



EPISODE 28: Alex Murdaugh's Sentencing Hearing Part Two + The Becky Hill Set-Up

Mandy Matney 00:03

I don't know how the narrative surrounding Becky Hill in Alex Murdaugh's murder trial have spun so wildly out of control. But after diving into the allegations against her all signs are pointing to his setup where sunlight is needed now more than ever. My name is Manny Matney. This is true sunlight a podcast exposing crime and corruption previously known as the Murdaugh martyrs podcast true sunlight is ALuna Shark production written with journalist Liz FARRELL It's me Hi. I'm in my cold era, hoping my real voice comes back someday. I want to say a special thanks to sweet Sandy Smith for telling my husband to make me hot toddies this week, it has helped. I want to start off by saying thank you to everyone who came out to the coop Nashville on Sunday. I was nervous to do this event because I don't have a lot of ties to Nashville. But oh my gosh, you all showed up big. We ran out of books because we didn't expect that many people to show up. It has been an honor and a privilege meeting so many of you all these past few weeks. I love hearing your stories and hearing why you started listening to MMP are how you relate to the stories in my book. And by the way, my book Blood on Their Hands is out now and it will make a great Christmas present for any pesky person in your life. I'm still not giving up on that New York Times bestseller list, you all can still make it happen at the blood on their hands book.com To order your copy today, as Justin Bamberg always says infinite hope baby. So we're taking a little bit of a break from live events, but we will come back strong in January and beyond. We want to create casual meet and greets, book signings, educational presentations, live Q&A university events, cocktail happy hours and more. And we want to source these ideas from listeners and Premium members with y'all connecting us with venues where possible. Essentially you gather the people and name the place and we will show up and add to the experience with programming swag into the budget. Visit [lunasharkmedia.com/new events](https://lunasharkmedia.com/new-events) to submit

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your idea for consideration. So today is part two of Alex Murdaugh sentencing hearing episode we're going to break down his self centered and highly revealing 15 minute speech to the court. But first we want to talk about what's going on with Colleton County Clerk of Court Becky Hill because the fix is almost in and we need to sound the alarm in a way we never have before. For weeks now it has been clear to us behind the scenes that all signs are pointing to a setup with Becky the setup is this Team Murdaugh wants to tear down her credibility so that the media and therefore the public will reach the sloppy and incongruent conclusion that therefore Alex Murdaugh should get a new trial. But let's be ultra clear here. This is about the egg lady juror Alex, the one juror the one we know of at least who seemed to be of the mind that he was not guilty. And Dick and Jim couldn't fight that during the trial because they knew that Judge Newman had the absolute discretion to dismiss her. They knew that he didn't have to give her the benefit of the doubt which he did. They knew that the egg lady juror got caught lying. Regardless of what she might have said to those tenets she violated the Judge's order. That is the bottom indisputable line here. She spoke about the trial outside of the courtroom and then lied about it according to her tenants and according to her husband who admitted they talked about it and who admitted hearing her talk about it to the tenant. The problem for Dick and Jim is that the eighth lady juror has credibility issues. Her word alone that Becky spoke out of turn cannot be taken at face value. So they puffed up the allegations and all but included boxes of blank sheets of paper to support their claims. Then the AGs office came back with a strong response with receipts and the merits of Dick and Jim's case seem to dissolve through Team Murdaugh had to try a different tack and here we are Bay want the Attorney General's office to lose their resolve and given to stop standing their ground against a new trial when faced with the public perception that Becky has done something wrong. They want the decision makers, the



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Supreme Court, who will appoint a new judge to hear their motion for a new trial to then feel pressured into making decisions based on the perception that Becky has done something wrong and has credibility issues. Never mind what the facts say. Never mind what the law says. Never mind how obviously coordinated all of this theme Team Murdaugh once the media and therefore the public to make the mistake of thinking that something is happening and Column B makes the thing and Column A immediately true. In other words, in column B, we have Becky's drama with our son and the ethics complaint, but they have nothing to do with Column A meaning Alex Murdaugh's guilty verdict. But Team Murdaugh wants all of you to think the two are one and the same so that they can get a new trial, as Friedrich Nietzsche once said, they muddied the water to make you think it's deep thanks to the person who posted that on Twitter yesterday. And because the media and more prominent social media personalities have major financial stakes in there being a new trial, they're not just going to push back hard enough. They're basically facilitating that outcome, whether consciously or subconsciously, it's undeniable that the trial of Alex Murdaugh brought new notoriety to South Carolina publications and media figures. We include ourselves in that the spotlight has been huge, which as you all know, has its upsides and downsides. It has never been about the spotlight for us. And it still is not. We do not want a new trial, no matter how much financial incentive might come with it. We believe justice was served as far as the murders go. But for some in the media, not all but some. It seems like the onslaught of national attention has been so intoxicating that they're not ready to let go of it just yet. It seems like they want a new trial. And if we're wrong about that, well could have fooled us by how they're acting. If we've learned anything over these past three months since Dick and Jim first made their hollow allegations against Becky it is that context does not seem to matter one bit to those who are spreading the message for Team



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Murdaugh, especially not to social media personalities, TV talking heads and members of the media who are more concerned about maintaining their own relevance in this case, then they are about what the success of Team Murdaugh's plot to free Alex Murdaugh would mean to the people of Hampton and Colleton County who have lived under this oppressive and controlling presence for generations. It doesn't seem to matter to them that Alex Murdaugh is a pathological liar. It doesn't seem to matter to them that Dick and Jim have helped perpetuate Alex's lies and have repeatedly misrepresented circumstances to the court. The Murdaugh's continued stronghold over the low country doesn't seem to factor into their conversations on television, or in social media, the endless connections between Deckard Poulin and the various players now who have a hand in helping take down Becky doesn't seem to be a topic of discussion for them. They seem to have forgotten the state's response to Dick and Jim's motion for a new trial with evidence showing just how wrong Dick and Jim are about the jury tampering claims and just how weak their case is. The media and the personalities and talking heads are largely reporting on this case, absent the context, they are constantly resetting the board for Team Murdaugh and they don't ever seem to be questioning the validity of the information that they are getting from the people who are quite clearly acting on their behalf.

Liz Farrell 08:53

There is a full scale attack happening and it's far more sinister than what we saw happen in the months after the boat crash and 2019. Back before we knew what we know now, back when we suspected that the Murdaughs were setting up Connor Cook, back when we suspected that Alex and his father were doing their best to foul up and muddy the case, i.e. obstruct justice. Back when we thought something didn't seem quite right with the glorious Satterfield case, things we now know



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to be true. This is more sinister than that. And that was beyond evil beyond dirty, but this makes that look light. I know there are people out there who want to insert a Yeah, but into this. Yeah, but if Becky really did speak to jurors, isn't that a problem? Or yeah, but her son wouldn't have been arrested without cause or Yeah, but what about those ethics complaints? Or yeah, but you guys hate Alex Murdaugh and only want to see the parts that keep his conviction intact. Ignore the robots for now we can hit the robots when there's more factual information to draw from. For now. Team Murdaugh is on a mission to destroy Becky's reputation through the allegations alone so that a new trial will come their way without having to rely on the facts of their jury tampering allegations. They want her to look so bad that the decision makers feel like they have no choice. This is why it's incredibly disturbing to see some in the media all but validate that messaging by not including the context. By the way, there is nothing more nauseating than watching members of the media, and commentators justify their reporting by hiding behind false virtue all to the benefit of Alex Murdaugh. The statement we're just trying to get to the truth is an utter lie when it comes from those who are giving more weight to the allegations than they do to the facts, while never acknowledging that at the center of their misguided equivalencies is a man who lied about where he was the night his wife and son were killed, who wants the public to believe to five foot two inch people killed Paul and Maggie with the family's weapons that they happen to find on the property who tried to get the help to lie for him about where he was that night and what he was wearing that day, who wanted SLED to believe that a mystery man who looked an awful lot like Mallory Beach, his boyfriend tried to kill him on the side of the road, whose entire legal career has been one big scam to defraud the poor, and who was employed just about every trick there is to getting out of accountability from every angle, our mission hasn't changed. We want there to be one system of justice, not one for Alex



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Murdaugh and one for the rest of us. And we want whatever is at the heart of Elux thefts and the murders to be exposed once and for all. Right now. All we're seeing are attempts to weaken the resolve of Attorney General Allen Wilson, SLED Chief Mark Keel and the South Carolina Supreme Court using the headlines and discussions on national TV and the punch of disingenuous audacity coming from Tim Murdaugh. That is what's actually happening right now. They want a new trial and they will take down whoever gets in their way. So let's go back to what we said a little bit ago about Team Murdaugh's current goal of tearing down Becky's credibility, it's important to understand each element of what's happening separately. Let's talk about the all important mode of again, Tim Murdaugh wants you to believe that Becky tampered with the jury for her own fame and fortune. They had to have something you can't just accuse a person with changing the outcome of a trial without there being a reason that person would want to do that. It's literally the only thing they could come up with. And it is weak. As you know, they want us to put leave that Becky believe that her self published book that she wrote with a man who has also never written a book before would result in some meaningful change in her financial status. I know a lot of crazy things happen in this world, but it's more than a stretch to suggest that a woman who barely knows how to use social media whose book offers no bombshells no drama, no new information other than insight into her own experiences during the trial of the century orchestrated things so that I'm a member of a family known for its power and ability to ruin people's lives using law enforcement would be wrongfully convicted. Let us remind you that the only reason Maggie and Paul were at Moselle that night was because of Alex. He asked them to be there. He lied about his alibi about why Maggie and Paul were there. He tried to pin the murders on the boat crash victims multiple times. He lied about what he was wearing. He tried to get others to lie for him. He lied about owning a



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300 blackout. He lied about being shot on the side of the road, and so on and so on and so on. That is the man who Dick and Jim want people to believe was set up by Becky the self published book writer. We've been asked to consider the idea that Becky was up to something nefarious as Dick and Jim suggest, so help us with that one. Help us understand what she stood to gain from Alex's guilt. The trial was compelling no matter what the outcome ended up being. In fact, there's an argument to be made that a book from Becky would actually have been far more interesting if Alex had been found not guilty. We all got to see the evidence against him. The vast majority of us believed the evidence showed he was guilty if he had been found not guilty. Boy, would we be interested in the behind the scenes on that? No. ABC four news reporter Drew Tripp made an excellent observation about this motive. He pointed out that of the dozen or so people who are writing books about Alex or who have written books about Alex many, if not all of them had book deals in place before Alex Murdaugh was even charged. Pause there. That observation alone undoes Dickens Jim's assertion that Becky's motive was tied to the verdict. And by the way, we'd venture to guess that not one of those writers with actual book deals would tell you that their books depended on Alex's guilt or innocence. Not one. Okay, let's talk about Becky's book. Tim Murdaugh and the ethics complaint writers want you to believe that Becky went into this trial with the dastardly plan to write her A book and make sure Alex was found guilty so she could sell it. But the truth is this going into this trial, Becky says she considered the notion of one day writing a book about it. Notice my use of the word notion. She had no concrete plans in place to write this book. No agent, no book deal, no outline, no plan, just a thought. On March 1, the day the jury traveled to Moselle Becky met a photographer named Melissa Gordon, this encounter happened when Becky was assuring that cameras would be down as the jury arrived at Moselle she saw a man and a media shirt who



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appeared to be live streaming. She asked Melissa if she knew who the man was. This is when Becky and Melissa introduced themselves to each other, this initial encounter was inadvertently recorded on Melissa's camera. So counter to what a tick tock lawyer named Laurie put out there and counter to the claims made in one of two ethics complaints against Becky Becky did not have a plan in place to write this book until after the trial. And she did not mean Melissa Gordon, whose husband ended up CO writing the book until the very end of the trial. According to Neil Gordon Becky's co author, it would be another few weeks before he'd meet Becky, and they talk about the potential of writing this book together. Now, early on in the book writing process. In April, Becky sought the opinion of the South Carolina Ethics Commission as to whether it was appropriate for her to write the book, the Ethics Commission essentially said it's cool as long as this isn't something that would otherwise be part of your job. In other words, is this something that the public is already paying you to do and the scope and duties of your position? Obviously, the public isn't paying her to write books right? Tick tock, Laurie, online commenters and the ethics complaint writers have twisted this, of course, saying that the Ethics Commission told Becky that she couldn't write the book because it's something that arose from her role as clerk. Here's David with what the commission actually said.

DAVID MOSES 16:55

To determine whether the proposed outside employment is permissible analysis of the term, quote, official capacity is required. There is a three pronged definition of this term in the ethics act. And all three of these elements must be present for the outside employment to be considered within a public official's official capacity. Here, you must consider the following questions. One, does the opportunity for the activity arise as a result of your position as clerk of court? Two? Is the



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subject matter of the work something within your official responsibility? Three? Is this type of work something that the clerk of courts office would normally perform and for which you could receive expense reimbursement or by the clerk of courts office? If the answers to all three of these questions are yes, then writing the book would be within your official capacity, and it would be impermissible for you to receive compensation for writing the book. In the opinion of commission staff, it seems unlikely that writing a book would fall within your official responsibilities as clerk of court. However, you will have to make that ultimate determination based on your official duties and the guidelines offered above. If the answer to any of the above questions is no, then the work is not within your official capacity. And you may receive compensation for authoring the book so long as you adhere to the Commission's guidelines on off duty employment.

Mandy Matney 18:44

It is worth noting that the Ethics Commission capitalized the word any if the answer to any of the questions is no, then the work is not within Becky's official capacity. The answer to question three was no. The book is not the type of work that the clerk of courts office would normally perform for which she would receive compensation from the clerk of courts office. So if you hear tick talkers or see other comments online saying Becky was not allowed to write this book because the subject matter was something that fell within her official responsibility.

Remember what's missing from what that tick talker or commenter is saying the context is missing. They are not giving you the full picture. They are not giving you the full story which should make you question everything else that they're saying. By the way, now we are not defending Becky's book, we both wish that she would have waited to write it specifically because of the mess that she is in now. But there are questions the media and the AGs office in the public need to be asking



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in those include did anyone connected to Team Murdaugh encouraged Becky to write a book in any way Did anyone connected to tea Murdaugh regularly check in with Becky to see how the book was coming in find out when it would be published. Did anyone connected to tea Murdaugh offer advice about the book or its publishing date or encourage her to take part in documentaries as a way to promote that book? We've already discussed what's in the book in past episodes. We already told you how Dick and Jim are singularly focused on Becky's use of the word we when describing a conversation that was had on the ride back from Moselle. During the trial, we've already told you how they've mischaracterized us as including herself among the jury, when in fact we refer very plainly to the courtroom staff in the car with her. Again, this is all context that is being left out of media reports and by tick talkers and context matters.

Liz Farrell 20:58

Okay, so the book is one thing. The next thing is the jury tampering accusations. There are three elements to that. The first we've talked about all of this is about the egg lady juror whose dismissal was indisputably warranted. Also, she has credibility issues, which is a giant problem for Dick and Jim because the weight of the jury tampering accusations rest on her shoulders. The second element we've covered in past episodes, so we won't get into it too much here. To summarize, the state has not only poked numerous and significant holes in Dickon Jim's assertions and showed how some former jurors even felt threatened and intimidated by Dick and Jim coming to their doors. The state has shown that not one juror has said their verdict was influenced in any way by Becky, not even the one juror who signed an affidavit for Dick and Jim. Additionally, the state included an affidavit from a former employee of Becky's, someone who might be inclined to maligned Becky because of hard feelings between the two. Even she said she



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didn't witness anything improper between Becky and the jury. Which brings us to the third element. Whether Dick and Jim get a new trial for Alex will be based on how the law gets interpreted. Oh, yeah, it's about the law, not the headlines. Dick and Jim say that it doesn't matter whether Becky influenced the outcome of the verdict. They say the accusations alone should entitle Alex to a new trial. The state and legal scholars behind the scenes say that it absolutely does matter that the jurors are saying that Becky did not influence the outcome of their vote, not one juror has claimed that and not only that, but validating Dickinson's reckless assertions in any way puts the integrity of all juries at risk. The context here is this. There is no evidence of jury tampering and no evidence that Alex Murdaugh was convicted for any other reason than he is guilty of killing Maggie and Paul. And regardless of what Becky wrote in her book, regardless of what anyone thinks of Becky on social media or thinks about her book, no one who matters is saying she affected their verdict. And Dick and Jim know this, they know that the law is not on their side. And neither are the facts. They know that egg lady jurors' credibility cannot be relied upon. The only chance they seem to have are getting a new trial is to get the public to believe that SLED is corrupt and that the FBI should take over the investigation to get the public to believe that Creighton water should recuse himself from the case altogether and that the AGs office should appoint a third party prosecutor to the case. This is why they force Judge Newman off the case. This is extremely important. What I'm about to say, this is at the heart of everything. Dick and Jim can only win Alex's case if they remove the Judge, the prosecutor and the investigators and make way for their own guys. They can't win with the facts but they might be able to win with their own Judge their own prosecutor and their own investigators hand picked behind the scenes and then lobbied for by their friends with power, who when challenged will use justifications that are absent the context and absent the



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acknowledgement of past deception such as we just want to get at the truth here. That is the good old boy system and everything they've been doing through the media is called grooming. Team Murdaugh is grooming the media and the public to accept their desired outcome as an inevitability and not see it for the corruption that it would be when you're in the media and being grown by the good ol boys I guess it's hard to remember that the only way to get at the truth is to break down the facts and consider the context of those facts not just repeat allegations and shrug your shoulders for some airtime. Again this is about the egg lady juror it's her word against Becky's right we already know the egg lady jurors word is not credible. So the only line of attack left is to make Becky less credible which brings us to Becky's son Colt and his arrest. We have no idea what the facts of that case are and no idea what if any involvement Becky might have. But here's the context. What does this arrest have to do with the jury tampering allegations? No one's seen to know, do they at least no one who said anything publicly yet it's being talked about as if Becky herself was arrested, even if the alleged wiretapping does turn out to be connected to Becky directly what what's something that happened in July have to do with anything the jury decided on March 2. We know it's not a recording of Becky talking about how she tampered with the jury because God knows Dick would be standing outside our windows saying anything with a boombox over his head playing the recording. But we do know that according to sources by July, Becky was starting to fear that Team Murdaugh was coming for her, which brings us to those ethics complaints to ethics complaints were filed against Becky in July. Here's the context of that not a single accusation made against her alleges that she tampered with the jury not a single accusation has anything to do with the verdict in Alex case, frankly, most of the accusations seem to be demonstrably false such as the accusation that the media paid for decades birthday party at the media center is Dicks friend and egg lady



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juror attorney Joe McCullough starting a newspaper. I had no idea he'd be considered media. Wow, these complainants must have some really great and accurate insight into what Becky was up to. Now, the identities of the complainants are only known to the Ethics Commission to Becky and to the people in the complainants lives who know they filed these complaints. Of course, those people tend to talk. It's been known for some time now that the two people who made the complaints have questionable ties to Team Murdaugh and or questionable and perhaps political motivations in filing the complaints. In one case, it's questionable that the complainant had any first hand knowledge whatsoever about the complaints they made, meaning this person not only has a past that draws their credibility into question and not only has direct ties to Murdaugh affiliates, this person seems to have relied wholly on gossip and personal assumption in filing their complaint. It makes us wonder why that complaint in particular wasn't immediately dismissed.

Mandy Matney 27:01

So the complaints were recently leaked to the media at exactly the same time that 14th circuit solicitor Duffy stone wrote a letter to Attorney General Alan Wilson asking Wilson to take over the case and present it to the grand jury for further investigation. Of course, the headlines were particularly grim after this, absent from most if not all of the stories we read was a mention of Duffy's connection to the Murdaughs in the murder case. Oh, hey, isn't Duffy a protege of Dakar Poulin and denote the fact that his investigators who had no business being on the murder scene because their jobs didn't include murder investigation, something Dick Shor did bring up at the trial to erode at the integrity of the investigation there the reason we all had to learn about what a Faraday bag is and how Duffy's investigators failed to use one and transporting Maggie's phone from the scene. Also, absent from



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the stories were questions like this. How did Duffy the Murdaugh affiliated solicitor who refused to recuse themselves from the murder case for two months ended up with this case? Did the Ethics Commission refer to him? Or was he conducting his own investigation into Becky if so, why in regarding the complaints delete complaints were redacted with the identities of the complainants blacked out? Were these complaints leaked by the Ethics Commission by law enforcement by the AGs? Office? We sure hope not. But the question has to be asked because here is what is unfair to Becky: deleting complaints allows for a total bonanza of speculation on her without the benefit of people getting to hear her responses to them. The leaking doesn't allow for any sort of meaningful analysis into the potential motivation behind the complaints. There's only full on insinuation that gets to happen against Becky, we will say this, there appears to have some sort of deployment happening from behind the scenes, release the complaints now que Duffy's letter. Now cue the headlines in the talk shows and the social media comments. One social media video, a five minute rant from TikTok Lori repeated the claims made in the complaints almost verbatim and spots she used the word allegedly here and there to couch the claims but her profanity laced rant expressing the kind of certain outrage one usually reserved for things known to be true. Or maybe outrage for someone like Alex Murdaugh perhaps made it seem like she had unearthed a treasure trove of new facts about the case and not just accusations accompanied by evidence. She accused Becky of giving preferential treatment to Melissa Gordon during the trial including 30 days of preferred seating, allowing Melissa to skip the line each morning. It's an interesting accusation because Melissa says that she only attended the trial for four days and waited in line each day. As we mentioned, it wasn't until March 1 that Becky met Melissa, you know, who did seem to get preferential treatment during the trial Good Old Joe Macola, who wore a media



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badge and came to trial every single day for six weeks to allegedly take notes for an upcoming screenplay, which I guess got interrupted when he decided to represent a glady juror for some reason, I say for some reason, because why would she need an attorney if not to help Alex secure a new trial?

Liz Farrell 30:47

Let's just pause here for a second because this TikTok Lori video is completely demonstrative of what we're trying to say. Team Murdaugh is relying on accusations to be taken as fact, and people are just repeating the accusations without vetting them in the slightest. Let's talk about what an ethics complaint is and what the commission is supposed to do. The South Carolina Ethics Commission is tasked with enforcing the 1991 state ethics government accountability and Campaign Reform Act. There are eight members on the commission, four are appointed by the governor, two are appointed by the State Senate and two are appointed by the State House. It's a bipartisan group of people. They handle complaints concerning things like conflicts of interest involving public officials and public employees or campaign finance issues. There is a code of law that lays out exactly the kinds of things that would be considered a violation of the act, meaning there are specific statutes that can be cited in filing a complaint. Not one of the complaints includes a specific reference to a violation of any of these statutes. Instead, they rely on vague and unsubstantiated accusations, many of which, like we said, are demonstrably false meaning there's no evidence attached to anything we saw, no receipts, no bank statements. In fact, some of the accusations are couched with the word May, as in the clerk may have done something. Some include the phrase I don't know what happened and other accusations are simply false. For instance, Melissa Gordon did not take a picture of Alex lying in his cell awaiting the verdict. That picture was taken off a



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security screen. Those screens were positioned all throughout the courthouse. Law enforcement knows who took the photo. According to our sources. It wasn't Melissa, it wasn't Neal, and it wasn't Becky. The complaints also accused Becky of misappropriating funds, including donations made to the courthouse by Taurus, specifically a \$100 check that the complainant says was deposited into Becky's personal account. There are also accusations about her taking money meant to be reimbursed to the county from a vendor and misappropriating federal money meant for Family Court. Again, there doesn't seem to be any supporting evidence included with allegations but those allegations are likely why Allen Wilson's office is now handling the case because they go beyond the scope of the Ethics Commission. Now, let's say together one more time, those allegations have nothing to do with Alex Murdaugh's verdict. So before we move on to Alex sentencing hearing speech, let's just list this out. Again, real quick. Feel free to share this with anyone who wants to conflate Becky's legal dramas with Alex's verdict. The egg lady juror was dismissed as a result of being caught in a lie not because of anything Becky did or said. But Dick and Jim need Becky's credibility to be worse than the egg ladies to get anyone to take the egg lady's accusations against Becky seriously. Moreover, Judge Newman could have dismissed the egg lady juror without questioning her but he didn't. He allowed her to tell her side and she got caught in that lie. Dick and Jim were part of the process and did not object to her dismissal. According to filings so far, Dick and Jim did not have one single juror saying their verdict came as a result of something Becky said or did instead we have jurors saying that Becky's warnings to quote pay attention were general warnings and not specific to Alex Moreover, no jurors are corroborating the egg lady's assertions that Becky was lurking around the jury room and having secret meetings with the four person. Team Murdaugh wants the public to believe that Becky's credibility plays an absolute role in the outcome of Alex's verdict.



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Doesn't matter what Becky says, it matters what the jurors say. And they're saying she didn't do these things. So far, we've seen several demonstrably false accusations come out of these complaints, but ultimately, the ethics complaints do not matter. Nor does the wiretapping case matter because the only thing that matters is did Becky influence the outcome of this trial? She didn't. It is that simple. Be careful listening to people who are willingly allowing themselves to get groomed by Team Murdaugh all so that they can make a buck.

Mandy Matney 34:55

Now, the part of the show I have personally been dreading Part Two of Alex Murdaugh's hearing, the part where Alex hijacked the hearing, used the courtroom as a microphone and took us all into the depths of his disjointed mind where he truly believes that his words still matter. And that is the part that he left out the context that is so important. Alex Murdaugh is so clearly different from the rest of us because he stood before the court assuming that everyone would want to listen to him. He didn't even bother to address the obvious elephant in the room, which is why believe Him now when he has lied so much before what has changed. It was tough to watch this the first time and even harder to watch the second this man has been convicted of murder. This man has been caught stealing millions. This man has been caught lying about his own fake suicide. Judge gurgles said it best. Murdaugh is manifestly not a credible witness. And yet, even after two years behind bars, Alex Murdaugh is still Alex Murdaugh who believes he can talk his way out of anything. You might think Alex's confidence and his speaking abilities would have taken a bit of a hit since he chose to take the stand in his own murder trial in a jury of his own peers and a county that used to be Murdaugh country outwardly rejected his narrative and convicted him of murdering his family. But no, not Alex Murdaugh. Because the thing is Alex is still surrounded by people feeding the beast



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of an ego inside of him. His lawyers are not taking the facts as facts that the jury found him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt due to evidence. Instead, Alex and his lawyers have concocted this absurd theory, but a small town court clerk named Becky Hill devised a plan to secure Alex skill by erroneously tampering with the jury so she could score a self published book deal with herself and achieve mediocre Murdaugh fame. Alex is still the kid who has never been corrected. Even after being convicted of murder. He will never accept his fate, but instead, he will set out to destroy anyone who steps in his way as much as it hurt my stomach to watch this man standing before the court with a confidence of Tom Cruise. I think ultimately, it was good for the public to be reminded of the monster that they created and recognize the tactics that this man takes to make sure this never happens again. I won't make you all suffer through the entire speech but I do want to pick out a few parts that are important before he started on his stream soliloquy. Deckard Poulin said the speech would take five to 10 minutes which was yet another narcissist's move right out of the gate. narcissists only value their own time and they do not care if the audience has other expectations.

Alex Murdaugh 38:14

Each of you that spoke to know that I listened to the heard you. You pay and you heard is palpable. It's reasonable I promise you that it resonates with me time when you can look back and know that despite the things that I did that I care about each one of them because I did I did terrible things. Each of you placed your trust in me. I was very proud of that. And I'm still today honored by that fat to see each of you here I did terrible things that thinking about right now. call me if you hurt me to be disturbed. It is so important to me that you know how bother that I am about the things that I did it is important to me

39:57



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after hours days, weeks months self reflection I know now that I took more and more pills because I was having attempting to have probably out reality of the things that I was doing all of you do care about each of us special recollections of my interactions with each one of you outside of the terrible things that I did

Mandy Matney 40:46

Let's all just say a collective view before we start off because you were Alex has learned absolutely nothing in his words are proof of that one How dare he say that the victims pain is reasonable Alex is a murderer and not a reasonable person and he still feels like he has authority over other people's feelings to notice. He said I did things that thinking about right now caused me to be disturbed and it is so important that you know how bothered I am by this not to state he is bothered by what he did to these victims in the way that I am bothered when my DoorDash takes longer than usual. Three, why are the victim supposed to care about how this affected him? Even his apologies are so riddled with privilege for and finally, at least Alex Murdaugh is consistent in his opening he got to the heart of what he wants to say feel sorry for me because I was on drugs that made me crazy when I stole from you but not crazy enough to kill my own family. Additionally, he seemed to vaguely blame the victims for his drug addiction. What I did to you because I cared about you bothered me so much that I took drugs to cover it up. Next Alex began addressing the individual victims, which by the way, is seen as very inappropriate. According to victims attorney Sarah Ford, Alex started with the most important victim and his eyes Jordan Jinx. Jinx was Alex's childhood friend and is now a Hampton county councilman. He was the man who made Alex's face change when he said that he knew intimate things about him. That was close to us. Anybody festival? Has anybody actually grew up together?



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Alex Murdaugh 43:07

To get a loan all over the country. I mean, I think we've talked to each other about everything that's important to both of us. Man, I hate the things that I did. Sunday's were the best friends. When I say that I care about you. As hypocritical as that seems to liven things up. It is so true. I did care about each of you. And I still care about each of you.

Mandy Matney 43:46

He went on to tell Miss Pinkney how our hugs used to make his days better, and he said other random things about the victims that he stole from like the fact that he remembers Dionne Martins graduation and his daddy. It was as if he believed his appreciation of the victims would be considered a gift to the victims. In the middle of that rant. Alex Murdaugh found an opportunity to proclaim His innocence in the murders. You know the real reason why you stood before the court.

Alex Murdaugh 44:15

One more thing JJ going back I do want to tell you as to how close I feel to you, my wife loved you. And you are absolutely right. About everything you said that you are dead wrong about one thing and that would never hurt Maggie and I would never hurt Paul. And it is important to me that you know that because she did love you and I hope you know what I mean what I Say

Liz Farrell 45:01

JJ had told Alex in his statement that he didn't think Alex could have done this. But as he learned more about what Alex had done to him and these other families, he came to believe that Alex was absolutely capable of killing Maggie and Paul, Washington Post columnist Kathleen Parker, who during the trial had written some very tone deaf columns that almost validated Alex version of events seem to now fully



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see who Alex Murdaugh is. In a column that was published shortly after the hearing. Kathleen talks about Alex's narcissism and about his extraordinary skills at acting and using that acting as a way to manipulate people after the hearing, she recounted how she approached Jordan Jenks to ask him how he felt after hearing Alex denial about killing Maggie and Paul whether he still believes Alex did it. Jordan told her I'm on the fence. Think about that Alex still has the power to change opinions. Just on his word alone. Jordan wasn't presented with additional evidence or anything that showed Alex innocence. He was persuaded simply by Alex saying I didn't do it. That right there is chilling. Next, Alex directed his attention to the Satterfield family.

Alex Murdaugh 46:15

Lord knows. Father to elementary school, middle school, high school with your ads, any of those gender, how many classes did we have? I mean, us have grown up with you guys. Don't you? And Brian, and Gloria mean that as hypocritical as that sounds, and we say it is super critical as it sounds is the Absolute Truth.

Mandy Matney 47:00

The thing is, none of these details about the victims make him look like any less of a monster. In fact, it is worse knowing that he stole from people who he grew up with. He really knew these people. How could he do that to them? And this is where we really saw Alex's cognitive dissonance. Alex Murdaugh, the family murderer still believes that it means something when he says that he sold a Satterfield as a part of his own family. Actually, it's not hypocritical Alex it is consistent. You treat everyone close to you as means to an end. Next, Alex's inner monster felt the need to insult Gloria Satterfield. Bring



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Alex Murdaugh 47:49

me to a point and I will say that for a second Esther Mr. Madden raised two boys with input from her mom and dad, and input from my mom and dad, but we are the people who raise those boys. And also now, with that being said, with that being said, there is no person, no person period that was more important to my family than glory was to all of us, to me, especially to man to Paul. Lord knows he adored her and Buster.

Liz Farrell 49:11

And hearing Alex say Eric's name was sickening. But it was interesting to us that this is something that Alex wants people to know about him. One thing we know about Alex is that he brought Buster and Paul with him everywhere to adult parties to work events to places where they were often the only kids they were his props. They were extensions of him. Buster was the good boy who was going to go on to law school and carry on the family tradition. Well, though, Paul was in constant trouble. And Paul was very close to Gloria. We don't know what to make of Alex's reaction here. But it was clearly insulting to him that anyone would say that Gloria raise the boys, which isn't even what Eric said. By the way, he said that Gloria helped raise them Alex is the one who read into it. I'm not sure if you were able to make it out but when Alex was talking about raising his boys with the help of his parents and Maggie's parents. Gloria's brother yelled out and the help of my sister. Gloria's family had reclaimed the truth and that moment next Alex addressed his law partner specifically Danny Henderson, the PMP D attorney sitting in the courtroom who was not there to support Alex but there as a victim. Obviously we don't recognize the firm as a true victim in this because their lack of oversight facilitated Alex bass for nearly 20 years and that's just inexcusable. But it was funny to us that Alex seem to assume Danny was there for him and not for them. Not only that he even pointed out that Danny was the only person there from the firm



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almost as if he expected there to be a crowd of supporters there for him. You'll remember Danny as the man marked Inslee said Alex feared the most when Mark subpoenaed him for his finances. Danny was the pointman for Alex in defending himself in the boat crash case he was awesome man in the backseat of the SLED vehicle listening to Alex the murderer cry to Agent David Owen

Alex Murdaugh 51:01

so sorry. So sorry and it is important to me that you know how sorry I am for things that I did each of us all my law partners me knowing what I did share every facet with every member of my family

Mandy Matney 52:04

He went on to say he will talk more about these law partners in detail because it's so important. Everyone there knows that Alex Murdaugh cares about them and he is sorry, as if Alex Murdaugh's concern should still be valued high even after he was convicted of double homicide. Who cares what is important to Alex once again he reminded the victims that he was very bothered not troubled or upset knowing that he hurt them Alex then turned back to glorious family

Alex Murdaugh 52:44

to make up the story and claim about dolls in glory, I did it with good intentions of helping so sorry about that those intentions very quickly became selfish. And I am so sorry that I continue to involve you in my hatches. So sorry for everything that you at all make sure the whole family knows that I am so sorry for everything that you have been for.

Mandy Matney 53:28

Timeout this man is still lying and trying to make the victims believe that he stole from them with good intentions. There is no evidence



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whatsoever that Alex had a shred of a good intention while devising the glorious Satterfield scheme. Glorious son lost his mobile home during the time that Alex was stealing from him. And we could have given him a very small percentage of the money and gotten away with everything. It was only because he had no good intentions with the Satterfield. How you said he got caught? Additionally, how dare he use this platform to further assert his defense in the Nautilus case, because that's what that was. His claim that he lied about the dogs is in his mind his get out of trouble card and paying back the insurance company and the audacity didn't stop there. He pressed on. So I want you to think about

Alex Murdaugh 54:27

despite what was said in his courtroom today, I can tell you that through my attorneys, I have been asking for a plea offer since the very beginning, the very beginning. I formally pled guilty within two weeks of receiving the very first plea offer that was in this courtroom however many days but I formally pled guilty within two weeks of receiving the very first plea offer, and you've heard a lot of talk about the sentence, and I will tell you that the sentence that I'm agreeing to is harsher than I wanted. It's certainly harsher than I had hoped for. I will tell you that while I am pleading guilty for a number of reasons, all of which I believe are valid none of those reasons it's more prominent than my house that CME punished will help each of you heal me again to be able to put this behind you because I could see it I mean, I can see I can feel I know what you've been through. I don't know

Liz Farrell 56:23

what I sense. As much as I hate listening to and analyzing this man's words. This might be the most important part of Alex speech because it captures every corner of his character this man a former prosecutor, and one of the worst criminals Our state has ever seen. Who has been



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consistently not cooperative with police believed he deserved a plea deal not only a plea deal, but one that was less harsh than the 27 year sentence he got and he said he hoped that seeing him punished will help the victims heal because in his mind punishment not accountability or acknowledgement leads to healing beyond that the phrase seeing him punished felt almost performative or representative like they only need to see that he's being punished not that he is actually getting that punishment like it's some pro forma part of this for him where at the end of all of this he'll ask them now Do you feel better okay good because I'm getting out of prison early next he talked to Buster who was not there

Alex Murdaugh 57:25

I am so sorry. Now talk to a few different people starting with Buster. I am so sorry that I let you down so sorry that I have not been able to be with you during such hard times. I am so sorry that I did so many things that are so contradictory to every single thing mom and I ever talk to you and Paul. I'm so sorry. I am so very sorry that things that I did and that I've been guilty of here today have somehow caused some people, especially people on social media and some people in the media to somehow believe that based on the things that I did that is somehow Okay. To make false. baseless, unsubstantiated claims against you that are not only based on no facts and no evidence whatsoever but also not based on any semblance of reality whatsoever. And I am so sorry that you have had to go through that.

Liz Farrell 1:00:27

It's kind of odd to us that Alex would bring up the Stephen Smith case during his sentencing hearing. If he wants to free Buster of any association with this case it would seem like Buster's denial of having anything to do with Stephen Smith would suffice and that Alex should



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move on. No media covers that story without mentioning that denial. It's also worth noting that Alex is incorrect here. His financial crimes are not what brought about Buster's name being associated with the case, Buster's name being associated with the case is what brought about Buster's name being associated with the case. It's in the case filed dozens of times from 2015 way before Alex crimes were known. Alex went on to say that he is proud of Buster and that people keep sending his attorneys messages saying how proud they are of Buster moving down the list in a way that someone would read Cooking instructions Alex address the rest of his family.

Alex Murdaugh 1:01:26

Next I'd like to address and speak to my mom, my brothers, my sister, my nieces and my nephews who I love dearly, my aunts, uncles, cousins and the rest of my family. I am so sorry. That is ready to do now. I am so sorry that I humiliated each of you. I am so sorry that I've destroyed our family's reputation. With these terrible things that I have done I am so sorry. That my actions pleading guilty are to hear today. Somehow many people on social media and in the media think that it's okay to falsely attack two three that's less than I've ever known that's my father and my grandfather two men who spent their life in service helping others to fully and wholly committed to justice to men who were most honest and most decent and if they were here today to men that will be devastated by what I have done.

Mandy Matney 1:04:05

The three best men Alex Murdaugh has ever known are his grandfather solicitor Buster Murdaugh, his father solicitor Randolph Murdaugh and Maggie's Father, it is hard to tell where exactly evil began in the Murdaugh family as we are still digging into Alex relatives for a future episode. But I can tell you that something in the milk ain't clean. As



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Justin says, remember Randolph accepted a \$300,000 check that came from how keen pink knees stole money. Is Alex really apologizing for being the first Thief and the family or just the first one to get caught because legacy matters so much to them. As David Lauderdale wrote in a column for the island packet. Neither Randolph nor Buster were wholly committed to justice. They both bent the laws to their family's favor. quote Buster Murdaugh laid out the blueprint for the family legacy in the whiskey case you rushed to the scene you use your badge to manipulate the story and evidence interfere with witnesses and jurors hire a flank of high price big name lawyers remain a Hale and hardy fellow who knows everyone and engenders trust with the belief that a Murdaugh can always take care of them quote Alex went on he apologized to Maggie's family claiming that his actions contributed to her father's health issues then he turned his attention to his brother Randy and to his former law firm again yes

Alex Murdaugh 1:05:38

is my brother fascinating I'm sorry to you because I know I know for a fact that the actions that I'm pleading guilty to here today have caused you terrible terrible problems so far than my actions my actions alone have caused you to be so wrongly and falsely attack and my actions have caused your integrity to so wrongly be question because I know and those who know you know that you are without a doubt one of the most honest and high integrity people that's ever walk. The things that I have done somehow made that an issue for you. We'll chat with any negative minded person as it pertains to Randy. Go and find one single person, a single person anywhere who truly knows, truly knows him doesn't have an ulterior motive to tell you that he's not one of the most honest people that they've ever known.



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Liz Farrell 1:08:47

As we've said before, Randy is a hard one to figure out. He didn't attend most of Alex's trial and he didn't testify on Alex behalf. Randy has mostly avoided the harsh spotlight and managed to keep his job throughout all of this chaos. While he has been questioned on social media for his alleged involvement in the Steven Smith case, which he denies and we still have questions about that. Our biggest issue with Randy was his shameless jumping ahead of the victims in line for the money he allegedly loaned Alex remember he loaned Delic money in September 2021 When he knew Alex was a scheming liar. So much for integrity. And speaking of integrity, Alex had a lot to say to his buddies out PMPED.

Alex Murdaugh 1:09:57

Yes, my law partners Only when I speak to us auditors. I am so sorry that I have caused so much trouble for people that I love so much love you I love each of you. I'm sorry I let you down I'm sorry that alienated each of you so that that caused you to have to go through what you can destroy a law firm a law firm that I dearly love sorry that I've caused each of you to be questioned every one of you is not only one of the best lawyers that I've ever been around the best that I've ever done such a good such compassion search more so to get decent so sorry that I went to such great lakes that my addiction my criminal acts from each of you so I know you would have helped me before things get so out of control there's no doubt in my mind say that he was a great mentor to all of us so many good things from him I'm sorry fail him one day Tony will listen to this so that he will know that on this our chat and he will what I'm talking about.

Mandy Matney 1:14:31

Here Alex is talking to Johnny Parker, the new namesake for Parker law firm formerly PMPED. Another guy who is not in the room. Parker also



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succeeded in his greedy quest to jump the victims in line and it should be noted that Johnny Parker loaned Alex more than \$400,000 in 2021. When he should have known better that Alex said let him know how much I miss him in our chats he will know what I am talking about if that isn't Criminal Code for something, I don't know what it is. Then he addressed Danny Henderson again and here's where it got a little odd in the same way it got odd when Jordan Jinks mentioned intimate things he did and knew about Alex.

Alex Murdaugh 1:15:31

they don't make enough good words for me to accurately depict it's how I feel about you. You know things that you helped me through, you know how you got Maggie? When she did thanks she had nowhere else to turn. So how special you are? To me, especially.

Liz Farrell 1:16:37

So was Alex genuinely thanking Danny for helping Maggie or was this another coded moment where he was reminding Danny of something? It's a question we asked because we truly believe that Jordan's words reminded Alex that leverage that knowing intimate things about a person is something he's still has, in some ways, maybe not here with Danny necessarily. But again, it's a question we have to ask. Alex finished up his speech by saying he was pleading guilty to free up the AGs office and SLED to focus on who killed Maggie and Paul, because of

Alex Murdaugh 1:17:12

the things that I did that I pleaded guilty here today. Allow SLED and the Attorney General's office to focus on me and not to pursue the person or the people who hurt if you recall.



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Liz Farrell 1:17:55

He then talked about how he didn't know what had brought him to this point in his life, but that he engaged in a lot of alleged self reflection and is urging people with drug addictions to get help coming from him. It was actually quite unbelievable and very glib, it was basically that infomercial that did carpooling I mentioned at the beginning of the sentencing hearing when talking about Eric bland

Alex Murdaugh 1:18:19

I said after a lot of reflection, I'm still not sure how I'll let myself get where I did where I could do things that I did to all you people that I care about I'd like to say to any and everyone is suffering from addiction. Please get professional help. Don't let pride get in your way the way I did. I had people who loved me and tried to help me many, many more people who I know would have helped me I had resources. I had access to more resources. And I still couldn't be any many shows too hard. I say please get professional help. I'm very proud, as I stand here today to be 112 days clean. But I didn't do it soon enough. Please get help. Now, there are so many wonderful facilities out there with professional people who care and who do wonderful, wonderful work, I would say, a special thank you to the people at Evolve recovery rehabilitation center. And at sunrise, detox for all the wonderful care that they gave me, every single day, I utilize the process is that they taught me. And I use the tools that they gave me in hopes that tomorrow, I can add another day to my toes. Lastly, I want to thank men and women who have sent me letters, emails, and given messages to my attorneys. With genuine messages of support. They mean more to me than you could possibly know.



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Liz Farrell 1:21:40

There's a moment for you listening to a narcissistic murderer give shout outs to a rehab facility that many people believed he used not so much for the detoxing, as for the out of state retreat away from the glaring eyes of law enforcement to whoever is sending him genuine messages of support. Seek help now for his big finale.

Alex Murdaugh 1:22:02

Last thing I want to say, Your Honor, is that I am fully committed to trying to be a better person going to do as much good as possible. And help as many people as I can while I'm incarcerated. I remain fully and wholeheartedly committed to find a way to somehow make those who loved me proud again in some small way. Appreciate each of you talking to me. I appreciate each of you looking at me. While I'm talking to you, you can tell that you're listening. And I appreciate it. So I'm gonna say one more time. I hope you know, I hope you believe that it's talked about. And the two things that I hope you take away today are number one, that I care about you. And number two that I hate things that I did. And I am so sorry. And gone. Thank you for letting me address you and for letting me address the victims. Thank you so much, sir.

Liz Farrell 1:24:15

And that's when Alex Murdaugh 2.0 finally stopped talking and everyone in the room wished that Mo's and Starbucks offer public showers to wash the creepiness off their skin during the lunch hour. Like we said it was a full spectrum performance by a man who still thinks he'll escape accountability and who right up until the moment of this hearing was strategizing and maneuvering with his attorneys to get the system to bend in his favor right down to accusing potential jurors of not being fair to him already and still trying to get Judged him and removed from the case right after the Supreme Court had told them no



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thankfully Judge Newman who is still set to preside over Alex roadside shooting case got the last word.

Judge Clifton Newman 1:24:57

It was September of two 2021 When the chief justice of the Supreme Court assigned me to preside over the pending investigations involving the various offenses that you're being investigated for, initially, including these financial crimes and, and the, the murder cases. And I have lived with this case now for over two years, and I have 34 days left before actor retirement. And after imposing this sentence, your life will continue. I will turn the page and leave you behind. You're quite an enigma, a person that many of us thought we knew. And as I stated earlier, I can only recall you as being a fun loving, happy person. I've never I've never seen you sad. I've never seen you being anything other than a friendly, caring person. And it's so disappointing to see you again in this setting. I believe the last time we saw each other and you were not in jail was at a conference when you were poolside having a good time. And as it turns out, that was a couple of months after the passing of your wife and son that you were having a good time. Made nothing of it. And here

Mandy Matney 1:26:58

Judge Newman is likely talking about the August 2021 Trial Lawyers convention on Hilton Head where we've seen a lot of pictures of Alex partying in up just two months after his family was murdered. This was Newman's way of saying I have been watching you and I see the monster that you are he went on to talk about the long strange trip that we've all been on since Alex first appeared before him in October 2021. It felt like Newman was bogged down and just wanted to be done with Alex in his sick games, which is why he agreed to the sentencing. But



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thankfully, Newman didn't bite his tongue on his thoughts of Alex Murdaugh. He compared him to a cop killer question

Judge Clifton Newman 1:27:43

was asking what kind of animal are you? Uh, you're in a nig Matic person I don't know that you understand yourself. What comes to mind is the young man that is sentenced to death penalty for killing a police officer and setting his body on fire. And though personally I was opposed to capital punishment, he was sentenced to death. And in writing up that sentence report I I concluded that he was heartless he just empty. And when I see you, and I listened to you, and I reflect on all that I've seen since being appointed, assigned to these cases, you come closest to the young man. The an empty I don't say anything I tried to reach you at at sentencing in no other case. I've listened to you here today. And I don't I don't see anything there. Hopefully, hopefully something will emerge within your spirit within your soul.

Mandy Matney 1:29:16

Empty. That was Newman's way of saying, Boy, you haven't learned a thing this entire time. I hope that changes but no one is counting on it which is why you need to be in prison for a very long time.

Judge Clifton Newman 1:29:31

As we look at all of us, you know none of us are perfect. Many of us do things that we shouldn't shouldn't do. It's just unimaginable, unimaginable to me that you have done some of the things that you've done and whether it's you or someone you become upon using drugs or through the process of just committing the crimes over and over, over the period of years, I don't know. I don't know I don't even know who I'm speaking to now. But being a person of power and influence in the question was raised, what type of character do you have a person



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who would prey upon folks who are vulnerable and who are of a lower perceived a state than you how you would prey upon those people. People who you say you love and you capitalize on a disparity of what you have versus what they had and what they need, what they desired. I take no joy at all in imposing this sentence. But it is what it is. And you'll have to suffer the consequences of your acts continue to suffer the consequences. And and hopefully, some good will come out of you as you move forward

Mandy Matney 1:31:44

It is what it is and you'll have to suffer the consequences. We sure hope so. Stay tuned, stay pesky, and stay in the sunlight. True Sunlight is a Luna Shark production created by me Mandy Matney and co-hosted by journalist Liz Farrell. Learn more about our mission and membership at lunasharkmedia.com. Interruptions provided by Luna and Joe Pesky.

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