



## EPISODE 28: What Happened to Hakeem Pinckney? Part One

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Mandy Matney 0:02

I don't know if anyone killed Hakeem Pinckney, but I'm at a loss for words after hearing what Alex Murdaugh and his co conspirators allegedly did to this man's family after he died. What I'm seeing looks like the Satterfield scheme but years earlier in this time it was done to the family of a Deaf quadriplegic man. My name is Mandy Matney. I've been investigating the Murdaugh family for almost three years now. And this is the Murdaugh murders podcast with David Moses and Liz Farrell.

So for starters, some breaking news, Judge Alison Lee denied Alex Murdaugh's attorney's motion to reduce his bond on Tuesday. I like my next Bond stays at \$7 million without the option to pay 10% of that. We need to talk about Hakeem Pinckney out of all of the Murdaugh stories that have come to light recently. This one hit me the hardest as Attorney Justin Bamburgh showed me a paper trail of evidence that appeared to indicate the Corey Fleming Palmetto State Bank and Alex Murdaugh stole from a case family. I got really sad and taken aback who steals from a Deaf quadriplegic man's family, and just how evil are these people? Hakeem Pinckney was an inspiration. He spent his whole life overcoming the odds.

Pamela Pinckney 1:42

He was very energetic, very determined, very small, intelligent, very bright, easy to catch on the ATV.

Mandy Matney 1:54

That's his mother, Miss Pamela, who was kind enough to talk to us about her bright and beloved son Hakeem.

Pamela Pinckney 2:01

At the age of three years old, we discovered that he had a severe profound hearing loss. And at the age of three, he went to the audiologist and got testing done and they determined that he had profound hearing loss.

Mandy Matney 2:23

But his hearing disability never got him down.

Pamela Pinckney 2:26



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He never was the type of child that will complain about anything. He would just you know, just accept whatever comes his way and just deal with it.

Mandy Matney 2:39

In middle school, his mother made the tough decision to send him to the South Carolina's School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartanburg, which is several hours away from where he lived in the low country. Debbie Dossie Davis, a teacher of 10 years, told me that she remembers talking with Pamela when Hakeem was in middle school and telling her that he would thrive in that environment.

Debbie Davis 3:02

Oh my gosh, she was just me. It was so much fun. You know, always laughing and all the kids just know that they just love being around each other, I think, too. And then when he got to the scope of the DAP, it was just so many more deaf kids. And it just helped his language, his ambitions in sports, and he couldn't have excelled. Here in the public school setting there were so few deaf kids.

Mandy Matney 3:33

And in his senior year he won the National Deaf football championship and was recognized by the South Carolina State Senate. Hakeem loved sports, especially football, and that national championship was one of the proudest moments of his life. But soon after he graduated high school, Pamela Pinckney. Her son Hakeem and two other family members were in a horrific car accident that left them with serious injuries. However, for Hakeem the injuries would leave him paralyzed and fighting for his life on a ventilator. He was conscious and could communicate but was reliant on machines to keep them alive. Here is Attorney Justin Bamberg, who is representing at least eight victims, including the Pinckney family.

Justin Bamberg 4:23

So back in August of 2019, Katie's mother, Pamela, was driving. Hakeem was in the car, and his sister was in the car, his cousin was in the car, and everything was just a normal day. And then there was a tire tread separation on one of the tires that led to the car flipping over and hitting some trees. And at that point, that's when life completely changed. And everybody was extremely hard. It was a very, very bad accident, and unfortunately he suffered a very, very bad spinal cord injury that resulted in him becoming a quadriplegic. So he was unable to move anything from the neck down, and couldn't breathe on his own. So he ended up having to be on a ventilator. And he wasn't in a very, very, very bad spot.



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Mandy Matney 5:19

Hakeem was with his mother, sister and a friend and they were all injured badly, including Pamela, who was permanently injured in the crash.

Justin Bamberg 5:27

Pamela, one of her legs was pretty much destroyed to be your back injuries. It was one of those things, whenever there's a rollover call wreck involving a rollover, you know, even if you have received on on, you're getting thrown around. And then when you impact the tree at a high rate of speed it is very jarring. So you're talking about broken bones, or you're talking about lingering effects, surgeries, things of that nature. So it was all in all, everybody was left completely different than they were before that accident happened.

Mandy Matney 6:04

In 2010, Murdaugh began representing multiple passengers in the accident, including Hakeem, who was still alive at the time he hired Murdaugh

Justin Bamberg 6:16

representation started relatively quickly. You know, this isn't a situation where like, anybody was super close with Alex or anything like that. I think there was a referral, like, Hey, you might want to talk to Alex Murdaugh. He ends up going and meeting with Miss Pamela and everything like that. And then they kind of got things going, Alex is then sent to miss Pamela to Corey Fleming. And Corey then began representing Pamela since she was the driver of the car, you know, technically speaking, passengers in the vehicle could make a claim against the driver. So it's not uncommon to see the cases separated out. Yeah, Miss Pamela was sent to Corey Fleming. Corey started representing her, and then Alex represented everybody else in the car.

Mandy Matney 7:04

Corey Fleming's name should sound familiar to those following this podcast.

Liz Farrell 7:09

So Corey Fleming is Buster, Murdaugh's Godfather, and Alex's best friend, or maybe he's his former best friend. Real quick, though, I want to share this with you first, just to show you how small the Murdaugh circles are here in the Lowcountry. And to give you a bit of a look at how different Corey's world looked before his bestie decided to



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fake a roadside murder in September this past August Mandy and I sat query with his wife and a member of the 14 circuit Solicitor's Office at the outdoor bar of a popular seafood restaurant on Hilton Head Island. We were hanging out with a friend of ours in law enforcement who knew Corey Mandy and I were sort of looking over at Corey and our friend was like, Hey, you too meddling kids leave my boy Corey alone. At that point, Mandy and I already knew that Corey was potentially involved in some nonsense regarding the Satterfield case, we just didn't know how bad it actually was. Anyway, it's amazing to both of us looking back how relaxed Corey seemed and how much fun he appeared to be having given what we know now. And here's what we know. Corey seems to be the guy that Alex likes to send his alleged victims to when he himself couldn't represent the person. So the Satterfield family, Connor Cook, who felt like the Murdaughs were setting them up for the boat crash. And now as we see here, who came to pick me Is mom.

Mandy Matney 8:25

So Alex Murdaugh and PMPED attorney Ronnie Crosby sued Michelin North America, the tire company in a huge lawsuit that was filed in April of 2010 on behalf of Hakeem's family, but Corey Fleming was representing Pamela Hakeem's mother who was driving. Then Alex allegedly convinced Pamela Pinckney that she needed a banker to handle the financials of the lawsuit, which is when they appointed Russell Luffy, CEO of Palmetto State Bank. As the conservator overpacking pink means case. Again, this should sound familiar in the Satterfield settlement, Murdaugh allegedly convinced the Satterfield that they should appoint another Palmetto State bank employee to handle the money, which was ultimately stolen. However, in the painting case, it appears the Palmetto State Bank was more involved than they were in the Satterfield case.

Justin Bamberg 9:22

In order to understand, in part, why what went down is so problematic, you first have to understand what a conservator is. And in a situation where, let's say somebody like Hakeem right there, they're effectively incapacitated. They can't manage their own financial affairs and things like that. You have to have a conservatory, somebody has to be over the money, somebody has to be the person to step in and effectively be Hakeem for Hakeem. So we may pick rustle of feed right and experience bank incur. He's not just you know, a regular employee of the bank. He is an employee of the bank, but he's not just any employee. He's upper management, he helps look at policies, he helps look at procedures. He oversees people who deal with loans and things like that right and collecting interest from people that the bank loans money



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to. So when you see Russell Laffitee become a conservator, you should be able to feel comfortable, like oh, I've got a good conservatory, I mean, come out of state bank is a successful bank. They've been around for four or five generations, so I'm going to be adequately protected here. And then it doesn't happen, right? And a \$60,000 in server to fee, you know, was the part of this that doesn't make sense to me and is a red flag and the bank has to answer for it even if you were going to pay a conservative fee. Why was it not payable to Russell a fee as conservatory for Hakeem painting or a PR fee Russell a fee as PR for the estate of our campaign? That's not what happened.

Mandy Matney 11:11

The \$60,000 conservator fee was one of many red flags that Justin Bamberg discovered while looking into the Pinckney files, according to court documents how Hakeem's lawsuit against the tire company settled on October 7 2011. And it was a big settlement. But just four days later, Hakeem died on October 11 2011.

Justin Bamberg 11:37

You know, and I'm still investigating things. But apparently after this read, obviously Hakeem was quadriplegic he was on a ventilator. And at a certain point when you're in the hospital, and you're effectively stable, you can't just stay in the hospital, right? ICU beds, things like those trauma units are needed for ongoing things, people who get hurt and you need to save their life. So at some point, he stabilized enough to be able to be transported to a nursing home and he ends up at unit Hill, North Augusta, which has now proven help North Augusta and this is a sad man on Miss Pamela ends up you know, getting a call that something happened with our team and everything like that. And you know, she's talking with the doctors at the hospital because now at this point, Hakeem is in hospital, he's not at the nursing home. And it's like what happened, you know, in the hospital tells her that apparently Hakeem's ventilator somehow got clogged and it was at least 30 minutes before anybody found out.

Mandy Matney 12:45

So we have to pause and think about this for a second. Hakeem was in a long term care facility, Pruitt health North Augusta, South Carolina for almost two years and suddenly right after his lawsuit was settled that made Alex Murdaugh and his buddies plenty of money legitimately his ventilator wasn't plugged according to court records.



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Justin Bamberg 13:09

This makes it even more crushing for Pamela and even pursuing this stuff. You know, like that is a stretch. She is a strong woman because you know, even me doing my job is to talk to her about certain stuff. And I know it's not easy for her to relive these moments, the saddest parts of her life. But when Hakeem dies in that fashion, this is how much Miss Pamela trusted Alex Murdaugh so much that she hired him to represent her in the case against the nursing home over the death of talking and had no idea that he was stealing from her in the process. It's freaking disgusting.

Mandy Matney 13:51

Are you hearing this, Alex Murdaugh, the man who was at the center of several other death investigations ended up benefiting from Hakeem's mysterious death. We hope that it is a coincidence how Hakeem died four days after the personal injury settlement, but we are looking into his death because there have been so few coincidences in this entire saga over the last three years, but there are a few details available about Hakeem's death. What we know is that Hakeem's ventilator was unplugged at Pruitthealth North Augusta, which is also known as Yuna health post acute care, a long term care facility that has been sued many times for not meeting an adequate standard of care. According to an affidavit signed by a nurse practitioner who reviewed medical records in the case the type of ventilator Hakeem was on should have sounded off alarms to notify nursing staff that he was not receiving oxygen. The nurse practitioner testified that the nursing staff at Prewett Health North Augusta deviated from standard of care in 2014. A lawsuit was filed by Attorney Lee Cope, a lawyer a PMPED. However, just like the glorious Satterfield settlement, employees from Alex office filed several pieces of important paperwork in the lawsuit. Justin is still investigating McCain's death and death settlement. We don't know whether or not money was stolen there.

Justin Bamberg 15:22

And they do show the nursing home. And there is a settlement, a wrongful death settlement over that. And I'm still waiting to get all the paperwork I'm looking into that I want to make, I want to make sure that these people get everything that is supposed to give, you know, Miss Pamela, you know, the memory of Hakeem, everybody talks about one case, but all my clients, you know, Mr. Bush, Mr. Anderson, everybody, everything's got to get looked at everything's got I don't care if it's \$5. If somebody made a \$5 error on a piece of paperwork, I want that \$5 back for these people.



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Mandy Matney 15:58

Remember, none of the people who Alex stole from knew about it at the time, because of the way lawsuit payments are typically set up.

Liz Farrell 16:06

Lawyers are in a position of trust and have a duty to make decisions that are in their clients best interest. Part of that means maximizing the financial outcome while also protecting their clients assets moving forward. So structuring your settlement is a way to do that. When a settlement is structured, the money doesn't go to the law firm. And that's been the giveaway and a lot of Alex cases because that's where the money seemed to go. In normal circumstances, the settlement money is instead sent directly from the insurance companies to a broker who purchases a life insurance policy that pays the client and annuity.

Mandy Matney 16:40

And we'll be right back. So many dominoes had to fall in order for Justin Bamberberg to get the truth about Hakeem's case.

Justin Bamberg 16:50

Fast forward. You know, we're talking about the wreck that happened in 2009 and 2011, actually, October 11 of 2011. That's when Hakeem passed away. And there was also a settlement in the underlying tar case. That year, you get 2012 Boom, boom, boom, so on, obviously, then everything starts coming out attorney Eric Bland and his team or exposing certain stuff with regards to what went on with Satterfield, you know, PMPED, sues Alex, you know, all of this is transpiring. And now everybody's looking back in time, so to speak, these indictments come down, eventually, you know, Miss Pamela gets called in to the firm, you know, PMPED calls her and, you know, to their credit, right, you got to get credit where credit is due to their credit, they do inform her and they're straight up with, you know, that there was a check that raised a red flag, or that would be the \$89,000 Check. That was written from Corey Fleming's firm, from their trust account payable to PMPED. That went to Alex, I guess, into the trust account at the farm with Palmetto State Bank. And then a check was written from the trust account at the firm payable to forge and ended up in those four accounts. But as they were digging through the file, they also saw some other stuff. She was made aware that it was \$309,000. And some change that apparently she was supposed to get, but nobody knew where the money went.

Mandy Matney 18:26



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In total, Justin said that he's found that Alex and his co conspirators stole around a million dollars from Hakeem's family, Justin told me that Pamela Pinckney only went to him for help because of a conversation she had with a PMPED attorney about Palmetto State Bank.

Justin Bamberg 18:46

And I think the kicker here, and obviously there are certain things that I can't talk about because of you know, attorney client conversations, things of that nature. But obviously, we're in a situation where Miss Pinckney and her family, they may need to be reimbursed, they need to receive all the money that they were supposed to get a decade ago, someone Mandy, someone had a conversation with the President of Palmetto State Bank, about the need for these people to be reimbursed. And that, you know, the bank needed to contribute to the pot, the bank's stance was that they were going to look at it, as I understand that they were going to look at everything and look at contributing to the reimbursement pot, but they wanted a release sign. And this was relayed to the folks on mine. You know, now the person who was relaying this information did make it clear. You know, hey, the bank, they want to release you don't have to sign it. But they do want one and that really made this made the family nervous. Like why do I need to sign a release or anything like that to get my own money back? now we're here.

Liz Farrell 20:02

Lawyers have told us that these release forms likely wouldn't hold up in court. So the question is, why do they? I think what's happening here is called conflict avoidance. It's kind of like here on Hilton Head, there are signs on the beach that say no drinking. But that rule is rarely enforced. The signs are effective, though, because the vast majority of people obey the law. So in this case, but the bank, it seems like they were betting that people would sign these documents and never think of suing them.

Justin Bamberg 20:30

When I heard about, you know, hey, the banks are looking at contributing, but they want to release yada, yada, yada. I'm like, that's, that's a no fly zone. You know, not only does the bank not have the right to ask for anything for conservatives, to given these people their money back, for the bank to even mention, the idea of someone having a sign away their rights in order to get their own money back, is it's just indicative of what we see. That's our view, it's indicative of what we see, which is some shading that went down, you know, and that's on the bank, you know, the firm,





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the PMPED. They didn't ask for the release. You know, it was just brought up like the bank wants one. But this would have all transpired, I believe during December.

Mandy Matney 21:22

So in December, we dropped our first episode on PMPED and how they were allegedly mistreating Alex Murdaugh's victims, and not handling those cases appropriately. Justin Bamburgh, who was representing eight victims in this case, said that the firm attempted to take legal fees on cases where money was stolen and offered victims less money than what was owed to them.

Liz Farrell 21:44

After that episode aired FITSnews first reported that in the final two days of 2021, Attorneys at PMPED did something rather strange seemingly all at once a group of them registered a litany of new businesses with the South Carolina Secretary of State's office, eight Attorneys, including Alex's brother, Randy created professional corporations and their own names. And one of those attorneys Danny Henderson, a longtime member of the firm, submitted paperwork to create Parker Law Group LLP, listing himself as the Registered Agent. Parker is the last name of one of the firm's most feared, powerful, and wealthiest partners, Johnnie Parker; it still isn't fully clear what is happening here. But it's likely the first step into a future without the Murdaugh name overtly attached to the firm. Some have speculated that it's an attempt for the firm to move their assets away from the alleged victims. But all the new quote unquote businesses are registered to the same Mulberry Street address where the PMPED offices are located, which means that if they're trying to say PMPED, who never heard of them, were the Parker Law Group. These are our gold coins, it's not going to work, at least not according to what we're being told. Another theory here is that the PMPED attorneys are setting up separate legal entities and their own names. So that moving forward, they will not be responsible for each other's malpractice claims like now.

Mandy Matney 23:14

In this case, it sounds like PMPED attorneys weren't handling the situation as they should have, which is how Justin got involved.

Justin Bamberg 23:23

So what happens is, Miss Pamela receives a copy of some documents from MKL, Corey Fleming's firm, so I started looking through everything, and you know, sometimes going through paperwork and checks and numbers. It's kind of dizzy,



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especially when you like, you know, something was missing, but you're trying to recreate and figure out exactly what happened. Okay. And one of the first things that I saw was in looking at chord flemons disbursement sheet, I'm like, why is there a \$9,000 Check be written in 2017 when the money was received in 2011, you know, and that itself was a red flag. But then my question was, Well, hell, if this isn't Pamela's money and Corey was Miss Pamela's lawyer, why didn't why didn't he just call her in and then give her \$89,000? Why was this even made payable to KMP ed in the first place? And why was it sent to Alex? Like obviously, ever since that check to Alex that money never disappears? So it just didn't make any sense? In looking at everything. There were pretty substantial legal fees earned on Corey's side, in that case but I also saw there was \$150,000 Check made payable to the PMPED you know, presumably also given to Alex. That didn't really make sense to me. You know what I mean? Because if Corey Fleming was representing Pamela, Corey, Fleming's law firm earned X amount and legal fees, none of that legal fee money. And I don't I don't know that this is the case. I don't know why there was a \$150,000 payment. But if it was some sort of a Alex, thanks for sending this case, and we made all this money, here's 150 grand for your troubles. I don't know. But it shouldn't, it shouldn't be happening. And if it is, all of that needs to be explained to the client. Right. And obviously, it wasn't. So that's kind of how it starts. Well, then I go through, you know, we start looking at some other documents.

Mandy Matney 25:38

Justin had a lightbulb moment when he found out that Russell Laffitte the bank CEO himself was the conservator in this case.

Justin Bamberg 25:49

So obviously, I'm looking for checks. I know that there was money paid to him as conservator, for example, you know, you see on a disbursement sheet, a \$60,000 payment for conservatively equal unquote. So I'm looking for a check. payable to Russell Laffitte as conservatory for the estate. Oh, I can pay, but I don't find that. What I do find is a \$60,000 check written on PMPED. client trust account at Palmetto State Bank payable directly to the order of Palmetto State Bank. And I'm like, we have a problem here. So then I go and I'm looking and I say, Okay, here's a sheet that says clients performed disbursement hocking cash. So I'm looking for a check made payable to the estate of Hakeem, or payable to Pinckney or something like that. And I don't see that either. So I'm looking, I'm looking, I'm looking and then boom, it's right there is a \$309,000 Check. Written after Hakeem had already died, payable directly to Palmetto State Bank. And it makes no sense whatsoever, because when that check



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was written, and when that check was cashed, my team had died months before that.

Mandy Matney 27:10

That is a big deal. That check in itself puts Palmetto State Bank on the hook for this mass, another light bulb went off in Justin's head. This whole thing sounds exactly like the glorious Satterfield settlement with Alex Murdaugh, Corey Fleming and Palmetto State Bank.

Justin Bamberg 27:30

So there would be zero reason to take that and put it into some account at Palmetto State Bank, because that money now has to go to Norma. She never got it. You know, Mandy, and I think what what we saw and what Eric uncovered in the Satterfield case was you know, Chad Westendorf, the vice president of the bank got approval from Russell Laffitee, to get involved in the Satterfield case and to be the PR, and there was a PR fee that was paid for that I believe was paid directly to Chad Wesson door, like as a person, well, 10 years before what we're seeing with the Pinckney case is this money was paid directly to Palmetto State Bank. And they're in the middle of this and at the end of the day, you know, they're they're gonna have to answer for this.

Mandy Matney 28:26

Justin said, from everything he's seen, this appears to be a pattern

Justin Bamberg 28:31

there. There's definitely a pattern and you know, it makes me wonder, all right, checks made payable to Palmetto State Bank, russula feeds the PR, the conservator. And then at some point, Alex starts using Ford's these accounts he created with Palmetto State Bank, and why he switched, like what led to him creating those fake accounts.

Mandy Matney 28:56

Justin Bamburgh was horrified when he made this discovery.

Justin Bamberg 29:01

You know, it's um, so prior to actually looking at any documents, I want to get to, you know, get to know Hakeem the story. Miss Pamela, what she went through, you know, what the process was, like, how, how she feels, you know, who is your son on



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and, you know, obviously, I go and I see certain things that really made me happy to see, you know, for example, like the idea that our team lost his ability to hear and he overcame in life and ended up winning the national championship in football. That's awesome. I see that I see that the South Carolina Center, honor the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind and the football team that Hakeem played on the year before the red, I see that and I'm like, as though and then when I see what was done to him, by people who owed him a duty to, in the worst, the worst time of his life, the worst time of his mom's life I see that he gets stolen from. And it's Alex Murdaugh, you know whose family has been wealthy for four or five generations. And then I see that our bank worth \$700 million is getting money that was supposed to go to him and that the president of the bank, who's supposed to be protecting this man, is like not doing his job. Like it made me really sad.

Mandy Matney 30:39

Something else struck me as a part of this pattern which resembles the Satterfield settlement. missing documents. The order approving Hakeem's wrongful death settlement was filed last week on January 13 2022. But that order was signed by a judge in 2016. Why did they suddenly file something after Hakeem's story came to light in the media? Oh, and another similarity to the Satterfield case, even after a wrongful death case is settled, the family still has no answers.

Pamela Pinckney 31:12

Anybody wants to know, but we just haven't had that answer yet. Obviously, this dating habit never really told me what happened to my son. Only then he told me is, your son's took a turn for the worse. That's all he told me. He never told me exactly what happened.

Mandy Matney 31:31

No. Now remember, a lot of people filed lawsuits for reasons other than money. A lot of times people file lawsuits to get answers and accountability. Think about it. Lawyers have the power to subpoena for documents and camera footage and they can depose people and get answers where regular citizens and journalists just can't miss Pamela said, what so many grieving parents have told me after they filed wrongful death lawsuits. It's not about the money,

Pamela Pinckney 31:59



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like up till the facility. And like, you know, this little money as y'all giving me nothing compared to my child, because if I could have anything in his world, y'all could keep your money, get off and keep on track.

Mandy Matney 32:16

When I asked Miss Pamela if she wanted an investigation into Hakeem's death, she didn't hesitate to say yes, she wanted to know how this happened. She wants to know who was on duty. She wants to know if the alarm went off on his ventilator. Did somebody mindfully ignore it? What happened?

Liz Farrell 32:35

Let's pause here for a moment. And think about the mess that Alex has created. Whether he's guilty or not. Pamela Pinckney, a mom who was behind the wheel when the wreck occurred, a wreck that left her son with no ability to move or even breathe on his own, who then later died as a result of negligence or worse, as had 10 years to grieve and heal and navigate her pain, then all of a sudden gets yanked back in time through no fault of her own, because Alex allegedly did what he did. So many victims are now having to face the fact that they were taken advantage of and so many victims like Pamela are having to relive and think about what is likely the worst time of their lives. This isn't just about the money that was allegedly stolen. It's about the emotional terrorism that ALEKS alleged misdeeds have caused.

Mandy Matney 33:21

In the last month, Miss Pamela has had to deal with another stage of grief, she never anticipated betrayal.

Pamela Pinckney 33:30

And we could totally be honest about it. The way I feel is like I just got to know that my son just passed away. And I'm just going through the motions all over again. That's just how deep the pain is. But it is two times harder because I'm going through it in a second. Second phase again. You know, I never thought I would have to relive this again. I thought I could just put my hat behind me. First of all it would move on with my life but it's just so complicated. To know that you put your trust in your emphasis and someone that says they have your best interest. Look at you and your face. Tell you and your entire family that you have our best interests. We don't have anything to worry about. You got us 100% And then you go and you steal from us. Even though you got paid through legal fees and all this to work the case. You



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turn around and you steal on top of that from the family. And my son is deceased. That really it tears me apart little every day

Mandy Matney 34:50

and what really tears both Justin and I apart is that it took so much for Miss Pamela to find out the truth about her attorney Alex Murdaugh and what really happened with their money.

Justin Bamberg 35:01

It made me feel really bad to see that, you know, and it made me wonder like, what if you hadn't been covering all of this for all this time? What if Eric hadn't fought for the Satterfields the way that he did? Right? What if no one ever found out? What if no one ever found out? You know, and you think about how Hakeem passed away, you know, in the ventilator being unplugged, and, and all of that, and it's like, damn, like, could that money have made a difference? I don't know. You'll never know. But the fact that these people had lived through some very trying times, they never gave up Hakeem, never until he took his last breath. This young man never gave up. His mom never gave up. You're supposed to have a lawyer fighting for you that never gives up and you're supposed to have a conservator in a PR fighting for you that never gives up. And it looks like the bank. And Alex Murdaugh and Russell Laffitte. In that instance, were fighting for themselves. Not him. You know. So initially, yeah, Mandy, it was almost tearing up over sadness, and then it was like the switch flip, and I got angry.

Mandy Matney 36:19

And we'll be right back. When you look at this case, and its entirety, it's truly disgusting behavior. It's rich people who have had all the privilege and power they could ever need. Stealing from vulnerable people who desperately needed that money. Miss Pamela told me that Hakeem's condition was actually improving. Around the time he died, she had plans to bring them home. And as a kid who never complained, she knew her son hated that facility.

Pamela Pinckney 36:53

Yes, at one point there was weaning him off the bed. He got off the bed. He got off the bed for like, a couple hours a day. He was doing good.

Mandy Matney 37:04



## EPISODE 28: What Happened to Hakeem Pinckney? Part One

Every detail of the story is gut wrenching. And the wreckage goes far beyond a financial crime.

Justin Bamberg 37:11

Just think about it, right? Like Hakeem dies on October 11 2011. Okay, these checks that were payable to Palmetto State Bank, were written after that. Everybody knew who died a horrible death. Can you imagine being our King? And this is what makes me angry. Can you imagine being Hakeem in your ventilators unplugged, and you're sitting there and you can't talk? And you can't move? And you can't hear? But you're suffocating? does, it gets me so upset, to think about and put myself like put myself in his body in that moment. And then to know that his mom has to think about that too. And then you still have money, you know, and then in 2017, you've got more money that's supposed to go to her, not that money fixes any of this, right? Money doesn't fix any of these people, she would rather have her son and have a penny of money. Right? All these people who went through these horrible, horrible accidents and got hurt, and I had to have my back fused, I'd rather have a good back than have money. You see, I'm saying in this situation, Mandy, she has to come to grips with the fact that my son will never be the same. And now my son is gone. And all I can get is money. And she's got to come to grips with that. I've done wrongful death cases, right. And it is hard as the lawyer to talk to the client, about the value of life in terms of settling a case or in terms of a defendant paying money. Like it actually makes things better. It doesn't make things better. It's the system that we have. Right? It's our only option for Corey Fleming Alex, meadow state bank, to know all of this, and not do things the right way to give them every penny of what they're supposed to get. It is infuriating. It is disgusting. It is heartbreaking. It's cold, it's callous, like people forget that at the end of the day, right? And I don't you know, people are really different things. Personally, I'm a Christian. I have strong beliefs in that regard. And I try to live my life a certain way. Every knee shall bow at the end of the day. And it feels like people aren't thinking about that. You know, Thou shalt not kill, you know, don't still do unto others as you'd have them do unto you. And even if you don't believe in anything, You still want to be a decent person, you know. And if you'd steal money from somebody in Hakeem's position, what wouldn't you do? That's what I've been thinking about. What wouldn't you do? Because it's cold. That does. That is cold as hell to do that.

Mandy Matney 40:24

At the end of the day, Miss Pamela wants the world to remember her son Hakeem Pinckney for the strong, inspiring man he was before his life was suddenly taken,



## EPISODE 28: What Happened to Hakeem Pinckney? Part One

Pamela Pinckney 40:38

the impact that he put on people's life, meaning that there's no limitation on whatever kind of disability that you may have in life, that the sky's the limit. You can do whatever you want to do, and you just put your mind to it.

Mandy Matney 40:58

Miss Pamela misses her son every single day.

Pamela Pinckney 41:03

I just miss him being here, his presence. Just let him just be here to help do things for me because if you see someone doing something, he can do it. He'll tell you to stop. Let me do it. And you sit down, I got this. That was the type of kid he always was.

Mandy Matney 41:25

While the story makes most of us, myself included, filled with rage and anger. Miss Pamela, amazingly, has no room for hate in her heart.

Pamela Pinckney 41:37

But you know, one thing that I want to say is that my heart is pure. conscience is clear. I don't have any grudges. I don't hate Alex Murdaugh. I forgive him. Because the Christian walk that I have in my life, and I'm a God fearing woman. So I thought if I love God, I have to forgive him. And I forgive him for everything that he has caused me and my family to go through physically, mentally, emotionally, I have forgiven him. But I can never forget this.

Mandy Matney 42:22

According to our sources, we expect charges to be filed against Alex in the Hakeem Pinckney case sometime soon. on the civil side of the law. Bamberg is still weighing options before filing lawsuits in the case

Justin Bamberg 42:37

when I spoke to the Pinckney family to get reimbursed for the money that was taken. If someone works and doesn't want to do it, then yeah, we'll sue them and we're gonna let Hampton county citizens live there, the 12 that in the BOMA jury will let them hold them accountable. And I think that is one of the scariest things if, if I'm on the other side, that's one of the scariest things. Do you want to be a bank or a





## EPISODE 28: What Happened to Hakeem Pinckney? Part One

lawyer or a firm? Who, you know, the Murdaugh family, the league Pete family, right? They've been in power and been wealthy for five generations like that when most of the people who live in Hampton or Bamberg County, like couldn't even go to schools that had good textbooks, or, you know, you couldn't you couldn't get a loan to build something you didn't have access to any of that because you are a minority. Right? Or because you were deemed to be a lower class, white person, right? You don't want to be sitting in the dependent chair buttons. Well, people who know history, determine how much they need to award to punish you and to deter other people from doing what the defendant did. But again, to each his own. When I open my clients, there are open lines of communication. And, you know, I think that some folks will do the right thing here. But if somebody doesn't, it's gonna be what it's gonna be.

Mandy Matney 44:15

Also relevant right now, we're hearing from sources that Alex's co-conspirators will be indicted soon too. Will we see Corey Fleming and wrestle the feet in handcuffs Corey had his law license suspended this past fall and was fired by his law firm after he was exposed in the media. And earlier this month, wrestler feet was suspended by the bank's board of directors then fired a few days later. Another question we have, at what point did the Fed start filing charges? Surely they're going to play some role. Now there's so much more related to Hakeem story that we can't fit into one episode, and much of the story has yet to come out. And it's not just another case. and a long list of crimes associated with the saga. Each of the victims matter and we plan to share Hakeem and Pamela's story until each layer is peeled back and justice is delivered. Stay tuned. The Murdaugh minors podcast is created by me, Mandy Matney and my fiance David Moses. Our executive editor is Liz Farrell, produced by Luna Shark productions.