



EPISODE 72: The Devil Is In the Details How Solving Stephen Smith's Case is Within Reach + Privilege Is Back on Trial in SC

Mandy Matney 00:04

Hello and Happy Tuesday from sunny Scottsdale, Arizona. Since I was at the Tucson Book Festival this weekend, we decided to record this week's episode of COJ early. But y'all know how this works. Typically whenever we go out of town, some sort of breaking news always happens as it did this weekend. Thrice accused rapist Bowen Turner was arrested again on Saturday, this time by the Highway Patrol. We will talk about this more in detail on this week's true sunlight. But Turner was arrested on charges of DUI, open container, public disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Bowen was released from prison in November. He couldn't make it six months without getting in trouble again. We have been told that he was in a single car accident and thankfully, no one was hurt. While Turner got bond for the Highway Patrol charges he is still on hold status for the South Carolina Department of Corrections According to our sources, from what we understand he will be held in Florence County Intel a violation of his intensive supervision hearing will be held. We will unpack all of that and more in this week's True Sunlight. On today's show, Liz Eric and I talk about our latest mission with the Stephen Smith case. Obviously, our bigger mission is to get this case to a place of solvability. But day to day, our goals are much smaller and much more focused on the tiniest of details. As Eric puts it, Liz and I are pulling at the edges of the case in the hopes of finding more dots that can be connected by law enforcement. So far, it is working so far, we're finding out new details. And when you don't have answers, every detail matters. That's why it is so important that law enforcement continues to throw every resource they can at this case right now. Yes, there are other cases out there lots of them that deserve the attention of SLED in the AGs office. But Stephen's case is not only about finding out who killed him, it is about

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the system that needs to redeem itself to the victims and to the public. Also on today's show, we talk about a decision by the Connecticut Supreme Court that is long overdue. This decision sets a new standard for the release of police records, specifically the case files from crimes that are technically still open because they haven't been solved. As Eric says it was a good day for justice. We also discuss a new case the Luna shark team is taking on the Sara Lynn Colucci case. Sara Lynn was found dead outside of the Charleston area jewelry store she owned with her husband in 2015. Her husband said she killed herself using a garden hose but the evidence didn't end doesn't add up. In 2018, Michael Colucci stood trial for her murder, but the case ended up in a mistrial. When the jury couldn't come to a unanimous decision. In two months, the state gets another shot at prosecution with Michael's retrial. And until that time, we will continue to bring much needed sunlight to this case. One thing I want to note that we didn't mention in our discussion about this case, is that Ivo Colucci, Michael's stepfather, was arrested two years after Sara Lynn's death for the murder of his own wife. Michael's mother had dementia at the time, his charges in the death of his wife were later expunged. Let's get into it.

Liz Farrell 03:48

Cups up guys.

Eric Bland 03:51

Good to see you guys, man. It's been so long, almost like a month. How are you doing?



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Mandy Matney 03:55

Yeah, the gang is back together. Yeah, it's it's been good. It's not warm outside. That's fun. The weather has changed since we last met. Things are good though. Busy.

Eric Bland 04:06

Springs always a happy time of year. You know, your flowers. People kind of want to get outside. They feel like they were cooped up for the winter. A little bit of cabin fever. You know, everybody wants to go out and start exercising. So it's a good time. Good time.

Mandy Matney 04:21

I love this time of the year.

Eric Bland 04:23

You remember this time last year? We were knee deep in a murder trial?

Liz Farrell 04:26

Yeah, we're just coming off of it. Yeah, right out of it. Yeah. Yeah,

Eric Bland 04:30

It was crazy. Crazy time.

Liz Farrell 04:31

I'm happy for this year though. I don't like to look back on last year. Like I like to think about just how different I feel this year than last year.



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Eric Bland 04:40

I do too. I do too. You know, I'm not consumed by the word Murtaugh. I don't hear it 20 million times a day. You know, I was out in Colorado last week and a couple people recognized me. But you know, didn't hear about it turned on the news. Didn't see it on the news, you know, didn't see emails coming through, I had a couple. We're working on the motion to reconsider the fact that the special referee didn't give any money to the Satterfield and the pilers. But other than that, you know, it's not emails that are coming through or text messages or this or that it's, it's nice, we're moving on to other crimes and other legal topics, which is a good thing.

Mandy Matney 05:24

Also like not being tethered to Dick and Jim's chaos which is really nice. I felt like, for several months, we would have one plan for the show. And then Dick and Jim would do something. And it was just like ping being thrown around like a ping pong ball for months. And I just felt like I had no control over my life there for a minute. Or for a while, it just kept blasting on and on and on. And I'm really excited to move forward.

Liz Farrell 05:57

I don't know if people know this. But most true crime podcasts are researched and written completely before the recording. So they'll have like a nice tight six to 10 episodes. And, you know, there's a lot of production that goes into it a lot of pre-work. But the way we do it is we're literally writing the episode that you hear in truth for true sunlight. On Thursdays. We're writing that right up to the last minute, but it's done that week. It's done like right before it goes live, basically. So I've had people in my life asked me how we've been able to do that



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week after week, including with cup of justice. And I think that we just got so used to the grind that we didn't actually know we were doing something that was extraordinary in that. Like, I mean, I've had people in the industry asked me like, how can you possibly do what you guys are doing? Like you're, you're have new stuff, you have a whole script written? How how's that possible? So I think I would like to pat ourselves on the back for that, because I haven't really taken the time to absorb that.

Eric Bland 07:11

It's working up to the last minute it is what everybody's doing. We know that, you know, along the way, we're getting new pieces of information in real time. And you guys are doing your own research for your show. It's not like you have a staffer researchers, like some other people do. And you're just handed a script, you're, you're actually doing the research. And then all of a sudden, it's taking it down a rabbit hole and you lose a day or you gained two and it's not really cramming for a test at the last minute, it's just you're waiting at the last minute because so much is happening along the way.

Mandy Matney 07:46

The other thing is like I think about the people that spent a month that were a year researching, reporting and writing a podcast and then planning out like this episode's gonna have this beginning, middle and in and this cliffhanger. And we'll keep people going with this. And, you know, mapping out the storytelling. And what's so fascinating about our podcast is that we just kind of found a knack to do that, to figure that out very quickly as the weakest progressing with a beginning, middle and end. And how many times Liz will we be, we think that



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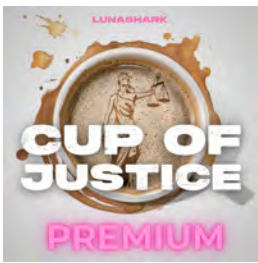
we're going to include something in one episode, and then I see that it's way too long. And then I'm like, David's gonna be really mad, we can't do that. And then we're like, oh, but we'll leave a little cliffhanger for next week. And it just kind of works out that way. And while it is stressful on Wednesdays, I do kind of like it. And I'm really glad I'm thankful to be continuing to do this work. And that's kind of the place where I'm at right now. I'm finally really, really enjoying it again.

Liz Farrell 08:53

Same. Same. I really enjoyed like I don't, I'm honestly like, I think we did what we did out of obligation. It just felt like we had to do this, no one else was going to and now it's really taking pleasure in being able to put these episodes together. I mean, doing it in real time is what makes us different. And I think that we found a way to sort of bridge the gap between print journalism, and this medium where we really are like a live like break. It's not even breaking news. It's just we're alive. We're making this thing come to life within seven days. And it's all new information that we're that we're finding so yeah.

Mandy Matney 09:38

It's just one more I just think it makes more it more exciting for the listeners too because we have figured out this format where we bring them along the ride of the investigation and we show them the roads that we went down that week and, and also through like today I'm getting all these questions about Stephen coming in and they make me think different about next episode. And those audience questions really shape our investigation and shape our episodes. So it's really like a special experience, I think for the audience.



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Liz Farrell 10:11

Well, you look at like last week, in True Sunlight, we talked about the photos that we found on the CD that was given to Sandy by highway patrol, right? And we told our audience, like, there's no dates, there's no information on these photos. And it was because we were I mean, I was for my point, I was looking at my phone. And I just didn't, didn't know I don't even know if like, I was just like, Okay, there's no data on this. So it's the because the Oh, because the ones we were looking at, had David's data data. Yeah, exactly. So this week, we noticed that there is data on a lot of the photos that we were able to find. So it's like, we revise what we said last week. And now we're updating people and saying, Look, actually, we've now discovered this. And here's what we found. So that part is just so exciting. And it's I really, really hope that we're close to getting answers.

Eric Bland 11:03

Well, what's, what's interesting is I'm been distilling it. And of course, I'm having ongoing conversations with Chief Keel. But you guys, I mean, round the outside better than anybody I've ever seen your work in edges, you know, you're not in the middle of it. It's like you're pulling it edges. You talked today, you showed me about, you know, possibly another phone or some other devices, and then some other people that he was communicating with names and different things of that we've never heard. And I think that's where the answers are going to come possibly from around the outside, not from the middle of the Corps. Everybody's been looking in the middle of the Corps. For the past eight years there, we're getting nowhere. I think it's around the outside, you understand what I'm saying?



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Mandy Matney 11:51

Yeah we're truly the devils in the details. And that's what, Liz especially, but we're both good at looking at the tiny little things that make up a case and digging into those and then adding context for our audience. I think that that. And that's been something that's been, we're enjoying doing that again, like, I think for a while I was just so bitter toward it, because this is sick of the Murdoch case. And I was sick of Dick and Jim and it was sick of all the trolls. But now it's like, yeah, we're really good at this. And like, we're gonna be able to really get, we're gonna be able to sell some things and make a difference. And it's exciting.

Liz Farrell 12:31

Yeah so one of the things with the boat crash case, Mandy, and I would do this. And I think we've told the story so many times, but we would do this over sushi, like once a week, and we would talk about we would like to drill down on the case and just constantly go over things that we thought things that were you know, we found were evidence, or we would come up with these conjectures. And it wasn't until we first talked with Mark Tinsley that we got validation that we were right, so many of the things that we thought ended up being cracked. And I just want to say like, with Mark Tinsley appreciation started to grow because he has that same ability to really drill down if there's 1000 page book on employee handbook for Corporation, he's going to read every single one of those pages to do whatever he needs to do for his client. I think that having that early on the sort of like, mutual appreciation for each other's work and understanding that we too, would do that same thing that we too would read that manual, we would go through those pages, not just now, but we'll go through it again to see how things have changed. And that's what we've been doing with the Stephen Smith



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case, because we I wouldn't call it starting at the beginning. But we are definitely going back and isolating little pieces of information. And then going deeper with that information because things have different meanings. So in this week's true Sunday, Eric, we talked about how Marc Burkhardt who purported to be Stephen's boyfriend at the time, he was a 47 year old band. He the last one of the last time she talked to Stephenie her dogs barking in the background, a lot of dogs barking in the background. So that's a detail that just went over our heads, you know, two years ago, three years ago, like right now, it's something that makes us okay, that's could be significant. That could be something could be nothing, but it could be something. So that's the kind of stuff that we feel like we have to tease out from the data that's already there and represent it so that investigators who are listening or people who have information about what happened to Stephen who are listening will maybe put something together in their head and that will click for them. So that's kind of what we're doing right now.

Eric Bland 14:45

That's what I was going to ask you guys. What is your purpose, Mandy? In doing this? Is it just to educate and make people think and think deeply or or actually to affect the investigation. So, do you want SLED investigators to listen to true sunlight? Do you want us to meaning me and others to take information to SLED and, you know, prod along? Or what is the goal? I mean, obviously, I know the goal was to find the answers, but what do you? Why are you doing this?

Mandy Matney 15:23

Yeah, the goal is to solve it, and whatever it takes to solve it. We're trying to do that. So that is getting people in Hampton talking about the case



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again, I talked to Sandy on the phone the other day, and she said she went to the Piggly Wiggly Hampton, which by the way, she saw Gloria Satterfield's son, he's still working there, Brian, yes. And Brian gave her a big hug. And they talked for a long time. And Brian asked about the Stephen Smith case, he's interested in it. And she said, Everyone kept coming up to her talking about the case again, and that's really good. That makes me feel good that people are talking about it again, it's alive. Again, it's not something dead that whoever did it can think that they can just move on and go on with their lives. And I do want, I don't want to make again, I It's hard sometimes because they want to put pressure on SLED, but I don't want them to feel like we're trying to outshine them by any means. We're just we all have the same goal here. And that's to get answers. And I just want them to know that were watching and to know that we are also doing everything we can and looking around every corner and turning over every stone. And we hope that that motivates them to do the same.

Eric Bland 16:43

So when I was skiing last week, a thought came to my head. And you guys may say to me, Eric, you're crazy. But is there a contingent out there that doesn't want this solved? Meaning not just the people that are directly involved, but possibly people indirectly involved? You? You understand, you know, what I'm trying to say? Is there is this a crime that maybe some people just want it to go away. And we never saw?

Mandy Matney 17:10

It's really weird. I said something on Twitter today about this, because almost every time I post something about Stephen, there's always some person that says something nasty along the lines of I have come to the



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conclusion that this case is never going to be solved. And or you guys are wasting your time. Nobody's ever going to solve this. And I've seen that over and over and over. And I don't know if people, I think there are some trolls who particularly do not want us to solve the case. That's been pretty clear, between Liz and I over the years.

Eric Bland 17:50

But is it that just you guys solving it?. They don't want you to get credit for it?

Mandy Matney 17:54

I'm trying to say I don't think anybody I don't think they want anybody to solve it. Okay, there you go. That's what I'm trying to get out. Okay. And that's a big theory that we've had for a long time is maybe it's connected to something to do with a lot of people. And maybe there is a big layer of protection that we are not aware of. And that's why we keep running into walls.

Eric Bland 18:18

Stephen traveled in circles with a lot of people that have important names?

Mandy Matney 18:24

It's hard to say.

Liz Farrell 18:26

Yes and no. When you say travel in circles, he was very studious. And he was a homebody for the most part.



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Eric Bland 18:35

I'm talking about his dating circles.

Liz Farrell 18:37

Oh yeah, maybe? Yeah, we don't know. That's, we don't know. That's what we're looking into.

Mandy Matney 18:44

Okay, yeah, it's definitely possible. And I think that that's something that we have. It's been very moving and kind of not lifetime. It's been very, it's changed the case a lot for me looking through the photos on his phone. I don't know how I saw Stephen before, but I can just, I just know him so much better by just you know, his sense of humor is by the means that he saved on his phone in realize how, how wicked smart and driven he was. And the other thing that struck me about his phone and I talked about this untrue sunlight this week is he does have a lot. There's a lot of evidence that money was weighing heavy on him and that he wanted to finish school and he was in this advanced a two year program for nursing. And it was really hard and it was stressful. And he we saw bank account statements and tuition cost and things and jokes about tuition and how it's ridiculous and everything. It really really bothered him and Liz and I were talking about how lucky it's also made us real Like how grateful we are to not we didn't have to worry about that when we were in college. And that is a really big thing.

Eric Bland 20:10

I mean was Stephen a happy kid?



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Mandy Matney 20:11

I think so. Yeah, I think so. I'm a real a jokester. Really funny, witty. He seemed to have a lot of friends. He seemed a lot of people really liked him.

Eric Bland 20:26

Yeah, I mean, did he ever date girls? To your knowledge?

Mandy Matney 20:32

No, but had a lot of girlfriends with girlfriends. Yeah. And I think the the other thing that was a parent on his phone, and his family will say that is that he liked dated guys, but he was never serious. School first school first. Yeah, very driven just like a 19 year old. I mean, talking to guys, he had a lot of cute selfies of military men, especially on his phone, but nothing, no serious relationships or evidence of that, from what we can see.

Eric Bland 21:05

Did he ever have any messages on there where he was concerned about his safety or safety of some of his partners or friends.

Liz Farrell 21:13

So we don't have his text messages. We have screenshots and photos and in that are some text messages. They're screenshots of them, just like you would send to your friends and all of that. But I think one thing that we have to keep in mind, and I think investigators have to keep in mind is that this was 2015 in Hampton County. So a lot of what we found are photos that were taken at Orange Berg tech, his school. And that would be because they had Wi Fi. And I think, you know, you can



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hear it that these kids have these cell phones, and they're unable to use them throughout the county because of the the terrible service that's there. Additionally, you know, where do you use your phone and your iPad, you use it? Where you have Wi Fi? So the behavior, we're trying to sort of figure out the behavior of how Stephen uses phone? And how that meaning like, are we missing something? Like, are there chunks missing from this? Or is this just the sign of somebody who used the phone or an iPad? Where he could as opposed to like, we use it all the time? Right, right. So if you were to go through the map of what our daily habits look like, on the phone, it's 1000s. Of it's everything things that we've done. Yeah, it's everything. So we don't have that. But we are finding things that we know investigators didn't know about or haven't found out yet. So that's a good sign. I think it's going to take all of us, like you said, Eric, like pulling out those edges, because I think that's sort of the point I was trying to make earlier. Is that like, there are people who I think can look at like the bigger picture and want to make direct conclusions from that. Right, like, well, he ran out of gas, and he was found in the middle of the road. I wonder what happened to him? The simplest answer is easiest answer kind of thing? Well, for us, it's like, okay, well, you need to look at the finer details you need to pull because what you're going to end up finding is something that connects everything else. And we cannot treat this case, like it's just a simple hit and run. Because again, his body never showed that damage. And there's a lot of weird stuff that went on with the case that I don't think would have happened. If this were just a simple hit and run. We wouldn't be talking about this today, if that's what it was. And I just keep going back to



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Mandy Matney 23:36

The fact of like, if it was a first of all, if it was a hit and run, there would have been some regular hit and run, there would have been some sort of evidence on the ground that the Highway Patrol. And that was one thing that the Highway Patrol followed up on over and over again, was going back to the scene and looking for evidence of a vehicular accident, because that was stumping them. They were like the corners. They're saying that it's vehicular but and they kept calling each other being like you go back to the scene, you go back to the scene look for no glass, no nothing. It was extremely rare. And they were all completely stumped by that. And that's their wheelhouse. They are used to crimes like that they are not used to murderers. But the thing that bothers me and I just, I think could be the key of solving the case is Stephens who he was communicating with in the hours leading up to his murder. And if if he was if he did run out of gas, and maybe he called somebody and somebody tricked him in some way and told him to go to a certain location or something I feel it's very, very frustrating because all these years have passed and we don't have that answer of did he call anyone? Did he text anyone? Something?

Eric Bland 24:57

Well, from my standpoint, I think it's gone. Gonna take possibly re paneling a grand jury and then actually bringing people in and making them talk under subpoena, I think, you know, investigators are great. They have a way of getting information, getting people to talk, making people feel nervous. But at this point, I'm sure everybody's who may have knowledge or has culpability or lawyered up or have spoken to lawyers. There's no substitute before putting somebody in a chair, and either giving them immunity if they are, you know, culpable party or



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putting them in a chair in front of, you know, 23 citizens and making them testify. So I think that's what's going to, it's going to have to be that again, you know, I heard in the spring there was a grand jury. Now, you know, if there isn't one, I would think that's what's gonna have to be.

Liz Farrell 25:56

100%. Right. I agree with that. And I think the prosecution, and I guess the grand jury is going to have to be brave and who they asked to come in, because there's going to be names, there's going to be people who are not going to want to come in and granted the whole thing secret. So that does protect them. But they're going to have to be brave in who they asked to come in the room.

Eric Bland 26:22

And you just raise a good point. It's the grand jurors that can ask for more information to the prosecutors. Yep, they the head of the grand jury can go to the prosecutors and say, look, you've brought us these people, we think we need to hear from these people can you get them for us, and it's a collaborative process between the grand jury and the prosecution, it actually, if you have some pretty good grand jurors, they could come up, you know, 23 people or 23 brains in 46 years and 46 eyes and, you know, they could come up with something agreed.

Mandy Matney 26:53

And hopefully, Alan Wilson and his office truly care about this case and the way that they cared about the Murdoch murders. And I agree, and I haven't really thought about that grand jury pressure could be could change, this could change the game.



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Liz Farrell 27:10

So that said, I think us like pulling at the edges is going to get plenty of names for them to call to the grand jury. So I think that that's part of going back to when you asked about the mission, I think that we're right now just cultivating a much longer list of people who need to be talked to.

Eric Bland 27:29

Sounds like you're you're doing some weeding, and you're getting down to the real grass,

Mandy Matney 27:34

I would say so. On that note, we'll be right back.

Eric Bland 27:52

Mandy, if there if there is the ability to put a new jury grand jury in place, and there is the the willingness on the part of SLED and ag ed, do you think that's something they want to do? Or is that something that they don't want to do? What are your thoughts on it? I have no knowledge that any grand jury is going to be impaneled. But I think we all agree that putting people under the lights is the only real way to break people.

Mandy Matney 28:20

Agreed. I hope that Alan Wilson cares about this case, I would think that he would think of it as another way to climb up and the political ladder. But beyond that, I mean, it's just the right thing to do. And I don't know if I just hope. And I think the more again that that's why the work that we're doing right now is so important. Because it's just we've seen it



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over and over again. They don't care about it unless the spotlight is on and people are yelling at them and they

Eric Bland 28:58

Who's they? Who's they? The AGs office?

Mandy Matney 29:02

I will say that. Okay, I don't I'm not saying particular prosecutors. But the other thing I wanted to say is that I have really noticed recently how long it takes SLED with investigations. And David and I were talking to a police friend of ours who has been around for a very long time and he was talking about how many times SLED would just sit on evidence for months and months and months and not charge anybody or not test it for months. And our friend who was a in law enforcement would get very frustrated because he's he's our he's got our mindset like go go go like you get evidence tested, see what it is blah, blah, blah. But they just don't seem to work like that up there. And we are seeing, like also with a collegial case, which we'll talk about in a minute. But it took a year to charge Michael Colucci. And I understand that they want to get a solid investigation under their belts before pressing charges. And I'm definitely not all for just throwing people in jail and pressing charges just to just to do it. But I am sensing a pattern that there's a lack of urgency up there.

Eric Bland 30:21

Well, there's a couple ways that somebody can be charged from a crime. There's obviously the indictment from a grand jury, which requires the assistance of prosecutors or the AGs office or it's a direct arrest warrant that SLED can do on their own pre indictment. You know,



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in all fairness, the SLED, they may bring things to the Ag or bring things to local prosecutors and local prosecutors say, Well, geez, I want this, you gotta go get me this. And there may be enough already to charge but they want more and more. So, you know, I'm not in the back in the kitchen, finding out how they're making the, you know, the tiramisu. But there's a lot of people that are pulling both ways. So it's not just slay, it could be a little bit of the ag and what the AGs focuses on, you know, Stephen Smith isn't outsmart all the resources aren't going to be the same that they devote. He's just not he's just the normal citizen like Eric plan. I mean, if I was killed, it'd be the same way. I'm not an Alex Myrtle.

Liz Farrell 31:21

No, maybe we could have said that years ago. But I think now, first of all tiramisu, just see is your analogy, the very simple recipe. It's not doesn't take, you don't have to, you don't have to remain made.

Eric Bland 31:35

And it's not that simple.

Liz Farrell 31:39

It's pretty simple to get a tasty one. Sure, but it's pretty simple, right? But I would say this, at this juncture, I feel like anything short of everything, throwing resources at it, whatever it takes to get it done, to get it solved, is going to lead us to suspicion because this is the time for the AGs office and SLED to prove themselves. Law enforcement. Let everyone down. I don't know if you saw the WTOC story by Tyler Mannion, in which Mallory Beach, his father and her family spoke out. Oh, yeah, I was gonna ask you about that. Yeah, the obstruction of justice that happened in 2019. And a specific person named Michael



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Brock, who was a DNR officer at the time and then transferred to SLED at some point. This is a man who has not been as far as we can see held accountable. But these agencies let down the people of South Carolina and they and we could probably pluck any other case out of thin air and show where these disappointments are. But this one was a hallmark. This was a benchmark this was a big deal because it was attached to the Murdoch case. You can say whatever you want about the Stephen Smith case, people can get on our case about how dare you bring up Buster, Murdoch's name, we didn't bring up his name, his name was brought up by several witnesses who say, that's where they heard that phrase, you know, like, it's not us that's saying it. So we cannot extract that I'm sorry, we cannot extract the fact that we're talking about Stephen Smith case, because Alex Murdaugh killed his wife and son, it is what brought it to the forefront.

Eric Bland 33:19

So we're going to know there's something else that brought it to the forefront. And that is, there is a piece of evidence that purportedly was discovered within the night or day after of Maggie and Paul's death, that linked to Stephen Smith. Now, are we to believe them? Or we not to believe them? If we are to believe them? It was a significant piece of evidence for SLED to want to open up that investigation again.

Liz Farrell 33:44

Right? So to do anything short of everything, it's going to be we're going to have to call everybody in question. It's just going to have to be that way. Because it's it's really simple at this point. And the if you have a tool to use that can help us get closer to answers. The Ages office and SLED need to be using those tools



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Eric Bland 34:05

is the tool possibly. And it's it would be unusual for SLED to say what it is they found. But if they never tell anybody what they found, then they just decide, we can't prove what happened to Stephen. We'll never know. But maybe if somehow they do tell the public of what piece of evidence it was, without being so specific by saying it was a text message between friends or something, some little breadcrumb that they can leave out, maybe it would click something in both your heads that you've seen in the file. That's what I'm saying, you know, the more eyes on this, the more people that are digging deep, there shouldn't be a sharing of resources and I get it that I'm Pollyanna thinking that law enforcement is going to work with with reporters or journalists. No.

Liz Farrell 34:59

G is what a good Good world that would be I mean.

Eric Bland 35:01

You know, should we not sure if we know what that piece of evidence says Mandy?

Mandy Matney 35:05

I mean, I will say that I am Liz, we have shared a lot of information with SLED over the years. I wouldn't say it's a partnership by any means we've all gotten mad at each other several times, because we're all doing our jobs. But we have had the ability to be able to information share, and that has helped in a lot of situations. I've had slight agents say, Hey, have you heard this? Or can you find this blah, blah, blah. And I will, because we all have the same goal here. And that's to get justice. But I keep thinking about this, too, if I worry, sometimes, I mean, there



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had to have been something that made SLED, reopen the Stephen Smith case and say in that connect it in such a strong way, publicly. I I worry, looking back, if they just did that, to put some sort of pressure on Alex Murdaugh without intending on ever solving it. Why would

Liz Farrell 36:14

that put pressure on Alex Murdaugh if Alex Murdaugh had nothing to do with it? So it's one of those things that I'm not saying. Alex did I'm just saying that. It's why would those two things? Why would that be a pressure point for SLED if there's not some sampler right?

Eric Bland 36:30

Our lead researcher Sammy just sent me a message saying that in Connecticut, the victim of a crime was entitled to the evidence regarding his their mother's death that law enforcement has to share some of those facts and evidence. My question to you is, do you think that they should sit down with Sandy Smith? And, you know, really ask her and share things collaboratively back and forth and pick her brain? Maybe she could help out? I mean, it, you know, have they done that in a long time with her? Is that something that should be done?

Mandy Matney 37:06

I think so I think anything at this point would be helpful. And the Madison Hamburg case in Connecticut, by the way, Madison is awesome. He's a part of the reason why we have the show, weirdly, was a friend of a friend who connected us with Uta. And he really helped direct us when everything was chaotic and 2021 of how to do we do these documentaries? Do we do our own show? What do we do? Anyways, he was super helpful. And he's a really awesome person. But



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he has been investigating his mother's death for decades now. And over a decade, and he made this documentary on HBO. And the point in the Connecticut Supreme Court case, which I've thought about a lot, is basically if police aren't doing anything with a case, and if they can't show that they're anywhere close to a suspect, they should hand over the investigation, they should it should be subject to FOIA, because they're not doing anything with it might as well do something. And so with SLED it's like, we are dependent on this trust that they are doing things behind the scenes, but we don't know what they're doing. And we don't know how much they're doing. And I wouldn't want to release information at this point. I wouldn't want them to release the files at this point if they're close to a suspect in any way, shape, or form. But if they aren't, and if it's just sitting there, then we need to know all of these things, because maybe we can solve it.

Eric Bland 38:41

Well let me ask you this in your experience, both of you. I mean, do Are there a lot of unsolved homicides in in South Carolina. I mean, in each county, I mean, is it 10? Is it everywhere? 20 in each county, is it more than we think?

Mandy Matney 38:59

Yeah, throw a rock and you'll Yeah, a lot. Actually. Eric can take a street. It's an unsolved homicide, right?

Liz Farrell 39:09

Think about how many parties there are where they're shooting, right? And three people are shot and no one knows who did it. No one saw anything. That's an unsolved crime right there like and they sit on it.



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And I will tell you, as somebody who's looked at a lot of police reports, not just the incident report, but the supplemental reports the actual investigation itself. There are and Mandy can tell you this, too. There are law enforcement officers out there who takes so much pride in doing what they're doing. They're thorough. They go the distance, but they're rare. Sorry to say I'm so sorry to say that because I totally have respect for the police. But there's a difference between a police report that is thick because the investigators notes are on there and she goes you know, I say she because it's usually a woman It is. Honestly, it really is. I will tell you, I had this one. I was used to go to the cold case committee for Beaver County. And they were it was a group of men. I think I've talked about them before everybody sort of looked the same. It took a woman joining that group of older men. And I love those grit, that group of older men, by the way, just they were wonderful. All retired police officers or prosecutors or what have you, but it took a woman who, you know, and I love this woman too, but she was she was pesky. She was she was definitely somebody who wasn't going to meet you to the point where you're like, oh, god, okay. Yeah. You know, she's she was working so hard that it almost made you feel bad for not working as hard, right. But in that court case committee, there was a young man who was a detective for the Buford County Sheriff's Office. His name was Andrew rice. And I remember a presentation he gave, where he talked about St. Helena Island, which I don't know if people listening know, but it's one of the native Islander communities in Beaufort County. It has a long history. It's very rural. It's very beautiful. Starting to get developed more, but he didn't just talk about the crimes that were happening. There are the cases that he had that were unsolved that he needed help with. He had like maps, and just visuals to help us understand that there are there streets on St. Helena Island where the



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natives don't call it by the name that you think it is. This there's six communities on, you know, X number of communities on St. Helena Island, this is the fishing community. This is the blank community, this is where they live, they don't get along with this group. They don't he knew the community so well. And it helped him in understanding where to get information. He was so immersed in that in that community, he grew up in the area, I think he was like an Eagle Scout, like all the all the things, but you need law enforcement investigators who are like that, to be rewarded within the agency and respected that their work is respected that it's valued. And he wasn't from that community, either. He's just a guy who took his job seriously, and sat down on the porch and talked and there was another detective named Jennifer Schneider, who's the same thing where you just got this feeling that this person didn't just stand there with a notebook and then ask five questions, and then write it up and go home that night. She, she seemed like somebody who would constantly sit down and actually listen to the people who are talking to her. And so that's what I think what we want to see more of what the Stephen Smith case in general, it's not to say that's not happening. It's just when you're asking us what law enforcement needs to do. That's it. And then when it comes to the Connecticut case, at some point, it has to become public information because of accountability. It's not just solving the case. It's why didn't the case get solved. We're paying you to solve these cases, we're paying you. We are It's our money that allows you to have retirement, it's our money that allows you to have barbecues on the weekend. So please, like we want to hold you accountable. We want to make sure that the police chief has good stuff, and that the sheriff's that we're electing are doing their jobs. So that's that's accountability too.



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Mandy Matney 43:14

Right. It's an honor to be able to do this work in to investigate these cases. But it is also very frustrating and frustrating that a lot of people put pressure on us to solve cases. And I know that they really like us. And I know that it means some of them are cheering us on and are like you guys need to solve this blah, blah, blah. And they mean well. But it's frustrating when we pay police to solve these cases, and they just sit there.

Eric Bland 43:47

And again, we don't have a badge. We don't have a gun. We don't have subpoena power.

Mandy Matney 43:52

How many tax dollars do I get every year is zero.

Eric Bland 43:55

We can't issue a warrant. I mean, we we just don't have that ability unless people want to voluntarily talk because they respect you, Mandy, you're getting no way.

Mandy Matney 44:05

And I mean, there is like we said sunlight and pesky nests goes a long way. And I think it really does help a lot of these cases. But we need to see that effort on the other side and hopefully we will and hopefully they are doing everything that they can like they said hopefully we will be impressed. I remember during the Murdoch murders one of my sources in the months after the investigation I was just getting frustrated was just like we're not going anywhere. What's what what the



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heck is the holdup? And he was like, I can't say it now but you're gonna be impressed with the amount of police work that took place.

Eric Bland 44:46

Yeah, I experienced that in Satterfield case with great and I mean, I spoken to you guys bad into the audience. You know, our initial relationship was highly strained. And he didn't like me. I didn't like him. He viewed me as being an irritant. And I was like, like, Look, I've met with David Owens, I met with these other people. I've educated them on what happened in the Satterfield case. And here it is, it's ABCD, you know, even a fourth grader could present this, get him indicted already. And he said, Look, it's part of a bigger picture, and I didn't understand it, then I do understand it. Now. I do understand the bigger picture aspect of it. But sooner or later, Stephen Smith, it's his time. It. That's it. It's just his time. Now it's not he's part of this, or we have to do this first, because we do this first. It'll help settle, Stephen. No. Now it's Stephen's time. That's it.

Liz Farrell 45:45

I would like to say this real quick. I and I probably have said this before, at some point, because it's sort of a cause near and dear to my heart. Beaufort County has a cult case committee, every county should have a cold case committee, there are so many good officers, good prosecutors, journalists who could join those groups. You know, these are not just like a group of people getting together to have a club meeting, it's people who actually have to get certified to be able to keep the information confidential. to basically say that I'm not going to put this information out there that I learned in this room. But you have to get different viewpoints, different perspectives, different worldviews,



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different all of it, in order to get to the answer, because like I said, that woman that was possibly an errant irritant to other people, she solved one of the oldest cases in Beaver County, she found out the identity of a woman who was dumped on the side of the road and had gone on for 30 years. So it's, it's, you have to I think that law enforcement agencies, and I think SLED included, should consider having these cold case committees or these cold case groups where they can have a group of people who I mean, cops give, what, 2030 years, and then they retire, they're young, when they retire. They're not done. And you look at the Golden State killer. That was a bunch of retired cops, too, who are helping with that.

Eric Bland 47:10

So it's like writing a book man, do you read your book 30 times, you read page 144 50 times, and you missed is instead of it. It's just a fresh set of eyes. Always is a benefit. Right?

Mandy Matney 47:30

If right, and something else that I've been saying I watch a lot of 2020 That's just like my weekly true crime show like to watch it. But they're noticing a growing trend of a lot of cases getting solved. And police departments actually having their own podcast. Have you guys seen that? No, there's some there's been a few cases where police departments have said, well just make your own podcasts on this cold case. And it has made movement in case it I believe it's salt, a couple of cases. And I'm like, that's amazing. That's public dollars being put to work because they're getting the message out. And guess what, a lot of them are women doing that. But yeah, I mean, it's that kind of creative, different approach, instead of just saying, Oh, it's a cold case, no one's



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gonna care, make people care. Make it interesting, make it People loved your crime, and they love hearing about these cases, and they love feeling like they're trying they're a part of something that they can maybe solve. And police departments just need to figure out ways to utilize that.

Eric Bland 48:40

Well, what you're basically saying is police modern policing is different than it was GM shooting in the 50s. You know, with a pat that little script pad and couple notes and gone here to there with a car, you know, podcasting and and the internet, it gets to so many different people quicker. It's a different way of policing, though.

Mandy Matney 49:03

Or beating somebody up in a background. Have you guys seen LA Confidential dividend? I watched that movie. And it's, it's really good. And it's just kind of, I believe a lot of it is true within the old school culture of cops where they just did a lot of things differently and not necessarily ethically and times have changed. And yeah, I think we can use different skills. And on that note, we'll be right back.

Liz Farrell 49:44

I think it's interesting that you use the word gumshoe before Eric because now Deckard Putin has ruined that for me because he kind of characterized his own work going door to door to talk to the jurors as GM showing but I do think we still need that by the way I do still, I think we do need them notebooks and then going out there and not just sitting behind a computer, as well. But that podcast thing. I think that is



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wonderful. I love that idea. I kind of want to tell every agency in the country to do that.

Mandy Matney 50:12

I agree. I'll send you the episodes that I've seen. I know that it's more than one. And yeah, it's just what an excellent way to use public dollars for good. I mean, sure, I would not be mad at all, if the Beaver County Sheriff's Office made a podcast about a couple cold cases. And I would listen to it.

Liz Farrell 50:33

I could see them doing it actually, because they are sort of on the forefront of that stuff. So it's possible that they might, we need to suggest it to them. But I will say this, do you know how many times I heard people say to me that Alex Murdaugh killed Maggie and Paul, but you're never going to see him get prosecuted for it. Like, at in their early days, especially like just over and over again being told like, No, you know, he did it, but you're not. And I'm talking about law enforcement officers telling me this to like people who are so jaded by the system. But guess what happened? We pulled at the edges. We were pesky. We were annoying. And you know, look at wherever buddy is now look at look at how much Star Dust has been sprinkled all over SLED and all over the AGs office and people all over the country appreciate the work that they did. So I just think that that was a magical, magical moment. But anyone who's saying now from inside the quarters a slide in the AGs office that this is never going to be solved. Why are you doing your job? Like why did you choose that job? We don't say that we you know, we have every reason to be cynical. But look, we've seen what happens when you try. We've seen what happens when you want to actually



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show that you're not going to allow the first no you get to be the last no you get. Is that how you say that? I don't even know.

Mandy Matney 51:54

Yeah. And Liz. Remember the amount of times when we first started asking questions in Hampton and the amount of times people told us nothing is ever going to change here it's always been like this in this they've always ruled the system has always been like great on you girls for Tryon, but nothing's ever going to change a lot. And it going back to those people online saying that about Stephen and that attitude just helps nothing. It goes nowhere. It helps nothing. And we have it fuels

Eric Bland 52:28

Me.

Mandy Matney 52:29

That's how I'll take 99 no's.

Eric Bland 52:30

I'll take 99 no's for a yes. I won't stop. I'll just get up dust myself off and just keep asking. And you could keep telling me no. But sooner or later you'll break before our break. Yeah. And that's essentially what's gonna happen here. We're, we're not stopping until we get the answers that Sandy Smith deserve.

Liz Farrell 52:54

As we told people in True Sunlight this week, we are starting to look at a new case. And it's not a new case. It's an old case. It is actually one from 2015, which is apparently a year that likes to continue to find us and ask



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for help. But it is the case of Sara Lynn Colucci or Sara Lynn Moore Colucci, who was killed in May of 2015. Outside a store that she ran and operated with her husband Michael Colucci jewelry store jewelry store. And Michael Colucci comes from a family that was led by the patriarch Ivo Colucci and Eva Colucchi, came from Italy, he came over to New York and then moved his blended family to Charleston in 1975. And he was well respected. He was somebody who was looked at as generous, he made a lot of connections. And Michael is his stepson, and Michael sort of adopted his name at some point after moving there. And the case is one that has a lot of the same players as the Murdaugh case and a lot of the same themes of privilege of using the system of abusing this system to get to tax the memories of investigators to pull out every sort of thread so that the their client can get the best deal possible. It's just you see all the things that we saw happening in the Murdoch case, just in terms of the system itself, you know, we say it's broken and other people say it's by design, but you're seeing the same pattern. So we're kind of excited to be able to bring sunlight to this case, because so there was not a whole lot of coverage of it. There's some coverage, but there's just not a whole lot of coverage of it and it's going to trial retrial in May. So we're excited to talk about that. Yeah.

Mandy Matney 54:51

And Sara Colucci died the same year as Stephen and I keep thinking about that and something I've thought about a lot RT is like, I know defendants have the right to a speedy trial. But at some point Shouldn't we have something that victims should have the right to a trial within a certain amount of time because they just lose so much hope for justice. Like in this case, I've been rewatching, the Colucci, the first trial, on Court TV, and even the first trial that was in 2019. There are several



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witnesses that say, I don't know that was several years ago, my memories a little foggy. And that just kills a case. And I think it's possible to convict him. I think that the story that he it's very similar to Alex in the story that he told changed a lot. And it didn't make any sense. And I think that if he and just like Alex, he had a lot of financial problems, drug problems, etc. It all kind of came to a head right around the time his wife was murdered. Or he says that she committed suicide with a garden hose, garden hose.

Eric Bland 56:11

Or she was getting through the fence, put her head through it didn't intend to do it. But the way she fell down, she hung herself. Unintentionally.

Mandy Matney 56:21

Has that ever happened? Has anybody ever never, especially with a hose, like an actual intention? Sorry, but an accidental hanging is absurd. And it takes so long to hang.

Eric Bland 56:36

No, there were some very deep marks on her neck, you know, it, it looked like and some were finger they said were possible. Finger hand marks, I mean, you're talking along serious grip.

Liz Farrell 56:52

So that's what we're talking about. Because we cannot wrap our minds around this idea that juries can be given two charges to choose from, whether it's murder, or voluntary manslaughter, which carries a lesser penalty, right. And voluntary manslaughter is heat of passion, murder,



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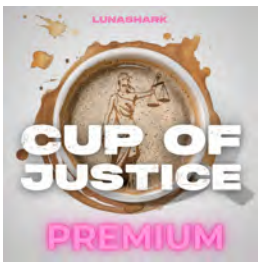
right of passion, exactly a heat of passion murder, because we're talking about a case that I reported on back in 2018. And it was a boyfriend had strangled his girlfriend to death. And the prosecutor decided her name is Hunter Swanson. And I've given her a lot of grief over the years. But she did amazing in this in this case, she did not want the jury to get that voluntary manslaughter charge. She wanted this to be murder. And the reason she wanted it to be murder was because it is murder. So she counted out for the jury, the seconds it would take for a person to be strangled to death, to the point where their eyes are bulging out, they're wetting their pants, like it's not a pretty death.

Mandy Matney 57:54

And organs are shutting down.

Liz Farrell 57:57

Organs shutting down the person's skin colors changing, right? He's a force that you have to put on that person's neck to be able to do this, right. So she counted out the seconds to show you that this wasn't a heat of the moment. And even so murder is afterthought and malice. And that can be formed in an instant, right? So and she kept telling the jurors that it can be formed in an instant, the second you start to see somebody's eyes popping out. They're wetting their pants, you know that you're about to kill this person, you know, and you have the ability to remove your hands and you chose not to that's murder. So she gave it a phenomenal closing argument. And she was able to get that conviction. And she did it and the jury. I mean, the jury was crying afterward, because of just how emotional and how graphic you know, it had to be for them to understand that. You just don't do this to somebody and shake them by the neck. And then that's it. It is a



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disgusting act that you are as a human being looking another human being in the eye and doing this to them. So in the Colucci case, the jury was allowed to decide between those two charges, right? They found not they did not find enough to convict him for murder. And they were hung on the voluntary manslaughter charge. But it is the prosecution's job to tell a story like that one that Hunter Swanson told in the 14th circuit that gets the jury to understand what happened in this case. It's not just all this evidence that you've just listened. Let's just talk about the actual act of what this look like to kill this person and get that story. And we just don't feel like that was done in 2018 in the Colucci case,

Eric Bland 59:33

So Colucci was in the car, and never got out of the car while his wife was going to the restroom or going back in the store. And it never occurred to him. Hey, look, it's four or 567-810-1215 minutes. Maybe I should go check. I mean, is that what the story was?

Liz Farrell 59:53

He said, I just never got out of the car. He said I never got out of the car.

Mandy Matney 59:56

Yeah, and I believe his story also changed for how long he was sitting in the car and why and if he was drinking and not drinking, he changed several facts that seem to be very significant. And the other big takeaway I've gotten from watching the trial, but the prosecution tries to hammer down but it gets lost because Andy Savage does a really good job of confusing everything. Everybody on scene, said that she appeared to be dead for longer than when the 911 call came in. Her body was cold to the touch. She had been dead a while



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Liz Farrell 1:00:34

in May in South Carolina in May. Yeah. So just to let people know when Stephen Smith body was brought to the medical examiner's office in Charleston, which is an hour and a half away. His body was still warm from being outside. That was July is July. Yeah, right.

Eric Bland 1:00:50

Interesting. And it appeared there was a struggle in the car to right Mandy what evidence was in the car?

Mandy Matney 1:00:56

Broken sunglasses, right. And broken fingernail

Liz Farrell 1:01:01

Chipped off. Yeah.

Mandy Matney 1:01:03

Yeah, who loses a nail?

Eric Bland 1:01:04

When was last time without a struggle? You just lost the nail on a car. I mean, you know you're fighting somebody or you get it hooked in your rip your handout. I mean, nobody loses a nail.

Mandy Matney 1:01:15

We'll talk about this more but it's very obvious. There was a lot of problems in their marriage, a lot of problems with him in particular that led up to that moment. It's it's very, very similar to the Murdoch case. Not as complicated but another part of it. I don't know if you know, this



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part, Eric, but his, the stepfather killed the mother in the jewel in a different jewelry store. But their jewelry store in North Charleston two years later, yeah, two years later in 2017. And he admitted to doing it and then he died before the case went to trial.

Eric Bland 1:01:56

Are the same players trying this case, the same? Prosecutors? Is Andy going to be the defense lawyer saying same everything.

Liz Farrell 1:02:04

Yeah. Andy Savage is his attorney. And the prosecutors are Joelle Kozak and Kylie, AB I think her name is, but David Owen is the lead investigator and people will remember him from the Murdoch trial. He was the lead investigator in that as well.

Mandy Matney 1:02:23

So there's that who else? Megan Birchstead.

Liz Farrell 1:02:27

That's right. Megan Birchstead was the prosecutor in the first go around, and she was the prosecutor in 2019. And the boat crash case. And she does not like Mandy and me because we call her out on her performance in the courtroom. So good to find out that we were right, because you see how she conducted her self in 2018. And it's sort of the same issues, just giving a lot of granting a lot of leeway to the big swinging, you know, end in the room to put it that way. Yeah, but yeah, and so there's a lot to dig into with this case of, you know, another thing to mention is that Sara Lynn was killed around the anniversary of her first husband's death, and he died, it was rolled to suicide, and he had



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been stabbed multiple times. And so you know, around the anniversaries of his death, she would get, you know, blue as one word when he was her high school sweetheart. So, you know, it's not for nothing.

Mandy Matney 1:03:23

Yeah, it's a lot. And there's a lot of civil cases attached to it. And there's just a lot to dig into. And I again, I think it's really a case that deserves sunlight needs sunlight, and sunlight can make a big difference. So I'm excited to go down those rabbit holes in the next couple months.

Liz Farrell 1:03:45

So before we go, we should talk a little bit about our favorite team of anti heroes, the JMSC, the judicial merit selection commission for the South Carolina legislature, and the judicial reform that is hopefully going to happen, but it's pretty weak sides very weak. So, number one, our legislature voted on Justice John Kittredge, taking over for justice Don Beatty as the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, which is something for him to celebrate. But for those of us who would like to see diversity, or we'd like to see a Supreme Court that actually reflects what the state looks like, it's a bad day for us because now we are one of I believe, two states. Are we the only state with an all white all male Supreme Court.

Mandy Matney 1:04:41

They're the only ones we're the only ones.

Eric Bland 1:04:44

Not a good look. Yeah, not a good look.



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Mandy Matney 1:04:46

It's not and it's really frustrating that it's not just a good look, it's just there's a lot of people that aren't being represented, and that their their wants their needs their everything. Being paid those, how can I say this representation matters in ways that are waiting just beyond, it doesn't look good. They're making decisions that are on behalf of everybody in the state, but they're not thinking a lot of them are not thinking about women or people that don't look like them. And that obviously comes into play a lot. And it's just very sad. This week, we celebrate International Women's Day. Well, I love celebrating women, I will do it all the time. Every day, I feel like women, especially in the Murdock case, were the real game changers. And in the last few years, we have met so many women that have changed my perspective and and motivated me to keep going and fighting. And yeah, there's been some good men, Eric, you're great. But but but also our, our audience is primarily women. And those people have kept us going. Women in their curiosity make such a huge difference and their perspective and their attitude and their brilliance. And they're constantly undermined, unfortunately. And it has just been really great and rewarding to connect with so many women and to be inspired by so many women through this very unfortunate case in the last few years.

Liz Farrell 1:06:32

You're here to add to that because I agree with everything you said is there were so many women who had to make a decision to do a hard thing with the murder case and the surrounding cases. And to do the thing that no one was brave enough to do so when you even when you look at non murder cases like the Bowen Turner case. Dallas Stoller sisters were the ones that made all of that happen. They spoke out over



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social media, they had to make that decision, I'm going to do something hard, I'm going to do something that's outside the norm of what what society says I should do. I'm going to call out bad behavior in a way that these people aren't going to be able to get out of. And I thought that was amazing. And Renee Beach and Savannah Beach Tooten. They did the hard thing. I mean, first six, six years, five years, right? 2024 Yeah, for the past five years, they've had to live in semi spotlight with a situation that was not their fault. And so they've had to decide over and over again, every single day, I'm going to fight for Mallory, I'm going to keep this it's as hard no matter how many men come at me, no matter how many dirty deeds get done. I'm going to do this for Mallory. So you look at Justice tall, coming out of the woodwork when she could be relaxing. And so she had to fix, like clean up this whole method that everyone had made of Alex's conviction. So I just Yeah, I see a lot of women who have had to it's not just, you know that they're women. It's that they're having to do they're having to say no one else is doing this. So I'm going to do the right thing by my the people I love and I'm going to have to stay in it day after day, even when it's hard.

Eric Bland 1:08:14

Well, let's let's talk about Judge Allison Lee. She put a \$7 million bond on it, which kept him in jail the entire time until he was convicted and went to prison. We we could talk about Jeanne second year, who she wasn't as doggone as some of us would have liked. But she clearly made our Alex feel uncomfortable, and he had to get comfortable getting uncomfortable. We have the Pilar Sisters, we see we saw the growth in ginger Hadwin who when I met her was so uncomfortable in front of the camera to get to the point where she walks into court. And



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she's literally split some between the eyes we we saw the two female SLED officers that Dick tried to humiliate that are so impressive, the somewhat eccentric pathologist from MUSC. At the trial, they're just women after women after women who played a profound role in putting these people Emily Limehouse is, you know, just over and over and and we're sitting here today a year later, and Alex is in prison and Russell's in prison. And you know, we're trying to get Russell to feets deposition. We're scheduling it and we're going to go down to where he is in Florida to take his deposition in the Plyler case and I can't wait to see is he you know, is there contrition? Is he changed? Is he still defiant? Corey Fleming you know, these guys are going and one of the things that's going to happen is you know, Alex was a guy that liked to be in the limelight even if it was bad news, it was still keeping him relevant. The worst thing that can happen to a narcissist like Alex Mar All is to get E relevant to sit in his prison cell. And nobody is writing those daily articles or doing the nightly shows on him. And it's going to know of him. And he's going to figure out a way a guy like that. Who is a pathological is going to figure out a way I gotta get back in the news. How am I going to get back in the news? Do I fire my lawyers? Do I rat on this person? Something that gets it back in the news because he can't take just sitting in a bed. You know, I'm sure curry Fleming wants this a million miles away. The more time that goes by the better it is. You don't mention his name. But I'm telling you with Alex, the more time that goes by, he's going to be pacing. He's going to be frenetic. I may be wrong.

Mandy Matney 1:10:46

Yeah, exactly. And I mean, at the end of the day, it was a lot of women who took down the good ol boys and really changed this system in



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South Carolina and are continuing to change this system and South Carolina.

Eric Bland 1:11:04

You two. Mandy. Mandy Norelle. She kept it up to you know what, so it's a good bill. forks are for disability when both of them are awesome. So I would like to say next Tuesday night, crime nation is coming out with a new documentary on Murdoch and Stephen Smith. And so we haven't seen one in a while. So we're, I'm kind of looking forward to that. I remember they came and interviewed me in my house.

Liz Farrell 1:11:28

So I will say just if anyone watches it, just I have no idea what its gonna look like, but they did not give me hair and makeup. And I was talking for like, 13 hours straight. So forget, I have no, but I'm sure they did a great Chuck's Brooke is awesome. Yeah. And also, anyone who likes YouTube, you can go and find the Dan Abrams Live episode that I'm scheduled to be on tomorrow. So I'm flying out to New York to be on one of his panels. And I'm excited about that. I like it. Yeah, he seems really smart.

Eric Bland 1:12:00

So do you know his father was the foremost First Amendment lawyer in our history of our country?

Liz Farrell 1:12:06

I did not know that. That's amazing. Really.



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Eric Bland 1:12:09

Floyd Abrams. Look them up. Yes. Okay. That's cool. Awesome.

Liz Farrell 1:12:12

Thank you for that.

Mandy Matney 1:12:13

Yeah, that's a good insight or knowledge. Yeah. And we also have the SCVAN Victims Matter rally on March 21st. I will be speaking and I will be back in Colombia. And I'm excited. So there's just a lot of really good things happening in our little corner of the world and we're very thankful. All right. Great. Show everybody. Yes, Cups down. Cup of Justice is a Luna Shark production created by me Mandy Matney and co-hosted by journalists Liz Farrell and attorney Eric Bland. Learn more about our mission and membership at lunasharkmedia.com.

Interruptions provided by Luna and Joe Pesky.