



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Mandy Matney 00:02

I don't know every single in and out of our criminal justice system, but I am tired of seeing prosecutors and law enforcement working in the name of justice when it seems like they are working to protect everyone except the real victims. My name is Manny Matney. This is True Sunlight, a podcast exposing crime and corruption previously known as the Murdaugh murders podcast. True sunlight is a Luna Shark production written with journalist Liz Farrell. Well, a lot has happened since we last spoke. Let's start with the good. A really awesome True Sunlight fan named Tom, who works at Late Night with Seth Meyers hooked us up last Thursday with VIP tickets in New York City to see Seth's show. And guess who played? Sheryl Crow. Another amazing True Sunlight fan. And wow, it still feels surreal to say that. Liz, David and I had a time of our lives at 30 Rock last Thursday. This whole experience has taught me how important of a role fans play. Liz and I were over the moon to do just that for Sheryl. She has done so much for women and humanity. And she has encouraged our work during really hard times. Sheryl released a new album last week, and David already bought it on vinyl for me. We are thrilled to see Sheryl all over killing it seriously. She has been on every single talk show in the past month, and she deserves this enormous amount of success. And to Tom at Late Night, thank you for thinking of us and sharing this awesome experience. It was the best kind of medicine to get the gang back together in New York and cheer on the people who we love. I will say this a million times because I mean it. We have the best fans in the world. And I can't wait to meet more of y'all in person. Now I am glad that we've had this experience because frankly, it put me in a much better mood to endure Monday the day of Alex Murdaugh's federal sentencing typical to everything that has happened in this case. The days leading up to Alex Murdaugh's Federal

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

sentencing were chaotic, litigious, and of course, heavily covered by every major news outlet in the country. Let me have David read a few of those headlines from last week after Dick and Jim filed a slew of documents in response to the Feds telling Alex basically the deal is off because you failed your polygraph, which was a surprise to no one.

DAVID MOSES 03:01

Alex Murdaugh's lawyers say FBI agents mentioned of Jordan Vandersloot led to failed polygraph test the Associated Press, Alex Murdaugh's lawyers fight to prevent sealing of polygraph results, Fox Carolina, Murdaugh's lawyers deny he lied on polygraph test, they want to debate it in open court, this state.

Mandy Matney 03:24

Now, without spending too much time on this, I just want to point out how Dick and Jim are still fully committed to the headline game, meaning they insert specific buzzwords and phrases in every single brief that they write to grab the media's attention. Dick and Jim know the whole team Alex audience is shrinking, as evidenced by Jim Griffin's podcast numbers on YouTube. Yikes. Dick and Jim continue to insert the most aggressive and egregious language in their legal briefs so that they can create low IQ drama for the press to gobble up and for social media to fight over. I think this is their way of exerting the little power they have left. They can't win in court, but they can definitely get the press to write the headlines that they want to. And of course they did this last week in response to the feds. As Liz pointed out on Twitter. The calligrapher examining Alex Murdaugh did what calligraphers do. They said strange things to establish ease and trust. Alex Murdaugh should know this game better than anyone. The FBI calligrapher apparently told Alex that he just got back from interviewing Natalie Holloway is alleged killer, whose name they changed in their brief from Vandersloot



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

to Vander sloop, Dick and Jim also use absurd examples when referring to the polygraph standards in their brief. Again, this looked like it was just for the media. I want David to read this part.

DAVID MOSES 05:03

The polygraph examiner's questions run afoul of the following standards for designing polygraph questions issued by the Global Polygraph Network G P N. questions cannot be subjective or ambiguous. Each question must be interpreted the same way by any person who hears it. For example, there is a question about having, quote, sex and quote with someone, the term of quote, sex, and quote, must be defined parenthesis vaginal, oral, anal, manual, virtual, et cetera. When in doubt, specific words or phrases can be defined and agreed upon before the exam.

Mandy Matney 05:50

That was the example that Dick and Jim included out of all of the literature out there available online about polygraphs. And by the way, they are the ones who said that Alex could pass a polygraph, they are the ones who wanted this. Now they are nitpicking a deal that they shouldn't have gotten to begin with. So Dick and Jim demanded an evidentiary hearing ahead of the Federal sentencing. And from just looking at the headlines, it appears like this hearing was up in the air and that anything could have happened on Monday. Dozens of media crews gathered around the federal courthouse Monday expecting fireworks, it is Murdaugh, after all, anything could happen. But instead, a half hearted and flustered, Jim Griffin showed up without a sidekick, Dick. And he pretty much said, and we're dropping all that. Now, I didn't want to be there on Monday. I didn't want to drive two hours to see Alex Murdaugh and a bunch of other people. I don't like blood I went and so did David, because the federal government stuck in the last century,



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

doesn't allow streaming of trials. And it was our job to see what went down. So we went. But where was Dick? Dick, who raised so much hell last week about Alex's polygraph. He wasn't there, you would think that he would at least show up for his client to fight it right? And made me wonder to Dick and Jim have a fight. Or maybe he was actually in the state house. Or maybe he was campaigning for his now competitive seat in the SC Senate. By the way, Russell Ott is running against Dick in the primary. Tell your Columbia friends that they can choose to take away Dick's power this June. Or maybe Dick never intended to be there at all. Maybe he had a scheduling conflict and he use the whole lie detector temper tantrum to buy headlines and time. Maybe he thought like he has so far in this case that the system would bow down to him and accommodate his needs. Or maybe Dick finally realized that this case is costing him boats. And every time he stands next to Alex Murdaugh in the public, that decreases his chance of winning an election. See how confusing it is when politicians moonlight as defense attorneys. So for whatever reason, Dick wasn't there. The documents he filed last week were all nonsense, which meant the hearing was at least brief. For those of you all who listened to cup of justice this week, you'll know that I have a different take than a lot of people on Monday's hearing. I didn't see it as this great day for justice. I sell it deep down as a sham, at front, a masquerade. It felt like a performance presented by the Department of Justice funded by the United States taxpayers for the federal government to convince the public that the millions of dollars they invested into this case was not wasteful, and certainly not duplicitous. Judge Gergel ultimately sentenced Alex Murdaugh to 40 years, with 10 of those years being served consecutively to all the other counts. Meaning if and this is a huge if at this point. Alex Murdaugh gets out of his murder convictions, plural, then he will have to at least serve 13 additional years in federal prison beyond his 27 year state sentence for his financial crimes. So that essentially provides a decent

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

backstop to ensure that Alex will likely be behind bars for the rest of his life. Now we could factor in good behavior and whatnot. But that is a lot of ifs in the equation that Alex Murdaugh just doesn't deserve. If the system works the way that it should Alex Murdaugh will be in state prison for the rest of his life. And a Dick and Jim weren't a factor and Alex's legal future than the government wouldn't have to waste so much time and resources on providing backstops Regardless, 40 years is a long time for a federal sentence related to financial crimes. I get that. But to me as someone who has been consumed by his crimes for five years now, no sentence is ever enough. Judge Gergel went on and on about how the law license should be used for good and how Alex used it to do evil. He said that he wanted this stern sentence to serve as a deterrent to ensure that other lawyers won't do what Alex did in fear of facing a hefty sentence. But here is the thing. I don't think Judge Gergel has to worry about a new crop of many Alex Murdaugh's coming out of USC law with the intention of stealing from vulnerable clients. That was a unique crime that so few people, especially lawyers would have the audacity to attempt. And let's be real here, this system would have never caught Alex if he didn't murder his family and an attempt to cover up his crimes. There are multiple lawyers who are still licensed to practice in South Carolina, who knew that Alex was stealing well before the June 2021, murders, and well before his fake suicide incident, which essentially served as a giant red flag to sled. If we want to talk about backstops and spending government resources on actions that actually serve as a deterrent to bad lawyers and will make the system better. Why wouldn't they start with those who kept Alex's secrets for all those years? Start with those who made him into the monster who believed that he could get away with everything, including killing his own family? Why doesn't the federal government hold them accountable? Why does it seem like they just drew a tiny circle around Alex when it came to accountability, and they didn't go any further. The feds have

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

talked a lot about we're seeing this through until justice is served in the last few years. And I am tired of hoping that they're doing things behind the scenes that we don't know about. The simplest answer is often the truth with no additional arrest in this case, after nearly a year, it feels hopeless to assume that they're going to put their money where their mouth is. And speaking of money. Now we have to talk about the restitution which to me is further proof that the feds are protecting the wrong people here while gaining zero ground on holding others to account. Alex Murdaugh was ordered to pay over \$8.7 million in restitution, but he will get credit for roughly \$1.5 million that Russell and Cory have also been ordered to pay. And those fat stacks of cash go to drumroll please. Parker Law Group \$4.5 million Palmetto State Bank \$329,000. The insurance company in the Satterfield case. \$3.8 million. And Pamela Pinkney \$13,000. There is so much weird here. What about the victims? Why just Pamela? Why are they calling the bank and the firm victims? And will anyone actually see any of this money?

EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

Liz Farrell 13:56

I just had a memory resurface. It's from September 2021. When the details of the Satterfield case were starting to emerge. We were told back then, in no uncertain terms by sources who were attorneys in South Carolina, that Satterfield would likely be the only case in which Alex Murdaugh was stealing from clients. Why? Because in our sources, minds, again, our sources who were attorneys, there was just no world in which any attorney who was a part of any law firm could have ever gotten away with stealing more than once, maybe twice. The financial checks and balances that law firms are required to have in place wouldn't have allowed for a pattern of stealing. In other words, it was unthinkable that there could be Alex Murdaugh level theft. But beyond that Satterfield technically happened outside the scope of PMPED. When Gloria's sons were actually clients of Cory Fleming and not Alex

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Murdaugh, even though both men blurred the line on that one, our sources could not imagine a scenario in which lick would have been able to steal from PMPED without them noticing PMPED would have caught it. That was the logic, they would have caught it not only because law firms are required to have controls in place, but because it was PMPED, literally I was told quote, Johnny Parker ain't letting that happen. Law firms are supposed to have tight measures in place to catch and prevent theft like this. Every penny gets accounted for every single penny. We have a friend who is an attorney, and she has literally had to write checks to clients for less than \$1 Just to make sure that her trust accounts are appropriately balanced. So to normal non-stealing attorneys at the time, it looked like the Satterfield case was going to be a one off because it was just so unimaginable to think that a partner a PMPED, could have gotten away with anything more than that. We now know that case was just one of 25 The government has identified in which Alex stole from clients. Let's talk about those cases really quick because this is the first time the public has been able to see the details of those. And we commend Emily Limehouse in the US Attorney's Office for including this note in their sentencing memo, quote, to highlight the breadth, scope and severity of Murdaugh's scheme beyond his thefts from Thomas pink me badger and the Satterfield. And to give a voice to the additional victims, the government briefly summarizes the loss sustained by the remaining victims. These victims did not want to be known publicly. So the summaries start with a case in September 2005. And they detail the amounts Alex was able to get for his client along with how much he stole from them and a quick description of how he was able to steal it. Over and over we see that he filed fake disbursement sheets and local courts with anomalies that should have been caught. For instance, at least one of them didn't include dates with it. Remember in the Satterfield case, how many red flags Judge Carmen Mullen overlooked

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

in the disbursement sheets? It'll be interesting to see which judges signed off on these fake disbursement sheets. In addition to Alex falsifying expenses, making up fake expert fees, including repeat payments to something called medical resources starting in at least 2015. What is medical resources you ask? Well, we did a little research through the South Carolina Secretary of State's office medical resources appears to be a shell company that was set up in 2014 by someone named Barrett T. Bowler. Sound familiar? It should. Barrett T. Bowler is who owned Moselle before he signed it over to Alex in a very shady real estate transaction. Barrett, who died in 2018, was also a suspected drug trafficker who was indicted in operation jackpot back in the early 1980s. His charges were dropped when the witness in the case was killed by a car as he was crossing the street. Barrett was a very good friend of Alex, we sure hope the federal government has been able to look at medical resources more closely to see who else might have been using berets, so called services. Another thing we learned from the government summary of Alex other thefts, apparently, the fairest case isn't the only one in which Alex best friend Chris Wilson paid fees to him directly instead of to PMPED. Remember the fairest case, the one in which Alex asked Chris to cut him a check for \$792,000 in the spring of 2021 PMPED started asking about that money and found out from a receptionist at Chris's office that the check had been given directly to Alex it's this money that Alex was confronted about on the day he killed money and Paul and it's this money that in the weeks after their deaths, he quickly tried to cobble together through a loan from Palmetto State Bank and Johnny Parker so that he could put it back in Chris' client trust account. In December 2014. Alex and Chris worked on a case where they got a \$500,000 settlement for their client, Chris wrote a check to Alex for his half of the fees \$100,000 thereby allowing Alex to divert that money away from PMPED. Chris Wilson is still practicing law by the way, so it's not clear what knowledge he had of Alex's scheme.

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Chris, Cory and Alex though were the three best friends that ever could be. Cory started off by swearing to God he had no idea Alex was stealing. But by the time of his plea deal with the federal government, we learned that he shorted No. Now the story had changed to he didn't realize that Alex had intended to steal the full amount of the money. He thought it was just you know, a smaller scale plan to steal from their clients who had just lost their mother in a tragedy. Chris, as you remember, testified against Alex vaguely in Alex murder trial. So back to the original question. How was it that Alex was able to scale for more than 25 clients over the course of at least 16 years? How was it that all this could occur within two institutions, the law firm and the bank, without it being understood that something not entirely above board was going on there. We know what the bank Russell repeatedly helped Alex by doing things outside of bank policy and the law. Remember when Martin So you told the court and Alex murder trial that a five year old could have seen what Alex was up to? Why didn't pm PD catch what Alex was doing? And why didn't Palmetto State Bank catch what Russell was doing? It sounds like there were opportunities for someone... anyone to ask questions. And what does it seem like all of this wasn't considered when the US government determined that PMPED and Palmetto State Bank would be classified as victims. As part of his sentencing Alex Murdaugh was ordered to pay more than \$8.7 million in restitution. Like Mandy said more than \$4.5 million will go to PMPED and more than \$325,000 will go to Palmetto State Bank. More than 3.8 million will go to the insurance company Alex defrauded in the Satterfield case, and just over \$13,000 will go to Pamela Pinkney. That last bit is for money that Corey Fleming held back from homeless settlement. Some of that money was used to pay for a private flight to Nebraska for the College World Series with Alex Cory and Chris Wilson. The funny thing here is that part of Alex restitution is joined several with Cory and Russell's restitutions meaning Cory and Russe'l are for all

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

practical purposes doc paying money back that they still with and for Alex now, we've talked a little bit about this in a previous True Sunlight episode and on Cup of Justice but PMPED and Palmetto State Bank are considered victims because the government classified them that way. They weighed the harm done to them and decided, yeah, they qualify. And because of that the mandatory victims restitution act dictates that PMPED and the bank are owed the full amount of their losses, including the amount of money they spent investigating these steps. Maybe in any other context, this would be considered fair. But going back to the idea that people couldn't wrap their heads around in late summer 2021 Alex couldn't have stolen from PMPED for very long without getting caught because law firms have fiduciary duties to their clients. Turns out that's not true, though, right? Turns out, he could steal from them for a very long time without getting caught. Same goes for Russell with the bank. And we cannot believe that this isn't something that government isn't scratching their heads over how now case law involving the mandatory victims restitution act in the second and 11th circuit's has since established that the MV are a does not apply to victims who, even though they haven't been charged in connection with the crimes in question have quote, dirty hands in it. Obviously, there are a lot of different ways to define what dirty hands means. Pulling definition could be described as willful blindness as in to not catch Alex and Russell, one would have had to have then willfully blind and be looking the other way. What we don't understand is how anyone can look at the facts of Alex's case and think that the law firm and the bank don't bear responsibility. We don't understand how anyone can think that they shouldn't have to experience the pain of loss because of this. PMP de acknowledged its own liability in this by making malpractice insurance claims on the firm's policy to help them pay some of the victims. And for what it's worth. Palmetto State Bank isn't some nameless, faceless building, the bank is Russell Laffitte, his father,

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

both of whom knew about and allowed for Alex's schemes. How can the bank be a victim when one of the two is serving federal time for these very same crimes? But no, the government for whatever reason, is allowing the firm and the bank to recoup their costs. So theoretically, they could both walk away from this not having lost a dime when it comes to what Alex and Russell stole. Obviously, this is a principle of the matter situation because we all know Alex says he's broke. So the chances of him paying back any of the \$8.7 million is really low. Beyond that he really doesn't seem to think he owes anyone anything. Here's David with what the government wrote in their March 28 sentencing memorandum.

DAVID MOSES 24:43

In his sentencing memorandum. Murdaugh minimizes the loss sustained by the victims, arguing that he should receive some benefit because the victims have been made financially whole. He even goes so far as to claim that in light of their financial recoveries, the victims are better off now than they would have been had he not stolen from them.

Liz Farrell 25:10

I mean, you can't make these things up. As far as restitution goes, we've gotten a few questions from listeners that we want to answer. The first is why weren't the Plylers included in the restitution? Criminal restitution is calculated by the actual financial loss suffered by the victims. In the Plylers case, Russell settled Hannah's account before she turned 18. Basically, Alex paid back what he had taken with other stolen money and bank loans extended to him by Russell under false pretenses. The Plylers still have a civil claim here though, for instance, because they wanted to treat the Plylers money like their own personal piggy bank, Russell and Alex seem to have purposely held back a larger sum of money than was necessary that could have been better invested



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

causing a financial loss to both Hannah and Elena. Another question we got is why wasn't Arthur badger included in the restitution? After PMPED discovered the theft, Arthur received a check for \$1.36 million dollars, the actual amount of money stolen from him about 10 years earlier. PMPED even paid for a giant check to get made so they could have a photo op handing it over to Arthur as if Arthur had won the PMPED lottery. It's almost like they wanted to divert Arthur from realizing that there was more to the story with this windfall he was getting. So ultimately, in paying restitution to PMPED, Alex would be paying back the Badger money as well. However, just like with the Plylers, Arthur has a civil claim to make here. Not only was he deprived of having that money years ago, we all know that \$1.36 million in 2011 Money is not the same as \$1.36 million in 2022 money. At any rate, the amount of money that PMPED paid back to clients is included in Alex restitution. But we have to ask what assurances does the government have that they know the full breadth and scope of what Alex stole from clients? Are they relying on PMPED? is limited forensic accounting, and to the government look beyond Alex? Hey, it's a fair question is a law firm has a history of theft, and we now know that PMPED has this history? It seems to us that the government might want to get to the heart of that, to find out why and to find out if there were other anomalies on the books, or are we to believe Alex was the only person in the world to falsify expenses? Not only do we have no indication that the government went deep and its investigation into Alex Law Firm, we can see that they're perfectly content to make the law firms landing a lot softer. Maybe this wouldn't be a question on our minds if we didn't know the connection. PMPED has to the US Attorney's Office through partner Danny Henderson's daughter, Kara, who for years served in the unusual role as liaison to the US attorney on behalf of the 14th circuit Solicitor's Office, you know the prosecutor's office controlled by the Murdaugh family for more than a century, the same prosecutor's office

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

that wouldn't recuse itself for the murder case for months and that was allowing Alex to drive around with two badgers right up until his alleged roadside shooting in September 2021, which is after they were told by sled that Alex was a suspect in the murders.

Mandy Matney 28:34

Okay, enough about Alex Murdaugh. We hope that this federal sentencing is the last that we will hear for him for a long time. But also we know better. We know Alex. We know that this isn't over. But until his next drama. We have bigger things on our plate, such as the Michael Colucci case out of the Charleston area. Over the past week, we have learned a lot about this case and about Michael. Our team has been consuming everything we can possibly learn about the Colucci case to prepare for this trial and may and we are watching core TV's trial coverage beginning to end over and over. We are talking with new sources who knew Michael and knew Sara. Beth Braden is filing FOIA after FOIA after FOIA so we can get our hands on every single legal incident Michael was involved in before and after Sara's death. We are poring over probate files, lawsuits, traffic tickets, literally everything that we can find out about this case and about the man who is on trial for murder. This is the kind of all-consuming work Liz and I did for two years before David and I launched the Murdaugh Murders podcasts in 2021. It was those kinds of details. We knew from late night phone calls with sources and from devouring 1000s of legal documents that set our knowledge of the case apart from the others who were covering it. After reviewing the evidence presented and the 2018 murder trial that ended in a hung jury, I can tell you that I believe beyond a reasonable doubt that Michael Colucci killed his wife Sara Lynn Colucci on May 20 2015, outside of their Summerville South Carolina jewelry business. I believe this for many reasons, but the first is that the evidence does not match either of the stories that Michael Colucci has claimed. He said that Sara



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Lynn either hung herself with an industrial hose or Sara tripped over an industrial hose in it somehow strangled her. This is hard for me to believe because one, the marks on her neck do not match the size of the hose on the scene to the autopsy revealed multiple pressure points on her neck. Three, her body was cold to the touch when EMTs arrived on scene, meaning it appeared she had been dead for much longer than when Michael said that he found her police found evidence of a struggle and Michael's car, which was never explained in Michael's story. And five, Michael's lip was busted when EMTs arrived on scene. He said he got a bloody lip from attempting CPR. But how is that possible? The physical evidence tells a much more plausible story that Michael and Sarah got into a fight that Michael strangled Sara to death and attempted to stage a suicide or accident before the police arrived. And beyond the evidence, we have learned that Sara Lynn Lake most women likely wouldn't choose to leave the world in that way, in a back alley, suffering a painful death via a hose and a chain link fence with her husband. She so often thought with just a few feet away, I've come to the conclusion that Michael had the means, motive and opportunity to kill Sara, especially considering details surrounding Michael's relationship with Sara, and how Michael's personal and professional lives were collapsing around the time of Sara's death. He certainly had the ability to strangle her, whether he used a hose or maybe even something from his car like a cell phone cord, or something that's similarly thin and strong. But I think the opportunity part of this case is why it is so important and why we are dedicating a lot of time and resources to the Colucci case, as we discovered and the Alex Murdaugh and Bowen Turner cases, people become increasingly dangerous when the system shows them time and time again how much they can get away with. The state now has the opportunity to show this man that he can't get away with it. Allegedly this time, the state has the opportunity to correct its wrongs from 2018. And to finally get justice for Sara Lynn

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Colucci and sunlight could play a major role in that for next week's cover justice. We spoke with Vinnie Politan of Court TV about the Colucci case. He said that this was the first full trial that Court TV filmed when they were rebooting the network and 2018. I always found it shocking that the South Carolina Attorney General's Office prosecutors tried the case like they did with Court TV cameras in the courtroom. They appeared to lack enthusiasm, legal knowledge and basic concern for the jury understanding the story that they were presenting. They were not acting like people who went home at night inboxes full of critics. Well, turns out they weren't. Vinnie told us that the case was not streamed live. Rather it was broadcasted months later on cord, TV's channel network. And this makes a lot of sense. cases the court TV now covers live get a ton of traction, media coverage, social media chatter, etc, etc. To me, this is the most fascinating case that we have come across since Murdaugh, it is complicated, like we barely have told you all about Sara's first husband's death, or about Michael's mother's murder. There are layers and layers of complex storylines to follow. And like Murdaugh, at the heart of the story appears to be a man who was used to getting out of everything I am assuming, and hoping that the other media will catch on before May. But regardless, we plan on being there to stream the entire trial. And we will be providing live context and our coverage. So the AGs office can rest assured that knowledgeable people will be watching, and now is the time to put their best case forward like they did with Murdaugh. Context matters in cases like this. And the more we learn, the more disturbed we are with the AGs office in their non aggressive approach to this case.

Liz Farrell 35:53

The most disturbing thing we learned is related to Michael's house arrest. It's yet another story about how South Carolina does next to nothing to keep track of defendants who are out on bond awaiting



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

trials and violent crimes. So remember, this case has been going on for nine years. Sara Lynn Colucci was killed in May 2015. A year later, Michael was charged with murdering her. Two years after that he was tried for her murder and the judge declared it a mistrial when the jury couldn't reach a verdict. We are now six years out from that. In 2016. Michael was put under house arrest and lived with his mother and stepfather in Summerville, South Carolina. In the seven bedroom house where he, his brother, and their five step siblings were raised on a more than 12 acre piece of property. According to sources Michael didn't last long in that house. His stepfather kicked him out and Michael moved to the family's 3000 square foot waterfront beach house on Edisto Island, which Murdaugh listeners will recognize as where Maggie Murdaugh was staying in their families beach house at the time of her murder. But apparently Michael didn't let the court know about this address change. In May 2017. The Attorney General's office filed a motion to revoke or amend Michael's bond. According to the motion, Michael was violating the conditions of the bond that was set for him a year earlier in that he was not living at his parents house. Also, the AGs office had information that Michael was not abiding by the terms of his house arrest, which stated he could only leave the house to go to quote, work, attend religious services, medical, dental and or health appointments and attend appointments at his lawyer's offices. A few days after that motion was filed, Judge Christie Harrington held a hearing and signed an order putting Michael on house arrest at his parents beach house, ie the house he was already staying out without the court's permission. The judge again restricted his movements but provided more details about what he was and wasn't allowed to do, including new provisions for parenting. Michael was required to be at the house between 8pm and 6am every day, and he was barred from entering any premises where the primary business was the sale or consumption of alcohol. According to Robert Kiddle with the South Carolina Attorney General's



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Office, this is where Michael remains under house arrest at his quote parents house. But according to police reports, Michael hasn't lived at that address since at least April 2018, which is seven months before his November trial. And apparently he hasn't faced any consequences for not living at the location where he is supposed to be on house arrest on March 25 2018. The Colleton County Sheriff's Office was called to the Edisto Island house by the attorney for the Colucci estate. Almost a year earlier, Michael's stepfather who had been diagnosed with dementia and by all accounts was experiencing increased stress as a result of Michael's murder case, shot and killed Michael's mother at the family's jewelry store in North Charleston. He was determined not to be fit to stand trial. According to the sheriff's office, the Colucci's estate attorney whose name is redacted from the report, quote, advised that they had to have Michael Colucci evicted from the house and he has not to return. Here's David with more from that report.

DAVID MOSES 39:26

While they were at the residence, which is in a narrow one way out electric gated road, Mr. Blank said Michael came in and went down the narrow road turned around and stopped in front of this residence and try to start arguing with the family members. Mr. Blank said that Michael should have no reason to be inside the gated area. Mr. Blank said that Michael is out on bond and is not to have any contact with any of the family members but he could not provide paperwork showing this. I advised Mr. Blank that a report would be completed stating the above.

Liz Farrell 40:07

On April 4 2018, just eight days after Michael appears to have been evicted from his parents beach house, the Colleton County Sheriff's Office was called to the address again, this time in reference to the



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

house being entered and vandalized. The call came in as a burglary. The name of the caller is redacted but we're told that it wasn't Michael. Michael is actually listed on the report as quote other. According to the report, the caller arrived at the house after not being there for a week and the house was destroyed and spray painted photos show that items were thrown around and smashed and there was at least one large drawing of a penis spray painted onto a table. A golf cart was reportedly missing along with at least one piece of furniture. Which reminds us of some other police reports.

Mandy Matney 40:56

On October 5, 2015, five months after Sara Lynn Colucci was killed and seven months before Michael was charged with her murder. Sara's mother called the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. Sara's mother and father own the home that Sara and Michael lived in in Moncks Corner South Carolina, and on October 4, 2015, the day before the mother called police. They evicted Michael from the home on October 5 The next day after they evicted him. They reported \$38,950 worth in damage and theft to the home. Barbara more. Sarah's mother reported that Michael had taken the family security cameras he had taken the internal and external light fixtures. He had taken the refrigerator the stained glass lighting from the kitchen. She reported that he had taken 1000s of dollars in window treatments, shelving from the main bedroom Hall and bathroom closets, the washing machine the dryer the bathroom mirror cabinets from the garage and the H vac unit, both inside and outside component. She reported that Michael had left holes in the walls and had damaged the flooring on both floors. The main bathroom shower and the floor were destroyed. The main bedroom wall was damaged the cabinets under the stove for damaged, the window screens were damaged. And adding insult to injury. She said that he had even taken the attachments to the house's central vacuuming. A



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

few days later, Sara's father called the sheriff's office again, this time to tell them that he had found a suspicious substance in the maintenance shed at the house. A yellow plastic pill bottle with a white cap. Inside was a plastic straw with white powder residue on it. This was taken into evidence by the deputies for testing. The report does not indicate what if anything was found. Another report from July 2017 filed with the Edisto Beach Police Department by Island bikes indicates that a golf cart Michael Colucci brought in for service had been stolen from its law. I point this out only because a golf cart was reportedly missing from his parents house at the time of his eviction. So this might be an explanation for that. Okay, seven months after the Colucci family appears to have evicted Michael from the house, where the court believed Michael was on house arrest. Michael goes on trial for Sarah's murder. At his trial, the bond was again amended, but with a no mention of the address change. His attorney Andy savage successfully argued that Michael did not need to reside in jail during the trial. And instead he could stay at the same hotel where he and his staff are staying near the courthouse. After at least one night in jail and a short hearing on the matter. Michael was placed on an ankle monitor. It is not clear what happened after a mistrial was declared. And since then he has lived well, who knows? Definitely not the AGs office. sources have told us that Michael lives in a rental on Edisto Island that is not and never could be considered his parents house. After Michael was arrested in May 2016. Judge Markley Dennis Bowen Turner's plea deal judge set Michael's bond, and here's David reading from the bond conditions prohibited.

DAVID MOSES 44:46

Restrained from any contact with any of the alleged victims family members directly or indirectly except as may be allowed, authorized and or mandated pursuant to file I have orders in Berkeley County

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Family Court. The defendant shall be under house arrest at his parents home location redacted, however, shall be allowed to work, attend religious services, medical, dental and or health appointments and attend appointments at his lawyer's office and to the extent the defendant either has a passport or obtains one he shall be required to.

Mandy Matney 45:28

And then it ends. Those are the official bond requirements available to the public. There is nothing in the Public Index showing that the ankle monitor was removed. There is no other update on Michaels bond that we can find. Now, what is important to know here is that the victims in this case believed that Michael was still under ankle monitoring while awaiting his retrial. But here is David reading what the attorney general's office said to us.

DAVID MOSES 46:04

Our attorney is pretty sure he does not have an ankle monitor on now. He said he thinks he was put on a monitor during the trial, but thinks the monitor was removed after the trial. He believes the Bond went back to prohibiting contact with the alleged victim's family. He is under house arrest at his parents home, but he's allowed to leave for work, attend religious services, medical dental appointments and attend appointments at his lawyer's offices.

Liz Farrell 46:36

Note the use of alleged victim they're the prosecutors trying this case are calling Sara Lynn, who they say had a crime committed against her a crime that they are prosecuting an alleged victim alleged we get that there's a question about whether saralyn was murdered or killed herself. But the one set of people who should be certain Sara Lynn As a victim should be the ones prosecuting the case because ostensibly,



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

they believe beyond a reasonable doubt that she was murdered by her husband. But get this in February 2023. Michaels attorney Andy Savage filed a motion asking that the court issue an order prohibiting the state and their witnesses from referring to Sara Colucci as victim and from referring to Michael Colucci as defendant. He also wants the judge to bar people from referring to the place where Sara died as a crime scene and to instead call it the incident location. His argument against referring to Sara as a victim is that it violates the presumption that Michael is innocent. And this is why Andy Savage makes the big bucks. Ladies and gentlemen, we'll talk more about all these motions that He's filed in this case so far. They're extraordinary. And I think you'll find them fascinating, especially when you consider that 99.9% of defendants don't get this kind of service. In fact, even if every public defender were to copy and paste Andy's motions into their own cases, I don't think our system is built to handle this kind of effort. Anyway, back to the issue of bond. I want to know that South Carolina has a victim's Bill of Rights. And one of those rights is to be, quote, reasonably protected from the accused or persons acting on his behalf throughout the criminal justice process. One would think reasonably protected would be the justice system, at least knowing where Michael lives but it sounds like the victim should also be told that information when you have a nine year case, it's pretty foreseeable that a man out on bond on a murder charge might have a change of address every now and then. Right. Like the state alluded to, and it's one motion about revoking bonds. There have been issues involving Michael and his bond compliance. To be clear, there's no record of him being charged with violating the terms of his bond. But according to sources, several incidents of his suspected non compliance continued to be reported to various law enforcement agencies over the years and the consistent response they have received in return was this is not our jurisdiction. So a look at Michael's posts on life is interesting. Let's start with the timeline and some background

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

information. Michael, like I said, was arrested on May 6 2016. He was released on bond May 12 2016. And he was to remain at his parents house in Somerville on house arrest. This was not his first arrest in 2016. By the way, three months earlier, Somerville police and Dorchester County Sheriff's Office deputies had arrested him for the misdemeanor charge of not having a business license. He was arrested at his parents house in Somerville where he was living at the time. We're right. This is the first time either of us have heard of someone getting arrested for not having a business license. So we're kind of wondering what was going on there. Right after Michael was arrested though his fine was paid and he was released. Now According to sources and police records at the time Michael was put on house arrest. Michael's stepfather did not want him living with him anymore. Also, Michael's mother had been taking large amounts of money from the couple's accounts to allegedly pay for Michael's legal fees. And according to sources Ivo had expressed anger about various transactions that Doris appeared to be making to transfer assets out of Ivo's name without his permission. Two weeks after Michael was released on bond on May 27 2016, he contacted the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office to let them know that Ivo was not well. Here's David

DAVID MOSES 50:41

Mr. Colucci states he was calling to make the sheriff's office aware of his father Ivo Colucci's condition. Mr. Colucci states his father is under a doctor's care and provided a letter from Dr. Rex Morgan, MD that I have scanned into this report. Mr. Colucci states his father is not in his right mind.

Liz Farrell 51:07

Attached to this report is a doctor's note stating that Ivo had been diagnosed with mild to moderate dementia. The letter is from April 25



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

2016, and states that Ivo has difficulty with his short term memory, and that he would benefit from the appointment of a guardian to assist him with day to day living, and a conservator to assist with his finances. Now, why would Michael preemptively alert sheriff's deputies to his father's condition? There could be several reasons. Sometimes people will alert law enforcement to their loved ones' medical conditions so that if police are ever dispatched to the person's home, or if they ever encounter them in public, they'll know how to better interpret their actions and get them the care they need. So was this what Michael was doing? Or was it something else? Was he alerting police because he knew Ivo didn't want him at the house and this was a way of mitigating that issue. stick a pin in that because I first want to talk about something else. We are still awaiting for us to return. But according to one report from Berkeley County Sheriff's Office on June 9, 2016, one month after Michael was arrested for murder and was released on bond. A report was filed by a former client of Michael's jewelry store who said that he had pawned her jewelry which she had left with him to repair back in March 2016. She had learned as Michael's arrest for murder and wanted to report this because he had repeatedly ignored her request to return her property. According to the report, she contacted members of Michael's family and had been told that she might want to check pawn shops. According to the report. She also learned the name of an associate of Michael's who might know something about where the jewelry was, so she went to three different pawn shops and found her jewelry. The name of Michael's associate was listed at each shop as the person who had sold her jewelry to them. And according to the report, one of the pawn shop employees identified Michael as a man accompanying this associate when he sold the jewelry to them. According to the report, deputies were in the process of obtaining video footage of the suspects during the transaction but the report doesn't indicate whether or not police ever followed up on the case. The



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

women's jewelry was however, returned to her; they had recovered a wedding ring, a diamond ring, a Ruby cluster ring and an engagement style ring. According to the report, the case is still active. Now on this very same day, Michael stepfather Ivo Colucci called the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office, a different agency on Michael at around 20 After eight in the morning. Remember, this is just one month after Michael's arrest for murder. Michael was supposed to be living with Ivo and Doris at their Somerville house. But Ivo told deputies that he and Michael's mother had been separated. From the report. It seems like Joris might have been living at the couple's beach house on Edisto Island at the time. Evo was upset because he said Michael kept taking the keys to his Prius and his Corvette. He did not want Michael driving his cars. According to a source Michael had been taking Evos cars without permission from Ivo and had driven the Corvette which was a prized possession of Ivo's in a reckless way around the family's 12 acre property. While deputies were speaking with Ivo his wife Doris pulled up and told deputies that all the vehicles on the property except for a pickup truck were in both her name and Ivo's. So the deputy told Ivo that he'd have to go to court and get a judge to divide their assets. In other words, because the cars were in both his endorses name, the Wu was saying that Doris was technically allowed to loan the cars to whoever she wanted. With Michael by her side, Doris told deputies that Ivo had cut her off financially and that when she came to pick up some money, he began yelling and shouting because of the Corvette, which Ivo saw had been moved. Doris blamed Ivo for moving the Corvette and told deputies that her son Michael had cleaned the Corvette and was going to put the cover on it to keep it out of the weather doors also to law enforcement that the Corvette doesn't have brakes or windshield wipers and the car could not have been driven anyway, which she had just told deputies that Ivo had been the one driving it and now she was saying it was undriveable. She told deputies that she made sure the

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

Prius was brought back to Ivo that afternoon and asked that they be there for the exchange. She also told police that evil had violent episodes in the past and in one argument had a firearm in his pocket. Because of this. She said she'd removed firearms from the house and hidden others. Michael told deputies that the Prius was in the shop because the windshield was cracked. He then gave deputies an audio recording of him speaking to Ivo and Ivo using profane language. The deputy wrote quote, I heard Michael say to Mr. Colucci on the recording, quote, I will get you the car back in a calm voice. Michael told the deputy that he would call them to be there for the exchange of the vehicle so that they could help keep Ivo calm. But instead Doris later called police to tell them that the car was back and on her property at the beach house. She told deputies that she didn't want to give the car to Ivo because he already had a car to drive. While at the house earlier Ivo's daughter told deputies that Michael would get Ivo angry so that he could record him yelling and using profane language. Also evil apologize to the deputy for being irate when law enforcement arrived. Now, here are two very interesting things in the report. One is that the deputy noted that he told Ivo how to start the eviction process with Michael and had warned evil that both he and Doris would have to be on the same page about that. So one month after being put on house arrest at this address, Michael was already about to get evicted. The second interesting thing is this handwritten statement to deputies from ebos daughter. Here's David:

DAVID MOSES 56:57

In the past several months when at my dad's home, I've witnessed Michael Antonio Colucci, legal name change not adopted provoke my dad, baiting him to the point of an argument. If you hear any audio tape of my dad Ivo Colucci, using profane language and screaming that you can't hear Michael or Doris Colucci screaming or using profane



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

language during an argument, then this is a setup for blackmailing my dad. Also, my dad had to take money, parentheses, very little amounts that were left in account and put in new accounts that Doris Colucci could not take out. She previously took over \$150,000 Out of my dad's other accounts, both personal and business. This \$150,000 was for the use of Michael's attorney to help him with a charge of murder. My dad is afraid of Michael and has asked his wife of 40 years to make him leave. And she refuses.

Mandy Matney 58:14

Notice the part where she wrote that Michael was not adopted by Ivo Colucci. But yet he goes by the last name Colucci. When Michael turned 18, he legally changed his name to Ivo's last name. Why? Well, only Michael can answer that question. But we will note that the last name Colucci was associated with wealth and influence. We will also note that sources have told us the Colucci name was important Michael and people who knew him for years assumed he was adopted will also know that consistently in the police report, Ivo refers to Michael as his stepson, but Michael refers to Ivo as his father. A week after the argument about the cars and Ivo expressing his desire to have Michael evicted. Ivo called the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office again, this time to report Michael for violating the terms of his bond. Again, we're just a month out from his arrest and has released on bond Ivo reported to deputies that he was walking the long driveway of their house around 6am When he encountered Michael, who appeared to be returning home at that hour. Evil told the deputy that Michael was not supposed to be out and about per a court order, but he didn't know where Michael had been. At the end of the report officer Eric a most wrote, quote, Mr. Ivo requested the incident be documented and was supplied with a case number, nothing further period. In the report just stands like that. Literally nothing further. This is where I get frustrated when I



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

see little things like this that show how broken our system really is. Police are supposed to care about public safety more than they care about checking off their to do list and closing cases. When Ivo called the cops and ask them to document the fact that his stepson was violating his bond conditions, I am assuming that he believed what I would have believed the documentation would have gone into some kind of system and alert those in charge of his case, perhaps the Attorney General's office that he was allegedly violating his bond. Maybe officer Amos could have done some basic police work to see if there was a digital footprint catching Michael violating his bond. Maybe if he had an ankle monitor like he was supposed to? It should be really easy to find out whether this was true or not. But no, Michael already had it documented that Ivo was losing it, and that he couldn't be trusted. Officer Amos apparently made zero attempts from what we can see. To find out if what Ivo said was true. He apparently didn't bother to even ask Ivo or do a search to see exactly what Michael was out on bond for and what his conditions were. Instead, he just wrote nothing further, and he moved on. And Michael moved on to and he moved away from the home or the Attorney General's Office still believes that he is staying in and it appears like no one is keeping tabs on this accused murderer who will face trial next month. But guess what? We aren't moving on. And we found a whole lot more about Michael in police reports. Specifically, we will be rolling out a series of premium articles, timelines and visuals starting this week. For Luna Shark Premium members only. Remember, Luna Shark Premium Members will get exclusive access to watch the trial starting on May 13th, live with us so be sure to sign up for Luna Shark premium today. Your support means the world to us and help us continue our mission to expose the truth wherever it leads to be a voice for victims and to get the story straight. Stay tuned, stay pesky and stay in the sunlight. True Sunlight is a Luna Shark Production created by me Mandy Matney and

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



EPISODE 45: Alex Murdaugh Sentenced AGAIN, PMPED and PSB's "Dirty Hands" Plus Where in the World is Michael Colucci

co-hosted by journalist Liz Farrell. Learn more about our mission and membership at lunasharkmedia.com. Interruptions provided by Luna and Joe Pesky.

TRUE
SUNLIGHT
EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

Transcribed by <https://otter.ai>

COPYRIGHT © 2024 LUNA SHARK PRODUCTIONS, LLC - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.