



EPISODE 83: Alex Murdaugh Verdict: How We Got to Guilty + Creighton Waters Interview

[00:00:00] **Mandy Matney:** I now know beyond a reasonable doubt that Alex Murdaugh murdered his wife, Maggie, and his son, Paul, after a Colleton County jury found him guilty on all four counts. He was sentenced to life in prison and that is a big deal. My name is Mandy Matney. I have been covering the Murdaugh family for four years now. This is a very special episode of the Murdaugh Murders Podcast. MMP is produced by my husband, David Moses, and written by my best friend, Liz Farrell.

[00:00:48] So, it happened. We got to a real guilty verdict and this is a pivotal moment of this podcast but not at all the end. While it was ultimately the public servants of South Carolina led by prosecutor Creighton Waters who secured the guilty verdict, I just want to take a moment to thank those who believed in us and encouraged us to keep going all of this time. It's honestly amazing that we still have a podcast and it's especially amazing that Alex Murdaugh was found guilty of murder and will likely spend the rest of his life behind bars. The good guys won for once and we're now in a territory that we never really imagined when we started in June 2021. We could not have gotten to this point without our awesome team who I wanna thank very quickly: Ali Pavlich and Jessie Garrett; our video partner, Eric Alan; and of course, our Cup of Justice co-host Eric Bland; Neil, Meredith, Shelby, and Orrin from UTA; Justin Bamberg, whose birthday was this week — the at-large team; Greg Finch, Callie Lyons, Beth Braden, and Sam Berlin on our research team. And a special shout-out to Sam's mom and huge MMP fan Carolyn, who also has a birthday this week; to Des Lombardo on our YouTube team and all of the MMP Premium members and over 2 million listeners for helping support our mission to expose the truth wherever it leads. At this point, all of you are very clear on just how big of a deal this guilty verdict is to those of us who live in The Lowcountry. A Murdaugh was put on trial for murdering his family in Colleton County — and the jury found him guilty. The unlikelihood of that conclusion, the unlikelihood that Alex Murdaugh would be facing those charges in the first place cannot be understated. If this were the Good Ole Boy days of Buster Murdaugh, there would have been another man standing at Alex's place to take the fall or there would've been no trial at all. Maggie and Paul's deaths would've been forgotten. There would have been no justice



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and that is the truth of it. So, this is a big day and we hope a new day in South Carolina. We knew that he did this to Maggie and Paul. This is exactly how the case needed to end. But until we heard those four guilty verdicts read by the Colleton County Clerk of Court Becky Hill, it wasn't an outcome that we could ever be certain about.

[00:03:33] Over the past few days, we've been reflecting on the magnitude of this case and what we hope it will mean for the future of law enforcement and prosecution in our state, more specifically, what it will mean for the future of other powerful people who break the law and assume that they can pay their way out of the situation. Until we are all held accountable to the same laws, regardless of our positions of influence, our financial portfolios, our race, our age, our gender, our sexual orientation, our political beliefs, there will be no justice in the justice system in our opinion. This verdict is a huge step in the right direction. We hope this outcome inspires those who work within the system and those of us who do not; those of us on the sidelines who need to call out injustice when we see it. That said, the road to Alex Murdaugh being found guilty was not an easy one for anyone to travel, starting with the night of the murders. Here is Colleton County Sheriff's Deputy Chad McDowell, about 17 minutes after he arrived at Moselle.

[00:04:46] **Chad McDowell:** Y'all familiar with this family? Alright. Alright. We'll fill you in later.

[00:04:53] **Liz Farrell:** Hearing that on body camera was a stark reminder of how it is down here — or at least how it was in June 2021. From the get-go, the Murdaugh name meant something to law enforcement. It meant that whatever the scenario was, their ability to do their jobs would be affected by this outside force — this undeniable influence — in some way. This undeniable influence required an army to defeat it. So, today, we wanted to take a look at that army and all the elements that contributed to this amazing outcome. Let's start with the most important one. This case required a prosecutorial team that could and would go the distance; one that could withstand the political pressure from Dick Harpoortian and other powerful attorneys in the state, including from PMPED itself; one that wasn't tainted by its own connection to the Murdaugh name. When we talk about the



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corruption that the Murdaugh name has long been associated with in the 14th Circuit, we're talking about complex relationships, actions, and motivations for those actions. While there is no one method to this madness, it's these complex relationships that are at the heart of the problem. We have talked time and again about how the 14th Circuit Solicitor Duffie Stone didn't recuse himself from the case until August 2021 — the date of Alex's interview was SLED, when agent David Owen outright asked Alex if he had murdered Maggie and Paul. I feel like we can say with a lot of confidence that had the South Carolina Attorney General's Office not taken over this case, we would not be talking about this guilty verdict today. We needed that Big Creighton Energy and that's what he gave us. Prosecutor Creighton Waters didn't flinch. He didn't mince words. He didn't miss an opportunity to remind the court just who Alex Murdaugh really was right through to the very end. Here's Creighton right before Judge Clifton Newman sentenced Alex to two consecutive life sentences.

[00:07:00] **Creighton Waters:** And I've looked in his eyes and he liked to stare me down as he would walk by me during this trial and I could see the real Alex Murdaugh when he looked at me — the depravity, the callousness, the selfishness of these crimes are stunning, the lack of remorse and the effortless way in which he lies, including here, sitting right over there in this witness stand. Your Honor, a man like that, a man like this man, should never be allowed to be among free law-abiding citizens again.

[00:07:40] **Mandy Matney:** So, there was a long list of people that we wanted to interview after the trial but at the very top was prosecutor Creighton Waters, a man who put his everything into this case to secure a guilty verdict for the state, and we got him. On Monday afternoon, we talked to Creighton Waters about the trial, the justice system, and the significant work he and his team put into this case. We started by asking what were the biggest moments for him during this trial.

[00:08:08] **Creighton Waters:** Well, I think, you know, if I was gonna kind of go in order, that very first day when those jurors start coming in and all of a sudden, you know, you kind of realize that this is real and this is happening. And, you know, you, you're at the edge of the bottom of the mountain and



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you know it's gonna be a long climb. I just remember that first day just kind of sinking in as those jurors started to file in that — oh, wow. I mean, we're about to do this thing and it's gonna be such a long and hard fight and turned out to be even longer than we thought. I think by the time we got there, we realized it was gonna be longer than three weeks but I didn't know it was gonna go to six. As the, you know, the other big moment I remember was just getting that opening out of the way, you know, once we had a jury selected. Just doing that opening. You know, openings tend to be pretty short and but there was that storm on the way and that was already kind of a theme that I had been using and it just seemed so, you know, perfect, that that storm was coming when I was talking about that storm that Alex was for Maggie and Paul. And then, you know, going forward it was just it was such a, you know, the team, we were kinda like it was like dorm life again, you know? We were all living in this hotel and we had one room that was our war room just that's all it was. And, you know, everybody's working all night and then, you know, getting up early and working and working all day and, you know, there's just so many just such an interesting experience there throughout the entire process. And then, of course, I always thought Alex would testify and to me, that was, you know, that seemed to be a very crucial moment of the trial. And so, that was really huge. And, you know, I had a last series of questions that I was gonna ask him in that cross and having to wait for however many hours it was to kind of close with that. You know, I remember that just, you know, being a big moment and. So, those are just some of 'em that come to mind when you ask that question.

[00:10:19] **Mandy Matney:** We also talked about the moments when things did not go quite as expected.

[00:10:24] **Creighton Waters:** Obviously, they're, you know, Jim and Dick and, you know, are very good lawyers and Phil and Maggie, too. And so, you know, we knew that was gonna be a fight and that they were gonna make their points. They were gonna have good cross, you know, with this witness or that witness. And, you know, you just have to keep going, you know? It can be in a trial like that, you know, you outwardly have to be calm and, you know, never bothered. But certainly, there's times where, you know, the defense is, you know, making points or cross-examining a witness and, you know, your



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insides are just turning but you gotta just keep digging and hope that you can get your point across at the end.

[00:11:08] **Liz Farrell:** A few times in Cup of Justice, we have talked about the prosecution and defense as though they were sports teams and we consider how far up the prosecution was or how many points the defense scored on a particular day. We asked Creighton if they were doing that same thing.

[00:11:25] **Creighton Waters:** No, I don't think that that's how I looked at it and I don't think that I, you know, I felt that way. You know, obviously during the state's case, you know, we're kind of building this narrative and, you know, and of course we're kind of and, you know, the defense makes their points during cross but we're, you know, we've kind of got the momentum and during the state's case. And then, the defense case happens and then they started to do the same thing. And so, you kind of feel it shift back the other way. And then, you know, you get the rebuttal case and you get, you know, the cross of Alex and then closing and you feel it shifting back the other way. You know, one thing I had the advantage of doing was looking those jurors in the eyes and, you know, and of course all the members of the team did, all the attorneys, you know, had a chance to do that. And, you know, you can kind of get a sense of, you know, if it's resonating or not. But, you know, you try not to overly think about that. I mean, all you can do is present your case and then it's gonna be out of your hands. And, you know, trial lawyers, I've said over and over again, we can be superstitious and, you know, you try not to dwell too much on that because the evidence that you have is the evidence you have. You're gonna present it regardless. And so, if you get yourself bogged down and worrying too much about, you know, where's the meter right now, you know, I think you can get off your game. You just focus on getting out your evidence and then, you know, bringing it home in the end.

[00:12:48] **Liz Farrell:** We talked about what it was like for Creighton and his team to try this case in front of a worldwide audience — something none of them had experienced before.

[00:12:57] **Creighton Waters:** Well, you know, there's obviously no. Never had an experience like that and I don't know that any of us will again. You know,



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obviously there's still cases pending and this thing is has a lot of heads to it. I can't comment specifically on anything pending but this was obviously the big one. And, you know, the scene outside with all the media tents, all the people that showed up. We had, you know, really great support from the public. A lot of smiles. The community was great. So, it was absolutely unique. But, again, to go back to the sports analogies, this is something else we talked about. You know, I've heard players in the Super Bowl say that, you know, when they get ready for the Super Bowl, there's a lot more nerves and, you know, there's so much more emphasis to that. There's so much more media attention and all this other stuff going on. But then when you get out there and you run your first play and make your first, you know, tackle or catch or whatever it is, take your first hit, then it's just another game and that's what we try to do. Obviously, we're not entirely immune to all of that. It's completely different. But, again, the more we could normalize this as a trial, very complex and difficult trial but just being a trial and sort of just focus on handling court as we would, you know, the better we could. Obviously, that's not entirely successful. We, you know, there was just such a scene around there. You know, I remember first arriving on Saturday and there was only one food truck out there and it was like a elephant ear truck like you see at the fair. And I remember joking. I even joked this to Judge Newman once. So, why don't we just go ahead and get a rollercoaster and a Ferris wheel out here? But, you know, but I will say this. Everybody was really great. So many people gave us encouragement. So many members of the community that the people at the hotel were great. We made friends with these folks. And it was actually kind of, you know, feeling a little bit nostalgic when I was packing up my hotel room for the last time.

[00:15:03] **Liz Farrell:** And in case you are wondering whether he knew that people were cheering him on by calling him BCE, i.e., Big Creighton Energy, here's what he had to say about that.

[00:15:13] **Creighton Waters:** Well, yeah, I know that there's some T-shirts out there. And I've heard, I've been told, Liz, that you're the one who kind of coined that term. But can't, yeah, you know, I think, yeah, I've heard some of that. And, you know, I started I got I did my first tweet ever on Saturday. And, you know, obviously I've seen that term used in some of the responses that people have been sending. And I think the Friday, you know, there were some



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people wearing that shirt. And I went over to them and spoke to them and took a picture with them. I figured I couldn't think I was doing a — or something. I couldn't just let them sit there and watch and not go over and speak to them. So, but yeah, I guess that is a thing now because, you know, that trial was so exhausting and I still, you know, I don't think, you know, I know I still haven't recovered yet and ended up losing like 10 pounds. But, you know, having that term out there, you know, I, you know, sometimes when you had to dig deep, you know, you realize that, you know, that you had to give that energy, right? And so, that, you know, we tried to sustain that. And, again, you know, this was a big team and it had to be a big team because not one of us could have survived if it was just one or two of lawyers and a couple of staff members, you know? We had to have a big team so that we all could have the energy to make it through that process. And, you know, everybody had their role. You saw them all in action. The staff members, you know, don't get up and speak as much but they are crucial, sometimes even more crucial. And, you know, I don't think any of us could have made it if we didn't have every single member of that team that was there.

[00:16:53] **Liz Farrell:** Creighton's team was made up of investigators, prosecutors, paralegals, and other support staff. In addition to the attorney general himself, Alan Wilson, SLED, and SLED Chief Mark Keel, along with other law enforcement agencies, it was this team that was crucial to getting us to "guilty." And among the more experienced members of the team, there were a lot of firsts, which was really cool to hear.

[00:17:16] **Creighton Waters:** Well, everybody did great. You know, and let me just I don't wanna leave anybody out because everybody had their moments. You know, obviously the cellphone evidence was key and John Conrad did a great job of some of that stuff. You know, I had Peter Rudofski testify. I think that was the first time he had ever testified in General Sessions Court. Johnny James is a great attorney, really kind of my, you know, has been my right-hand man in the white-collar stuff. He has a lot of courtroom experience but that was, you know, his first witness in front of a jury. Carson Burney was our forensic accountant. He did amazing work as you know on all this white-collar stuff, which again is still pending and Alex is presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial and I wanna be clear. But Carson, you know, testified and got qualified as an expert for the first time. Savannah did a great job on some



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really tough crime scene stuff. You know, we even got my mentor and boss up there, you know, and I thought that was good. You know, it just there were moments for everybody, you know? My paralegals and staff members keep me going. I couldn't survive without Carly. She's just absolutely amazing. Ozzy is my investigator and not only did he have to follow me around all the time, but he had some really good insights, you know, and just really provided some great insights. And then David Fernandez is my right-hand man and just did some really did a great cross I thought on Sutton for expert among other things in this case. And then I can't leave out SLED. I mean, SLED and I get to lead the state grand jury and, of course, this was not a state grand jury case. The white-collar stuff is. But what the state grand jury does best is, you know, it's that partnership of the AG and SLED, you know, on the front end of cases. And, you know, in this particular case with the murders, we didn't get involved until September. But September of 2021. But, you know, we have that experience working together with our partners at SLED and, you know, I don't wanna leave anybody out because, you know, all those agents, did such a great job. You know, Colleton County was great. Kenny Kinsey was awesome. So, it is just it was such a team effort and, you know, everybody was coming to that hotel. We were, you know, working, as you can imagine, you're working 12, 15, I think one time I worked 21 straight hours and everybody's really pulling their weight so. There was a lot of fun, too. I think everybody else probably got to go out a little bit more, go to the food trucks more than I did and, you know, maybe have an occasional soda pop or two. But we had a good time and it really was like being in college again, just living dorm life and staying up late and cramming just that kind of stuff. Yeah, and let me do this before I go on. I don't wanna leave anybody out and I'm not intending to. Danielle and Shane were just awesome in wrangling witnesses and I don't wanna leave out Meadors who I've known for years. I started my career as doing as an appellate lawyer and did some of his bigger trials on appeals, such as Dewain Herring and Christopher Pitman. And so, we've known each other for years and, you know, reconnected at the Annual Prosecutors Conference, which is in September, and brought him in and obviously, you know, Meadors, you know, and his Baptist preacher — I think he's the son of a Baptist preacher — and his Baptist preacher style, you know, just did great with the witnesses that he did and obviously did that rebuttal argument. And so, that was great. So, definitely, I, you know, as I started going through the litany of people I



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know, you know, I did enough of 'em that I wanted to make sure to cover everybody and everybody was just clutch.

[00:20:55] **Liz Farrell:** Because we felt strongly that the justice system in South Carolina was on trial along with Alex Murdaugh, we wanted to get Creighton's thoughts on this. Here's what he said.

[00:21:04] **Creighton Waters:** You know, I'm a firm believer in it and it's not perfect and, you know, we all know that. But I, you know, working with the state grand jury is really unique because grand juries and the way the state grand jury operates is not like the county grand juries, you know? We get into great detail in our cases before the state grand jury because it is an investigative procedure. And so, we, you know, we examine witnesses, we put in a lot of our testimony, and we get to, because it's an investigative procedure and we serve as the legal advisor for the state grand jury, we get to interact with the jurors more and that can really help you understand, you know, how, you know, individual jurors from various walks of life view things and how, more importantly, they end up interacting with one another. And so, that to me has just strengthened my belief in our system and as a general rule. And that's not to, you know, wear rose-colored glasses but I just think that there is a common collective wisdom that comes with getting 12 folks off the street and putting 'em in a room and having to make these huge, weighty decisions. And so, that's, you know, that's kind of reaffirmed my faith in all this, you know? We knew that, you know, this people asked about change of venue and that sort of thing and, you know, where are we gonna go, right? I mean, that might've worked 20, 30 years ago to go to Greenville or, you know, Pickens or something like that. But we could have gone and picked a jury in Ohio and probably people would know about it there as well. And so, I'm always a firm believer in letting the community where the crime occurred have their voice. And so, you know, the fact that we got through that process and the manner in which it went, you know, it really reaffirms, you know, kind of the faith I have in the system. And, you know, I think that as we look at some of the things that we could do better as far as just the process itself, you know, obviously having this kind of intense media attention, one thing I've been trying very, very hard and I think early on took some criticism from you folks, I was told, you know, about just trying to protect some of the evidence in this case, particularly the autopsy photographs and the crime scene



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photographs. You know, we have to remember this case is about what happened to Maggie and Paul. We have to remember that this family has suffered, regardless of a particular family member's viewpoint of the case. And, you know, I just wanted to try to make sure that because of the intense interest that, you know, there still was some dignity and privacy for them. And, you know, I think towards the end there, some photograph got out and, you know, that was very concerning to me. And so, trying to integrate that part better. And then, you know, these old courthouses and courtrooms aren't really designed for something like that. So, everything was just so tight. We were on top of each other. You know, the sound system didn't work right the first day so we actually went and got a Fender PA system like you would use to play an acoustic, you know, set at a coffee shop or something and actually got a went to Best Buy and got a little karaoke machine that actually had flashing lights that kept having to turn off and break that out. That was actually our sound system throughout the trial. And so, you know, there were things that we thought we had we planned for and, you know, but we still had to adapt. And, you know, so, in the end, you know, I think I said at the press conference the night of, you know, I felt whatever the outcome that, you know, South Carolina had, you know, thinking back at some of the other large trials that have gotten a lot of national coverage, I thought on the whole — the court staff, you know, Judge Newman is amazing, the bailiffs, and even in both sides, the prosecution and the defense. I thought, you know, we made a good showing of ourselves of a process and how it could work.

[00:25:22] **Mandy Matney:** We also talked about the immense resources that the state dedicated to this case and why it was necessary.

[00:25:29] **Creighton Waters:** Well, so, you know, there's a lot of parts to that and I think that that's a great point if there is a fair criticism of our justice system is that money and resources still do matter. This case is completely unique but this is what the Attorney General's Office and its prosecution and state ground jury sections do. And obviously, you know, we're gonna devote the appropriate resources if we think are necessary to try a very complex case. The other thing is is that, you know, again, the white-collar cases are still pending. And I wanna be clear: Alex is presumed innocent until proven guilty and has every opportunity for fair trial. But when you have allegations, you know, one of the things state grand jury we do a lot of is corruption and, you



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know, public corruption and complex narcotics rings and things like that. But when you have allegations that go to sort of the heart of the system of which we're part, you know, there's value and an important interest to be explored and vindicated there. And, you know, I think that this case can have has an immediate effect on what was most important and that was addressing Alex and what he did to Maggie and Paul. But I think it also has implications or could have implications beyond that. And those are important and, you know, if, you know, things about the system can be exposed that make it better and make it fairer for all, then I think that that's a good thing. They filed a motion for a speedy trial and the state said we'll be ready in January and Judge Newman said, well, that's fine with me. And so, court administration scheduled it and that's why this one, you know, moved a little bit quicker because we do sort of operate, you know, as a, you know, as a different in a different sort of procedural mechanism than the regular solicitor's offices do. But also, because of that, we're always the visiting team, right? So, you know, we have a statewide practice and so, it's just a different thing.

[00:27:51] **Mandy Matney:** We asked Creighton how he feels now that the murder trial is over.

[00:27:56] **Creighton Waters:** I think I'm still a little bit numb by all of this. You know, I don't know if I've already said this in this conversation but, you know, my eyes popped open at, you know, around five o'clock this morning and I'm trying to convince my body that, you know, we don't have anything we have to do today. And my body's like, I don't know what you're talking about, man, but you gotta get up right now. And, you know, I just I don't know that it's really sunk in yet. You know, Thursday we got that verdict, you know, about seven o'clock or whatever time it was. And then, there was kind of a whirlwind there at a press conference and, you know, but I still had, you know, I still had court the next morning. We had a sentencing the next morning and then I knew it would be a whirlwind day of, you know, media appearances and that sort of thing. So, you know, I wasn't really able to, you know, too much have that celebration or that, you know, that, you know, that chance to really unwind. And then, you know, then it kind of went into the weekend and you're getting back home and, you know, seeing everybody and trying to interject yourself back into your real life. And so, I, you know, it's still kind of new and I just I don't know that I've even really fully adjusted back or even



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had a chance to accept or, you know, really internalize what that verdict meant. And I just know that I remember thinking when I heard guilty that, you know, how proud I was of this team. And the reason was is that, you know, I had everybody working so hard for so long and I think we would've all been okay if we just put it all out there, you know, and once you do that, you can put it in the jury's hands and know that you've done the job and the best you could do and I think we've been okay with that. But, you know, knowing that all that work actually resulted in that verdict and a voice for Maggie and Paul and that all that work I put everybody through, you know, came to a successful conclusion, that was probably the thing that I immediately felt when I heard "guilty."

[00:30:11] **Mandy Matney:** We also wanted to know whether he had any sense that a guilty verdict was coming.

[00:30:16] **Creighton Waters:** You know, you don't capture chickens until they hatch. And when Ms. Becky said the word "guilty," you know, that's the first time I really permitted myself to know and, again, my first thought was I'm sure I'm glad I didn't make everybody work like this and we end up not having a successful result, even though, again, I think we would've all been proud of ourselves and felt we'd done all we could do.

[00:30:42] **Mandy Matney:** And because many of you asked, we asked Creighton about the significance of that Gucci — I mean, Gucci receipt.

[00:30:50] **Chad McDowell:** Actually, Gucci is, you know, that was just something that I kind of noticed on the fly as we were going with Jeff's testimony. That was one of the things that he had recovered in the trash. And so, I just kind of just pointed that out. And, you know, I think that, you know, a lot of people said, well, you know, they spent a lot of time on the finances but I think it was important, you know, and it wasn't as simplistic as the Feds tried to make it seem. I think what we tried to show was just a myriad of factors that were going on in this man's life, pressure points from various parts of his life — a life that no one who was close to him knew. And that they were all sort of converging together as we moved to June 7th. And, you know, well, we never know exactly what was going on in his mind, and unless one day he



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decides to tell the truth about it. But I think that, you know, it was important for the jury to sort of know all those things as they approached and just to kind of get a sense of, you know, how this could happen. You know, I, and I think I asked him if he was a family annihilator and, you know, there is certainly a concept out there of a, you know, successful middle-aged man but who's facing growing of his life, family breakup, substance abuse. You know, in this particular instance you're talking about the possibility of destruction of a family legacy that was very important to him. You know, there's just a lot of factors that were all converging together and I certainly argued and don't think it's coincidental that those were converging on June 7th.

[00:32:49] **Liz Farrell:** Because the trial was so widely watched, both the prosecution and defense were exposed to much more criticism than they had ever been before. So, we asked Creighton about how they handled that new level of scrutiny when literally the entire world was watching them.

[00:33:07] **Creighton Waters:** Well, you have to do it. And I, you know, I, you know, I certainly have plenty of friends that listen to y'all's show. Mandy, I think this is the first time in life I've ever spoken to you. And Liz, I think I spoke to you briefly like one of the first days of court. And, you know, I just, I, you know, again, I have a lot of friends that listen to your show but it this is — I never have and I generally try to avoid that media. Avoided it. I wasn't reading many stories about it. I wasn't certainly wasn't watching the TV. People would tell me things. For example, you know, there was a lot, you know, certainly people can have different perspectives about, you know, closings and about cross and financial stuff. But, you know, we had a reason for doing the things that we did the way we did them. And so, yeah, I try to just I just wasn't paying attention to that. I think I we always are and I would look for constructive criticism from within the team, from our law enforcement partners, you know, because we are trying to get it right and you have to be willing to be self-critical to do that. But I couldn't worry about, you know, what somebody on, you know, some show, you know, on TV was saying or, you know, some, you know, lawyer in another part of the country who's never tried a case in South Carolina and doesn't know, you know, how South Carolina processes work and how South Carolina jurors are. You know, this isn't Hollywood. It was real life. And so, I didn't pay any attention to any of that. I just kind of focused on, you know, putting this case out there and that's what we did.



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[00:34:48] **Mandy Matney:** Finally, we asked Creighton what was the biggest lesson that he learned throughout all of this.

[00:34:55] **Creighton Waters:** Well, that's probably something I should have a quick answer for and I'm not sure that I do. You know, again, the biggest I think lesson from all of this is that the system can work and I think it works well in South Carolina. I think that we've seen other, you know, trials nationally that have gotten a lot of public interest and things, you know, did not go well or the process didn't, you know, acquit itself as well. But I think that's really the biggest lesson. You know, I'm a lifelong resident of this state. And, you know, I love this state and I love the people here and I think that there's a lot to love about our legal system and the men and women who are part of it. And I just I think that whatever the result would've been, I think that we acquitted ourselves well on the international stage. And maybe that's that might be the biggest takeaway as I just kind of shooting the hip on that.

[00:36:02] **Liz Farrell:** We'll be right back.

[00:36:04] In addition to BCE and his team, the road to a guilty verdict included SLED agents who held their own on the stand and who stood up to Alex's defense team. Here is Agent Ryan Kelly in an exchange with Dick Harpootlian about the first time Alex was arrested. Alex came back to South Carolina from rehab in Florida and instead of adhering to the deal he had made to turn himself in, Alex did what Alex wanted and SLED had to take action. Dick tried to spin this into Alex was being cooperative and SLED was being aggressive but Agent Kelly was having none of that.

[00:36:47] **Ryan Kelly:** The agreement was for us to meet you and Mr. Griffith with Mr. Murdaugh; that no stops be taken from Orlando to Hampton. We encountered Mr. Murdaugh and Buster pulling into the driveway of the Alameda property. So, outside of our agreement. So, Mr. Murdaugh was taken into custody as soon as he arrived at Alameda.

[00:37:09] **Dick Harpootlian:** Well, so, perhaps if we weren't going to Orlando, stopping to seek get his lawyers before he surrendered himself would've been a violation of our agreement?



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[00:37:18] **Ryan Kelly:** No. Our agreement was that Mr. Murdaugh was to go from Orlando directly to your custody. Buster, I don't fault Buster. Yeah, I don't think that he was doing anything that he thought was wrong. He was just listening to instructions. But, you know, we were supposed to meet him with you and he showed up at his mom's house. So, we are — he was placed under arrest at his mom's house.

[00:37:38] **Dick Harpootlian:** Well, we showed up at mom's house as y'all were taking him away right?

[00:37:41] **Ryan Kelly:** After he was arrested, yes.

[00:37:42] **Dick Harpootlian:** Right. But, I mean, we were there minutes after you arrested him, right?

[00:37:44] **Ryan Kelly:** Well, yes, because they called you so. And I think I might have called you to tell you that we were arresting him as well.

[00:37:50] **Dick Harpootlian:** Right.

[00:37:51] **Mandy Matney:** And then there was Agent Peter Rudofski, who was the last witness presented by the state before the defense got to present its case. Agent Rudofski stood his ground. Here, he is telling Phillip Barber that Alex's behavior that night was far from normal.

[00:38:09] **Phillip Barber:** So, as an investigator, do you think it would be terribly unreasonable that after calling other family members, someone would call the person who is the best friend of the dead son who had multiple missed messages and calls and even a call coming in during the 911 call — is calling that person to ask what happened, what's going on, is that to you as an investigator an unreasonable thing to do after calling other family members?



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[00:38:39] **Peter Rudofski:** I would — as an investigator, I think that would be very odd given the scene and the whole situation that you're on the phone constantly, yes.

[00:38:47] **Phillip Barber:** That you're standing there next to your dead son. His phone is ringing from someone and you call that person after calling other people. That would be unreasonable?

[00:38:54] **Peter Rudofski:** Yes, because I am standing over my son and wife and just witnessing that for the first time, I would think that would be. To have someone on their phone constantly like that, right after given the scene and the situation, yes. As an investigator, I would think that is very —

[00:39:10] **Phillip Barber:** It wouldn't be someone trying to find out what happened.

[00:39:14] **Peter Rudofski:** At that moment, that would be the last thing that would probably come through my mind as an investigator looking at the scene is trying to figure out what happened minutes after I discover it. I'd be in a state of shock if that was me personally.

[00:39:27] **Phillip Barber:** And speaking of a state of shock, I think you have — in the timeline later on, he reads some spam text message about I think there's a picture of a woman in a bikini.

[00:39:41] **Peter Rudofski:** I wouldn't call it a spam text message. It's from Michael Gunn who'd be one of his friends.

[00:39:45] **Phillip Barber:** A group text.

[00:39:46] **Peter Rudofski:** A group text, yeah.

[00:39:48] **Phillip Barber:** And then, he Googles the name of a restaurant at Edisto Beach. Is that correct?



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[00:39:51] **Peter Rudofski:** That is what comes up on his phone extraction.

[00:39:54] **Phillip Barber:** Doesn't he also call a videographer he hadn't spoken to in years? Page 42. Brian White. Last entry.

[00:40:05] **Peter Rudofski:** That's what the data shows.

[00:40:07] **Phillip Barber:** So, he would seem to be in a state of shock. He's — none of that makes any sense, does it? You're not gonna Google the name of a restaurant after you find your son murdered.

[00:40:14] **Peter Rudofski:** I'm not Alex Murdaugh. I don't know what he was thinking at that moment. Probably wouldn't be on my phone.

[00:40:21] **Phillip Barber:** Really? You wouldn't be calling family?

[00:40:25] **Peter Rudofski:** I might be calling family but I wanna be —

[00:40:27] **Phillip Barber:** The testimony was that Rogan was family.

[00:40:30] **Judge Clifton Newman:** If you ask a question, if you want him to answer, you have to give him an opportunity to answer. Proceed.

[00:40:37] **Peter Rudofski:** I would not be googling and doing other things with my phone, no.

[00:40:42] **Phillip Barber:** You don't — you think he was — do you believe he was googling a restaurant or do you think he was fat-fingering the phone because he was in shock?

[00:40:49] **Peter Rudofski:** I have to go off of the data and that's what the data shows.



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[00:40:56] **Phillip Barber:** And you believe that calling family and calling someone that the prior testimony was like another son is unreasonable in the circumstances.

[00:41:05] **Peter Rudofski:** I would say so, yes. Given the fact that you just arrived to the scene, yes.

[00:41:14] **Mandy Matney:** Agent Rudofski also proved to be too smart to fall for Phil's tricks.

[00:41:19] **Phillip Barber:** So, you don't know if a very fast peak speed was simply gunning it past another car?

[00:41:26] **Peter Rudofski:** I do not. But at that late night hour, I would think that'd be with, you know, the area, not a lot of people out.

[00:41:36] **Phillip Barber:** I mean, that's just total speculation. You don't know if there's another car out there.

[00:41:39] **Peter Rudofski:** Just like yours is total speculation that he passed someone. That'd be correct. Yep. I do not know.

[00:41:44] **Phillip Barber:** You don't know if there were any other cars out there to pass. You don't know if he was passing another car. You just don't know, do you?

[00:41:49] **Peter Rudofski:** I do not. Just like with your first question.

[00:41:52] **Liz Farrell:** Also important was having witnesses who stood up for what was right and who told the truth about their experiences. Here is Mark Tinsley AKA Zero Dark Tinsley AKA Tiger Tail Tinsley telling it like it is to Phil Barber in an in-camera hearing.

[00:42:12] **Mark Tinsley:** I think it's fair that to say that there wouldn't have been an explosion on June the 10th but the fuse was lit the moment that that



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information became available in the case. Not as much to me, but certainly to Danny Henderson who would have, like the phone records, like some of the other materials, reviewed it before I got it and Alex would've known that.

[00:42:39] **Phillip Barber:** I mean, in that analogy, isn't aren't you really saying the fuse was lit and that you were going after his assets and that fuse was gonna go down until trial because you're going to go to trial against him and that's when the fuser burned down?

[00:42:54] **Mark Tinsley:** I think the fuse was lit when he started stealing money. Yeah.

[00:43:00] **Phillip Barber:** So, it wasn't lit on it wasn't gonna be lit on June the 10th?

[00:43:04] **Mark Tinsley:** It was certainly getting a lot more oxygen.

[00:43:06] **Phillip Barber:** Right. But it's it was lit way before and it was gonna keep burning well after June 10th.

[00:43:12] **Mark Tinsley:** I don't know about well after but it wouldn't have been judgment day on June the 10th. But he would've known it was beginning to unravel.

[00:43:19] **Liz Farrell:** And here's Dr. Ellen Riemer during her rebuttal testimony. Dr. Riemer is the medical examiner who performed the autopsies of Maggie and Paul. Dick so badly wanted her to agree with what the defense's witness was asserting. The defense's witness relied on photographs and a textbook to reach his conclusions. Dr. Riemer's insistence on remaining factual put Dick in full yammer mode.

[00:43:46] **Dick Harpootlian:** Your Honor. Your Honor, I'd ask you, I would ask you tell the witness to be responsive. She is going on a diatribe. Excuse me. I'm asking the court to instruct her to answer the question as specifically as she can. She goes off on tangents and I'm sorry. I'm sorry.



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[00:44:07] **Judge Clifton Newman:** Go ahead. You may continue answering the question.

[00:44:12] **Dick Harpootlian:** Do you remember what the question was?

[00:44:13] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** No, that's your question.

[00:44:15] **Dick Harpootlian:** Is this series of shots in the book depicting a contact wound? I think — that's what I understood you —

[00:44:25] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** Yes.

[00:44:25] **Dick Harpootlian:** Yes. Okay. So, where, if you step down here, show me please, where the contact is with the body or the head. Here, let me give you this pointer.

[00:44:37] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** Well, the contact would be at the first.

[00:44:40] **Dick Harpootlian:** Right here?

[00:44:41] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** Yes.

[00:44:41] **Dick Harpootlian:** Well, what's the contact?

[00:44:46] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** It's not it's just a theoretical depiction. It's a theoretical.

[00:44:51] **Dick Harpootlian:** Is that what the book says?

[00:44:52] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** Yeah. Well, go ahead. I don't recall the exact — why don't you read it to me?

[00:44:56] **Dick Harpootlian:** Well, why don't you tell me is that a contact wound?



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[00:44:58] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** I don't know what this is. This is —

[00:45:00] **Dick Harpootlian:** That's a shotgun.

[00:45:01] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** That's a shotgun.

[00:45:02] **Dick Harpootlian:** That's a shotgun being fired. There's a — coming out.

[00:45:05] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** Yeah. I think, you know, this is a book, you know, showing the series of steps after a shotgun is fired. But it has nothing to do with what I found in the body and does not help me determine the direction of the —.

[00:45:27] **Dick Harpootlian:** Alright. So.

[00:45:28] **Dr. Ellen Riemer:** And I'm not going to describe to you. You can read it in the book. I don't remember what he says all of this.

[00:45:34] **Mandy Matney:** And Dr. Kenny Kinsey, another South Carolinian we are proud to claim, did not give Jim Griffin one inch. Jim wanted Dr. Kinsey to validate the defense's theory on two short shooters coming to Moselle, one of whom shot Paul from inside the feed room.

[00:45:53] **Jim Griffin:** So, you say there are more defects on the door?

[00:45:56] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** Yes, sir.

[00:45:57] **Jim Griffin:** Did you document any defects that you observed on the door?

[00:46:01] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** I got them in a photograph. I can show you. I mean, what other documentation did I need to do it to verify that that's the same door?



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[00:46:10] **Jim Griffin:** No, no. I'm just talking about other pellet marks on the —

[00:46:14] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** There are the pellet marks on there. Yes, sir. You just cut that one down but if you move up a little bit, you can see the little indentions right there in the paint.

[00:46:22] **Jim Griffin:** Alright. Back it up, Doug.

[00:46:23] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** Right above the hinge. Right here. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

[00:46:28] **Jim Griffin:** Okay.

[00:46:28] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** There's several of them there.

[00:46:30] **Jim Griffin:** And then, you see this pellet here in the —

[00:46:33] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** I did not see that but I'm vertically challenged and I wish I could have looked up and saw that pellet but I did not see that pellet lodged in that doorframe. But I'm glad Mr. — however you say his name, I'm glad he found it because that even proves my point a little bit more.

[00:46:51] **Jim Griffin:** Well, then, so I'm gonna ask you. According to your shot angle, how would a pellet get there?

[00:46:59] **Dr. Kenny Kinsey:** It's — really? I mean, the cone. It's the cone, Mr. Griffin. I've already described how shot pattern works. It's a cone.

[00:47:10] **Mandy Matney:** We'll be right back.

[00:47:18] And then, there were the emotional testimonies — the people who you could just feel their fear radiate from the stand; the people who didn't have to say much to tell us what kind of system they were used to and why it was so terrifying to be testifying against Alex Murdaugh while his family stood



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behind him; the people who were very brave to tell the truth. Ever since the trial ended, I've watched several interviews with jurors and they mentioned that they believed the prosecution's witnesses were credible — and this on top of the kennel video catching Alex and the big lie, which was the most damning piece of evidence they thought. Thank you, Bubba. But I think these emotional testimonies that were just so authentic and heart-wrenching, those were the ones that stick with us and stuck with the jurors as they made their decision. There was Shelley Smith who spoke up at great personal risk to her continued employment with Alex's mother. Her testimony was the first to establish that Alex was the type of person who would suggest someone lie for him in conjunction with an offer to help the person financially.

[00:48:32] **John Meadors:** And I have to ask you for the record, this Alex Murdaugh who came and saw you the night of the murders with the shorts and the shirt and the stereotype — is that him over there?

[00:48:46] **Shelley Smith:** Yes, sir.

[00:48:47] **John Meadors:** Okay. And is he also the person that you said told you he'd been there 30 to 40 minutes?

[00:48:56] **Shelley Smith:** Yes.

[00:48:58] **John Meadors:** And is he also the person you saw in the house that night with some kind of blue vinyl that you said consistent with this picture we put in? Is that him?

[00:49:08] **Shelley Smith:** Yes.

[00:49:08] **John Meadors:** Thank you. That's all.

[00:49:10] **Mandy Matney:** There was Blanca Simpson whose testimony bolstered Shelley's, again showing that Alex thought nothing of getting people on the family's payroll to lie for him.



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[00:49:22] **Blanca Simpson:** And he said, come here, sit down so I went into the living room and I sat down and he was pacing back and forth in the living room. And he said, I got a bad feeling. He said, I got a bad feeling. He said, something's not right. And then he said, well, you know, there's a video. There was a video that was out. I hadn't seen a video. And he said, you remember the shirt I was wearing that Vinny Vine shirt? Those were that's what he said to me. And in my mind I was saying, I don't remember Vinny Vines shirt. It was the polo shirt but I didn't mention. He said, well, you know what? I was wearing that shirt. He said, you know, in the that day. And still, I was just — I didn't say anything but I was kinda thrown back because I don't remember that. I don't remember him wearing that shirt that day when he left. I know what shirt he was wearing 'cause I fixed the collar and the collars are different material.

[00:50:35] **John Meadors:** And I don't know what a Vinny Vine shirt is. But when he left that day, was he wearing of a Vinny Vine shirt or was he wearing the collar you've described?

[00:50:43] **Blanca Simpson:** It was a polo shirt.

[00:50:44] **John Meadors:** Polo shirt.

[00:50:46] **Liz Farrell:** Paul's friend, Rogan Gibson, someone who has remained loyal to the Murdaugh family for his entire life, was the first to tell SLD that Alex was down at the kennels around the time that Maggie and Paul were killed. Alex denied that Rogan had heard his voice. But in March 2022 when Paul's phone was finally accessed, SLED discovered the kennel video. Rogan was the first on the stand to positively identify the third voice in that video as Alex's.

[00:51:15] **Creighton Waters:** And did you hear or recognize the voices on there?

[00:51:19] **Rogan Gibson:** I did.



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[00:51:19] **Creighton Waters:** Did you recognize the voices of your second family?

[00:51:23] **Rogan Gibson:** I did.

[00:51:24] **Creighton Waters:** And what voices did you hear?

[00:51:25] **Rogan Gibson:** Paul's, Ms. Maggie, and Mr. Alex.

[00:51:28] **Creighton Waters:** And how sure are you now?

[00:51:30] **Rogan Gibson:** Positive.

[00:51:31] **Creighton Waters:** A hundred percent?

[00:51:32] **Rogan Gibson:** That's correct.

[00:51:34] **Mandy Matney:** Alex's former PMPED co-worker Mark Ball testified for the defense but quickly became the state's witness when he too offered proof that Alex had consistently lied about being at the kennels from the start.

[00:51:49] **Mark Ball:** He said that he ate dinner, laid down on the couch, took a nap, and then left to check on him.

[00:51:56] **Creighton Waters:** And now you know that's not true from seeing the kennel video, right?

[00:51:58] **Mark Ball:** I do.

[00:52:01] **Creighton Waters:** And that wasn't the only time he told you that, is it?

[00:52:03] **Mark Ball:** No. At least three times.



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[00:52:05] **Creighton Waters:** At least three times. And this would be over the subsequent days?

[00:52:08] **Mark Ball:** Yes.

[00:52:09] **Creighton Waters:** Subsequent conversations that you had with him?

[00:52:12] **Mark Ball:** Yes.

[00:52:12] **Creighton Waters:** And he was always clear that he never went down to those kennels after he ate dinner.

[00:52:17] **Liz Farrell:** Another former partner of Alex's, Ronnie Crosby, a man who clearly loved Paul Murdaugh, testified that Alex had lied to him as well about being at the kennels. On rebuttal, Dick Harpootlian tried to paint Ronnie as a man with a vendetta against Alex. Ronnie didn't waiver one time.

[00:52:36] **Ronnie Crosby:** Sometimes body cam but and a lot of times written statements.

[00:52:39] **Dick Harpootlian:** And written statements from witnesses who saw it happen.

[00:52:42] **Ronnie Crosby:** Correct.

[00:52:42] **Dick Harpootlian:** And so, when you interview those people, they have the benefit of reviewing whatever you have to help them get a better recollection of what happened, correct?

[00:52:51] **Ronnie Crosby:** That's correct.

[00:52:52] **Dick Harpootlian:** Okay. So, the instance you're talking about where Alex told you he turned them over before he made the 911 call, whatever it was, I'm not quite sure. Before I think is what you said. If that would be



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inconsistent with something he says later on after having reviewed other people's statements looking at video, that would not be unusual in your business. I think you just said it would not be unusual, correct?

[00:53:28] **Ronnie Crosby:** You're trying to take me somewhere that you probably don't want to.

[00:53:38] **Dick Harpootlian:** Withdraw the question. Let me ask you this question. Maybe just get to the meat of the matter here. Have you had to come out of pocket to pay back the money he stole?

[00:53:50] **Ronnie Crosby:** Yes. And if you —

[00:53:51] **Dick Harpootlian:** How much? And don't tell me you don't know.

[00:53:56] **Ronnie Crosby:** Well, we're still counting, Mr. Harpootlian.

[00:53:58] **Dick Harpootlian:** Well, how much have you paid so far?

[00:54:00] **Ronnie Crosby:** We have had to borrow millions to pay back.

[00:54:04] **Dick Harpootlian:** No. How much have you had to come out of pocket?

[00:54:06] **Ronnie Crosby:** Well, when you borrow it, you gotta pay it back. And I couldn't tell you how much has exactly been paid back, as of we sit here today. But yes. And if you're implying that I would come in here and somehow shade truth in any way because of that, that's — I would take high offense with that, Mr. Harpootlian.

[00:54:24] **Dick Harpootlian:** I'm not concerned about your high offense. Are you angry at him for stealing your money?

[00:54:27] **Ronnie Crosby:** I have no feeling one way or the other.



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[00:54:30] **Dick Harpootlian:** You don't have any feeling about Alex Murdaugh betraying you and stealing your money. You're — I admire you. I don't know that I can look beyond that.

[00:54:38] **Creighton Waters:** Objection, Your Honor.

[00:54:39] **Judge Clifton Newman:** Objection sustained. There's not a question on jury so disregard the argument.

[00:54:44] **Dick Harpootlian:** You are not angry with Alex Murdaugh?

[00:54:47] **Ronnie Crosby:** I have had anger with him, extreme anger, Mr. Harpootlian, because of what he did to my law firm, my partners, my client, his clients, our clients, what he did to his family, what he's done to so many people. Yes, I experienced a lot of anger but you can't walk around with anger. You have to find a way to deal with it and move forward and I have done that. And if you suggest, you are dead wrong, if you think I've come in here and told this jury something because of money when we are talking about two people who were brutally murdered, then you're headed in the wrong direction.

[00:55:25] **Dick Harpootlian:** Do you think he did it?

[00:55:31] **Mandy Matney:** And then, there was Maggie's sister, Marian Proctor, who had not spoken publicly about her sister's death until trial. When she finally did, Marian didn't have to say why she had been silent for so long. It was so clear that she was scared.

[00:55:49] **Creighton Waters:** In the days and weeks following Maggie and Paul's murder, did Alex ever say anything about the boat case?

[00:55:58] **Marian Proctor:** We would talk about the boat case. And he was very intent on clearing Paul's name.

[00:56:14] **Creighton Waters:** What did he say?



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[00:56:17] **Marian Proctor:** He said that listen, number one goal was clearing Paul's name. And I thought that was so strange because my number one goal was to find out who killed my sister and Paul.

[00:56:35] **Creighton Waters:** But that wasn't Alex's concern, main concern?

[00:56:38] **Marian Proctor:** I know he must have wanted that too but it just — I don't know how he could have thought about anything else.

[00:56:50] **Creighton Waters:** He talked about the boat case. Did he ever act scared or afraid that the real killers were out there somewhere or anything like that, or was he concerned with the boat case?

[00:57:11] **Marian Proctor:** We were afraid we didn't know what was going on. My family was scared. I was scared for Alex and Buster. I felt like they needed protection. I think everybody was afraid and Alex didn't seem to be afraid.

[00:57:50] **Liz Farrell:** Another important factor in this trial was the way Colleton County and the city of Walterboro welcomed the public and the media into their home. The high level of transparency and cooperation offered by Clerk of Court Becky Hill and her staff was fundamental to building public trust in the proceedings. And then, there was Judge Newman. He was fair, he was wise, and he was considerate. If the judicial system has a soul, it resides with this judge. In Alex's final moments standing before the court, Judge Newman explained his reasoning behind the sentencing and in doing so, he spoke a truth so real that his words continue to echo in the minds of all those who watched.

[00:58:32] **Judge Clifton Newman:** And I know you have to see Paul and Maggie during the nighttime when you're attempting to go to sleep. I'm sure they come and visit you. I'm sure.

[00:58:50] **Alex Murdaugh:** And every night.



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[00:58:51] **Judge Clifton Newman:** Yeah, I'm sure. And they will continue to do so and reflect on the last time they looked to you in the eyes as you look the jury in the eyes. I don't know person who's always been such a gregarious, friendly person and cause of life to be tangled in such a weave web, such a situation that yours have spun into. And it's so unfortunate because you had such a lovely family of such friendly people and including you. And to go from that to this. You know, your license to practice law has been stripped away from you, turned from lawyer to witness, and now have an opportunity to make your final appeal as an ex-lawyer. And it's almost it's really surprising that you're waving this right at this time. And if you opt to do so, it's on you. You're not compelled to say anything but you have the opportunity to do so.

[01:00:44] **Alex Murdaugh:** I tell you again. I respect this court but I'm innocent. I would never under any circumstances hurt my wife Maggie and I would never under any circumstances hurt my son Paul Paul.

[01:00:59] **Judge Clifton Newman:** Well, and it might not have been you. It might have been the monster you become when you take 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 opioid pills. Maybe you become another person. I've seen that before. The person standing before me was not the person who committed the crime, though it's the same individual. We'll leave that at that.

[01:01:44] **Mandy Matney:** At the end of our conversation with Creighton Waters, he reiterated the reason he and his team fought so hard for justice in this case. Yes, we believe the future of our judicial system was on trial along with Alex Murdaugh. David took on Goliath and required everyone from Alan Wilson to SLED Agent Paul Greer to PMPED CFO Jeanne Seckinger to stand up for what's right and to tell the truth, even when it is terrifying. We want one system for all people. One system means fairly applied accountability and one system means all victims will have a chance to see justice prevail in their cases. Here is Creighton.

[01:02:36] **Creighton Waters:** I just always try to come back to the fact that, you know, this case has gotten so much attention and the process of the case deservedly so, you know, deserves talking about and attention and those of us, you know, fortunate enough to work on it are getting attention. But, you



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know, always try to remember that, you know, what's at the core of this thing is, you know, the brutal murders of Maggie and Paul. And that is I think needs to always be the last word. I'm just very, very grateful that all the people that worked on this that it allowed that jury to give them a voice. And, you know, I think that should always be the final thought when we talk about this case.

[01:03:34] **Mandy Matney:** We've been asked a lot of questions about what we plan to do now that the trial of the century has ended. While we have big plans to expand our particular style of journalism to cases across the country, cases that would be solved if not for local corruption and law enforcement and other government agencies, we still have a lot of work to do with this case. Over the next few months, we will be redoubling our efforts into our investigation of the Stephen Smith case. Sandy, Stephanie, and the entire Smith family deserve to see justice in this case, which should have been solved in 2015. Here is Sandy.

[01:04:16] **Sandy Smith:** 2023 is Stephen's year and he will get justice and I will never stop fighting for my baby. If anyone has information on Stephen Smith's murder, please contact SLED or Crime Stoppers. Thank you.

[01:04:35] **Mandy Matney:** We will also push hard for there to be public accountability for all of those involved in the alleged coverup in the boat crash investigation. Whether it's law enforcement officers or friends of the Murdaugh family, they must face consequences for what happened. And then, there's the bomb threat at the courthouse, the Gloria Satterfield case, Alex's other financial crimes. What happened with that juror who was excused right before Jim Griffin's closing arguments? There's Alex's badges and the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office. There's Cory Fleming's case, Russell Laffitte's hearing, and the potential for more charges against Alex and those in his circle. Stay tuned and stay in the sunlight.

[01:05:52] **David Moses:** On Monday's Cup of Justice, episode number 20, now on the new feed, you may remember Liz, Eric, and Mandy talking about the winding road and how surreal it was to be recognized by the amazing singer-songwriter Sheryl Crow on Twitter. And for the past six months, I've been searching for the right song to share my appreciation with this



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phenomenal team once the murder trial was over. So, naturally, this next bit was fate. Thank you, Sheryl, for encouraging us. It means the world. Thank you, Mandy, for being a light to so many and helping me and others soak up the sun. Used with permission. Details in the description.

[01:07:52] **Outro:** The Murdaugh Murders Podcast is created and hosted by me, Mandy Matney, produced by my husband, David Moses. And Liz Farrell is our executive editor. From Luna Shark Productions.

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