



## EPISODE 32: Cory Flemming Admits to Satterfield Heist, But What Does That Mean?

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### **Mandy Matney** 00:06

Hello and Happy Tuesday. It's been another week full of twists and turns in the Alex Murdaugh story with each new development in the case, we're getting to see the inner workings of the justice system and how it just simply works better for certain people. I'm excited to share this week's cup of justice with you because for the first time, in this case, we have a plea deal. But as usual, not everything is as it appears, meaning this looks like a good thing. But it's not always clear who the real winner is here. Is it justice, or is this the good ol boys, Liz Eric and I talk about former attorney Cory Fleming, Alex's longtime best friend, and what the seemingly sweet deal that he is struck with the federal government actually means we also talk about something incredibly important, a huge lesson that everyone can take from all of these cases, but also something we think is a major concern for former clients of P MPD. In particular, and it's how to know if you've been taken advantage of by your attorney. We're asking people specifically those who've had cases with PMPED and other related law firms to request copies of their files and to check their disbursement sheets and expense sheets to see if there's anything questionable on there. Why? Because we don't know that we can trust Alex Murdaugh's former partners, the Bar Association, or even law enforcement to do it. Sometimes you have to take matters into your own hands and at Luna Shark. That is what we're all about. Let's get into it.

### **Liz Farrell** 01:59

Cups up guys. Cups up, Eric. Thank you for bringing your actual cups up mug from our podcast that it looks really good. I'm happy to see it.

### **Eric Bland** 02:09

I got it all set up behind me in my office so I can grab it at any time.

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**Liz Farrell** 02:13

Do you have anything in it?

**Eric Bland** 02:16

No, I actually have my course. That drives you crazy with my initials.

**Liz Farrell** 02:22

Swanee cups up Mandy, what do you drink in?

**Mandy Matney** 02:25

Waterloo, sparkling water. Very good, delicious lemon lime.

**Eric Bland** 02:29

So you don't have your Yeti. You usually have your Yeti. Yeah,

**Mandy Matney** 02:32

My Yeti is downstairs. I don't put anything besides water and my Yeti because then it gets gross and weird and sticky. So it's strictly water. And so I was drinking sparkling water.

**Eric Bland** 02:43

How long have you had your green Yeti?

**Mandy Matney** 02:44

The green? A few years? Yeah, yeah.

**Eric Bland** 02:48

I love that. So if you misplace it, you get a little antsy, right?



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**Liz Farrell** 02:51

Oh, yeah, she sounds misplacing that.

**Mandy Matney** 02:53

I get I frail. Yes. I have to bring it everywhere.

**Liz Farrell** 03:00

Well, okay, that said, I just also, you know, now that we're talking about emotional support stuff. I wonder what Alex is doing today for his birthday? What kind of emotional support he's getting for his special day.

**Eric Bland** 03:15

You're giving him an extra helping of grits.

**Liz Farrell** 03:19

Really? Is that what happens?

**Eric Bland** 03:21

He says it's my birthday birthday. Is that right? slap it on the strike?

**Liz Farrell** 03:25

I really don't know.

**Eric Bland** 03:27

I don't think they give birthday cake. I don't believe so. But maybe.



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**Mandy Matney** 03:31

They talked about this on one of the jailhouse phone calls. Remember? Oh, right. Yeah, there was like, Are you gonna get a cake and Alex said something like not in jail. I don't remember exactly.

**Liz Farrell** 03:47

It's not like your college dorm where they can like deliver a cake to you. Right?

**Eric Bland** 03:52

Like, imagine as somebody showing up at the jail gate knocking on the gate and the correction officer doesn't like, yeah, so is this. This is Baskin Robbins. We have a cake for me number 351254. What?

**Mandy Matney** 04:06

And they'd have to like destroy it because they would have to like I'm sure people have snuck in drugs that way. I'm sure that's happened many times. It's just our birthday. Here's a cake full of drugs.

**Eric Bland** 04:20

Can you guys boy his prison calls do you got is that? Is that something we can boy I've tried. I wonder if he's talking?

**Mandy Matney** 04:28

Yeah, not getting anything? Sure. Course. Somebody is helping him. Do some attorney client privilege phone calls I believe or he's just not talking to anyone.

**Liz Farrell** 04:40

Yeah.



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**Mandy Matney** 04:40

Which could?

**Eric Bland** 04:44

Could Alex not talk? Not likely.

**Mandy Matney** 04:46

Go right in it. It brought me a lot of comfort. The other day when I saw online somebody said the worst thing that you can do with a narcissist is to put them in solitary and put them in a situation that Alex isn't because he's he has no ability to manipulate and lie and scheme other people which is like what a Narcissus wakes up for every day. And so if it's if a narcissist wakes up and it's just me, myself and I they freak out. So that's a nice little picture. Yeah.

**Liz Farrell** 05:18

But what? Is he in solitary or is he just in protective custody just like like the sobriety dorm at your college like is it just another little section? No protective.

**Eric Bland** 05:29

Custody is 23 hours a day and then you have one hour of exercise in the cage.

**Liz Farrell** 05:34

So he's alone for 23 hours a day.

**Eric Bland** 05:36

That's why Jim said he wants to go to Gen pop as soon as possible.



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**Mandy Matney** 05:41

Yeah. Well and maybe get killed. Maybe according to their motion.

**Liz Farrell** 05:46

It depends on which day it is what what kind of point they're trying to make. Sometimes they say he's his life is at risk. Other times they're saying he wants to be in there to help people so they can't keep it straight. Speaking of people who can't keep things straight. I was thinking about this because we had our first federal charges for Cory Fleming, who is Alex's best friend, and for Alex as well, and the glorious Satterfield case.

**Mandy Matney** 06:12

So well, you know, when it was funny, because first of all, we were trying to rebrand our other show, and move away from Murdaugh.

**Eric Bland** 06:22

And it is back in again, like Al Pacino and Godfather three, they pulled me back in again.

**Mandy Matney** 06:27

It's like an octopus that keeps it keeps having more legs that is grabbing us. So it's like an expanding octopus at all times. And at again, there's some times when we're like, do we ignore it and maybe use that later. We have good stuff here. But we went back and forth. But this federal case is so important to everything. And it's so essential, and it is something we've been waiting for for such a long time. So woke up Wednesday morning at a scratch off plans like we normally do, and found out not only Cory Fleming was charged and Alex Murdaugh was charged but Cory's gonna plead and that's another big deal situation.



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And this because that's really the first time kind of that anybody's accepted accountability. It's the first time right I mean, it's

**Eric Bland** 07:18

It is the first play. It is the first play and Mandy and Liz just so you know, Alex was charged with more than just Satterfield, it was the Plyler sisters and picked in right, it was mentioned in the introduction. So Cory is confined only to the sadder fields, but Alex is a little broader.

**Liz Farrell** 07:36

So Eric, was that surprising to you that Cory decided he's going to plead guilty? Yes.

**Eric Bland** 07:42

He's got a very good lawyer. We've talked about Debbie Barbier, how she plays chess when a lot of other people are playing checkers. And you didn't hear from her since really the bond hearing when he was in, you know, they had a random on the state court charges. She was obviously working the channels. It did surprise me. I thought that there would be more of a fight from Cory because when we sued him civilly, you know, everybody said he's a victim. And it drove me crazy to put him in the same category as victims of Alex and other people and that, you know, he was duped by Alex and Alex seems to have confirmed that in his bond hearing in front of Judge Lee when he apologized to Cory. And you know, he was constantly in court and didn't know what was going on. So I thought that Cory was going to come in and be that, you know, Gomer Pile dumb lawyer who said I didn't see it coming. And I never believe that, and we never believe that. But for him to make a guilty plea, it speaks on a number of levels. One will be disbarred immediately because it's a felony to needs he's going to talk and it's not



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just talking about the Satterfield case, it's not going to be just the Satterfield case, I honestly believe that Cory is going to be talking about his lifelong relationship with Alex's legal relationship and other cases they've been involved in. And I think that is important. And it shows that if you go to the Feds and you can cooperate, you possibly can do your time in a federal prison, as opposed to a state prison. And the interesting thing also that happened is that it seemed to show tension between the state and the federal level because Creighton Waters was kind of upset when he was questioned about it like no, we're not going to step aside and give Cory a free pass on all these charges, just so he could plead guilty to one count and do his time in federal prison. But I think the federal government will prevail on that. I think Cory is going to end up just doing his time in federal prison. And most interesting thing to me and now I'll stop talking is what Dick said that Alex is cooperating with federal authorities and state authorities that goes beyond him saying I'm just going to plead guilty because Dick said at the end, I don't believe there'll be a trial for these charges, cooperating in is different meaning he's talking. So is he talking now is your what is your?

**Liz Farrell** 10:06

That's like Bin Laden being like, yeah, you guys, I want to cooperate now like, it's too late. Sorry. And also we have nothing to say that we care about because you are literally the worst person in the world. No, I

**Eric Bland** 10:18

disagree. What if? What if he can offer up information that can be confirmed? And obviously his words are not good. But what if he offers up the information with documents on judges or other lawyers? Or what is he turning against his firm? Because he got really pissed off about Ronnie Crosby and Mark ball. What if? What if he sitting in that





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six by six still with a narcissistic personality can't talk to anybody can't manipulate and says, You know what? Screw this. What if he is talking about his firm? Or judges or other lawyers? Is that a possibility?

**Liz Farrell** 10:53

Yes, but who believes like, the unfortunate part of it is who's going to believe anything he says?

**Mandy Matney** 10:57

And I mean, that just started to make me think like, okay, so if what's been happening with Alex for the last couple of weeks, the recent thing with the sadder fields that happened a couple of weeks ago, is that what this is? What is this all just Alex sitting in NSL? being like, I can't manipulate anybody else in prison. So what can I do with Dick and Jim and really mess things up on the outside? Like the Joker? Joker?

**Eric Bland** 11:31

Do I remember this correctly that somebody said, Cory was coop? Oh, was it courier? No, it was Ross Ross was cooperating from his lawyers. And then the federal government came right out immediately and said, No, we're getting no cooperation at him. That's why we charged them. Wasn't that what the case was?

**Liz Farrell** 11:52

So Dick, saying he's cooperating, the State maintained that he lied, the federal government...

**Eric Bland** 11:54

Didn't come out or the state and say no, he's not cooperating. That's what's got me thinking maybe he's talking.



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**Liz Farrell** 12:00

That's a good point, Eric. Yeah.

**Mandy Matney** 12:03

But I want to say that that was one of that was a situation where How did it come out that the federal

**Liz Farrell** 12:09

Government they so I think they said so it started with the state that state

**Mandy Matney** 12:14

Creighton said it in a volunteering. He said he wasn't cooperating? Right. So we haven't really had the opportunity for that to be said about Alex.

**Liz Farrell** 12:23

No. And like, I think the other thing with Russell is in the lead up to his trial, there were several filings back and forth between the defense attorneys and the federal government. And that's where they had the opportunity to be like, No, he wasn't cooperating. In fact, he lied. So I think that's where that came from. But with Alex, I have a feeling we're going to hear that he is not cooperating. But like you said, I mean, even that, I mean, I get excited thinking about him talking about judges and other lawyers. Because I think that needs to happen, especially this indictment was the first time we were seeing it laid out kind of more explicitly, the fee inflation and the expense, the the fraudulent expenses that he that we all knew was going on this the first time that we're seeing those fraudulent expenses and those inflated fees, and which he's apparently been doing since 2005. By the way, that was the other



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new thing, even though again, we knew that this his alleged crimes go back even farther than when we are hearing you guys.

**Eric Bland** 13:26

You guys said that it was before 2010, you guys are kept saying that. Everybody thought it started in 2010. You guys said now it's started before? Yeah.

**Liz Farrell** 13:37

So this is the first time we're seeing that stuff. And that I think is pretty big. Because then it leads us to the question that I think we're never going to stop asking until there's an answer, which is what happens to PMP D and the former partners of that who are now part of the Parker Law Group, because how do you commit nearly 20 years of inflating fees, having fraudulent expenses, and no one in the firm knows that that's I mean, and beyond that, these guys, like we constantly say, had a duty of care or duty, a fiduciary duty as well.

**Eric Bland** 14:09

But do share a duty to be informed into due diligence. Right.

**Liz Farrell** 14:13

So when they had their forensic accounting done after this all started to come to light, surely they saw these expenses, right? Surely a saw in these files, that things were not right. And then that should lead them to what error like Shouldn't they be going through all their files because they're consistently seeing that Elek was in planning expenses, putting fraudulent expenses and flooding fees? That seems to me to open up all these clients you know, like that, and I don't know that PMP D did that. I don't know if they just tried to contain the fire where it was or if they



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went looking for other fires and I think you know, we can guess that the answer for that probably

### **Eric Bland** 14:56

Well, for me it you know, I faced a lot of backlash for Um, the lawyers that were representing Korean friends of his that, you know, he's such a good guy. I mean, he's so good. He's nice, his wife, you know, she's a public defender, or something like that. And he got duped by Alex. And you know, Thomas Pendarvis wrote a 57 page response to the Georgia Bar saying that he shouldn't lose his license, he shouldn't be suspended. He did everything right. And now he's pleading guilty to something that we said from day one. One, he lied on both petitions on December 19 2018, about expenses being 11,500 hours, then again on May 13, night 2019 in front of Judge Molland. Again, saying expenses for the SATA fields were \$105,000. And then he admitted to stealing \$26,000 at checks from his law partners. So how could somebody be so good? How could somebody be such a victim? And that was the facts that everybody had from day one.

### **Liz Farrell** 16:01

That's what's stunning to me, called gaslighting her. That's, that's the thing is like, we're constantly told by these guys, like what you're seeing is not reality. And then when they're up against the wall, and Cory was, that's, uh, that's when they come forward. That's where so when I was talking earlier about things not necessarily lining up here and in people needing to get their story straight. It doesn't sit well with me that when you look at Cory's explanation for things, which is essentially that, like, Yes, I knew that Alex was going to be stealing the money. I did not know that he was still all of it. I only expected him to steal \$100,000. But when you look at the math and Judge Gergel federal, the federal judge that



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oversaw the Russell a feat trial as well, he even pointed out like I don't understand. So you set aside. So you say you receive \$1.4 million in fees, but you only took 672,000 or whatever it was of that, but then Alex was going to get \$100,000 But there's no area where there's just this like \$100,000 check to Alex so how is Cory getting away with being able to say that this is what it was? And why would He limited to \$100,000? Is that because it could affect the state charges?

### **Eric Bland** 17:12

He's not I don't know why he did it. Ronnie argued at the bond hearing before Cory pled guilty. But Judge Gergel from what Ronnie told me, did not buy what Cory was telling him. He was saying to him, wait a minute here, you gave up 700, some \$1,000 Your legal fee that's sharing a fee with the defendant in the case, and that he did not have any compassion for him stealing from his partners, and then misrepresenting the cost expenses to the court. And Ronnie seem to believe that he's not going to get a light sentence, you know, it's up to five years. Ronnie said it wouldn't surprise me if Judge gurgle gave him you know, four years to five years. What are your thoughts? Do you think he's going to have state charges? Or he's going to just this is it for Cory, and he's going to federal prison. Are you do you think that there is a deal that Craig is going to dismiss the state court indictments? Why would Debbie Barbier area agree for him to plead guilty in federal court.

### **Mandy Matney** 18:18

I think his back was against the wall. And I was thinking about this the other day because something has happened since we saw Deborah Vrba and Cory in court a few weeks ago, maybe that was a month for the scheduling hearing. Because obviously, if you plan on pleading guilty, then they wouldn't have scheduled trial, right. Like in the state



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court. And I know state courts and federal courts are different. But I think that I think in the last few weeks, Cory has come to terms with the fact that he cannot get out of all of this. And he's got to do something. And for my understanding of it, what he said in court yesterday, I was talking to a couple of lawyers yesterday, and they were saying with the federal system, it's points for the sentencing, right, like, you get a point for blah, blah, blah. But what he said in court, which was like barely admitting to knowing what he did was wrong and barely admitting but not fully saying like, I knew he was going to steal all of it. He did the bare minimum to get his point off to get or to get a point, whatever to get time off. And that was a strategy. So I just don't I don't know. I think that Cory is going to have to spend time in prison. And I also cannot see I feel like the state people are really fired up. And they want to keep this case. And they want to show the world that they're good and that they are prosecuting these people so I can unless Cory has some fabulous information that can offer up a whole lot of other people and make better cases for them. I don't see the state dropping them.

### **Eric Bland** 20:01

What about if Corys, let's say had 12 cases with Alex over the years, let's say that you know, and there's multi car racks and when they bring in their friends to represent all the different plaintiffs. What if some Hanky Panky happened in other cases beyond besides Satterfield, he think the federal government or the state has wind of that and he's gonna have to cop to that. What are your thoughts?

### **Liz Farrell** 20:24

You mean Cory will have to cop to it, or Alex?



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**Eric Bland** 20:27

Yeah, to come clean and say this is what happened in the Jones case or the Francis case.

**Liz Farrell** 20:33

I think it's going to be bigger than that. So one, I think that we noticed this morning, obviously, that this is just about the fact that Satterfield is for quarry right in federal court, but he also has the Pinckney family. So those five charges, when we look at the state charges, there's 23 total charges. 18 of them are for what he did with the Satterfields. And five of them are allegedly, you know, for what he allegedly did with the Pinckney case, the federal government chose obviously only to prosecute the Satterfield case, which makes us wonder if they're holding on to the Pinkney case as to let Cory know that we're serious like the way I look at it as is that Cory has good information about what Alex was up to. But specifically now that we know that we were told, you know, there's nothing going on here. Oh, wait, yeah, I actually did know what about with Connor Cook like what what was the extent of that degree? You know, like, what can Cory shed light on when it comes to the boat crash case?

**Eric Bland** 21:33

Can you explain why that's important who he was to Connor Cook before Joe McColloch?

**Liz Farrell** 21:39

Yeah, so Alex set Connor Cook who was the passenger, one of the passengers during the boat crash and it looked like not just look like the Alex. The Murdaugh family was going to set Connor up as the driver Alex literally told Connors family that Connor was driving. Hold the



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family will take care of you set them up with Cory they had no idea that Cory was so close to Alex, that he was his best friend and former roommate in law school. He's the Godfather buster. Yeah, so he didn't know the Koch family didn't know any of this. That seems to be a pattern as we've laid out obviously, with the Satterfield family, but also in the Stephen Smith case. One of the key figures in the like alleged who might have done this story that came forward in December 2015 Patrick Wilson was represented by Cory Fleming as well so could we be getting information in that as well? I mean, sort of stunning when you think about it, right guys that like, all this time, we keep hearing like No, no, Korea was duped Chris Wilson was duped. Everyone was duped, like, except us. But then to find out like have him openly admit in federal court that he was aware of that he was going to steal that that they were stealing part of the money. And I guess what he says that Alex told him was that on keeping Summit, I'm gonna get something out of this too. That's what Alex said, I'm gonna, I'm gonna get something out of this too.

### **Eric Bland** 23:16

But hell from what does that mean? Did he understand the fake forge account? Now? Does that mean that Cory understands the fake Forge? So where's the money?

### **Liz Farrell** 23:24

The federal government put it in writing in the indictment that Cory knew nothing about the Forge account? So they obviously believe I'm on that point, or are throwing him a bone. Right. But they've already said and I don't know how standard This isn't an indictment or sorry, and plea agreements. But they've already said that, if anything comes to light about Cory, and he keeps up his end of the bargain, that





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anything that implicates him further in the future, as it relates to this case, the Murdaugh case will not add to his charges or his time, right? What is that called? And it's an inclusion.

**Eric Bland** 24:02

I thought you have to be totally forthright and they find out something later that you didn't tell him you did the please all right, because he's going to have to go under the hot box he's going to have to go lie detector under the hot box. Right?

**Liz Farrell** 24:17

I should wear that differently than basically what he's saying is that if he in the information that he gives them if he further implicates himself in other crimes I don't think it's going to result in him getting future chargers so correct I don't know if that standard Do you know Eric if that's a standard thing that's put in a playground.

**Eric Bland** 24:36

Standard did he's got to come clean if you're going to step into the water.

**Liz Farrell** 24:41

Right the come clean part but the could he face others like they're all going to include under one thing?

**Eric Bland** 24:47

No, he gets to he gets an immunity from as long as what he's telling them is true. However, if they find out through other sources, not from him, but other sources that he was involved in other crimes that he



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didn't come clean about, then that he's not immunized and the plea agreement won't save.

### **Mandy Matney** 25:07

So wait, I want to go back really quick. Because I was just thinking about this. Cory said that he believed that Alex was only going to take \$100,000 of the whole settlement. Right. But how did he think that he was going to get that money?

### **Liz Farrell** 25:23

That's what Judge Gergel asked him because he was like, right, from what I don't see. Like the math wasn't adding up in the sense of like, there's no singular check right to Alex that says 100 to \$100,000. There's nothing. So basically, what Cory was saying to Google, his answer was, I kept back this amount of money in an account. And I don't know if he said that Alex was never gonna, like, hadn't gotten around to taking the money. But he did admit that he and Ella had planned to use the money that he had held back for personal use, and he admitted to stealing that.

### **Eric Bland** 25:55

Is the \$113,000 that he got from Cory. In October of 2021. There was still \$113,000 left in his escrow account, remember, on October 6 of 2020, he distributed \$118,000 in a check to forge and that same day, they dismissed the litigation. But from that day forward from October 6 2020, all the way up to October of 21. Cory kept \$113,000 in a law firm escrow account, so he must have been saying, I was going to give Alex 100 of that, and then I would take 13. Remember, he stole 26,000 from his law partners. So that may be where the 100 came from, because



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every other check, either went to forge or went to Cory, or went to other third parties.

**Liz Farrell** 26:52

Who do we think? And I don't know if we can say like, I'm just gonna say my opinion, I personally don't believe that the story that Cory is telling the federal government right now is the full story. I just personally don't believe that. I have nothing to agree.

**Eric Bland** 27:06

Raise your hand if you agree.

**Liz Farrell** 27:09

I just I don't believe it. And I wonder, is there an incentive? Is it just that it's convenient that there happened to be 108 and 13 that they held back? So he's saying that was meant for Alex or is it that he can't go so far as to admit everything because of the state charges are still pending?

**Eric Bland** 27:27

Right? Because look at the Forge account, he sent these checks in an envelope to a P.O. box in Hampton, South Carolina. Without a cover letter to Dear Jerry at Forge consulting, here is a check for X dollars. Some has to go to Brian some has to go to Tony here the account numbers. He just dropped a check that didn't have on the memo line Satterfield. So if you're the real Forge, and you get this check, what are you supposed to do with it? Who do you allocate it to? You understand, there was no cover letter with it? Nothing.



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**Liz Farrell** 28:04

Right. And you didn't have their birth dates? Nothing, right?

**Eric Bland** 28:07

2.9 million \$403,500 and 2.9 and \$2.9 million.

**Mandy Matney** 28:15

And it's not like an it's not like a \$5 Check. This is like he just loosey goosey. Yeah, he was like, Oh, who do I write it to? Without even could you imagine sending a multimillion dollar cheque to somebody in the mail and not be without a cover letter right without any sort of this should go here and I would be like super nervous about it because that's a millions of dollars that you're sending.

**Eric Bland** 28:45

When you send your check to your landlord Liz at your apartment you live at don't you write in the memo line, April Reno,

**Liz Farrell** 28:52

I'm a very young woman and I'd pay it over online. So I don't.

**Mandy Matney** 28:56

I used to do that. I used to do that back in the day.

**Eric Bland** 28:59

Who sends a million dollars without putting on the memo line. This is for Matney or this is for fair, or this is for Bland.



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**Liz Farrell** 29:06

Right or normally well, even without the memo line, like you have to have their birth dates and social security numbers attached to that and

**Eric Bland** 29:14

A final number and insurance policy number. Remember, this is the second installment, the first installment for the structure was 403,500 hours. Five months later, he writes 2.9 million. You're supposed to have all the insurance policy numbers at that point to say deposit half into Tony's account deposit half in the Bryant's

**Liz Farrell** 29:33

So why is the federal government allowing him then I

**Eric Bland** 29:36

Don't I will ask Emily that I will be asking Emily Limehouse that

**Liz Farrell** 29:41

Good because I don't I don't know if it Gergel is even picking it up.

**Eric Bland** 29:46

I'm gonna argue his sentencing by the way and I will be standing up saying it doesn't make sense to me that this has always been admitting to right.

**Mandy Matney** 29:52

Right it's all just kind of hit me like if the federal government is really say he didn't know nothing about Forge and as we're talking this out, and it's just like there is no way he is partially, he's not telling the truth is not coming clean. This is a partial. He's admitting the partial truth because



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he is trying to save himself. So, but that, that worries me if they are believing that, because you could just talk that out for a few minutes.

**Eric Bland** 30:26

Were they letting him do that?

**Mandy Matney** 30:28

Why are they letting him do that?

**Eric Bland** 30:30

Because they may he may have given them gold and my fingers are being crossed.

**Liz Farrell** 30:33

But toe right, please.

**Mandy Matney** 30:37

I would love that. I would love the gold to come in. Lord knows we've all been waiting for one of these guys to be like, Fine. Here it is. But I just worry that like, since he's not giving the gold on this. His gold might be bad.

**Eric Bland** 30:55

I don't know. I trust Emily Limehouse. I saw her and you guys saw her in action. She doesn't seem like somebody that would let this skate if he wasn't given her really good information. She's not stupid. She knows she she knows about that forge how much bullshit you're not even a lawyer and you just tore to shreds Manny Mandy, so everybody knows who understands this, that it's impossible that he didn't know about porch. Impossible, right.



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### **Mandy Matney** 31:23

And also, like, on top of that, it's not like this was a this was Cory's everyday case. It's a case that Cory knew it was they were suing his best friend's family. For his best friend's housekeeper's mysterious death, like Cory knew all of that he knew he was in a weird situation to begin with. And that's what I keep going back to when I think about like, I think a lot of people are sympathizing with Cory.

### **Eric Bland** 31:53

I'm not.

### **Mandy Matney** 31:54

I know that the three of us are not, but I think there are people out there who are. And because he's been able to kind of maintain this quiet. In the last year, he's done a little bit of rebranding as he has just just staying quiet and keeping his mouth shut. I would attribute that to his lawyer too smart. I think he's listening to its lawyer. And I think he's the first one out of these guys who is actually listening to somebody we didn't see Cory TV. Right? So I think that, but we will also not be fooled because Cory in 2019, and I can't live by him saying I knew it was wrong. I knew that he was going to steal from them. Cory is saying that as a lawyer, he introduced himself to the sadder fields as in acted like he was on their team and a time when they were suffering from the loss of their mother and the worst time of their entire life. And he went in there and betrayed them. And he knew that he was doing that. And he knew what he was doing was wrong. It's even

### **Eric Bland** 33:00

Worse than that, Mandy because he went before a judge. It's one thing if Alex and may in my house decide, okay, I'm gonna give you a piece of



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this. And this is how we'll do it. But Cory went before a judge and submitted two documents to judge Moen, where he knew 11,500 hours of expenses. And \$105,000 expenses were complete, utter bullshit, okay, because he only sent two letters, there's two stamps, there's no filing fees, there's no deposition transcripts. There was no travel costs. There's no expert witnesses. There's nothing. And he went before a judge. That's how I want Gurgel to really drill down on that to say, you went before a judge and you put this before a judge and put that judge's credibility on the line. And you had to prepare that she and argue to the judge that there were these expenses that's different than the \$100,000 then you provided for Alex and oh, by the way, you stole \$26,000 from your law partners, eight, three checks by saying that they were expenses, what expenses were there? That's how you get him.

**Liz Farrell** 34:14

Do we know if Moss & Kuhn ever did a forensic accounting? Like why are we not seeing that being forced upon PMPED and Moss & Kuhn just given the loosey goosey nature of both elegant quarry? I don't want to know. Right. But why isn't the government why why or is FBI not combing through there? Or the bar? Right? The bar? Hmm.

**Eric Bland** 34:39

The bar, the bar. So the point is Mandy and Liz, it's not just 100 He's coming clean on. It's the expenses. It's stealing from your partners. The he knows more. Come on man.

**Mandy Matney** 34:53

Right. Right. And I mean, yeah, as just as we're thinking about this Sunday Of all the steps that Cory had to take and like you said this a long time ago, Eric, it's a heist like that was a heist what happened? It





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was a multimillion dollar heist. It was the it was very similar to a bunch of guys like having an undercover operation and breaking into like a Brinks truck. Yeah. Or a jewelry store or like that it is a that was a hustle and a high.

**Liz Farrell** 35:27

Absolutely.

**Mandy Matney** 35:29

Actually not a hustle. They didn't even try.

**Eric Bland** 35:30

And they did it with a pen. Just like some people do it with a gun. They do it with leave some people do it with a gun, they get 30 years, they did it with a pen. No less devastating, no less personally impactful. That's why this is this is not right. It's two cups of justice that I'm seeing with Cory.

**Mandy Matney** 35:51

And Eric, why don't you say that? With Cory? And him just being like, Yeah, I knew that he was gonna steal some. That's a huge deal for a lawyer, right. Like, as an attorney, he is admitting to former attorney as a former attorney, but like he was admitting to using his power as an attorney to help his friend collaborate to steal. And isn't that like just a shot across the bow to attorneys and just it's disgrace.

**Eric Bland** 36:23

It just, again, pollutes our profession, broad brush paints, makes everybody say, you see all lawyers are like, I get grouped into that kind of behavior. We can never outrun it. All right,



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**Liz Farrell** 36:38

Well, that's why they need to do something. That's why the bar needs to do something. And from what we understand and be tougher the bar is, or I should say, members of the bar. And maybe that's something to look out for when you have that many members of the bar and support a quarry, but that they're supporting them, and that they don't know what grounds are supporting. Like, I totally believe that a nice guy can do bad things, you have to decide as a human being whether that is somebody that you're going to give the benefit of the doubt to or yes or support in the future.

**Eric Bland** 37:10

I guess he just tripped over and just dropped the check in an envelope without a cover letter and went to a P.O. box, I guess he tripped into a pay can and wrote on these disbursement sheets that they're going to be these hundreds of \$1,000 of expenses. I guess he just tripped and stole money personally and no, I mean, how many different times is he going to trip before you say wasn't

**Mandy Matney** 37:30

The one who asked Marlon to take Alex's name off of the lawsuit?  
Correct.

**Eric Bland** 37:37

And we're not going to file it according to Chad Western doors deposition that I took. I heard Cory Fleming tell the judge you know you're going to sign this but we're going to hold it for a little while and not file it. What?



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**Mandy Matney** 37:51

What Yeah, another trip?

**Eric Bland** 37:54

That's what a trip right another one another trip and

**Mandy Matney** 37:58

Yeah, and I mean, I I don't think I think he might be redeemable I think but I think that he needs to serve some time. And I think there's he will

**Eric Bland** 38:10

he's gonna get for years. And now I'm gonna ask you this question. Is this a one off? How do you mean one and done? Is this the only one he ever did? Is this the only one this is a quarry decided his maiden voyage. He's going to do it in this case, one and only and never did it again.

**Mandy Matney** 38:24

No, I did it in the Pinckney case to me. Okay, there you go. You answered the question. Yeah. And like, and I don't who knows that there's more that those two cases were two of the only ones that it was obvious that Cory and Alex worked on a case together. But what about all these other cases like the Satterfield settlement where you can't find that online because it was filed in a weird spot or not filed? Not filed.

**Eric Bland** 38:48

Mandy found it but that's it. Do you guys have you ever researched the five county area to find a five area there to find out whether he and Alex were on other cases together? Yes, we have you did. What do you find?



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**Liz Farrell** 39:01

Well, we found that Alex represented Cory's wife, I believe in a case involving I think it was a boat crash.

**Eric Bland** 39:09

Who's driving the boat who was driving the boat,

**Liz Farrell** 39:11

I think because Cory, who spoke

**Eric Bland** 39:13

Was it was Cory's?

**Liz Farrell** 39:15

Right. Okay. And then I think that there was another one in which Alex I believe was representing the cousin of one of Cory's cousins, I believe in a similar type case. And then we looked at a lot of cases in Jasper County that bring concern to me that involve Hispanic sounding, last names and quarry and these are wrongful deaths.

**Eric Bland** 39:40

What about the house fire at Alex's that was Cory representing them in that house fire wasn't it wasn't their house fire case or something? Tell me about that.

**Liz Farrell** 39:48

There was what we were always told before all of this before the murders was that people believe that it was Paul who had run some gasoline because it was done very and maturely. And it seemed to line up with Paul at the time and just sort of his defiant behavior. So



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essentially, like I think that his there was just somebody ran some gasoline around the, or some sort of ignition fluid around the house.

**Eric Bland** 40:17

I think this happened to trip and fall and get around the house, right? Well, and pink and tripped and the gas cans tripped and fell.

**Liz Farrell** 40:24

Yeah, but I believe that one or two people were and I've sorry that I don't have this at the tip of my tongue. But I believe that people were prosecuted for it. But unfortunately, it means nothing like we can't trust anything in the past because of who ran the prosecutor's office.

**Eric Bland** 40:40

I thought Alex made an insurance claim on that. Something happened where it died on the vine. Do you remember that man?

**Mandy Matney** 40:46

Yeah, well, he did. I mean, he I know that he got insurance money off of it. I know, he got a lot of insurance money off of it, I believe they were able to completely redo their kitchen and add a deck or something. And they got a good amount of money from that scenario. So who knows who really did it. And I look back and saying I could see Alex with those gasoline. Coming up with his next idea. And then that makes more sense of like, that's how he got it. He started to notice the insurance game works. And it's all a game to these people. And that's what makes me so mad.



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**Liz Farrell** 41:22

Do you think started to notice? Or do you think that this is an inheritance? Like for me, I've personally believed that this has been going on for a long time that the actual Yeah, like you said game is that they're gutting these insurance policies. I noticed that Dick and Jim seem to be trying to get out of having Alex come before the court for the financial crimes on the state level before the end of the year. So the state is saying Creighton is saying no, we need to try this in the fall and dig and Jim Dijk in particular saying, No, I have legislative immunity. And also I want to visit my wife and Slovenia. And I just don't have it in my schedule to be able to do this. Meanwhile, Clifton Newman, the judge is saying, Well, I'm 72. So I'm out of here on December 31st. So I have to hear this case this year.

**Eric Bland** 42:26

I can't go. So Dick wants it to be heard by the fall of 2024. Is that we know.

**Liz Farrell** 42:31

Dick wants to be heard next year, in 2024.

**Eric Bland** 42:35

That's right, the fall of 2024. Right, because he would have legislative immunity beginning in January of 2004. through July 2024.

**Liz Farrell** 42:43

So that would be what he's trying for.



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**Mandy Matney** 42:46

And what are the articles say? He's got a big case. It's gonna save the children. That's right.

**Liz Farrell** 42:51

So one of the he wants to clear the docket of this case that he is on. And I believe he's suing. And maybe I need to check that. I'm sure this is what it is. DSS, DSS, right. He's Yeah, Department of Social Services for the deaths of, I believe, five children. But the way the state newspaper described it was they use the word massive, just to describe the civil suit. So we have a state senator.

**Eric Bland** 43:21

Those are those poor kids that were killed by the Father and taking the Tennessee and they found them in the trunk of the car, right?

**Liz Farrell** 43:27

Yeah. That's right. So we have a state senator suing the Department of Social Services. Yeah, that doesn't make any sense to me either. Right. And then we're calling it massive.

**Mandy Matney** 43:39

Harpootlian said he also wants to visit his wife Jamie, the comma, the US Ambassador to Slovenia, comma, by the way, super freakin powerful. By the way, this isn't a normal person we're dealing with is what that is saying. And he hopes this year to dispose of a massive civil case against this. It gets the State Department of Social Services over a ledge neglect of five murdered young children.



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**Liz Farrell** 44:08

Yeah massive. We have a state senator who's suing our government, the one that he works for, or works for the people to make the laws for that government. And He is suing. He's suing us. He's suing the state

**Eric Bland** 44:23

And it benefits him and there's caps and he's trying to get around those caps. Okay, guys, there's caps.

**Liz Farrell** 44:30

Yes. We'll talk more about that. Eric, talk more about that. How's he getting around these caps, because there are caps,

**Eric Bland** 44:36

The caps would limit this tort action to \$300,000. But he's going to get around it by arguing that it was systemic it willful neglect wanton, and therefore, it gets you out of the cap, statutory Max and your open ended.

**Mandy Matney** 44:55

So the worst that this department that you The worst at the state agency is the more that Dick Harpootlian could possibly benefit from it. It sounds like he could.

**Eric Bland** 45:07

There are five kids that are killed, though so let's not lose sight of that.

**Liz Farrell** 45:09

Completely understand, but he's a state senator. So the case itself has merit.





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### **Mandy Matney** 45:14

Should be his job to deal with DSS as his job as a state senator, he should be able to make that change and give justice to that family and God forbid prevented for other people through his job as a state senator, when you benefit from state agencies being terrible, and they continue to be terrible. And you don't do anything to help it on your state within your state senator job that all seems terrible and very sketchy.

### **Liz Farrell** 45:44

Well he's, I mean, again, gutting the system. It's not, you know, there's different gutting that's happening here. So I personally think if you're a state legislator, you should not be allowed to represent anyone who's suing the the state government. Oh, or represent anyone who's being prosecuted by the state government. It's absolutely disgusting to me. No problem with the case itself. The case has merit. That's not the issue. The issue is who is dead? That should not you watch if we if the state of South Carolina made it. So legislators could not sue the state government? Or represent anyone who's being prosecuted by the state government?

### **Eric Bland** 46:18

You wouldn't have lawyers in the state house.

### **Liz Farrell** 46:19

You wouldn't have lawyers in the statehouse? That's right. You wouldn't? And you know, I think we'll be fine.



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**Mandy Matney** 46:27

Honestly, hey, willing to take that chance of this fine. Sorry, Eric. Sorry, Eric.

**Liz Farrell** 46:33

We run it. If you want to run for office, you want to serve people so bad, then I think you can forego, because what's happening is, in my opinion, a huge conflict of interest that you dick is in a unique position to know how this works and know what buttons to push. And he can and that's great. I mean, for his clients. That's amazing. But it's not great for the people of South Carolina, which is simply isn't.

**Eric Bland** 46:59

I'm sure, I'm sure that they become privy to information about bad administration and certain agencies funding that isn't gone to the right places. And whether he can use any of that information. I'm not saying he is. But he can use any of that information to go after that agency.

**Liz Farrell** 47:18

They should also disclose how much money they have made personally off of lawsuits and stewing and suing the state. So no, this is a problem that we can talk about another day, but the secret settlements that the state or local governments reach, they shouldn't be secret, because you're using state money, you're using public money rather. So you know, I've seen way too many times in my career, the secret settlements, and that way you don't know what your school district or your local government, your police department, you don't know what they're paying out to make up for their negligence or perceived negligence or whatever. So they're able to reach these settlements that are sometimes pretty ungodly. And I do think that they're corporately



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and his cohorts should be disclosing that so that we know how much they've made off of working for the government while also well, how much they've made representing the people while also suing the people's agencies.

**Mandy Matney** 48:20

So right, because if he's on the DSS committee, or whatever, and he's making these decisions about DSS is funding for them and everything else. And then in the back of his mind, he's like, Well, it's the like, I'm making millions dollars from all these other lawsuit. It's just it's too much conflict.

**Eric Bland** 48:41

I don't think he's on the DSS committee, but I'm not convinced that he doesn't have access to DSS information as a state senator. Sure.

**Mandy Matney** 48:48

But like, we just need to know that we need to know all those things. Definitely.

**Eric Bland** 48:53

When they're crafting the budget, they would know what when they're doing an allocation to different administrative agencies, why they're given more this year or less here and more here, the he would know all those things that we don't know,

**Liz Farrell** 49:05

There's one thing we've learned it's that poor people are, you know, at the ready to be sacrificed by these guys for their own personal financial gain. And going back to Cory, you know, he talks about this \$100,000



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That was gonna go to Alex like, it's some little piece of the pie, which I guess, you know, factually, it is, but still \$100,000 Like, he was willing to hold back from the Satterfield family. It just shows that they have no concept of money and no or no concept of what that money. I don't know if it's just become just so jaded or just so used to these big numbers that those smaller numbers that represent giant numbers to people who have no money. It's this huge.

**Eric Bland** 49:50

So you're holding back two trailers for like, firewood, right you women \$100,000 Each of you right now go to your door. I mean, that's a lot of money in

**Liz Farrell** 49:57

I don't know, let's check and see what I mean. Well, let's try it. out, Eric. Let's see what happens. Let me see

**Eric Bland** 50:01

The reaction if you couldn't

**Mandy Matney** 50:05

For the next Cup of Justice. Just imagine in the Satterfield and think back to the what their financial situation was at the time then and how much \$100,000 or 10 or 10 would.

**Eric Bland** 50:18

Have changed Tony and Brian's life they would have swore the quarry home to moon if he just gave \$10,000 right



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### **Mandy Matney** 50:25

But they were so greedy and just so greedy. I don't know what the word is to describe what people like Cory and Alex treat people for a Satterfield avarice, it's avarice. Yeah, it's horrible. Um, it's like they don't it's like they, they treat them like they don't deserve just basic decency was Cory's.

### **Eric Bland** 50:49

The relationship was Cory's relationship with Alex, kind of like Cory, to shut up and come along for the ride. I'm letting you participate, but sit there. Just don't say anything. I'm structuring this on the maestro, I'm letting you into the cab. You're coming along for the ride, don't book the water don't book the boat. Is that was that that kind of relationship? Or was it more equal? You think I tend to think the former press

### **Liz Farrell** 51:16

Alex and Cory were the three amigos from what we understand. They were very close, and I was wrong. So I don't know how it comes to bear that Mandy and I know that Alex cannot be trusted when we spend zero time with him. And then these men know Alex during his law school days, and I think Chris's case his undergraduate days. And yet he was a tear, right when he was a terror and not just when but like they got a front row seat his behavior. We've heard story after story of how Alex use the system with law enforcement like US law enforcement, to his benefit this whole time, too. And we've heard stories about Cory and his arrogance is utter arrogance, in how he handled his cases with the prosecutor's office. So I don't know how they wouldn't know. I don't believe that they got duped and I think Cory has now just admitted that he wasn't duped. which now makes me wonder what got you know, do



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we need to check in with Chris Wilson? Maybe he said he got duped too.

### **Mandy Matney** 52:27

I mean, oh, how did it make you feel Eric, when you saw that he Cory admitted to it.

### **Eric Bland** 52:33

I was vindicated. I for two years, I've been hearing from defense lawyers that were representing him through the carriers and also personal friends who are representing him or giving him advice, or just friends, you know, imploring me to tone down my language that you don't know, Cory, he's not Alex. He's a different guy. He's really great. A fine defense, criminal defense attorney, a good father. He, you know, he's close with Alex. But Alex keeps everybody at arm's length. And he's not criminal. You shouldn't say it. He is a victim. And that's why I told you in the beginning, it really bothered me for two years that they were putting him in that victim classroom. And now I felt vindicated. Last week, I got to be honest, and I actually wrote one of the defense attorneys an email Thursday afternoon and said, Do you remember when you gave me a whole bunch of shit at that mediation and for weeks on end telling me I don't know it? I'm reaching too many conclusions. And I'm wrong and that you told me Cory, he's a victim. Well, how does it taste? Now?

### **Liz Farrell** 53:41

What did he say? How did he say it to his kid?



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**Eric Bland** 53:45

He said, Well, you were right, I guess about the expenses. But he's still good. He's still a good guy.

**Liz Farrell** 53:50

Right about the expenses he admitted to stealing. Like, it's

**Eric Bland** 53:54

Not just steal. It's just \$26,000 and 100. It's not too much.

**Liz Farrell** 54:00

Okay, so I'm just gonna say this. If you defend Cory, and you are you are an attorney, that makes me question what your code of honor is in your how you conduct yourself. Because we have the same situation. Mandy and I were we caught a lot of hack to for that for like, leave Cory alone. You don't know what you're talking about. It's like, actually, we do know what we're talking about. And Cory knows that we know what we're talking about.

**Eric Bland** 54:24

But you know what lawyers do? It's a bullshit thing they do. They cut the guy in half and they push the bed half over to this side of the room. And they only want to focus on two these Joe view is fun at the baseball games at the football games, tailgating, and they don't want to talk about that. So don't you focus on it. Let's just focus on he's a fun guy. He's great, but it's the whole person. You can't split them in half.

**Liz Farrell** 54:47

Yeah, like so if you serve them an entire fish and I put some dog do on one half of that fish. You're telling me they're gonna eat the other half of



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that fish and disregard the dog do? No, they're not. That's what they're doing. Exactly.

**Eric Bland** 54:58

They are.

**Mandy Matney** 54:59

But that hypocritical, that's called that all it's called bad judgment of character like that's what that is, it's like if you can't, if you are a lawyer and you're not able to see a person for the their whole being and who they are for their good and bad, then that means that you're bad at judging character. And that means that you probably shouldn't be trusted with other things if you can't, because that's a very important, that's a very important life skill to have to just be able to tell if somebody's good or bad. And instead of just making excuses for people, and I feel like a lot of the South Carolina lawyers, and a lot of them don't, again, I have many, like, at this point, I talked to more lawyers during the day, the non lawyers, like day to day, talk to them all the time, and love them. But there's too many of them making excuses, just on behalf of lawyers, and just trying to come in making excuses for people and ignoring their bad side is how Alex Murdaugh became Alex Murdaugh. Because people allowed him to do it, and people enable them and people, people helped create that monster. It wasn't just him.

**Eric Bland** 56:14

So are some of these lawyers, they know in their heart what they're seeing, but are they saying I don't want to be kicked out of the inner sanctum. So I'm never going to call a spade a spade or call you out on your behaviors.





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**Liz Farrell** 56:26

That was probably but that makes them I mean, that that makes them even more complicit? Yeah, it makes him completely complicit. So that said, I do think that we were coming on to a close here. But I did want to say something, I think, going back to Alex in the indictment and how it talked about his inflated expenses and his inflated fees. I do want to say to people out there that if they have ever had a settlement in South Carolina, and they're a little curious about whether or not their attorney was an Erica, and I mean, I apologize for this in advance. But if there's anyone out there who wants to take a look at their expense sheets and their disbursement sheets that they got for their settlements, Now, oftentimes settlements are secret, there's an NDA signed and what have you, that does not stop you from being able to look at your expense sheet and your your disbursement sheet, the need to look over the attorney, the fees that your attorneys charged you all of that you should dig that up, you should take a look, especially if you use any of the attorneys in any of the firms that we've been talking about. Take a look at them. If you need help looking at them, feel free to have another attorney look at them or send them to us, we'll look at them, just to see what kinds of stuff around there. Because from what we're understanding, it looks like these law firms haven't been thorough in looking over their files, especially when we're talking about Alex. So I think it's important. And I think if the government's not going to do its job and doesn't, and I don't I'm not saying they're not, but if they're not going to, then we need to do it for them. And so I think people need to protect themselves, right?

**Eric Bland** 57:59

Let me amplify that for you. Under the rules of professional conduct, the file belongs to the client. So when you call up your lawyer, or you write



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your lawyer, I want my file, you get the original file, that lawyer can make a copy of the file, but you must get the original, and you must get all of the backup. You get not only the correspondents, not only the mails, not only the client documents that were acquired, not only discovery, attorneys notes, you get billings, you're entitled to timesheets, you're entitled to canceled checks, you're entitled to a complete verification of everything that was spent on your file. And if the lawyer delays and giving you your file, you have a right to go to the bar immediately you own the file and the lawyer must turn it over to you really quickly. And it's the original file you get not copies.

**Liz Farrell** 59:03

Lawyers who have nothing to hide are going to have no problem complying with that just to put that out there. So is there an email address Mandy that we should use to have people send their if they want to send copies of their expense sheets or their disbursement sheets to us to have somebody take a look at info

**Mandy Matney** 59:19

Lunasharkmedia.com

**Liz Farrell** 59:22

So with that said it's time to put our cups down. Cups down guys, Cups down Eric.

**Mandy Matney** 59:29

Cups down. 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 Luna Shark Productions.