



## EPISODE 08: Who Shot Alex Murdaugh? Part One?

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### Various SC News Outlets 00:02

A shooting in Hampton County this evening. Breaking now a prominent South Carolina Attorney at the center of a murder mystery found shot in the head. Alex Murdaugh, whose wife and son were found shot to death back in June, was shot in the head himself. this morning a South Carolina man whose wife and son were brutally murdered in June now recovering after someone shot him this weekend.

### Mandy Matney 00:22

I don't know who shot Alex Murdaugh. But I will tell you everything I know in this special breaking edition of the Murdaugh Murders Podcast. My name is Mandy Matney. I'm the news director for FIT news.com. And I've been investigating the Murdaugh family for more than two years now. This is the Murdaugh Murders Podcast. So we had another episode planned about the Stephen Smith case. That we are going to publish today. But then yesterday, my news outlet FITSnews.com broke a huge story in this saga. Alex Murdaugh was shot on a rural road in Hampton County, South Carolina on the afternoon of September 4 2021. According to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Alex Murdaugh called 911 to report that he'd been shot on old Salka Hatchie road near Farmville, South Carolina at 1:34pm. The shooting occurred about seven miles from Moselle, which is the family hunting lodge where Alex Murdaugh discovered the bodies of his 52 year old wife, Maggie Murdaugh and their son 22 year old Paul Murdaugh on June 7 2021. The Hampton County Sheriff's office, the first police agency to arrive on scene requested that SLED, which is also known as a South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, lead the investigation SLED is also the agency in charge of the double homicide investigation of Maggie and Paul Murdaugh. After the shooting. Alex Murdaugh was airlifted to Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, Georgia for treatment of a quote unquote "superficial gunshot wound to the head" according to SLED. So what is a superficial gunshot wound? To answer this question, I asked Dr. Weil Owens, clinical associate professor of medicine with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and Critical Care director of the medical intensive care unit for Prisma health of the Midlands. So to be clear, here, Dr. Owens is talking in general and not specifically about this case.

### Dr. Weil Owens 02:44

There's no textbook definition, but in general, and particularly with a head wound. The idea of a superficial wound that would be one that involves the skin and soft tissue, but doesn't involve the skull for, for example, the eyes or the oral cavity or any other series of penetrating injuries. So an example of a superficial gunshot wound might be a bullet that raises the scalp and causes bleeding. Bullet that hits the ear but doesn't penetrate into the ear canal. Bullet that strikes the face but doesn't involve the eyes or the structure around the eyes or the patient's mouth, you know, etc.

### Mandy Matney 03:23



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Dr. Owens told me that superficial wounds are usually non life threatening injuries. He said that head wounds in general bleed a lot and it's hard to tell on scene how deep a bullet went. So typically with a gunshot wound to the head, you will be airlifted to a trauma center. If you're in a rural location like Hampton County, South Carolina SLED agents process the scene for a long time and they didn't leave until early Sunday morning as a part of their investigation, SLED officials interviewed potential witnesses and took Murdaugh's vehicle, which was a new Mercedes Benz SUV into custody. As of Sunday afternoon SLED said that they have not made any arrests in the shooting. So that's pretty much all of the official information that we know about the shooting sled did not release any information about what Alex Murdaugh said he was doing at the time of the shooting or where he was going at the time of the shooting or why he was on that road. However, a powerful attorney named Jim Griffin who works for the Murdaugh family told the Hilton Head Island packet that Alex Murdaugh stopped on the side of the road after experiencing car trouble while traveling to Charleston from his home in Islandton which is also known as Moselle. But here's what's weird. The location of the shooting is out of the way from the direct route to Charleston from Islandton. While the Murdaugh's attorney made it look like this was a drive-by shooting it's telling to me that SLED did not include that narrative in its release, nor did they include any information about the alleged suspect vehicle. Also, they never called Alex Murdaugh, a victim and their news release. And that same attorney told several news outlets that Alex was taken to a hospital in Charleston. And that appears to be incorrect information. How could he get that wrong? That's very basic information about his client that shouldn't have been released to reporters if he wasn't positive about it. And if he was wrong about that, what else was he wrong about? A spokesperson for the family issued a statement Saturday night and said that Alex Murdaugh was expected to recover from his gunshot wound. Quote, we expect Alex to recover and ask for your privacy while he recovers and quote. So while we don't know much about the shooting, the timing is noteworthy as recent headlines have not favored Alex Murdaugh at all. Two weeks ago, news broke that solicitor Duffy Stone who has a long list of conflicts of interest and connection to the Murdaugh family quietly recused himself and the double homicide Stone's recusal made a lot of people believe that the investigation was pointing toward Alex. Before Stone recused himself, he basically said it was because there were no suspects named in the case. And then when he suddenly recused himself and didn't tell any media about it for weeks Stone cited developments and SLED investigation that made him step away. He did not say what those developments were that many people speculated that the developments pointed toward Alex now I will be clear here, Duffy Stone should have recused himself at the beginning. Recusing yourself three months after a crime means that you should have recused yourself earlier. And Duffy stones involvement in this investigation was troubling. I live in his district and I've talked to dozens of sources who all lost respect for Duffy. Due to his decision and not recusing himself for months and this investigation. He compromised his own integrity and the integrity of the investigation by staying in so long. Earlier this summer. My boss Will Folks at FITSnews published a shocking report or sources alleged that Stone had consistently attempted to steer investigators away



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from any theory that might implicate members of the Murdaugh family. Just a few days after the double homicide, Stones. Investigators were even caught on camera chatting with a Murdaugh family member at the crime scene, which appears to be a hugely controversial breach of prosecutorial ethics and etiquette. There were also reports that Stone and his investigators were running a quote unquote shadow investigation and an effort to hold SLED quote unquote accountable for the results of its investigation. This is not normal. Stone's office also has a six year backlog for cases he had no business being anywhere near this investigation yet he held on for months, which makes one wonder why. So the day after news broke on Stone's recusal, a close investigation source told FITSnews that Alex Murdaugh was still considered a person of interest in the investigation. Another source specifically said that Alex Murdaugh had not been excluded from the investigation into the double homicide of Maggie and Paul Murdaugh. It's safe to say that none of this looks good for Alex Murdaugh. FITSnews recently obtained Paul Murdaugh's death certificate which confirmed that he was killed by two shotgun wounds to the head and chest. We have not yet obtained a death certificate from Maggie Murdaugh, but she was reportedly shot and killed by a semi automatic rifle that means two different weapons for use in this double homicide. So while law enforcement has released little information about its investigation, and has sought actively to plug leaks here is what we know about evidence found on the scene. At least one of the weapons used in the double homicide belonged to the Murdaugh family. A source recently told FITSnews law enforcement impounded a 2021 Chevy Suburban that was registered to the Murdaugh family law firm deputies found shell casings at the scene. SLED agents requested that deputies searched the area for surveillance footage on the morning after the murders on June 16. SLED agents were collecting evidence in a swampy area near Moselle. We still don't know what evidence they were collecting there. And Maggie Murdaugh cellphone was found along a rule road just outside of the Moselle property on the day after the murder. So about two weeks after the double homicide, a public relations firm hired by the Murdaugh family released a statement announcing a \$100,000 reward to anyone providing tips that lead to arrest by law enforcement. But the weird thing about this reward is that tips must be submitted before September 30 2021. To qualify for the reward in between June 25. When they announced the reward and yesterday when Alex Murdaugh was shot the family has not made any public statements. They haven't made any please with a public seeking justice and the murders of Maggie and Paul, they've said nothing until Alex was shot. And I'll be clear here again, no arrests have been made in the double homicide. Stay tuned to FITSnews.com. That's F I T S news.com for the latest updates in this unbelievable saga. And please subscribe, your subscriptions support our investigative reporting in this case, thank you to everyone who has supported us and a special thanks to Caitlin Lee have caitlindoeslocal.com A Hilton Head Island or who designed our beautiful cover art? Thank you to James Diane, Linda, Elizabeth, Margaret, Sean, Tyler and Ralph for your support. Thank you to the group of South Carolina women who gave us a lucky rooster gift card. We loved that. Thank you to every person who's left a five star review. Every tiny piece of support helps us and we can't thank you enough you all keep us going to support this podcast visit



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murdaughmurderspodcast.com. Thank you all and we will be back soon with another episode. Stay tuned. And don't forget to leave a five star review unless you're going to be nasty. The Murdaugh Murders Podcast is created by me, Manny Matney, and my fiance David Moses. Our executive editor is Liz Farrell, produced by Luna Shark Productions.

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