



EPISODE 44: Things Are (Finally) Getting Scary for Alex Murdaugh's Co-Conspirators

[00:00:03] **Liz Farrell:** Happy Tuesday everyone. This is Liz. I'm filling in for Mandy and I wanted to pop in just to give you a little update. On Friday, Eric Bland attended a hearing to end the receivership in the Beach case. That means the people who were handling Alex Murdaugh's finances and accounting for all his assets have finished their work, and it's now time to divvy up the nearly \$2 million dollars among Alex's victims. Premium members will get our full discussion about how that hearing went and what the next steps are for the victims. One thing I want to note for everyone though is this: there is now an October deadline for everyone who thinks they might have had money stolen from them by Alex Murdaugh. If you suspect something wasn't right with your settlement or want to make sure that you got every penny that was due to you, now is the time to come forward, even if you don't have an attorney representing you. If you are one of Alex's former clients and you think you might be due money from his estate, contact John T. Lay at 803-724-1800 or email him at jlay@gwblawfirm.com. John T. is one of the attorneys who was assigned to tally up Alex's assets. That said, we'll give you more information once a firm date has been set for the deadline in October. We have a really great show for you today. We go deep on what went down last week at Cory Fleming's plea hearing, and Eric spills some tea about Judge Richard Gergel and Dick Harpootlian. Let's get into it. Cups up guys.

[00:01:48] **Mandy Matney:** Cups up.

[00:01:50] **Eric Bland:** Look at you with iced coffee. Wow.

[00:01:52] **Liz Farrell:** I love an iced coffee. Don't be a hater, Eric.

[00:01:55] **Eric Bland:** Okay, I'm not, I'm just making an observation.

[00:01:58] **Liz Farrell:** Well guys, we had an eventful week last week after, Eric, you wished us all well for the week and had a bright and cheery attitude on Monday morning, and it just all went to heck real fast. We'll get to that though. You had a hearing today for the receivership and basically looking at the total amount of what is left of Alex's money, which is 1.885 million, and how that is going to end up getting split. And you were telling us earlier that there's an October deadline for victims to come forward. Can you just tell us a little bit about what kinds of victims might apply here?



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[00:02:35] **Eric Bland:** It's going to be all kinds of victims. It's going to be those victims that have already brought claims and maybe have had recoveries, some that may have come from P.M.P.E.D., some that have come from other sources, some that have gotten no recovery, that have made a claim and there still hasn't been a payment, and then those that could not retain an attorney because maybe their claim was time barred in the attorney's eyes, meaning that the statute of limitations for bringing any claim had already ran, or the amount of money at issue was not so significant. And every dollar is significant, don't get me wrong, but when you look at a lawsuit, you're going to take it on a contingency as a lawyer in advance costs for expert witnesses and everything. There has to be a balance of, is there enough money to potentially recover? And so everybody who is a victim and considers themselves a victim of Alex, of the law firm or anybody associated with Alex on a particular case, whether they've had money lost or that they can't get an explanation, they can't get their file, a claim that they had is time barred or they were told to claim was brought in a lawsuit was filed and it wasn't, we want everybody who is a victim to come forward. Do not be afraid not to file simply because you don't have a lawyer. We want everybody to file and the court appointed a special referee named Mr. Tolleson—I don't know his first name—who's going to entertain all these claims, and it'll be done before the end of the year. There was attorneys there, Mark Tinsley was on behalf of the Beach family with Tabor, his associate. There was Glen Walters, who represents a pending case involving Alex and a Mexican national. The bank did not have any representation there, PSB, nor was P.M.P.E.D. represented at the hearing, but they're probably going to be the largest victims in terms of monetary amounts that they're gonna come forward with. And it's troubling to us because they're also designated victims in the cases that have been pled guilty so far in federal court. So they're going to have a number of avenues to collect money from. There's restitution orders in the federal court cases where they pled guilty, there's going to be a plea for Cory Fleming on September 14th that we're going to talk about that will have a restitution order attached to it, and they're going to have a number of different avenues to get money, meaning PSB, Palmetto State Bank, and P.M.P.E.D. will either get it from the court by making the defendants Cory Fleming and Russell Laffitte pay, and then obviously Alex Murdaugh is going to be pleading guilty on the 21st of September, but they'll also be able to come in the court. And after having victimized these victims, they're going to stand shoulder to shoulder with the victims and make application for their money there too. It's just bizarre.



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[00:05:22] **Liz Farrell:** Sickening. It's really truly sickening. And just when you think like we've made all this progress in showing that we're going to shine a light on your bad acts and your bad behavior...

[00:05:33] **Eric Bland:** Meaning your bad behavior, not Eric's bad behavior. Your bad behavior in the proverbial sense, right?

[00:05:37] **Liz Farrell:** Yes, Eric. P.M.P.E.D's bad behavior and PSB's bad behavior. Not you. But yeah, you know, we've seen it all we think, and then now we're gonna see them standing in line, just like the cowards on the Titanic who jumped on with the women and children. It's just really truly like that. So basically, what you're saying is that we're going to see a lot of victims, possibly, who we've never heard of before.

[00:06:06] **Eric Bland:** Correct. And what's going to happen is John Leigh has to publish this in the newspapers of Hampton and Beaufort County, to say that there's this new procedure and if you're a victim, it's going to be the same thing. You know, when you get that class action notice in your mail about your credit card, and you have three cents?

[00:06:25] **Mandy Matney:** Sorry, that is just such, I have to I have to pause for a second because that is such an outdated, absurd way to communicate with people now. Like, I remember when I worked at the first newspaper that I worked at, the *Waynesville Daily Guide*, that newspaper made most of its money from classified ads that are basically demanded by the government. Long story short, it was in a military town, and the law in Missouri was if you want to divorce your wife, and if you have not, and if your wife has not agreed to a divorce, you have to put a classified ad in the newspaper. And say, like, "I'm looking for my wife, I'm trying to get a divorce." So that was a lot of what the people that came into the newspaper were trying to do. It was like men that were like, "Yeah." And nobody, especially...

[00:07:14] **Eric Bland:** Nobody reads the newspaper. And who reads, does everybody read it?

[00:07:18] **Mandy Matney:** No, and like...

[00:07:19] **Eric Bland:** Nobody's gonna read down the classified sections.



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[00:07:21] **Mandy Matney:** It's just absurd. And it's just, I mean, I'm...

[00:07:25] **Liz Farrell:** It's the law, though. You guys know that right? It's the law. They had the law written that it has to be posted in the newspaper. So that's what's hilarious about it. It's such an outdated law that maybe they need to update. That would end the newspaper industry.

[00:07:41] **Mandy Matney:** It would. I think it really would end it, and I think that it's just not, I think it was one of those things where like, the newspaper lobby, back in the day, got all those laws in so they could make a ton of money that was just mandatory. These people had no options, they had to put a class ad in the newspaper. And now that there's a million cheaper, easier, more efficient ways to get the word out with people, I just think that that's absurd, and yeah. But continuing on, the whole thing is crazy. I mean, I was sitting here and how much is the whole, how much is it all for?

[00:08:18] **Eric Bland:** \$1,885,000 dollars.

[00:08:21] **Mandy Matney:** Okay, my first question, Moselle was sold for more than that, so what was the deal with that?

[00:08:27] **Eric Bland:** Well, there was a mortgage. Some of it...

[00:08:29] **Liz Farrell:** Moselle belonged to Maggie.

[00:08:31] **Eric Bland:** Right.

[00:08:32] **Liz Farrell:** So that's not part of it, sorry. Moselle belonged to Maggie, so that was Buster's. So that was already decided when Buster settled.

[00:08:41] **Mandy Matney:** Okay.

[00:08:41] **Eric Bland:** Right. So what you have is...

[00:08:43] **Mandy Matney:** I should have known that, but it's been a while.



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[00:08:45] **Eric Bland:** So essentially, the receivers have received \$250,000 to date for work that they've done since the receivership started last year, and they've just submitted another application for 350 additional thousand dollars for a total of \$600,000, which was approved today. And they claim they had 2700 hours for a total of \$983,000 and some odd cents worth of time and expenses, but they're only going to collect \$600,000, and they ceased billing any additional time as of today. So they would have collected about \$2.5 million dollars, and so they're going to get paid 600,000 or so from that to take the money down to \$1,885,000 to be distributed to the victims.

[00:09:33] **Mandy Matney:** And they got paid before any victims. Just being clear about that.

[00:09:38] **Eric Bland:** They put a lot of work in. They shouldn't, yeah, you know, I'm not going to quibble with them getting paid, but yeah, the answer is yes.

[00:09:45] **Mandy Matney:** Interesting. It's just interesting how that works. Yeah, I know. It's just really the whole process. I've never really understood receiverships. I've never covered a case that had a receivership before, I don't think. And the whole process is just very strange to me, starting with just how much money the receivers get, that blows my mind. And then on top of it, P.M.P.E.D. and Palmetto State Bank being the number one victims that will get a bulk of the money just does not sit well with me, because I'm assuming that P.M.P.E.D. has sued a lot of people for negligence. That's a big claim, correct?

[00:10:23] **Eric Bland:** Correct.

[00:10:24] **Mandy Matney:** And I feel like at the very least, it was negligent on their part that they allowed Alex to do this for a very long time, and Palmetto State Bank as well.

[00:10:35] **Eric Bland:** Not an unreasonable assumption.

[00:10:37] **Mandy Matney:** And it's just crazy that like, how can you sue other people for negligence when you let this go on in your house? And you skipped all the victims who had nothing to do with any of this. It's insane.



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[00:10:51] **Eric Bland:** It's a little bit like the parents who let their children run rampant around the neighborhood and do all the vandalism, and so they have to pay the vandalized houses in the neighborhood, but your own house got vandalized too, so you're going to say I'm a victim of my own children because I didn't supervise them, and you get to the front of the line.

[00:11:09] **Liz Farrell:** That's a good analogy. But I also want to talk about the fact that P.M.P.E.D., when this all started to come out, they were giving—and I'm gonna say allegedly, just because I can't remember if I have this on the record or not—but it sounded like they were trying to get the victims to quickly sign off on getting paid back so that they could minimize the harm done to their own law firm. And that there's a procedure in place that they didn't necessarily, allegedly, always follow, which is that you have to inform the victim that they can get their own representation. And it sounded like some bullying was going on behind the scenes or victims felt bullied by certain members of P.M.P.E.D., allegedly. So for us to now see that these people be in line with the victims is insulting to our intelligence, but it should also be insulting to you, Eric, as a lawyer, and all the lawyers listening because it just shows how craven and greedy and unwilling to take responsibility or accountability for anything that these two agencies are. Like no wonder you birth—like to go with the child analogy—no wonder you gave birth to someone like Alex Murdaugh, P.M.P.E.D. No wonder. You seem like the right, PSB and P.M.P.E.D. seem like the right parents for Alec Murdaugh, actually. Real good mom and dad.

[00:12:35] **Eric Bland:** What you're essentially saying is when they went to these victims, and they said, "Look, we have your money. It's a golden day. It's the greatest day of your life. We're gonna give you this big check," what they didn't tell him is, "No, we're not giving you interest for the fact that you, we've held on to your money for the last four or five years, that you could have invested it or used it. And oh, by the way, we're gonna back out a 1/3 attorney fee from the ultimate mount because we collected your money and we're entitled to a fee." And you know, there is an argument that if a lawyer breaches their fiduciary duties, that they have to disgorge themselves of all fees. So it's going to be an interesting thing, like you said, it is going to be strange to see P.M.P.E.D. and PSB at the front of the line. And sometimes, you know, when something goes wrong on your watch, just because you can come forward and say I have an argument to collect this money, maybe it would be more magnanimous if they just stepped aside and said, "You know what, we want the victims to be made whole," you know, "we don't think we did anything wrong, but by



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the same token, we're in the business to protect our customers and our victims. Let them be first." That would be really magnanimous. Not seeing that happen, though.

[00:13:46] **Mandy Matney:** Right. And again, it's the word that we keep saying over and over again, the audacity of these guys. That they're able, and they don't even show up to the hearing to be like, "We're victims," but they know that they're gonna get it. And they don't they sure as heck don't do anything to be like, "Hey, the victims need the money first. Hey, maybe we made millions and millions and millions of dollars off of this whole lawsuit thing and maybe we're doing okay, so let's let these people, who you know, have not, who could use this money for good." No, it's none of that and it's insane.

[00:14:26] **Liz Farrell:** They should be lucky. They should be counting their lucky stars right now honestly. But you know what, why don't we do this? Why don't we suggest to the referee, the special referee, that any victim compensation that P.M.P.E.D. or Palmetto State Bank want corresponding to that, we should be able to look through that client's file to see what expenses were charged. So if they want the money back, let's see the whole, you need to present the entire file. Yeah, you have to be an open book. Let's see what you charged that client for when this all was going down. Let's see what your client files look like. That's basically what I want to say, because I would love to see that.

[00:15:07] **Mandy Matney:** Right. And for the restitution money and like Russell's case, for instance, aren't they charging for the investigation that they conducted after they found everything out? I would like to see those books too, to see what all went into that super expensive investigation and what happened there, and what all they found out back then and did and did or didn't tell anyone. This stuff all needs to be public, and I don't like the hush-hush nature of all of it and I don't like the way that it's going down. It doesn't sit well with me. And as somebody who was constantly, like, "Oh, things are getting better. Things are getting worse," this is a (inaudible). It's not, it's not good.

[00:15:50] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. And just so you know, Mandy, they were required to do that investigation like that. That's not like something that they did above and beyond. So they would have had to do that, regardless of whether they were being paid back for it, so.



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[00:16:04] **Mandy Matney:** And they charged, they charged for it. And again, it was their bad, like, now that I own a business and now I know how I know a little bit more about how things work, I would never in a million years think of if something was my fault and if I dropped the ball on one of my employees and let another employee victimize other people, and I should have saw that, I cannot imagine a world where I would say I need to be compensated for that. I would just say, "That's my bad."

[00:16:44] **Eric Bland:** Look, I'm not saying they're patting their bills. I am not insinuating that, nor am I alleging that, but somebody better look at \$875,000 worth of expenses or whatever P.M.P.E.D. says these investigative expenses were, and look at them in a fine tooth comb, determine whether they're reasonable. You know, everybody comes in and says, "Well, that's an unreasonable fee. You're asking for too much money." Somebody needs to body check that invoice and really peel it apart, open the books and say, "Can you really bill for that? Is that good time, or are they just, because there's a pot of money there, they're gonna go make that money grab?" I'm not saying they're doing that. Let's just all have it out in the open. If everybody's going to be shoulder to shoulder, then it's going to be open with full sunlight. And we'll be right back.

[00:17:45] **Liz Farrell:** Okay, so Eric, you were in the courtroom when Cory Fleming pleaded guilty to his 23 state charges. What was it like when he walked in the room wearing those stripes?

[00:17:57] **Eric Bland:** It reminded me of *O Brother, Where Art Thou*, John Turturro and George Clooney as well, you know, they had the black and white chain gang coveralls in the movie *The Coen Brothers*. Well, he had the same thing on and it really was, really was shocking to see him come in wearing that. Even a lot of the lawyers commented, they wondered why he wasn't in a suit. And it proceeded to the plea of guilt, there wasn't a sentence that day. It was going to be postponed till September 14th because Judge Newman wants it to take place in Beaufort County where he did these acts. He thinks it's important the citizens have a chance to understand what happened. And it was an unusual thing, because in my 35 years, I've never seen a defendant plead guilty straight-up to every single charge, not negotiate some of those charges off the table and not have some kind of recommendation agreement by both the defense attorney and the prosecution to the judge as to what the sentence would be. Sometimes it's we've agreed it's going to be five years and the judge says yes or no, or they give a window and say we've agreed it should be



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between six and 10 years. In this particular case, Creighton Waters wanted 14 years to agree to a plea of guilt, and Debbie Barbier and Cory Fleming were not willing to do that. And as a result, they pled straight up to every single charge, and they're going to leave it up to the discretion of Judge Clifton Newman as to what the sentence would be. And I'm telling you, that is a very risky thing to do. And it became apparent to everybody in the courtroom because Creighton Waters did a methodical presentation from beginning to end, from 2010 beginning at the Pinckneys, all the way through the Satterfields, all the way through the fall of 2021, and went through not only what was in the firm's escrow account that Cory misappropriated, but linked it up with his own personal bank accounts on when his own personal bank accounts had a balance of near zero and showed that he was taking money at those particular times. And it was a full-throated presentation as if you would have a trial on it. And he introduced each exhibit along the way to back up everything he said. And you know, if you looked at Debbie Barbier, it wasn't the same Debbie that you saw in front of Judge Gergel, who was confident and projected an air of certainty of what she was doing. As this was being read, I saw her lower face. Now obviously, I can't read her mind and I haven't spoken to her, but it sure looked like she was thinking, "Did I do the right thing here?" Because Judge Newman was not happy. He had not heard all these things. Remember, he heard about Alex's misdeeds in the murder trial, but he had not heard about what Cory did, and what Cory did was really, really bad. That's what I was trying to say in front of Judge Gergel and he wouldn't let me do it. Well, Judge Newman let Creighton do it. And Creighton and I worked on what the presentation was going to be, and he left 20% for me to talk about on September 14th. But after it was done, Judge Newman turned to Cory Fleming and he said, "Mr. Fleming," he didn't even turn to Debbie, he said, "Do you agree with those facts?" And Cory took a deep breath and said, "What I agree to is that there are enough facts presented by Mr. Creighton Waters that I'm going to be convicted if I go forward on the crimes charged. But there are other facts that I disagree with." And Judge Newman almost took, he took back and said, "Well, tell me those facts that you disagree with." And Cory said, "I would prefer to wait until the sentence on September 14th to tell you that," and Judge Newman said, "I just want to make sure I'm understanding, are you pleading guilty under your own free will because there are facts presented that will convict you?" and Debbie stood up and said, "Yes." Judge Newman accepted the plea, and at that point in time, Cory got up, he was escorted away, he turned back and said I love you to the family, I saw his wife go over and talk to Creighton and she was very nervous. There was a full courtroom on his



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side, all the people that we saw in Judge Gergel's courtroom, almost all to the person was there ready to testify on his behalf. The same people, the person from the YMCA who he runs with, and the other people were all there. Everybody had that nervous look on their face. And I'm telling you Liz and Mandy, it is very risky to leave this up to Judge Newman, because you're talking about 23 felony counts. You're talking about hoping that Judge Newman is going to listen to what Judge Gergel said and say, "Judge Gergel, you sentenced him to 46 months. I'm going to run everything concurrent or I'm going to suspend the sentence." I don't think Judge Newman can do that. I don't think he can just wipe off 200 and 70-something years off the table, and it is highly likely that he's going to get a significant eight to 10 year time. And so what could end up happening if he doesn't let all that time go concurrent, Cory is going to get out of federal prison in whatever time it is, whether it's 36 months if he does the RDAP, and whatever time he gets off. And then he's going straight to state court prison for a long time.

[00:23:12] **Liz Farrell:** So there's a lot of questions here. First, I want to point out that Mandy is wearing a BCE shirt today. She is repping because Creighton did so well. So why don't we start, Mandy will you tell everyone, just give us some thoughts on how Creighton did and all that? And then we'll get into some of the questions I have for you both.

[00:23:29] **Mandy Matney:** Sure. But my first comment, and I was thinking about this, was how quiet Newman was, Judge Newman was, throughout the proceedings. And it reminded me of when the hearings first began in the Murdaugh saga a couple years ago. He was very quiet, he just kind of sat back and took it all in, and silence should scare the crap out of these men. I could tell that he was bothered, extremely bothered, and I just cannot wait to hear what he thinks about all this. I think the silence said a lot and I think his lack of, he didn't intervene, he just let Creighton go and let Creighton...

[00:24:12] **Eric Bland:** Listened.

[00:24:12] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, he listened. I think Judge Newman being quiet and listening to Creighton go blow by blow with everything that Cory did was so horrible. That should make Cory's team extremely nervous, so that's A. B, Creighton was



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brilliant. I don't want to like fangirl too much, because like, you know, we've been hard on Creighton before, but that was a five-star performance. That was like trying—I don't even know what to, it was like—it wasn't even his Super Bowl.

[00:24:51] **Eric Bland:** Overwhelming force.

[00:24:53] **Mandy Matney:** Right. But it wasn't even his, what was so exciting, like the Murdaugh trial was his Super Bowl, right? That was the biggest stage that he's probably ever going to be on as a prosecutor, and there was news crews from all over the world in that courtroom and he knew that. It is one thing for a lawyer to perform great like Creighton did, and especially for that length of time. That was super impressive and that was amazing. But for months later, for Creighton to stand up and say, "I still care about finding out exactly what happened and this guy over here hasn't helped us with squat," and, "Let me tell you, Newman, exactly what he did and why what he did was so horrible," that just filled me with so much hope and energy. Big Creighton energy. Just like, go get 'em man.

[00:25:42] **Eric Bland:** It was so much different than Gergel's hearing, wasn't it? Didn't you feel different? Didn't you feel like this quiet death grip that was on the courtroom?

[00:25:51] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, it was just, I've noticed in the last day since we put this week's episode of *True Sunlight* together, a lot of people are like, "Oh my God, that episode was so good. It filled me with so much hope." And episodes that fill people with hope and make them feel better about the justice system, I feel like we get better, just more feedback, just more like, "Yeah, yeah. Rah, rah." And last week, it was a great episode, but it filled a lot of people, me included, with just despair. Like I was just disgusted at the end of last week. And I was like, we're never, we're probably never going to find out what happened because the people who could find out what happened aren't going to do it, and they're not going to allow anybody to do it at this point. That's how I felt last week. So what did you think, Liz?

[00:26:35] **Liz Farrell:** Well, one thing is it made me even more disappointed in the federal government, because we've said this before, but they're supposed to be like the more elite, more serious investigators and prosecutors, and it just felt like every time Creighton could have decided to not be as detailed, he took the other route. He decided to add the detail. So that's important, because these are decisions that get



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made, and I think in order to maintain the peace in our professions—and I don't actually mean mine and yours, Mandy, I mean, Eric—in order to maintain the peace in the legal world, I think that lawyers sort of have to be okay with things all the time that they're not okay with, actually. And I think one of the things is Emily Limehouse, because while I applaud certain aspects of the job that she did, of course, those were decisions that she made, not to be as detailed perhaps, too. Even though she mentioned that he didn't provide substantial assistance, you're still sort of giving the court this idea that he has been this model defendant, which excuses the part where they don't have all these details and then the court doesn't find all of this out. Creighton, I think why he impressed us so much, is because he could have done the same thing, and he just didn't. And that is where the hope lies. One of the things I had a question about though, you mentioned, Eric, that lawyers were wondering why Cory wasn't in a suit. Do you think it was part of the stick to have him come in in stripes, because immediately he cuts a sympathetic character, right, immediately to a judge? Because in front of the judge, he's saying, "I'm already in prison. Look at me. I've already been punished for this crime. I'm sitting here in the stripiest stripes you've ever seen. I'm wearing shower shoes. I used to look good. I look like crap right now." Do you think that that is part of the, I guess, if you're gonna have a theater, well, it's theater, right? It's...

[00:28:31] **Eric Bland:** You raise a good point, but it also backfired. Because when he was wearing that garb, the prison garb, and then Creighton went into that in-depth detail that you just discussed, it made Judge Newman look at him, there were a number of times that Judge Newman was looking at him and reading him and saying like, "Oh, really? You did that? And that?" looking at him like a criminal, not as a guy in a suit, but as a criminal. And I will, I want to add something just to close the loop, and that is the reason Creighton did this is because—I had some discussions with him, and I'm not going to go into the exact words that we exchanged—but in general, what he said is, he was very mad at the federal government. He said, "We were the ones that discovered this. We did the investigation. We're the ones that spent the hours and hours to make these claims, and then the federal government swoops in and lets them plead the one charge and acts like they're the ones that got him, you know, to face the Lady Justice." He said, "We are the ones that deserve this," and he is not playing ball with the federal government. And usually, like you said, lawyers have to go along and say we agree with it, when in reality they don't. He is publicly vocalizing his disagreement with the federal government.



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[00:29:52] **Liz Farrell:** It's not just the disagreement too, like that's who takes credit, who gets credit for the work, right? I think underlying what he's saying is everything that we think about the federal deal is true. We think that it was a complete and total workaround, a way to get the state to drop its charges, to go away nicely, and one of the things that I had heard is that basically that 46-month sentence that he got could be reduced to as little as 18 months, perhaps even less when you start talking about sort of the programs that he can take advantage of, and ultimately how much time he might get back to him over the years. So it could end up being as little as 18, and if the state ended up giving a suspended sentence, then he's basically on parole. But at the same time, he could just choose to sit, like any disparity between the federal and state sentence, he could choose to spend in federal prison, is that right, Eric?

[00:30:53] **Eric Bland:** That I'm not aware of. I think when your federal prison sentence ends, you can't serve state time in a federal prison. Concurrently, you can.

[00:31:00] **Liz Farrell:** Well, it's not that, it's that you have extra, so you go from 18. So you reduce your time to 18 months, that means that you didn't serve, you know, the balance of that. So you can actually spend the entire balance of your sentence in federal prison that can count toward the concurrent sentence that you get with state is what I understand, but I might have that wrong. And anyone who's listening who knows more about that can let us know. But I guess going back to it as the idea that, you know, Creighton is saying what the federal government swooped in, it's not just about who takes credit for this investigation. We know it was the state. It's what were they doing by swooping in? Why did they swoop in? What was the purpose of that? So I think it's exactly the way it looks, and I don't think that we should pretend it isn't anymore.

[00:31:44] **Eric Bland:** Then why don't we let him plead guilty to one count? When you hear the totality of the presentation of Creighton, there's no way that you could say, "Well, just let them go on one count." Could you, Mandy? Would you? Would you countenance that if you were a prosecutor or judge, after what you heard?

[00:32:02] **Mandy Matney:** No, and now I'm thinking, first of all, how much money in federal resources did we spend on this easy route for these guys? Because that's what that's what it looks like. And again, like Creighton has said, they did all, the state already did a majority all of the work there. How much money and time? And God



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that makes me so mad. But be like, I'm, it all just is so frustrating, because I hate finding out that it's exactly what we feared. I hate finding out that, oh, yeah, it's exactly what we thought it was. And this is why so many people are mad at the system, and this is why so many people don't trust this system. And Liz, as you were saying that I was thinking, so last week when we were all surprised at how much time Cory got in federal court compared to Russell, like was that actually doing Cory a favor by giving him more time in federal court because he doesn't want to spend that in prison?

[00:33:05] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, that's a fair question, because I don't know. And I know that there's some like, who-do math that's involved with how does the sentence end up looking at the end of the day. So once you take the state into consideration—but going back to what Eric had said about Debbie Barbier's face looking different, I mean, there was a different vibe for sure at that defense table than what we saw at the federal courthouse in Charleston, and it could be partly that they like, obviously want to avoid—remember, with Paul Murdaugh when we were at his initial hearing in 2019, he waived the right, I guess he waived, I forget what it's called. But like the prosecution can do exactly what, tell the judge here's what he did, and here's why we think...

[00:33:48] **Eric Bland:** He waived the preliminary hearing.

[00:33:49] **Liz Farrell:** The preliminary hearing, yeah. So here's what he did, here's why we think that this bond would be appropriate, and they didn't read the facts of the case. Remember that, Mandy? And so we were like, so he basically just gets like, we just tiptoe around the fact of what happened here. Mallory's name doesn't get said, Paul doesn't have to sit there and listen to his dirty deeds, and it's all just, you know, to make it nicer. To make it the like, we set the gentleman's right to make it nicer. So it wasn't, things weren't nice for Cory on Wednesday at all. But one of the things that perked our ears up and—it's not that I missed it, I just didn't really I was like, what were they talking about—but Creighton talked about an unindicted conduct, which was related to a suit, lawsuit that Mandy and I covered in the second episode or *True Sunlight* podcast, which was when Cory's son broke his arm falling off the SUV, allegedly. Mandy and I struggled with that one because we've had that story now for—what was that? We were looking through our taxes like September 2021, at least—we knew that something was fishy with that, but it was iffy because how do we



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know exactly? Until you know what they were actually up to and what their schemes look like. You don't know that this thing that looks weird is actually as weird as it seems. So it was really vindicating and validating to hear Creighton Waters talk about that case, in the context of we know Cory has done this before and here's how he did.

[00:35:14] **Eric Bland:** Call it the Satterfield 1.0, almost as opposed to the Satterfield being 1.0, it was. He did this the similar way where they hand-and-gloved, you know, the claims. Alex suing Cory, and not really suing Cory but making the claim and getting coverage from his own policy. And so if they've done it twice now, have they done it four times that we don't know about it? Have they done it five times?

[00:35:37] **Liz Farrell:** I don't know, but it's kind of like when you're a kid, and like, you had to sell chocolate bars for your school and your parents just buy the chocolate bars for you, and you don't have to do any work. It's like they figured out a way to buy their own chocolate bars so that their insurance companies, like they're very much just raiding their own closets for this money.

[00:35:58] **Mandy Matney:** I mean, it was, I was the same way as Liz. There was so much going on during the hearing and it was just a lot more intense than I expected it to be. So when Creighton said that I was like, huh. Like I wrote down the figures and stuff, maybe that it is that lawsuit and a couple of our members who were chatting were saying that it was that lawsuit, and I was like, "Oh, I'll look it up later. We'll see." And I went back and I rewatched the whole hearing for the second time, but I was just blown away by the body language and the shift from the defense table when Creighton said that. Cory and the two male attorneys all simultaneously whipped their heads and look straight at Debbie like, "What? I thought this wasn't going to happen. Why are you letting this happen? What is going on here right now? What are we going to do? This is...uh." And then they started scrambling with papers, and then they all started communicating a lot more, and during the break after that it was very clear that they were like, whoa, Creighton dropped that bomb.

[00:37:05] **Liz Farrell:** But they didn't object.

[00:37:06] **Mandy Matney:** Yeah, they were like, "What is he going to do next?"

[00:37:09] **Liz Farrell:** They didn't object. They (inaudible) Creighton, right?



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[00:37:12] **Mandy Matney:** Maybe. Is that? Is that why they looked at Debbie like that? Maybe to like object?

[00:37:17] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah, so why wouldn't they have objected to that? Because like you said to Newman, he said, you know, some of the facts are immaterial to my guilt. So I'd imagine that this would be one of the facts that there's something about that would be immaterial to his guilt.

[00:37:30] **Eric Bland:** How do you take it out of your mind? You love, you know, I'm always in a trial and a judge says to the jury after they heard that the defendant is X, Y and Z, and then the judge says, "No, you gotta take that out of your mind. We're gonna take that off the record, it's stripped from the record. I don't want you to think about it." How did you not think about it? How does he not think about, when he looks at Cory on September 14th, this wasn't your first rodeo with the Satterfields. You did this in 2012. You're just not being charged with it.

[00:37:56] **Mandy Matney:** Right. And, I mean, I think what Creighton was doing there was saying, we got a lot more than where this comes from, and I will put you through all of it, and I will keep going. I don't even care. And I think that that's what was freaking them out, and it was Cory's family that that lawsuit involved. That was, that's why Liz and I were talking, we were like, I think that that's their ace in the hole. Because Cory seems extremely close with his son, he seems to really legitimately care about his family, unlike Alex, who just propped his family up for his own needs and whatever. Cory seems to legitimately care what his family thinks of him and I think Creighton saying that, "This man did this with his own family, Your Honor. He brought his own family into this mess."

[00:38:45] **Eric Bland:** I'm telling you guys, it wasn't just the family. It was everybody in the courtroom. Remember, all they've gotten from Cory and Debbie is that it's the heavy arm of government coming down on Cory, Alex took advantage of them, Cory's kind of caught in the middle of the vise grip, he can't get out of it. Yes, he is going to have to plead guilty, but we feel so sorry for him. And they didn't know the facts, really. Nobody in that courtroom on his side got a full vetting of the facts. And when Creighton went through it, I looked, I kept looking over and people started bowing their heads because it started resonating with them. Oh my god, he did this? He did that? He didn't do this with Tony? He never, he met with Tony one time? He got to check in and never told Tony he settled the case? And it was one after another,



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and it was like a punch here and a punch there. And they were finally getting punched, and they just put their head down. It would be like if you, you guys think you know me, but you don't know what I've done before I became a lawyer. I mean, I wasn't the greatest of guys, and if you heard some of my behavior that I've done when I was 16, 17 and 18-years-old, you would start to look at me with a jaundiced eye and that's what they were doing to him. And I'm telling you it was the emperor without any clothes.

[00:40:03] **Liz Farrell:** Do you think that he's going to, that that's going to affect his sentencing hearing? Because as we said in our episode, Beaufort county attorneys were sort of rallying to get to Williamsburg County and really packed the courtroom with people. It didn't, from our perspective at home, Eric, it did not look like there was a lot of people there, because the only people sitting behind Cory were his family, and then we saw the Susie Laffitte with a few people. But we didn't get to see to the right of the courtroom really where you were sitting and all of that. The idea that all these lawyers were coming to Cory's defense to try to get him a lighter sentence, we mean, like willingly associating their name with him, do you think that this could affect what happens on September 14th, because now they've heard it?

[00:40:45] **Eric Bland:** Wouldn't surprise me. Yeah, if I got up and I was going to have to speak on his behalf, I would try to draw a line and say, "I am not going to discuss anything having to do with the Satterfield case. I don't know the facts. I'm just going to discuss my limited role here. This is what I know of Cory when he dealt with me." I would be very narrow in what I say. I do agree with you. I think there's some people that may not speak now or are going to speak differently, because I'm telling you it was impressive what Creighton did. Mandy, you hit the nail on the head.

[00:41:19] **Mandy Matney:** And one more thing that Creighton did, not to keep fangirling, but again, when I watched it again, I was really impressed by this. Just little details in the way he memorized. I mean, I can't memorize. I have trouble speaking as is. The way that he was able to say everything and he knew every single detail and he barely looked at his notes, phenomenal. But one thing that I noticed is like tiny detail, but he called Mrs. Pinckney Mrs. P. And people listening and people following this will know exactly who that is and will know exactly like—Justin always calls her Mrs. P. People close to her always call her Mrs. P—and it just showed that Creighton cared and he humanized the victims in a way that definitely never



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happened in federal court. And I was just very impressed by that. And we'll be right back.

[00:42:22] **Mandy Matney:** But should we move on to old Russell and Mark Bar?

[00:42:28] **Liz Farrell:** So Russell Laffitte guys, he was there too. Eric, what did you notice about Russell?

[00:42:33] **Eric Bland:** He showed up with a new do. He must have gone to a barber because he got himself closely cropped in the hair, which I guess he's getting ready to report. We found out that his report date was September 14th, but Judge Gergel gave him an extension to September 21st so that Mark Moore could go to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals to try to get the court of appeals to say that he can post an appeal bond and not report to Jessup prison. Mark Moore is a different attorney in state court then federal court. He's more comfortable I think in federal court and in state court. It's just not his normal stomping grounds and they were hemming and hawing about a trial date. Todd Rutherford made an appearance, and this is where Todd is so important to the defense team, because as we know, he's a legislature. And as being legislature, he's essentially blocked off from trying a case or court appearances from January 1st all the way through until the gavel is dropped at the end of the session, usually in June or early in July. And so Creighton is frustrated because he's running into the same roadblock now that he's running in with Alex and Dick Harpootlian, and that is these cases cannot go forward, it looks like, until the summer or fall of 2024.

[00:43:51] **Mandy Matney:** It's funny that you mentioned that about Todd Rutherford, because Todd really, to most people watching this and most people tuned in to everything Murdaugh, aren't from South Carolina, did not know Todd Rutherford. I know he probably thinks he's a huge deal. Nobody really knows who he is. The state just (inaudible). But what they know him for is two things: that he's a lawyer-legislator, and people listening to our podcast know all the problems that that has caused our state. And number two, he is known for Jeroid Price and the sketchy deal that he got for his murder client, who was loose for a long time and cost the government lots of lots of money to find him and a huge man on, and nobody has been held accountable for that, by the way. But those are two things that Todd Rutherford is known for. So it's funny that all of a sudden, late in the game, they bring that guy in. It's very obvious for the reason why that guy is there, and it's absurd that



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they're allowed to do that. And how many times have we seen this in cases before? They know that lawyer legislators can delay cases. And what does Russell's team want? Delay, delay delay. It's just wrong. It's just plain wrong. And again, the audacity of it all. Like, Todd had no shame walking into that courtroom. He was wearing like several pockets. Did you see his little anchor chip things?

[00:45:24] **Liz Farrell:** Of course I saw it. He looked like he was dressed for a...

[00:45:28] **Eric Bland:** He looked like a flower. I thought it was the old clown flower that, you know, the clowns used to have where they squirt you with the flower. It looked like almost a flower out of his pocket.

[00:45:36] **Liz Farrell:** I thought it looked like one of those magician, like pull out, you know, the never-ending scarf?

[00:45:42] **Eric Bland:** Well, I'll tell you, it was very strange. It was very strange to see Todd and Mark Moore, as co-counselor together. It's not a, it's not a match that you would see. It just doesn't—not to say that Todd isn't a good attorney for what he does—but it's just, Mark Moore has a certain arrogance about him. He was a former US attorney. He works for Nexsen Pruet, a big law firm, and Todd's a street lawyer. And you know, he's built his reputation as being a street lawyer. He started off with blue collar crime. And to see them two together is just not a mix that you would ever see. You would never see them eating dinner together, you wouldn't see him in a ballgame together, but here they are at a defense table together.

[00:46:20] **Mandy Matney:** And the only time that Todd ever said anything was about scheduling, which I thought was just so incredibly obvious. And I wish a judge would be like, "Is that the only reason why you're here, sir?" And then on top of that, Mark Moore, the audacity, comes in and is like, "I still am not familiar with this case, because I've been bogged down by this pesky federal case. And it's just been taking up all my time, and I just, we just all need more time," which is ridiculous.

[00:46:49] **Liz Farrell:** What do you think it was like for Russell to be sitting in that courtroom seeing Cory come out in the stripes? And I assume, was Russell sitting there during that?



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[00:46:58] **Eric Bland:** Yeah, he went to the back. Yes, he was actually sitting behind Cory in front of the railing and then they moved back. And I gotta tell you, Russell doesn't see himself as a criminal. Again, I told you that he thinks that there's some exit strategy and an off ramp for him here. He didn't sit there looking like, "Oh my god, this is me in a couple of weeks." He actually thinks that there's a way that he's going to get out of this. He doesn't see himself as being guilty. I'm telling you, he's either dopey or he's arrogant. It's one or the other.

[00:47:29] **Liz Farrell:** It reminds me of Creighton's really good line that he had when he was presenting the facts against Cory and he said, "Either you're the dumbest man alive, or you did this." So yeah, I thought that was great. And then another thing, you know, Russell and Cory will be spending time together at Jessup it looks like, so they might end up creating quite a little alliance in prison. It'd be...

[00:47:54] **Eric Bland:** Yeah. I mean, do they decide that they're gonna together come clean about everything or do they stay away from each other because Cory's gonna rat out Russell? I don't know. You know, Cory's cooperating, Russell's not cooperating. What's going to happen? Cory's cooperation isn't finished, I'm sure.

[00:48:11] **Mandy Matney:** The Cory, with Cory's case and this at the state level, if he did decide to cooperate with Creighton, like, on Monday, if he goes into—he can't go into Creighton's office, he's in prison—but if he calls, anyways, if he decides to cooperate with that and tell everything and spill all his secrets, would that definitely help his sentencing?

[00:48:37] **Eric Bland:** It could. It could. I wanted to ask you guys that question, because I don't understand it. It's never too late to cooperate. Let's put it that way. And the value of that cooperation, what you disclose, could really benefit you. Even post-sentencing it could benefit Cory in a way. But my question to you is, how is there such dichotomy, where Emily says the Cory was a model cooperant? He cooperated, he was truthful, 100% truthful. And Creighton stood up and said, "I want the court to know that he was not cooperative with us. And when he spoke, he didn't speak truthfully." So why would Cory decide on the state level where there's all those charges where it would behoove him to be cooperative and be truthful and open, why was he circumspect? And why was he deceptive, according to Creighton, but yet on the federal level, present himself totally different? Why would he do that? What's the dichotomy?



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[00:49:33] **Liz Farrell:** I think you would have to believe that he did present himself openly to the federal government, and I question whether that's actually the truth. So I'm not calling Emily a liar or anything like that, I'm just saying that I think that there's some sympathy there given P.M.P.E.D's connections to the federal government, or to the US Attorney's Office in Charleston in particular. So right off the bat, it's suspect to me. And who knows what Cory knows, I mean, that's the other thing. In what realm is he, you know, what information does he know in what realm?

So does he know about these schemes? Or does he know anything about where the money was going? That kind of thing. But one thing I want to touch on before we move on is Alex is expected to plead guilty in federal court to his 22 charges, and two of those charges are for conspiracy. One, I would assume with Corey, the other with Russell. And I remember during Russell's trial, one of his defenses was that he couldn't have committed a conspiracy, because there's no one to have committed that conspiracy with, per the federal government, because Alex had not been indicted at that point. But now does this affect, because that's the same day I believe that Russell's supposed to report to prison, is the same day that Alex is going to be standing in front of Judge Gergel and pleading guilty, does that change things at all for Russell? Like, doesn't that kind of slam shut any future argument he might have in his appeal? Or is that basically not going to matter?

[00:50:56] **Eric Bland:** I don't think it's going to matter. You can be convicted of a conspiracy with somebody who's an unindicted co-conspirator. It's just going to firm it up and eliminate any kind of arguments that he can make on appeal that he would have made to say, look, it wasn't really, there wasn't enough evidence. They couldn't come in with another person and indict that person. There wasn't enough evidence to indict that person, but you can be convicted of a conspiracy with an agreement and elicited agreement that you enter into with somebody else who is unindicted. I think for Russell's purposes, the game is up. I don't see the Fourth Circuit granting him this right to stay out on appeal. I think he's going to have to start his sentence. The problem is that the guy that's suffering the most is Cory Fleming, because he didn't hire a lawyer-legislator. He could have hired Justin Bamberg, he could have hired, you know, any number of people.

[00:51:45] **Liz Farrell:** He could have hired Justin Bamberg?



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[00:51:47] **Eric Bland:** I'm saying, I said that facetiously. He should have, you know, Merle, he could have hired Merle. Somebody to sit at the table to slow the train down, because obviously Alex was slowing the train down, Russell slowed the train down, but Alex seemed to pivot this week. Because that Thursday night, when that came out through the article by Drew Tripp—that's how I saw it, you guys probably have heard it from your sources, but I read it from Drew Tripp—that Alex is now going to plead guilty. I don't understand why he whipped salt so quickly.

[00:52:22] **Liz Farrell:** You don't? Don't you think that...

[00:52:24] **Eric Bland:** Well, I do now.

[00:52:25] **Liz Farrell:** Don't you think it has something to do with the appeal, and like, if he gets off on the murder, then he just gets so...

[00:52:29] **Eric Bland:** Oh, yeah, I know. But I don't think they're gonna hear that. I don't think they're gonna hear that. I think what Dick and Jim have decided is let Judge Gergel load him up with 60 years of federal time. Start to serve it now, and then if that, well, start to serve it when the state court trial gets reversed, he'll go right to federal court, and then he's only going to be serving federal time. They can retry him on the state time, but Judge Gergel just gave him 60 years or 50 years, and he's going to serve all this time in federal prison.

[00:52:59] **Liz Farrell:** So can he go to federal court now or federal prison now?

[00:53:02] **Eric Bland:** No, no.

[00:53:03] **Mandy Matney:** But hold on. Everyone keeps saying that he's going to do this as a fact. And everything that this man and his team of monsters have done so far is completely unpredictable, and they are tricksters, that's one thing that they've been consistent about. Like everything that they do has like seven different things that go along with it and they constantly change up, and they constantly change their minds. And Jim Griffin has been saying that Alex, he said that Alex was going to plead guilty, like in May, and we're now almost to September and they just now have officially put it on the record. But I talked to a criminal defense attorney today, and he told me that they can change up until the very last minute if they want to. It will piss off the judge, but they can still do it. And Alex has nothing to lose right now. And I



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just, I will not believe that he pleads guilty until he absolutely does it. Or like with the Satterfield case, he did the confession of judgment and then they tried to take it back. Like nothing is ever solid with these guys.

[00:54:11] **Eric Bland:** Dick Harpootlian won't do that. Won't do that to Judge Gergel. They're best friends and Dick got Judge on the federal bench. There's no way.

[00:54:19] **Liz Farrell:** They're best friends?

[00:54:21] **Eric Bland:** Oh, yeah. They're very close, extremely close. Extremely close.

[00:54:26] **Liz Farrell:** Why are you just telling us this now? Holy cow.

[00:54:29] **Mandy Matney:** And this is a problem. That's a problem. That's a big problem.

[00:54:35] **Eric Bland:** I'm not saying that Judge Gergel's doing anything wrong. I'm telling you that Dick Harpootlian would not do that the Judge Gergel, to make him hold a hearing, to walk into court and blindside him like that. They handled the video poker cases together in the 90s, and Dick Harpootlian was instrumental in getting Obama to appoint Judge Gergel to the federal bench. It was Dick. Dick and Dick and Dick. So I'm just telling you, Dick would not do that to Judge Gergel.

[00:55:00] **Liz Farrell:** So now are you more clear on why Judge Gergel might have shut you down when you're talking so much about Dick's client's best friend?

[00:55:08] **Eric Bland:** I don't know whether I can make that connection.

[00:55:10] **Liz Farrell:** Dick hates you, Eric. Dick hates you.

[00:55:13] **Eric Bland:** Yeah, he does. At this point, I'm not sure whether Judge Gergel even likes me, but um, yeah. Dick won't do that to Judge Gergel. He would tell him way before that hearing we're going to reverse ourselves and cancel the hearing. He would not do it that day. Dick would not do that, no.

[00:55:29] **Mandy Matney:** But anyway, I mean, he could do it in any, my point of all of this is, I've saw like a dozen headlines just saying, "Alex Murdaugh to plead guilty,"



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and it is not a fact. Everything could always change. They at least should say a court, like the schedule says that, but anything could happen. And just that's one thing that is...

[00:55:49] **Eric Bland:** Plead guilty to what, Mandy?

[00:55:51] **Mandy Matney:** Federal charges.

[00:55:52] **Eric Bland:** Right. Is it all of them? Is it one of them?

[00:55:54] **Mandy Matney:** Which charges? Exactly, right. We have to fully anticipate shenanigans and we have to fully anticipate that this is a strategy. They don't just wake up, these guys just don't wake up one day, and say, "I'm gonna come clean," which is what the headlines look like. Like for the first time, Alex Murdaugh is coming clean on his crimes. It's like, no, that's not what this is. This is some scheme that we're going to figure out.

[00:56:20] **Liz Farrell:** I just want to say one thing, though. And just, I know that you blew my mind with the Gergel-Dick friendship. And you said that they became friends in the 90s, which speaking of that, can we talk about his dick pic? Can we talk about the 1990s?

[00:56:35] **Eric Bland:** Long before that. No, they practiced it. Oh, God.

[00:56:38] **Liz Farrell:** I just really quickly want to say, I mean, he got, Dick Harpootlian, people's best humor comes out. Like he evokes just such like, it's not even anger in people, it's just like the funniest funny bone of all time, like people just say the funniest things about him. But he posted this, or the Crime Con, he's gonna be at Crime Con, and they posted a photo of him using this photo back from when he and Judge Gergel were forging their friendship. So people started posting their photos from the 90s. I think Mandy did, and then that turned into people posting their baby photos. But even Justin Bamberg. You did too. Mark Tinsley did too.

[00:57:14] **Mandy Matney:** It was a whole thing. Yeah, agreed. It was just, that was one really great part of this thing.



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[00:57:19] **Eric Bland:** Who did the side by side? Somebody posted a side by side to Dick when his eyes were closing at the trial, and then the one from the Crime Con, and it was a different look.

[00:57:29] **Mandy Matney:**

Yeah, oh yeah. It was the Wish version of just like a cheap online thing, and then what you actually got. And again, I think it just speaks to the audacity of Dick, to say it again. I think he thinks that he could like send in a picture and people will be like, "Oh, sure. You look exactly like that." We didn't see you on television for six weeks looking not like that. Like, dude. And it was, it was funny that everybody was showing

their baby pictures, because that's how absurd it was. It was like, I put my picture for 1993 because that's how we, like, I look very, very different than I looked in 1993. I was a baby. That was Dick when he was like a young-ish lawyer. It was just absurd. I just appreciated everyone's humor on that all around. It was just, it made my week so much better.

[00:58:21] **Eric Bland:** How old were you in 1993, Mandy? Were you three or four?

[00:58:26] **Mandy Matney:** Three years old. I was born in 90.

[00:58:28] **Eric Bland:** You would look differently. You would look different.

[00:58:31] **Mandy Matney:** I was a tiny person. But it's, it's just ridiculous. But I also appreciated the fact that like, a few years ago, it would have been like, (gasp) in South Carolina for anybody to make fun of Dick Harpootlian on the internet. Am I right, guys? Like, he was just like untouchable. Everybody was like, "Oh, I'm so scared of him." But it was, it's just funny to see people from like Scotland making fun of Dick Harpootlian.

[00:58:59] **Liz Farrell:** Or they loved him. People love Dick Harpootlian. Are you kidding me? They thought that he was the funniest man. Yeah, he was funny. He said, he was always a good headline. Yeah.

[00:59:12] **Mandy Matney:** Now they all just make fun of them. That's well deserved. And on that note, I think we covered it all guys.



EPISODE 44: Things Are (Finally) Getting Scary for Alex Murdaugh's Co-Conspirators

[00:59:20] **Eric Bland:** It's sad that that's how his career is ending. I will say that. It's just sad.

[00:59:23] **Liz Farrell:** He made that choice. But we will be seeing him on the 21st at the federal courthouse when Alex pleads guilty, so.

[00:59:32] **Eric Bland:** But that's not the sentence. Remember that. There won't be the sentence.

[00:59:36] **Liz Farrell:** Yeah. Did I say sentencing hearing? I just said hearing.

[00:59:38] **Eric Bland:** No, no, you're right, though. I just wanted to make it clear. We'll see whether Emily Limehouse does the Creighton show. Will she go through each one of those things for all those crimes charged or will she just brush over? That'll be interesting.

[00:59:51] **Liz Farrell:** All right. Well, cups down guys.

[00:59:53] **Eric Bland:** Cups down.

[00:59:53] **Mandy Matney:** Great job everybody.

[00:59:55] **Eric Bland:** Thank you.

[01:00:08] **Mandy Matney:** This *Cup of Justice* episode is created and hosted by me, Mandy Matney, with co-host Liz Farrell, our executive editor, and Eric Bland, Attorney at Law, aka "the jackhammer of justice." From LUNASHARK Productions.