attorney General asked for a \$200,000 bond, you know, I mean, they could give me you know, \$20 million bond, but then and comply with the Constitution. But I'm being facetious, I think, and I have to be reasonable. But they could say that he wouldn't take the due date, the judge would say more than what the attorney general asked for, you know, when he said no bond, I said, 200,000. That's what the attorney general asked for. Newman wouldn't give me a bond. Yeah, no, but that's what I'm saying. That's what I'm saying. You were saying he would require more bond and slip for ask for? Yeah. So anyway, they're trying to take it out. I don't know if they seem very optimistic.

Mandy Matney 38:57

Two days after this conversation, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court effectively removed judge Newman from making any more decisions about Alex bond. In the days that followed that decision, FITSnews kept asking our sources, whether judge Newman's no bond ruling would still be in effect, we were assured again, and again, that it would later we found out that the two charges were basically replaced by the state Grand Jury indictments, and that Judge Lee, who is famously known for her lenient bond setting was now on the case. So yeah, Dick and Jim, were optimistic on December 1,

39:36

so we'll see it would be nice to get out for a little while and then go deal with this stuff. But yeah, yeah. Well, boy, I

39:44

know. I know.

39:46

I'm looking at ads every day. I mean, here now is one less day I mean, here in the long run, you know, we know what that is. I mean, the fact is, every time there's a new you



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

know, a new case it comes up a new You know, revelation of, you know, something you took about the same people very, very quickly I go into the VA and subpoena the state grand jury. So I mean, it's just, you know, it's gonna be more to come obviously, you know that.

40:17

So, you know, you're right about that, yes. But the quicker that all can come to a head, the better obviously, I

40:25

i don't think so. Okay. So

Liz Farrell 40:28

We have to ask, How does Randy Murdaugh know who has been subpoenaed to testify in front of the super secretive state Grand Jury seems like a real breach of trust and potentially dangerous for witnesses who are just trying to speak their truth.

Mandy Matney 40:43

The next call Alex made that night was to his sister Lynn, she is the oldest Murdaugh sibling and doesn't seem nearly as involved in the family affairs as her brother Lin asked about Alex day to day life in jail. And of course, he talks about working out a lot.

41:02

I'm a small group for the most part, you know, 70% 75% return with the same stop guys. And then there's just another guy that's on our thing, but he doesn't even come out when he's just kind of weird. He doesn't come out. But anyway, you know, we play chess and play cards, and we have

41:27

that somebody to interact with a little bit now. Completely by yourself.

41:32

And I'll tell you this, I've been really exercising. Once I've made it one time, I didn't do crap while I thought I was getting out quickly, and then you really don't really tell the difference, right today. We didn't, we didn't get out. They had people working here so they wouldn't let us out. I mean, access for two hours and 40 minutes. I can tell the difference too.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Mandy Matney 42:00

He says that Lynne and his sister in law Lizzie wrote to him more than anyone else.

42:06

I'm trying to make the best out of it. I'm really trying hard to get it out of my head, but I started looking at it. Every day I do now. One less thing you have to do on the tail end of that. You're absolutely right. It just has to keep that attitude. Hit. I

42:30

never stop. I can't imagine I can't imagine.

Mandy Matney 42:34

And we'll be right back. Next step is our calls from the January force. These calls were also brought up by the prosecutor Creighton Waters during Alex bond reconsideration hearing on January 10. In that hearing, Creighton was making it clear that even from behind bars Alex was exploiting the rules for his own benefit. First up, Alex asked Buster about his money situation,

43:02

boss how you are doing on finances.

43:06

Pretty slim, but it'll be getting better.

43:09

Well, listen here. Do we tell John to give you you know, several \$1,000 and then I'll

43:19

know it's just I've just had extensive like, considering I had to change my I had to change on medical insurance

Liz Farrell 43:26

last year keeps telling his dad that he is financially fine. But his dad keeps on insisting that he should let John Marvin give him money. We should also note that just a month and a half earlier, Alex's lawyers were claiming that Buster, who again has a full time job, could not afford groceries. You'll notice in this next part that Buster seems reluctant to borrow money from his relatives and actually has plenty of money of his own. And when Alex tells them he'll reimburse John Marvin for storage. If you



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

listen very carefully, you can hear Buster start to say, well, I don't understand how you would

43:59

Well, we need to get John to pay for the storage facility and then let me pay him back.

44:09

But anyway,

44:10

I mean, do you will need to get him to give you just, I don't know four or \$5,000 So you just have and you don't have to worry about expenses,

44:22

though because I've got that money. Now I've got you know not right now my bank account I've got \$2,000 A little bit more when I say like when you go play golf, you can if you want to get a shirt and have a drink and have drinks or whatever at the bar and there's that you know Yeah, I mean, I've got stuff that can they can settle all that

44:47

with you just gotta keep me posted because, you know, get him to give you money and then pay him back. Okay, you gotta keep me posted on let me know okay. All right everything else going okay

Mandy Matney 45:04

yeah next we find out that the Mercedes with run flat tires the gateway Alex lie about being shot is still at flood here Buster seems to have to give his dad a dose of reality. You want to take

45:19

my clubs

45:20

now you just use mine I don't know where yours are I think you're still in the Mercedes it's a So

Mandy Matney 45:27



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

shortly after they end the call Alex calls Buster back II apparently forgot to ask him to do one of those end of call favors we told you about

45:37

Sorry to bug you again real quick. Hey, where's

45:41

she's back at the house which I just left.

45:44

Okay, how about call her and tell her I'm trying to get her

45:48

Okay, what do you need from her?

45:50

I need her to put some money on a candy all right, actually, you know what I'll call again. I thought I could shoot her but I just got to do it while I'm right here at the Exxon because if I go any further I'm not gonna have any service. See? There's a guy who doesn't get candy and canteen is the comment I know what it is. You know what I mean? It's just the commerce is to trade and it really helped me last week when she put it on Lucas's account. I want her to do that one more time. Okay, it's just outside looking in and looks a little weird. What do you make?

46:32

Just looks a little weird.

Liz Farrell 46:34

Finally, someone points out the elephant in the room. Finally one of his family members points out his narcissistic shakiness for a second anyway. narcissists are great at darting away from reality. Just listen, I

46:51

get what you're saying. But I mean, I made a deal with somebody I'd give them \$15 See, I can only do \$60 on my account.

47:00



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

I understand. I'm just saying that I'm not saying you are me. I just was really happy not doing anything you shouldn't be doing.

47:06

Oh, no, I'm not doing that trauma. She's gay.

47:10

Alright, well, let me call her real quick and tell her to be on the lookout and I would you have a you have an idea of like, Tom in there at all.

Mandy Matney 47:18

Buster tells him to wait the same day Ellie calls Lizzie John Marvin's wife a few minutes later, like the other calls Alex starts a conversation with hurried pleasantries, but quickly diverts his intention, which is to get money put on another inmate's account for his own use.

47:37

You're leaving? I'm not gonna bother you. You have some quiet time. But I need y'all to put it. I need one more time y'all to put candy No, Lucas. No Justin Lucas's account. Okay? Like when I

47:54

What? What? I mean, what's going on?

47:57

allows me to get stuff that I need. We can only have \$60 If he doesn't get candy, so I give him some money in return for using his account.

48:10

You see what I'm saying? And keep track of it. Okay. Okay. All right. How should we be able to do it?

48:22

I don't have any 30 minutes. Okay. All right. Are

48:25

you sure you don't know? It's it's all



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

Liz Farrell 48:28

good. Justin Lucas, by the way, is a 31 year old inmate at Richland County, who has been held in lieu of \$7,000 bond for a single assault and battery charge and a shoplifting charge since March 2013. Justin has been arrested more than 40 times and Columbia and charged with 60 crimes, most of them petty crimes like trespassing, public drunkenness, walking in the roadway, public disorderly conduct and something called aggressive begging. Liz Murdaugh allegedly forgets to put money on Johnston's account, which by the way is against the jail's rules. Liz forgot so Elliot calls John Marvin that evening to get him to get Liz to complete this very crucial task. Why can't John Marvin or even Buster put money on Justin's account? Great question.

49:18

Hey, John, is Lizzie nearby. So yes, I talked to her earlier and she was going to put some money on that account for me. She did it. Okay, well, what is it? This is where he knows what to do. The boy's name is Justin Lucas. Okay. In what?

49:36

What is it that this

49:38

is for money so he doesn't get candy. So I give him some of the money and he orders candy levels and all that. I'm having to order ibuprofen because I'm exercising and my knee and my shoulder and how I cope and get the knowledge on there to get a weak supply Oh yeah. So it gives me extra TNT. Oh, my God. He didn't get one. No, he doesn't. He doesn't get any. So she put it on his account. We just did it one time. We did it last week and I'm gonna do it one more time. Okay, but I need her to do it right now.

50:19

Right, what's the amount? \$60.

50:23

Okay, she's supposed to be keeping track of all this so I can make sure to pay you back

50:29

when it gets down right now, but Randolph down



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

50:32

How long do you think she'll be? Four or five minutes? Okay, because we have like, I don't know. We have like 10 minutes, 15 minutes.

Mandy Matney 50:44

Then they talk about Jim Griffin and Dick are Boolean working hard. But John Marvin seems to question their efforts a little bit.

50:54

Hi, Jim. A different way of working hard. So what are they? What are they working over me? On all of all the three? That's what I don't know. I don't know that yet. I suspect that if they do and like they've done everything else, they'll sit and wait till something else comes up and then do some more charges. But I don't know. Have you talked to Randy since last week?

51:26

I talked to him yesterday.

Mandy Matney 51:28

And then John Marvin broke some news to Alex. Apparently Alex has not been reading FITSnews from jail.

51:36

Yeah, we know about law firms. Yeah, law firm is has dissolved reform under the new name

51:50

know nothing about that. What is that? Yes. Because of all the negative publicity and all that stuff. What is the new name?

52:01

They operate under? A lot. This is gonna be offered under the Parker Law Group.

52:09

The Parker Law Group told me and I think each one of them kind of opens up an LLC partnership or LLP in each partner's name and operates under the corporate law group headed.



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

52:26

You have to go through all that.

52:30

Maybe went through all kinds of stuff

52:33

is evening I can help with

52:38

you know, I suspect when the time was right. And the things that did you open up about it to the general president, but there's a lot of people that try to jump everything.

Liz Farrell 52:53

On December 31. FITSnews was first to report that PMP Ed had dissolved and that the firm's partners have each created their own legal entities. All of them are practicing under the umbrella of Parker Law Group, which is the last name of Johnny Parker, one of the most prominent members of P MPD. The other thing Alex apparently didn't know was that his friend and alleged co conspirator Corey Fleming was no longer employed by his Beaufort law firm when you're listening. Note how Alex asks whether Korea's firing is real. Either he finds this truly unbelievable, or he's rather accustomed to things being done just for the optics.

53:32

You know, I mean, obviously cool. He's been fired. What do you do about that? Maybe? Since Cory has been fired. Legitimately Kareo is just bound to stand if he's removed, debate the law firm or sign out. And he's not working.

53:52

And he has issues with licensing. No, I didn't know that.

53:58

Yeah, I mean, I don't know if that's a temporary deal and I'm not. I suspect it's more permanent.

Liz Farrell 54:08



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

John Marvin makes an attempt to appeal to Alex moral sensibilities, which best of luck to you, John Marvin.

54:15

I just told him that I think you talking about certain things was coming back and talking about the difference. It's got in so I've been talking. What do you mean talking about what you know, if you did some work for something that you didn't you did, acknowledging and accepting and making clear who didn't do anything? But obviously in the older audience, people say that law firms don't do all the stuff that people say, Alex, is this amazing? What's going on? They say a law firm has done on purpose doctors and Kohler is awesome. Chris, your name if that is replicated?

Mandy Matney 55:07

Did you notice how there's no presumption of innocence on John Marvins? Part, Alex's guilt appears to be a foregone conclusion even by his own family.

55:18

That is the income of law enforcement. To my knowledge, you just went straight. I mean, I said, there's been no talk whatsoever from anybody in an official capacity, you know, I just think it'll make a difference.

55:33

I talked to the court the other day, one of the things I said was, you know, my partners didn't know anything. And I said, Chris, and Cory. Yeah.

55:43

You know, and then very little of that was sad because they couldn't

Mandy Matney 55:49

afford it. John Marvin urges Alex to run the idea by Dick and Jim.

55:55

There was some of it that was brought back out, but I don't know if we're talking too good to Jim about that. See, it's I don't know if there's any way to give an official statement or I don't know, that's that may get called out on it. No, they don't have any issues. Really the firm and everybody else has, and what they aren't having the same issues? To me, it is more perception than anything about it at this point. Who



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

isn't having the same issues? Jake, and Jim, you know, they're, they're looking at it from a whole different perspective.

56:29

They're doing it from a way that they manage to just do justice to what they do. They know how to manage what they're handling, I need to sit down with them to figure out what I can do and what I need to do. Well, it'd be worth a conversation with them to find out because you're, and it may not matter. I

56:46

I don't know that often. I feel like that's about the only thing that, you know, there's no better manner to do it. And you only do it if there's something that it's you did or or will need to say and then obviously, if there's something that you weren't involved with you certainly say that. Sure,

57:05

sure. Thank you for letting

57:07

me anyway, I'll get it right now.

Mandy Matney 57:10

Then, for the first time. In all of these calls, someone says the names Maggie and Paul, John Marvin talks about how the family recently shared a somber moment Alex ever the narcissist asked if they were sad about him. Because of me,

57:27

because of Maggie.

57:30

Maggie and Maggie and Paul in particular.

57:34

know all about that.

Mandy Matney 57:35

Alex quickly changes the subject. It's now time for his end of call favor. All right,



EPISODE 33: Incoming Call from Alex Murdaugh - The Jailhouse Tapes

57:42

well, Lizzie's real dude just told me we got like two minutes, so she's gotta do it right now. Yeah, I'll listen to this man. Gemma, you got to remember this name? Justin Lucas.

Mandy Matney 57:59

We filed more Freedom of Information Act requests for phone calls, and we have several great episodes in store for you. Stay tuned. The Murdaugh minors podcast is created by me, Manny Matney, and my fiance David Moses. Our executive editor is Liz Farrell, produced by Luna shark Productions.

MURDAUGH
MURDERS
PODCAST