



## EPISODE 52: 'My Blood Is Gonna Be On Your Hands' The Systems That Failed Mica Miller

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**Mandy Matney** 00:03

I don't know how many people have blood on their hands in Mica Miller's death. But I am thankful that Mica left behind a mile long paper trail documenting the mental abuse that she endured leading up to her death. And I am grateful that those who loved Mica are pointing us to the truth and perhaps to something much bigger. My name is Mandy 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, welcome back to True Sunlight, or as I like to call it female rage. The podcast, Mandy and Liz's version, by the way that's a Taylor joke for those non Swifties out there. As you heard on this week's Cup of Justice, I have been angry and these past few weeks for Mica, for Sara Lynn, for women who simply have no chance against a system that was not built for them. I wish things got better this week, but they did not. This week marked the nine year anniversary of Sara Lynn Colucci's death. The Berkeley County Courthouse has the case listed for June 10, which is what we tweeted about earlier this week. But on Wednesday, the AGs office told us that the date was not correct, and that no date has been set for the trial, which is incredibly frustrating because it shouldn't be this hard to figure out when a murder trial is scheduled for especially considering the fact that the alleged murder took place in 2015. Sara Lynn's story is tangled in a very similar web as Mica Miller's story. Both Mica and Sara were desperately trying to leave their marriages at the time of their deaths. Both Mica and Sara were married to powerful men who could afford powerful attorneys. Both Mica and Sara Lynn's husbands immediately claimed that their wives died from suicide. Both Mica and Sara Lynn were bright lights with kind hearts despite their husband's darkness, and both women had big plans to start over after their divorces. Ultimately, both Mica and Sara Lynn represent a number

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of women who lost their lives while they were trying to leave. And Sara Lynn's case it took a year before her husband, Michael Colucci was arrested by SLED and charged with murder. Michael Colucci's first trial ended in a mistrial in 2018. The retrial has been postponed multiple times, and it was postponed again. This May, Sara Lynn's family, particularly her daughter, Bishop, who is getting married this summer, have waited nine years for justice and closure in Sara Lynn's death. Nine years. We chose to focus our efforts on this case because the family had waited so long. And because we saw a case that was absolutely winnable by the prosecution, if they just put in a tiny bit of the energy that they put into the Murdaugh trial. We focused on this case, because we know that pressure breaks pipes, and we broke a lot of pipes throughout the Murdaugh case. In May, days before Michael Colucci was expected to stand trial the court postponed the trial, the court said they realized that the trial was going to take longer than the five days that the court had scheduled for now. Another part of the reason why we took on this case in the first place was because the source told us that the AGs office wasn't dedicating the time they needed to win this case. The Murdaugh trial took six weeks and that was up against Dick and Jim. But Michael Colucci is represented by Andy Savage, who quite frankly, makes Dick and Jim look like an elderly version of Beavis and Butthead, but with law degrees. Anyway, it was clear to us that the AGs office wasn't trying hard enough if they only scheduled a week for this murder trial. So while it was infuriating that it took so long for them to postpone the trial, particularly because of how jerked around the victims felt, the postponement was a sign that they care more about this case, than when we started reporting on it a few months ago. And that is a win. On Monday, Sara Lynn's daughter Bishop shared a statement that Liz posted on Twitter, which I will read now. Nine years, it has been nine years without justice, peace and a day hasn't gone by that I haven't thought about my mother. I have had nine years of her

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missing the big events in my life, like graduation, my engagement, my prompts and so much more. However, I will forever have the first days of school memories, our trips together, and most importantly, the times that we spent volunteering. Michael Colucci, how do you feel today? Are you mourning her death? Or are you remembering the actions that led you to do what you did? I choose to forgive you. However, I cannot forget the reason she isn't here to celebrate all the things in my life that you are not able to take away from me. You cannot take my faith, my love or my joy. And I take comfort in knowing that what you did did not ruin my life. Mama, I am so proud. You raised me to be strong. Without you. I wouldn't be the woman I am today. Love, Bishop. Just a day after that beautiful statement went public, which was the first time Bishop had ever made a statement about her mother's death, and her stepfather's murder trial. We noticed a scheduling change on the court docket that said the trial date had been changed to June. But the infuriating part is that they didn't inform Bishop of any scheduling changes. How did the trial make it to the docket before victims were informed? And where is this disconnect? We have been screaming about how our system puts victims last, particularly in this case where this family has waited nine years for Sara Lynn to get justice and for them to sleep in peace. This isn't anyone's fault. In particular, it is just another example of a system built for defendants with the victims at the bottom of the priority list, a system where apparently so few on the prosecution side, stop and think of the victims and how to make this horrific process easier. A system that must be fixed. So again, I am angry. But I'm hopeful that sunlight will win in this case. And finally Sara Lynn will get justice. We will be covering the Colucci trial on Luna Shark premium wherever it may be. Follow us on social media where we will keep you all posted as soon as a trial date is announced. And another thing that made me angry this week before we get into Mica Miller's story, just to add to all of my female rage, a story in the Columbia South

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Carolina State newspaper by veteran reporter John Monk. We have criticized John in the past and I have criticized him in my book for going soft on the good ole boys particularly on Alex Murdaugh and wall he overhyped Dick Harpootlian and Jim Griffin to a laughable degree, like the article where he referred to them as bulldog attorneys. For example, John wrote a story this week titled Alex Murdaugh Had a Fight in Jail With an Inmate Who Brutally Assaulted His Niece. Sources say, John wrote the story based off what Alex's niece said in a TED Talk. Alex's niece was assaulted years ago, when she was in college at the University of South Carolina. In her TED Talk that recently went online Mary Elizabeth Murdaugh talked about how her Uncle Alex Murdaugh and her attacker got into a fight in jail. However, Mary Elizabeth didn't say how she got that information. We can assume that it came straight from the mouth of Alex Murdaugh, you know, the same mouth that said a random shooter tried to kill him while he was changing a tire, the same mouth that said he was nowhere near the kennels. The night Maggie and Paul are murdered the same mouth that lied and cheated its way into stealing millions of dollars. That mouth. There are no names sources to back up Alex's word that this fight happened by the way. There are also no dates listed. So John Monk wrote this story that positions Alex as some sort of vigilante do-gooder. He even quoted an unnamed source saying Alex broke up fights in jail because the jail was so understaffed. The whole story was disgusting and unnecessary. The only purpose for it would be to soften Alex Murdaugh's image in the press to pave the way for whatever banana plan they have in store next to get him out of prison. John Munk even tweeted quote, a positive side of Alex Murdoch question mark, just in case the readers didn't quite grasp the message he was trying to accomplish. All of that said, y'all, please pay attention to the media, and how stories are presented, pay attention to the word choice that journalists use when they are pretending to be objective. The good ole boys are in the media, too.

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**Liz Farrell** 10:29

Over the past several years, there have been so many things that we've learned about the concept of a bad guy. For instance, bad guys do bad things. It's pretty simple. But what's not so simple is that when some people see bad things being done by a particular person they like or someone they have no reason not to like, especially if this person is in a position of power, they have a really hard time understanding that person to be a bad guy. I mean, they see it, they see the things being done, they know who is doing the bad things, but they just can't get there. They can't allow themselves to connect those two concepts together because of the power of the person doing the bad things. Sure, he does the bad things, sure those bad things make us uncomfortable. But if we point that out, then he'll turn on us. And it's this kind of thinking that ends up getting people hurt. And when it comes to the leadership at Solid Rock Church, for instance, a church started by and owned by John Paul Miller, that kind of thinking, at least from where we sit, seems to have contributed to Mica Miller's death. Like we told you last week, the elders at the church knew that there was a problem with how JP was treating Mica, at least according to our sources, like his best friend had the courage to go to them to get help for her friend. And they told her yeah, we know what you're talking about. We've seen it too. But then they did nothing. Nothing. And you know, we get that this isn't an easy scenario. JP was providing every member of his leadership team and the congregation with special made glasses that had a special made lens for them to see Mica with. He told them over and over that Mica had mental problems that she was the unhinged one. So that is what a lot of them saw. But it was a choice to put on those special made glasses. Those metaphorical glasses weren't metaphorically glued to their faces. They didn't wear them all the time. In fact, they were told by Charlotte what the world

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looked like without those glasses on. The problem is that they seem to have like the lens that JP gave them, it made life easier for them. Abusers want the people around them to see the person that they're trying to control as being the problem as being erratic and irrational. They want that person to be seen as an unreliable narrator incapable of accurately depicting their own realities. In Mica's case, JP seems to be very aware of how to craft a narrative about Mica that had a paper trail he could point to, we told you a few weeks ago about the times he had her hospitalized about the police reports where he reported being harassed by her because she dared to go on Facebook shortly before her death and insinuate that she knew something about abuse. Then there were the police reports where JP or someone else at the church appears to be accusing Mica of stealing from the church. But we'll get into the fact that we have an update on the alleged thefts. What JP didn't seem to count on is that this paper trail would also tell a story about him. Beyond that, what he also didn't seem to count on is that his seemingly impulsive behavior would also speak for itself because there's a record of that to look through newspaper archives gives us a glimpse at maybe the kind of upbringing JP had with a semi famous preacher of a dad, a look at court record shows that JP had a history of extreme violence against women. A look at JP's past relationships seems to show a pattern of alleged infidelity and emotional abuse and disrespect and a look at the past accusations from JP's first wife shows behavior that if true, is not only highly unbecoming of a man, nevermind the preacher, but would also be illegal. And I'm talking about his wife's accusations about his alleged behavior with teenage girls. Let's not forget that Mica herself told police that JP had been grooming her since she was a teenager. This is all just to say that it seems like everything was there for the church elders and the congregation, frankly, to see if we can see it now. Then why couldn't they see it then? I guess the difference now is that the worst has



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happened. And it's heartbreaking to see all the times Mica could have been helped. It's sad to see how many times people in her life tried to step in only to find out that this system is not built to help abuse victims in any meaningful way. That said, we want to give you a lens for your metaphorical glasses today. This lens isn't self serving. It's not fiction. It's not a tool of manipulation to maintain control over another person. It's just a fact that happens to be important context. Over the weekend, the Daily Mail newspaper reported that JP's church had almost \$6 million in assets, including a recently acquired plane worth almost half a million. Plus, let's not forget the house that JP lived in with Mica. Late last year after Mica first filed for divorce. The church bought that house for less than the home's value and added it to its assets according to property records. In addition, the church at one point had 700 members according to a 2023 report in Myrtle Beach Sun News. We did the math on cup of justice this week. JP has a pastor who is big on tithing. In fact, on the Elsa Kurt show on YouTube, JP said that tithing is the most important thing mentioned in the Bible. So if all 700 members of the Church tithed, meaning gave the church 10% of their gross household income, which in Myrtle Beach would be about \$72,000 Then that's about \$5 million a year in annual tithing for the church. If only half the members gave that's still multiple millions a year, like Mica's best friend said last week, JP feared what would happen with his congregation if Michael left him. According to Charlotte JP told Mica that it would split the church, and he knew what that looked like. He knew because years earlier after the church learned about his extramarital affair with Mica, a much younger married woman who was married by her pastor JP, the Church lost members. This is all just to remind you that when JP was served divorce papers just days before Mica's death, that was Mica throwing down a very big gauntlet. And we all know what happened after that, for rather, we don't know, we just know that she appears to have killed herself in a remote location and random State Park in a state

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where she did not live with a gun. She appears to have purchased on her way to work, which she decided at the very last minute to skip. We'll talk more about that in a minute.

### **Mandy Matney** 17:28

We'll be right back. First, let's go back to how the system failed Mica. We want to talk more about what happened in November 2022. Starting with two calls that Mica's sister Sierra made to police on November 16 2022, the incident that Charlotte told us about in the last episode. These calls, combined with a litany of texts we will talk about in a minute, are alarming, and they show just how much JP terrorized both Mica and her family. The text also showed that JP seemed to be delighting in the fear that he could cause in Mica and her sister. That night, Sierra did the smart thing and enlisted the help of law enforcement.

### **Sierra Francis** 18:21

I need a reporter nonemergency at this point. Okay, what's going on? My sister came here today to visit because her and her husband were having issues. She came from Myrtle. She told him she'll be home on Tuesday. And he was texting me at this point saying I'll be at your house at 12:55. I'm armed and ready. And I will keep you up all night. I'm going to get her in bed. And I said you're not welcome at my house. There are no trespassing signs up. You cannot threaten weapons. He has six guns, but he just purchased recently. And he said I'm ready. I'm coming to get her.

### **Dispatcher** 18:57

Okay. What's your name? Sierra? Yes, it's si e r r a. And last night? Yes. Obviously I want the cops to be able to come up here if they need to. You said this was your sister?





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### **Sierra Francis** 19:13

Yes, ma'am. He'll be coming from Myrtle. So he said 12:55 ETA on the ready.

### **Mandy Matney** 19:24

No woman should ever have to make a call like that, please. Sierra had to decide whether to close her gate so JP couldn't get in or leave it open so police could access our house should they need to do that because of JP again. JP wasn't getting what JP wanted, so everyone had to suffer JP's wrath. Shortly after midnight, Sierra made another phone call to police because it wasn't enough for JP to threaten that he was armed and ready and coming to get Mica at a house by the way where there was a sick Serial bully sleeping, he decided to taunt the women while threatening to kill himself.

### **Sierra Francis** 20:06

I had called earlier and filed a police report with my sister about her spouse to say he's going to come over and that he was threatened but he had a weapon with him. He said that he would be here at 12:55. GPS shows that he supposedly hasn't left Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, but he just texted her and said, You better drive down the road now. Or I'm coming in from the health pay, like acting like he's outside. So we just want to verify that he's not. Okay.

### **Mandy Matney** 20:33

The call is long, so we're not going to play the whole thing. But Sierra describes three different vehicles that JP could be driving, which, by the way, begs the question, how many vehicles did this man have access to? And are we sure that he was driving the truck the police identified on traffic cameras on the day of Mica's death, listen to the fear and these women's voices.



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**Sierra Francis** 20:56

Now he's texting her saying that like suicidal stuff, so I don't know. But I'm pretty sure he traded in the other car that I was gonna mention.

**Dispatcher** 21:07

Okay, so he's doing it to get you to call him. Did you tell her not to answer the phone? So the phone is just you guys in the house?

**Sierra Francis** 21:19

It is. We have. My husband is asleep because yesterday get ready to go to work. So we didn't even wake him up. And then he has our six-year old son in the bed with him. He said he's easily he texted her threatening that he's going to kill themselves. Yeah, he said, My blood is gonna be on your hands. But prior to that he was threatening to come in here. And he said, Call the cops I don't care. I'm armed and ready. Okay, which he is he just purchased about six firearms in the past couple of days.

EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

**Mandy Matney** 21:53

JP said, quote, My blood is going to be on your hands. Haunting, isn't it? When you think about where we are now. The Cherokee County 911 Operator named Hannah McCracken, who was fantastic, by the way, stays patient throughout the phone call. And she asked for Sierra's number to text her a link where Sierra can send the police screenshots of those text messages.

**Dispatcher** 22:21

Just let me know when you get that link. How long has your sister been with you today?

**Sierra Francis** 22:33

She just got here at 7:30 and she was supposed to stay until Tuesday.



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She was supposed to meet him for a hot air balloon something in Asheville this this weekend and it was supposed to be whatever but now he's changing the locks on the house and all kinds of stuff that he's gonna throw our stuff in the yard and then since she said she wasn't coming home, he said that he was going to come here and he didn't care if he called the cops he was going to be ready.

### **Mandy Matney** 22:53

The dispatcher then walks Sierra through the form that she sent her in order to report JP's threatening text messages. Sierra then tells the dispatcher Mica his name, GPS name and JP's contact information. minutes pass as the officers are still on the way. JP was previously sharing his location with Mica and vice versa. And Sierra said the location had changed all day, which was freaking them out. The dispatcher named Hannah McCracken again, who was amazing and deserves dispatcher of the Year Award for this phone call alone. She kept cool, calm and collected as she asked questions about Sierra's property, and where a partner and child were sleeping so the cops when it startled them. Michael was next to Sierra for the entire conversation. Both women were pragmatic and calm. You can hear Mica on this part.

### **Dispatcher** 23:48

I've got a couple officers on the way out there. They should be there soon. Just listen here. Be too far. They were just coming from Taz. I believe they were both at the sheriff's office. And he hasn't texted anything else?

### **Sierra Francis** 24:07

Okay. And he hasn't texted anything else, no. And that you said he tried. He tried to call you one time. Yeah, he tried calling and then I didn't answer. Didn't call up to that. And I have a friend on the way to my



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house to see if he's at the house because he wasn't at the church, which she lives right by the church. And she's headed to our house which is like seven minutes away from the church.

### **Mandy Matney** 24:42

This is when Charlotte sent her husband to JP's house, as she told us in the last episode of True Sunlight. About 20 minutes into the 911 phone call. The officers finally arrived on Sierra's property. I just want to play this last part as a shining egg. example of how a dispatcher should end a traumatic 911 call.

### **Dispatcher** 25:05

Okay, so if y'all hear anything, I've got my officers out there, they're gonna take a look around. Do y'all want them to come up to the house and talk to you? Oh, they're in our driveway. Okay. Y'all want to go out there and talk to them? Please go ahead and give them whatever information you have. Okay. Okay. Are you gonna get off the boat with us now? I mean, I can stay on it if you want me to. But I've got two officers out there. And they're on my board so I can let you go. It's up to them. All right, go ahead.

### **Liz Farrell** 25:38

I mean, the fear and chaos that JP created in this situation, Sierra had to think about what would happen if JP showed up. She didn't make sure her young son was in the same room as her husband, who was sleeping because he had to be up at 3am for work, the dispatcher had to map out where everyone was in the house for police just in case something happened. Also, it's worth noting that November 16 2022, was a Wednesday. This isn't some Friday night, bad behavior. It's the middle of the work week. And it's late. It's disrespectful in all of the ways. And now that we know how Mica's life ended amidst even more fear and chaos



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created by JP, it's even more sad to consider this phone call to know that she lived the next year and a half of her life trying to extract herself from this kind of behavior. Okay, so let's talk about those text messages JP was sending to Mica that night. We recently obtained copies of them and we wanted to share those with you. They start at 9:08pm. About two hours after Mica arrived at her sister's house in Gaffney, which is about four hours from Myrtle Beach, JP grip texted Mica was Charlotte, we're going to have David read the first series of texts from JP in one big chunk since he sent these texts with no responses between them. Notice all the ways JP uses manipulation tactics here. He starts by putting my girl on a pedestal while also telling her that she treats him horribly. Then he tries to convince her that he's the victim and that she is the one who is selfish. Then he uses her faith and God against her, trying to convince her that God wants her to do what JP says. Then he goes for the ultimatums. Notice JP's reference to his elders at the church.

**David Moses** 27:33

I would leave anyone or anything for you. I'm only asking for the same respect. You can't treat someone like shit, and then leave. You're supposed to work it out. Stay and do whatever it takes. Please, don't be selfish this one time. I am literally begging you to do the right thing. The godly thing. The only thing that will work. I'm asking you from the bottom of my heart. I need you. I want you. And I don't want to sleep alone, ever. But if you choose this, I will not beg you to come back. I won't put up with this again. This is literally your last chance to make things right. I'm too old to hurt. And you have put me through too much to continue letting you treat me like shit. While I pay all your bills and do whatever you want. I need you to act like a godly wife this one time and prioritize your marriage over your family, friends and feelings. Charlotte is in this text so she can hold me accountable for this. What

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you've done in our marriage this time is totally unacceptable. And no man would put up with it. But I'm willing to give you one more chance. I'm asking one that you repent, to hear my heart and pretend like you understand why I'm hurt. Three, come home. Now. If you don't do these things that will help me feel loved and safe and prioritized. Then our marriage is officially over. And I cannot allow my heart to be put through this ever again. I love you. I'm willing to do whatever it takes. But I will not be treated this way and defamed so horribly anymore. We used to be the best of friends. And I'm shocked that you would throw all of that away. Maybe it's because you want to live with Charlotte. Why don't you tell her? Why do you want to live with her? Or should I tell her? Go ahead Charlotte. Ask Mica why she would badly want to stay with you. Please ask her. I'd love to hear how honest she is. Since she threw me under the bus today with my elders. After everything else you've done by 9am There will be nothing left inside this house that has anything to do with you. If you want your clothes, shoes, jewelry, pictures, furniture and books, anything that is an attachment to you. Everything is going to Goodwill.

### **Liz Farrell** 31:14

Mica responds, why are you being crazy? I just wanted to visit my sister. Keep in mind, according to Charlotte, who has receipts upon receipts upon receipts to backup everything she has said the fight all started because Mica and JP took gummies and JP decided to interrogate Mica about of all things if she were to kiss a woman. Who would it be my girl under pressure and searching for an answer, said Charlotte because she wouldn't tell anyone. And then JP knowing how much time Mica spent with Charlotte, lost it.



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**David Moses** 31:52

Why put your sister before your husband. That's the continual problem. Just once put your husband first.

**Mandy Matney** 32:04

I do not feel safe coming home right now.

**David Moses** 32:06

Mica that's such a cop out. Liar. You always say that to be able to leave. Three hours, seven minutes. Just once. Put your husband first.

**Mandy Matney** 32:19

I make 100 decisions a day that put you first.

**David Moses** 32:24

No wife would do this to her husband in his most desperate time of need. I'm coming to you. You're a horrible wife to do this. When I arrive. I'm going to raise hell. Sierra, Matt will be up all night. If you leave now, I'll turn around.

**Mandy Matney** 32:49

If you come here you are trespassing.

**David Moses** 32:52

I did see her ha ha ha ha ha. That's funny. You can call the cops. You did this.

**Mandy Matney** 33:01

You can't come to someone's house threatening with a gun. There's kids involved.



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**David Moses** 33:06

Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha. I don't care. lol I have no gun. Crazy. See you soon.

**Mandy Matney** 33:16

You just texted my sister that you're armed psycho.

**David Moses** 33:21

That doesn't mean gun. Everyone gonna be awake all night. By can't text and drive.

**Mandy Matney** 33:28

You don't say shit like that.

**David Moses** 33:30

Ha ha ha ha you're upset. Lol that's funny. How should I handle it when you're upset?

**Mandy Matney** 33:38

I'm sorry for hurting you.

**David Moses** 33:40

I'm sorry. Then come home now. I don't feel safe. lol whatever. Then stay away forever. That's shipped. We're going to be up all night anyway. There's only one way this will work. You come home. Now.

**Liz Farrell** 33:59

Twelve days later, Mica was committed to a mental hospital on November 28 2022, less than two weeks after the incident at Sierra's house. When JP had threatened to drive more than four hours armed and ready to take Mica back to Myrtle Beach with him. Mica was



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brought some Walk a Mile Center for Mental Health Facility in Myrtle Beach. Since Mica's death last month her family has spoken out about what they believe was happening with her mental health. They strongly suspect that JP was dragging her and gaslighting her and gaslighting them into believing she had bipolar disorder. Today JP's message to his congregation and the public is that Mica has suffered from mental illness and suicidal ideation. He said this several times in the lead up to Mica staff. And after her death when the public was questioning his role in it, a clip of Mica began circulating on social media in which she appears to be addressing a group in Kenya. As she talks about a time when she tried to kill herself by holding a gun to her head and pulling the trigger, the gun jammed and she considered that a message from God telling her to live. We had a lot of questions about this clip because obvious context seemed to be missing. It wasn't even clear if Mica was referring to herself in that story, or if she was retelling a story that she had been told by someone else. So we asked Charlotte about this alleged incident. Mica never discussed it with her but she did talk about it with her sisters. According to Charlotte, Mica told them that she never would have done that but was so quote whacked out on the medicine JP had her on that she didn't even realize what she was doing. Charlotte noted that Mica did not own a gun JP did and he kept those guns in a safe that Maya did not have the code for meaning. If Mica did use one of the guns in their household, she was likely given access to them. You remember that in the fall of 2021 JP's that is conviction on assault and battery have a high and aggravated nature charge from when he pleaded guilty to intentionally hitting a woman with his car twice at a high rate of speed. In 1998. Get pardoned by the state on its application for that pardon he listed as the reason quote, I am seeking a pardon to restore my civil liberties in the community that I serve daily. As a husband, father and Pastor the right and ability to protect my wife and children as well as my congregation is imperative. In other words, it

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seems like he wanted a part in after 23 years, so he could buy a gun. At any rate. From what we're seeing right now. It looks like wherever Mica is alleged mental illness reared its alleged ugly head GP was nearby.

**Mandy Matney** 36:54

And we'll be right back.

**Liz Farrell** 37:09

So let's talk about what happened on November 28 2022. We're still waiting for more information about this incident. But according to the initial police report, which does not list the time of the service call, or the county police department was called to walk them off Center for Mental Health in reference to a woman locked in the bathroom with an unknown condition. The initial incident report is not only redacted it refers to the people involved in code such as Oh 102 And oh three with the O meaning other entity. From what we can make sense of and what sources tell us. Mica's sister Anna had brought Mica to the hospital. But JP showed up and was now trying to take her away from the scene. Why? Unclear? Obviously, this doesn't reconcile with accusations that JP would have Mica involuntarily committed against her will. And it doesn't reconcile with JP's own sermons and his own declarations post Mica's death, that Mica has significant mental health issues and that he tried to get her help. So what was different here? Why does it seem like he didn't want Mica to get help this time? Was it because it was her sister and not him taking Mica to the hospital? Was it a loss of control? Was he worried about what they'd find in Mica's system? Or what she might tell the doctors without him there? Was he worried that she was questioning the medications she was on? This might shed some light on his reaction just before 5am On this same day, when Anna ended up bringing Mica to the hospital. Sierra had texted Mica's friend Charlotte to give her a warning. Sierra wrote, just so you know, JP texted us saying





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he's going through Mica's phone and he's checking every call and text because Mica is not in her right mind. He also said he hasn't told the elders anything except Judy, the one who told Mica to go home and have alone time with JP when he was sending all those threatening messages. He is saying he wants her to go to the doctor's, which means he's trying to get her locked up again. He said he can't handle it, and he is all alone. When my sister and dad both reached out to me, he said she can't talk. I just talked to her yesterday, but I fell asleep. And then he started another group message saying she's going to kill herself if we don't intervene. And no, Mica can't talk to us. And if we don't agree with him, he said he will remove us from the group chat and if she kills herself, and we don't help them, then we would be held responsible. Later that day, Sierra texted Charlotte again, so much has happened today. Mica is at the doctor's office. Anna was able to find her because As JP wouldn't tell us where she was, Mica is definitely not in the right state of mind. She is acting very strange and everything is a response as long as JP says so or asked JP or I don't think JP will be okay with that. Anna is trying to get Mica to stay away from her home and spend time outside. Hopefully they will come here. Best case scenario. I invited Mica to come help me do Christmas setups since they will be out of town then and she said she would love to. If JP says it's okay. He said it's okay if the doctor visit goes well, so Anna is doing her best to stay involved physically and fingers crossed, they will come here. If not, I will be there tomorrow to see Mica in person. Also JP did text our family group chat that he has all his guns still in his home. So he's still doing his threats but in a very subtle way that only I would know because of the situation last week, saying he is the only one who knows the safe combination. Not a good situation. If she can't get Mica to come here today, I have already made plans to go there tomorrow.



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**Mandy Matney** 41:09

According to sources, JP used Mica's mental health as a weapon against her when it suited him when it allowed him to keep her from her family and friends. When he could paint himself as the hero or the victim with a sick wife. This visit to the hospital would suggest that he only cared about Mica's mental health when it suited him when he got to be the one to speak for her. Because here is what happened. In complete contradiction of what Sierra says he was telling the family when officers arrived at the facility, they were told that Mica had exited the bathroom and was sitting in the passenger seat of JP's burgundy Ram truck in the parking lot. The report notes that as officers were trying to speak to Mica, JP interrupted her answers and quote, would not allow her to speak to officers and quote, according to the report, hospital employees told officers that Mica appeared to be extremely weak when she was inside the building, and told them that she had passed out in both the lobby of the hospital and in the bathroom. Quote, they feared she was under the influence. According to the report, a woman who we know to be Mica's sister Anna had driven Mica to the hospital to get mental health help. Anna told police the Jaypee pulled up when inside the building, and one and allow for Mica to get the help that she needed. Instead, Anna said that he brought Mica out to his truck and wouldn't let her out, according to the report, and I told police that quote, this has been an ongoing issue between the group it is not clear what group they mean. But it likely means Mica's family and JP. The report goes on to state that quote, just weeks prior Mica left the area seeking help in Cherokee County, then a few words are redacted. Cherokee County, by the way is where Mica's sister Sierra lived. Then after the redacted words it says quote, and an attempt to leave JP quote, wall away JP allegedly had a mental breakdown and stated he was suicidal resulting in Myrtle Beach Police Department conducting welfare checks on them. Anna told police that JP quote, had been mentally abusing Mica for an

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extended period of time by not allowing her to sleep, eat or contact her family. The officer notes that all parties were separated, allowing Horry County Fire and Rescue the opportunity to speak with Mica alone to determine if she needed to go to the hospital. According to the report, JP was quote, unhappy about being separated and made a call who he stated was to Lieutenant Wilson, the officer notes that Mica decided to voluntarily go was Fire and Rescue for a mental health evaluation. Anna was allowed to see Mica while she was on the stretcher to get Mica's personal items. Then the report notes JP was quote, upset about this, but was told due to the circumstances of the situation. He was being kept away from Mica. According to the report, JP then again called Lieutenant Wilson and advised the officer on scene that quote, you will be getting a call JP than walked to the far side of the parking lot. Again, a man used to getting his way has been told no. And this is how he acts. Also this is how JP acted when Mica's family was simply trying to get Mica the help that she needed and wanted. Okay, so the big question: who is Lieutenant Wilson? We are still learning more about Heather Wilson. And if she had any role in any of this, we will report more on that in a later episode. The next day, Sierra sent a text to Charlotte asking whether JP had sent her any updates. Here is what Charlotte told her. He sent two messages. Then she copied and pasted the message from JP that said, quote, not a good report at all. They took her off her normal meds that I think were best, and started some new stuff she's never had. When she called she sounded like a zombie and didn't even believe I was JP on the phone. Then he typed a sad emoji face. Charlotte then copied and pasted the second message from JP that said, I picked up her phone keys, wedding band, insert sad emoji and wallet. I looked at her phone and she obviously started this episode a few weeks ago were texts that don't make sense, all through the night, etc. So at least I feel better knowing our big fight was not her normality. It was the mental disease. So basically, two days after trying to keep Mica from getting help. JP was now presenting it to Charlotte like Mica was so

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gravely mentally incapacitated, that she could be hospitalized for months. Also, he is blaming Mica's mental health for Mica seeking the safety of her sister's home after their fight. Keep in mind, this fight was over something silly. Who Mica would kiss? If she would kiss a girl? That was it. Sierra then asked Charlotte, have you guys reached out to the elders, JP's telling people that you won't be released until Sunday? Then he told Mica his brother, she could be moved to a permanent facility. So I am not sure if I should stay in town or go back or wait it out. Charlotte replied, He texted me directly this morning and asked if I had been getting any of the messages about Mica. I haven't written back in it at all. So I told him yes, and that I was praying for both of them. I asked if he knew when she would get out. And he said they don't know. But it could be months in that same group text at 2:10pm. On November 28 2022, the day, Mica was hospitalized, JP told Charlotte and other people at his congregation. There were eight people on the chat. This is David with JP's text message.

**David Moses** 47:39

Hey, y'all, please keep this confidential other than your hubbies. And please do not text Mica or her family right now. We figured out the issue from last week. Mica is suffering from a bipolar episode similar to five years ago.

**Mandy Matney** 47:58

Reminder, you heard Mica on the 911 call from a week and a half earlier in November 2022. She sounded calm, and she was doing the practical thing, seeking shelter away from a person who she feared. Additionally, I want to note that quote five years ago, would have been 2017. When Mica had that cosmetic surgery that we told you about the surgery that JP insisted on getting married before so that he could take care of her the surgery that resulted in her hospitalization because of a reaction to



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the pain medicine in the surgery that our family blames for a complete shift in Mica's health. The surgery is when the family believes JP began interfering with Mica's health. Here's David again reading JP's texts.

**David Moses** 48:49

She has been hospitalized for a minimum of three days. Even though she's hearing voices solving world peace and not sleeping or eating for days and days. Her sisters think it's normal, so don't involve them.

**Mandy Matney** 49:06

Reminder. According to the police report, JP did not want Mica hospitalized. It was Mica's sister Anna, who brought her to the hospital. But here he is telling key people in their lives, Mica's own friends that it is Mica's family who isn't to be trusted. Here's David reading another JP text.

**David Moses** 49:28

The doctors admitted her. Nate is the only family member right now who understands mental illness.

**Mandy Matney** 49:36

Another reminder, according to Sierra at the same time, JP told Mica his brother Nate, the doctors wanted to permanently hospitalized Mica. Also Mica admitted herself. According to the police report, Mica wanted to be there and was elected to go with a fire and rescue team to be mentally evaluated at the hospital. JP texted again.

**David Moses** 50:00

Pray for Mica don't text her as she doesn't have her phone anyway, and it could cause more of a breakdown. I'll keep you posted if she leaves





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South Strand. They won't allow a single visitor, not even me during the next three days.

### **Mandy Matney** 50:17

The next day, JP wrote to Mica his group of friends.

### **David Moses** 50:21

Doctor called me. Mica has been sleeping due to the meds they gave her. They think the ice beds set off the bipolar episode. They are upping her lithium, and we'll call me later to see if it's helping.

### **Liz Farrell** 50:40

These texts get us so angry for Mica. So first, the reference to the ice baths. Remember that from the obituary? Also remember how the obituary also noted that Mica was so close to her family with all those extra O's?. Remember when we were all like why does this obituary feel like it's mocking Mica? Well, that's because it was. On November 15, 2022, the day before Mica fled to her sister's house in Gaffney, Charlotte and Mica went to a cold plunge place to take an ice bath. Cold plunge baths are good for a lot of things, and regular use of them is thought to help perk people up and alleviate depression. Clearly, JP had a chip on his shoulder about this act of self care. Why? Because Mica was spending time with Charlotte or was it because people suffering from mental illness sometimes use ice baths instead of taking medication was Mica trying to get off the meds she was being given? Speaking of meds, JP's assertion that doctors were going to call him later that day to tell him if the allegedly higher dose of lithium was helping Mica doesn't make total sense. It takes weeks or months for the effects of lithium to be felt. On the same day Sierra told Charlotte that she wasn't sure what to do and mentioned that JP is telling everyone different timeframes. She said I'm keeping everything in a file and writing



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everything down. On December 1, three days after Mica's hospitalization. Sierra texted Charlotte to let her know that their family was still not allowed to visit Mica and that a woman who we're going to call Judy had sent out a message saying that Mica's family was no longer allowed on Solid Rock property. Again, abusers tried to separate the person they're abusing from their friends and family. Because Mica had the audacity to go to her sister's house. She was now paying the price. After this incident Mica went back to JP now, by October of the next year, nearly a year after their initial blowout Mica had officially filed for divorce from JP after her trip to Kenya that winter, she came back convinced that she needed to give JP and their marriage another chance. But then things turned again. On February 8 of this year, JP had Mica hospitalized against her will taking her car while she was in the hospital. He later told police that he did this out of fear that she was going to try to sell the car and he told police that she was mentally ill and had episodes around Christmas of each year. On February 10 Mica was released from that hospital. On February 13, a consent order was filed to dismiss their divorce case. Now why was Mica dropping her divorce case? Right as she was in the middle of another blow up with JP that is a great question. According to a police report, the next day February 14 is when Mica allegedly closed out the dare to care missions for solid rock ministries account at South State Bank in Myrtle Beach taking \$159.09 and putting it in another missions bank account that she allegedly opened. The police were told that she took the money for her own personal use. This is also the day police were told that Mica stopped coming to work at the church. The next day, February 15. It appears that someone from Solid Rock Ministries reported Mica for this alleged theft, now accusing her of stealing nearly \$1,200 from the church. The person reporting this was told by Myrtle Beach Police Department to call Orange County Police Department because they had jurisdiction. That call does not appear to have been made until mid



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March though. Two days after that Sierra texted Charlotte Hey, just so you know, JP has Mica's phone, Facebook, email, all that. I don't know why we didn't think to tell you. You may have seen us posted on Facebook, but it's been since February 6th. Charlotte responded. Okay. I saw the post that Nate put up about like his account being hacked, but that's the extent of my knowledge. Are they on the outs again? Why does he have all of that? Sierra wrote back, girl, it's a whole mess, but I really hope this time she's done. Even the cops won't help her. He has all her important stuff. He got her locked up against her will with a falsified court order because he said she was going to harm herself and they were required to take her. Then as soon as he got her taken away by police, he took all her little belongings like clothes, toiletry, etc, to her old roommate's house and lied saying Mica was moving back in, but really he was kicking her out while she was locked up. Then she got out and left and got help from the family. So as you would guess he's losing his mind trying to manipulate her. He has her car, her phone, her watch her laptop, her wallet, but she seems very set on leaving because she already went back a few months ago gave up the lawyer and everything good she had going for her, but with a counselor and a separate pastor holding him accountable so she could feel she did everything biblically possible, but we will see we are all hoping she sticks with it this time. Over the next few months, Mica tried her best to crawl her way out of the marriage that was eating away at her life, and JP did not make it easy for her. On February 21st Mica called Myrtle Beach Police Department to tell them that she had been separated from her husband since January, and that JP had taken her car. On March 3rd Mica and her family were at an oyster roast at a place called Wicked Tuna when she got a text from JP telling her to enjoy your oysters. He then said in another text how was Valorous? A reference to another church she had attended that morning. Mica later used this example in her motion for a restraining order, where she accused JP of



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first degree harassment, second degree harassment and stalking. On March 5, Mica said JP harassed her with multiple emails, calls, texts and letters and then put a thick razor in the passenger side tire of her car. And because of that she had to buy a new tire on March 11th. Mica called Horry County Police Department to report that for the second time in a week, she had found a razor blade and the deflated tire of her car. In this particular incident she was at Spring Made PIR around 1:30 In the morning, and as she was leaving, she heard a pop and noticed that a piece of metal was protruding from her tire. According to the report, the metal was a quote tire deflation device that can be purchased online. Mica told police she believed JP had placed the item or had someone else placed the item in her tire. She told the officer that JP had a history of similar actions against her and that she believed he had people following her or watching her. The officer noted that there was not sufficient evidence to prove that JP did this so nothing further happened. It's not clear if police ever reached out to JP or if JP was even aware the police had been called on him. Mica's motion for a restraining order included details from this incident that were not reflected in the police report. She told the court that she found three razors in her tires and that JP had keyed the back of her car. She said she also found a tracker on the car and a letter accusing her of having an affair with a teenager. Also on this day, Mica filed her motion for a restraining order against JP in Surfside magistrate court. Two days after this someone from Solid Rock Ministries, the name is redacted from the report, called Horry County police department to report Mica for that alleged theft that they had tried to report to the wrong police agency a month earlier. Now again, these reports alleging theft from the church, the suspects name is redacted but sources have told us that JP had accused Mica of stealing money from the church and that this was something he was using against her. And it was something that was weighing on her. Mica told Charlotte that JP and the church were under



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investigation for financial issues, and that she believed JP was going to try to pin some things on her. According to the report, quote the complainant stated that the church tried to work with the suspect to get the funds returned, but the suspect has since failed to reach back out. The complainant gave police copies of withdrawal slips with Mica his name on it. The officer notes that if a follow up with a bank is successful, this case was going to be presented to a judge for warrant consideration. Nowhere does the report or any of the reports about the alleged staff's note Mica's connection to the church other than to call her an ex employee. On this same day. A complainant from the church also made another report with Myrtle Beach Police Department which is the original police agency they had filed their report with in this report they accused is, again ostensibly Mica of taking \$1,199 from the church's Zelle and Cash App accounts and depositing those into her personal account. Now, why were they getting that on the record with a police agency that already told them they couldn't investigate it? Maybe this is the reason. The next day on March 14, the officer followed up with a bank and found out that Mica did come into the bank to close the church account and withdraw the money, and that she did deposit that money into an account of what she was the only authorized assignee. The officer confirmed that in January Mica made two deposits to that church account from her personal account and that the money she withdrew from that church account, the one she was closing, was less than that. On the same day, the officer presented the facts of this case to a judge. The judge determined that no crime had been committed, that Mica had taken out money that she herself had deposited from her own personal account. In other words, that she was taking back her own money from the church account, and the case was closed. It's not clear if Mica knew that this had occurred. There's no indication that police had even spoken with her but on the same day, she reported to police that she found a GPS tracker on her roommates





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car which she had been driving. On March 26, Mica again found a tracker on her car and reported it to police. On the same day her motion for a restraining order was heard in magistrate court. We don't know how the judge ruled yet, but we do know that the court answered ABC 15 FOIA for the same information, saying they would not say either way, which is odd. On March 27, the very next day after his bench trial for a restraining order against him, JP reported to police that he was being harassed by Mica and her family on social media. He referred police to the video Mica made talking about abuse. Police determined that there was no evidence of JP being harassed. On March 29, someone from the church again reported Mica's alleged theft to the police. Nowhere in the report doesn't mention that Orange County Police Department had already investigated the case and close the case, when a judge determined that nothing criminal had occurred. On April 8, Mica reported that JP had posted a nude photo of her on the Facebook page called big boobs and nice curves, tagging her old Facebook account in the photo on April 15, the day she filed for divorce. Mica found another heavy duty GPS tracker on her vehicle and reported it to police. On April 25, JP was served with divorce papers, including a motion for an order of protection. Their hearing was set for June 5th.

### **Mandy Matney** 1:02:59

Mica's hospitalization in November 2022 shows us what happens when power is taken from JP. According to the police report, he tried to grab that power back and regain that control over Mica. When the police put him in his place. He tried to use his power and influence to get them into trouble. But it didn't matter. Mica was able to get the help her family had sought that day. They knew JP would try to get in the way. And they did the right thing anyway. Doing the right thing is hard in seeing that reality is even harder when you're talking about going up against someone in power, who plays a big role in a system that that



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you thought that you believed in. The elders could have helped. And we know it would have been difficult to stand up to JP but like Mica's family did, they could have done it anyway. Power is never acquired by a single individual, but rather it is fueled by enablers and supporters. Remember Alex Murdaugh and his circle of enablers who were exposed.

Remember all that time that Russell and Cory had to fess up to please and they did it because they believed that they would always be protected under the untouchable Murdaugh dynasty. Well, Russell and Cory are in prison right now. The Murdaugh ship sank and they chose to go down with it. Despite his position of power at the church. JP cared what the elders thought of him. And to that degree, he feared them. At the end of the day. The elders were the ones holding the power when it came to helping Mica. We hope that they understand that we hope that they realize that they still have the power to help Mica and others.

On Wednesday, Solid Rock occupy Market Common relaunched its website and I noticed an entire section written by JPM. self titled Core Values. JP wrote on behalf of the church. We refuse to wear masks and play games. Rather we keep everything out in the open. The whole truth is on display. Well, the masks are off. The game is over. The truth about JP is on full display for the world to see. And police reports and text messages and sermons and in his actions, we all see it but do the elders stay tuned. Stay pesky, 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](https://lunasharkmedia.com). Interruptions provided by Luna and Joe Pesky.