

## EPISODE 57: '40 Days and 40 Nights' 911 Call and Reports Show Harassment and Stalking Patterns in Mica Francis Case + How The Medical Examiner Failed Mica

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### **Mandy Matney** 00:02

I don't know how Myrtle Beach police or the county police and now the North Carolina Medical Examiner's Office failed Mica Francis to such a horrific and tragic extent, but after uncovering yet another slew of harassment and stalking reports, listening to more 911 calls and poring over investigation reports I am left stunned and hoping that the FBI investigation leads to not only necessary charges, but also systemic changes to ensure that these agencies won't fail another woman like they failed Maya. 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. Hello and Happy Independence Day. While it feels like our country is more divided than it's ever been, at least in my lifetime, I would like to talk about something that should unite all of us Americans, or at least the listeners of this show, our desire, respect and appreciation for freedom. I want to start this show by having David Read the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

### **David Moses** 01:48

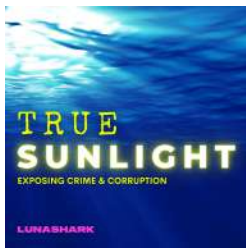
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

### **Mandy Matney** 02:18

It should be no surprise to y'all, that of all of the amendments this one is my favorite. It was painted on the wall at my journalism school at the University of Kansas, and I made it a point to try to read it every time I entered the building. I even took an entire class on the first

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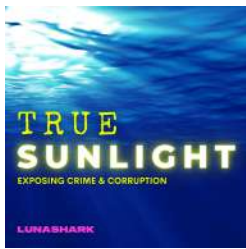
amendment. It is a powerful piece of legislation in this podcast simply could not exist without it. In 2022, I remember being interviewed by the Guardian, along with Australian journalist Healy Thomas, who was the host of the wildly popular podcast Teacher's Pet, which was produced by The Australian. Thomas' work on that podcast exposed new evidence in a 1982 Cold Case, that actually led to an arrest and 2019 however, The Australian actually had to take the podcast off the air at the request of the government to ensure that the podcast wasn't tainting the jury pool. As a journalist, I was horrified to hear this story. Could you imagine if we were forced to take MMP off the air? From the time that Alex was arrested until the trial was over? Could you imagine how much further Dick and Jim's silly narrative would have gone if that happened? I know that I criticize our government a lot. But I am only allowed to do that because of the First Amendment. Protecting my team, my company and me. The First Amendment is why we have the right to stay pesky. As our nation continues to descend into uncharted territories. I would urge y'all to take a look at our Constitution. And remember the ideals this country was founded on and vote for those who believed in the freedom for all of us, not just the good ol boys. Happy Independence Day from all of us at Luna Shark Media. Now, let's talk about Mica Francis.

**Liz Farrell** 04:27

So we have a few updates for you today before we talk about what we've learned from the recently released medical examiner's report into Mica's death and what we learned from a newly obtained 911 call from Mica's case. First we have to quickly and unfortunately, talk about JP Miller and his tattoo of Mica's signature on his torso. This tattoo has become a real source of drama between JP and the social media public. We first learned about it when members of Mica's family pointed out

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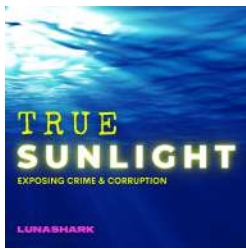
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that a tattoo that she had of JP signature on her body really spoke to the kind of coercive control they're alleging he had over her. That's how it was likened to JP basically wanting to brand her body with his name as if you were signing his property. Now, we don't know the circumstances that led to Mica getting JP's signature tattooed on her body. JP contends that this is something she really wanted. But we have to mention that this is a thing that happens in abusive relationships. According to an article posted on domesticshelters.org, forcing a survivor to get a tattoo is a blatant tactic of power and control meant to intimidate a partner, it can be the start of their control. If a partner or lends to being branded by an abuser, the abuser may escalate to more dangerous or audacious demands. A tattoo can also serve to brainwash a victim, they may start to believe they do belong to this abusive partner, or that no one else would ever love them with a visible reminder of the abuser on their body. an abuser may use threats of additional control or harm to force the victim to get a tattoo. In some cases, survivors may decide it's safer to relent on this demand and deal with it once they reach a place of safety. Only a survivor knows for sure when and how it's safest to separate from an abusive partner. In response to questions about why Mica had his named tattooed on her JP posted a TikTok video a few weeks back, showing that he too had a tattoo of Mica signature on his body. He says he got the tattoo in November, which would be one month after Mica filed for divorce on the grounds of adultery. Some people in the comment section have suggested that JP had just gotten that tattoo recently to counter what Mica's family was saying about him, which is something he has denied. Over the past weekend, photos were posted on social media that were taken by a beach goer of JP shirtless at the beach in which he does not appear to have a tattoo on his body anymore. This obviously raised questions about the authenticity of the tattoo, but it was also very

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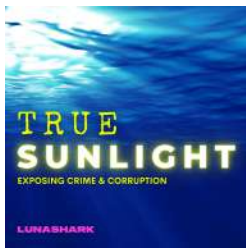
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difficult to tell from the angle of the photos whether the tattoo was not there or simply being covered by his arm. According to a two part series of videos on TikTok that JB posted through the user True Crime the tattoo is still there. However, JP's biggest issue with this new claim, by the way, that is tattoo was not real, was more that someone had taken photos of him in which his Dad bod was on display. And we are not here to body shame anyone, we're just mentioning that JP repeatedly and lamented that he was not told his photo was being taken, and therefore was unable to suck in his gut. In the first video, JP showed viewers that the tattoo indeed was still there. In the second video, he went a step further, he took out a package of wet wipes and showed viewers that look, he couldn't wipe the tattoo off. This tattoo thing seems to be affecting him a lot. Or maybe it was the fact that these photos were messing with his self image of being some sort of Myrtle Beach of God. Either way, both videos were giving high tide energy, it is hard to tell if he's acting this way because he's merely defending himself, or because he really likes any and all attention that comes his way. Honestly, it's way past time for his lawyers to tell him this a bit. But what fun would that be? There was also some drama over the weekend outside of solid rock ministries with protesters who continue to call for justice for Mica. According to video footage, it appears that a church member or employee sprayed protesters with water and police got involved. It's part of an ongoing issue with the church seeming to try and dissuade people from protesting outside the building. We haven't talked much about the protests or the harassment that JP and church employees contend they're having to deal with. We will definitely talk about all of that in a future episode. We have so much to cover in this case. Also we plan to return to JP's parents divorce and his father's version of what went down, as well as share more about what we know and the death of Chris Skinner the paraplegic husband of a woman JP was reportedly

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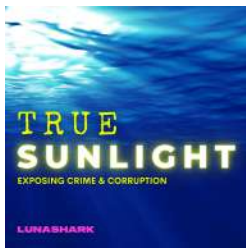
having an affair with at the time according to court documents. We haven't forgotten about that. But this week, we have some more pressing issues to cover.

**Mandy Matney** 09:52

Now, let's start with a bizarre North Carolina medical examiner's report in Mica's case that was released last week. We need to talk about it because it shows in my opinion, how unserious this investigation was from the get go. Now, this is not a report from an autopsy. Why wasn't Mica's death the mysterious death of an otherwise healthy 30 year old woman who was trying to divorce her suspicious past husband? The grabbed headlines around the world? Why was it bad, deserving of an autopsy? Well, the last line of the four page report, which was given to us on bright yellow paper, for some reason, states that quote, upon further consultation with the office of the chief medical examiner, and law enforcement, there was no concern for foul play, and an autopsy was not warranted. Mica's body was cremated, unfortunately. So that decision by the medical examiner's office in the Robeson County Sheriff's Office cannot be undone. So this four page report is really all we have aside from the Robeson County Sheriff's Office, odd PowerPoint, and the redacted two minute 911 call to see what evidence led police to believe that Mica did in fact in her own life. I want to remind you real quick, whatever law enforcement and the medical examiner encountered on April 27th. In that park, it wasn't immediately clear that this was suicide. How do we know this? For one, the medical examiner on call felt the need to call for help to get more eyes on the case. And frankly, we'd have a lot fewer questions, if that second medical examiner had not commented in the press, that the nature of the wound was indicative of suicide when we know all good and well, that getting shot in the side of the head with a gun pushed up against

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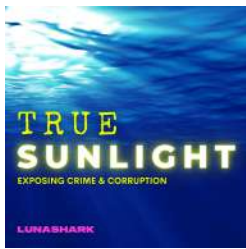
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a person's temple is not just an act that a suicidal person can do. Right off the bat. It seemed to us like the medical examiner's office was trying to portray this as an open and shut case, when really, investigators needed to turn to other evidence in order to be sure. And now that this report is out, we're questioning some of that evidence. The first page of the report covers the basics. 30 year old Mica Miller died on April 27, 2024 at 2819 Princess Anne Road in Robeson County, North Carolina, Mica's probable cause of death was a gunshot wound to the head, the time of injury and the last time she was known to be alive, were marked as 2:54pm the same time that she called 911. The report lists her time of death at 4:25pm more than an hour after she called 911. It also says that the medical examiner was notified at 6:30pm by Jennifer Altman, an RN signing the report on May 15 2024. The report for some reason wasn't released until last week. Page two notes Mica's medical history or lack thereof. No boxes are checked for alcoholism, cancer, depression, diabetes, substance abuse, heart disease or hypertension, however, and the box marked other for medical history, it says bipolar coma suicide attempt, and then it notes that Mica did not have a primary care physician, which would beg the question who was giving police all of this medical history and who exactly diagnosed her as bipolar and also who was medicating her. Further down in the report it says a nine millimeter caliber handgun was the weapon used. The report says that Mica's fatal injury was quote, shot self with handgun. Mica's body was intact and her liver was pink and posterior and non fixed. According to the report. photographs were taken of her body but not radiographs. She was found wearing a long sleeve black shirt, black pants, a black belt, a green bra, black shoes, black socks and gray underwear. She had a yellow necklace around her neck with a clear stone on it. On her finger was a metallic ring. A black bracelet and a black watch were found on her wrist and a pair of bird earrings hung on her ears. Page three of the



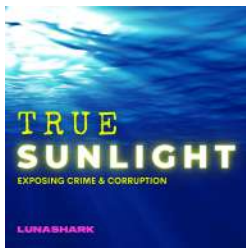
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report shows a diagram of Mica's body, it says quote, entrance of the bullet above her right ear four and a half inches from the midline of her head with black particulate material deposited along edges of wound and within the wound. The diagram notes an irregular exit wound above her left ear, but we're told that most exit wounds are irregular and the body is shot while up against a hard surface. The report said that there was a muzzle imprint on her head, which means the gun was pressed firmly into her head. This was likely a piece of evidence that the me used to point to suicide. But like I said, it could also point to an execution style murder. The diagram notes close skull fractures at the top and back of Mica's head and bruising around her eye, which we are told could be caused by the force of the gun. However, an autopsy would have made this a lot more clear. The report notes several small post mortem wounds, consistent with retrieval from the river and brush including Briar. And yet again, an autopsy would have clarified how they are sure that those wounds were in fact post mortem, and that they were caused by river brush. I am also told that it is more difficult to determine whether or not wounds are postmortem when the body is found in water. We will talk more about this report after a quick commercial break. We will be right back. That brings us to page four of this report, the preliminary summary of circumstances surrounding Mica staff. The report states that according to Mica's family, which to be clear, could very well be JP the quote unquote family had tried to call and text Mica on the day of her death, but didn't succeed in reaching her. We're trying to find out more about that because it is curious to us why it would be considered suspicious that she wasn't answering calls or text when we all know that Mica was on her way to work when she decided to go to the pawn shop to buy a gun. instead. We know from speaking with her manager at the restaurant where she worked that she was on schedule for noon that day. So this is an interesting note to

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make. It's like the enemy is presenting this as some sort of first clue that something was wrong with Mica that day, but it just doesn't make sense to us. The report says as we all know, the last place she was seen on camera before her death was at the gas station and Molins South Carolina around 1:33pm. And she was last verbally heard on a 911 call at 2:54pm in which she asked if the dispatcher could see her location.

**911 Dispatcher** 18:01

Tell me what's gonna happen.

**Mica Francis** 18:07

I'm about to kill myself. And I just want my family to know where to find me.

**911 Dispatcher** 18:19

Okay, ma'am. Just listen to what I'm saying. Okay. Let me make sure I got the exact location where you're at. Okay, just one minute.

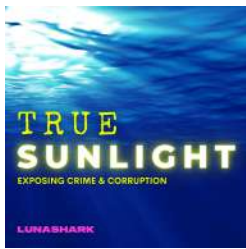
**Liz Farrell** 18:31

I should note here that this is the only part of the 911 call that authorities have released so far. We do not know if the call was redacted or if it simply ended there abruptly and we hear you all on the possibility of this call being manufactured using artificial intelligence. But so far, we haven't found any real evidence to support that thought or to even debunk it. So law enforcement began searching for Mica at Lumber River State Park after the 911 call was made and I just want to talk about this timeline for a minute while we're here. At 3:01 Lumber River State Park superintendent Brett Godwin got a call from Robeson County 911 regarding a suicidal female near the observation deck. At 3:03 the sheriff's office was dispatched to Lumber River State Park and at 3:05

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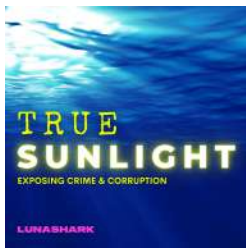
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the Lumber River superintendent spoke to the sheriff's office. So real quick when Mandy and David were at Lumber River State Park a few weeks back, they were really shocked at how small the area of focus was. If park rangers had started looking for her around three as they should have, wouldn't they have heard the gunshot and reported that as her time of injury? Why did it take so long to find her? At 3:20 Mica's phone was pinged and at 3:33 Law Enforcement dispatched a drone to find Mica. At 3:42 Verizon was notified and verified her location at Lumber River State Park, which begs the question again, how did it take so long to find her? Her time of death was listed to be 4:25. And we are so not sure why because the kayakers called 911 at 4:23 to report a dead body. It's likely that law enforcement reported her time of death as the time and officer discovered her as dead. But something like that really should be noted in this report, and maybe even on her death certificate because timelines and criminal cases are absolutely crucial. As we found out in the Murdaugh case, every single second matters down to the very last detail. They should list Mica's time of death as being between the time she hung up the phone with 911. And the time kayakers discovered her dad because again, that's the kind of detail that can really trip up juries and allow murderers to walk free. So I cannot stress enough how frustrating this stuff is for families trying to find answers about their loved ones. It's hard to trust an agency's conclusion of no foul play when the same agency is careless enough to include a factually incorrect type of death and its report one that conflicts with their own records. According to this report, and the medical examiner's official account, law enforcement found Mica's car while they believed Mica was still alive at that same park. That part really breaks our hearts to think what if a park ranger or deputy had found her before the gun went off? The report states that law enforcement found Mica's nine millimeter handgun case in the car

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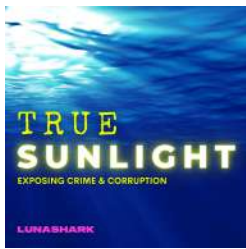
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along with a receipt that she purchased the weapon with her own debit card at 12:32 that day at Dick's Pawn Shop in Myrtle Beach. So are you noticing anything so far? This medical report that's explaining why it medically believes Mica died of suicide, has so far been reliant on clues unrelated to the story that her body told them. At 4:23 kayakers reported discovering Mica's body in the river and two minutes later, law enforcement found Mica and apparently declared her dead. Now, here's where things get strange. The report mentions that law enforcement was also given a black bag with ID and money that was found on the bank of the river by a person at the river. I want to pause from the report to talk briefly about that person at the river. Because this is the part of the story that has bothered us and only added to our personal suspicions here. The man at the river was a fisherman named Johnny James who has spoken to a number of reporters and podcasters and he even gave a one hour interview on something called rumble. James has said three things that we want to point out. One is that he heard Mica crying and heard the gunshot but never heard a splash. Two is that he found like his belongings on the riverbank, and looked through her bag before giving it to police and said her bag had \$500 in it. And three that he encountered three people in a jon boat who also said that they had heard a gunshot. Trauma can distort memory so I want to point out here that I'm not accusing this man of anything but simply saying his story is strange, and there are elements of it that just don't add up. If he was close enough to hear Mica crying which she was not crying on the 911 call. Why didn't he hear a splash when she entered the water? As the report from the medical examiner suggests happened? Unless Mica was sobbing loudly, it seems like this fisherman would have had to be really close, right close enough to hear dead weight going into the water. And by the way, fishermen generally keep their ears open for sounds like splashing. It's part of fishing. It would have been noticeable

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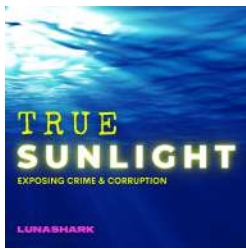
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to him. But fine, he says he heard her crying so why didn't he call 911 immediately to report the crying? And then the gunshot in the park? Why did he seek out to find out who was in distress? Why on earth would someone who just heard a gunshot and steep heart pick up a random bag on the riverbank and go through it? Wouldn't he think oh hey, there might be a crime scene here. Maybe I shouldn't touch anything. And if he was in the area where her bag and belongings were, by the way, why didn't he noticed her? Also, why does she have \$500 in cash on her? According to sources, Miko was struggling to make ends meet around the time of her death. Her friends were shocked that she had the money to purchase a gun with a debit card that day considering how much she had just paid her attorney to help her divorce JP. Why did she have \$500 in cash on her? Was she planning on doing something else at the river that day? All of it is odd, but then it gets a whole lot weirder. I'm going to have David read this next part of the report to you.

### **David Moses** 25:04

Law enforcement recovered two spent casings and one live round on the bank of the river. Regional pathologist was called to scene for assistance. The deceased was found prone, submerged in river beside tree limbs about 100 feet from casings. No signs of physical struggle at location of casing, deceased and was removed from water by law enforcement in a boat and brought to bank of river. Bank of river was muddy and had heavy brush with briars. Deceased had dirt and debris on her hands and clothing. At 19:11 a nine mm Sig Sauer pistol was removed from river approximately five feet from bank using a magnet and serial number on gun matched the gun case found in deceased and score.



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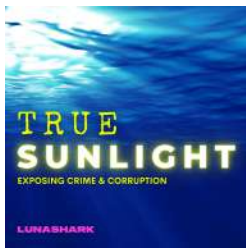
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**Mandy Matney** 26:06

Okay, so to break that down, Mica was found facedown in the water 100 feet from not one but two spent casings, and one live round on the bank of the river. This is strange. We should note here that Beth Braden called Robeson County authorities a few weeks ago to ask about the multiple shell casings at the area, and she was told that the area was a hunting area. Except it is not. Hunting is strictly prohibited at Lumber River State Park. We have heard old school investigators claim that women who choose to die by suicide typically fire off a round before using the gun on themselves, because they are not familiar with handguns. There is literally no research to this that we can find. But what we do know is that roughly 32% of women who do die by suicide, used a gun to do so. Also, we question the reasoning there because a person unfamiliar with the handgun, in its kickback and loudness might be more likely not to follow through with their plan if they are confronted with what is about to happen to them. But how were their two spent casings and a live round on the bank. Why and How was her body found 100 feet away from where the casings were. When we visited Lumber River State Park a few weeks ago, the water was extremely still. On Twitter, Beth Braden pointed out that according to NOAA, April was very dry in Lumberton. The last significant rainfall had been on April 21st, and that was just point eight inches of rain. Mica died on April 27th. There would have been no reason for the water to be running faster than usual with no rainfall. The water could have moved the body as undercurrents are always possible. But it is strange to me how quickly they would label this as suicide when her body was found so far from the casings and that there were multiple casings that what it comes down to is this, wouldn't that have been enough evidence to at least warrant an autopsy? The report notes no sign of a struggle near casings. But what does that even mean? Why is a medical report

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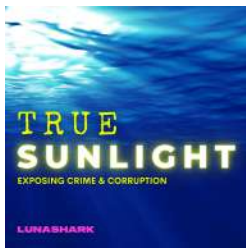
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including an investigatory detail that is actually meaningless, even when it is considered along with everything else? Does there even have to be a struggle when the threat of a gun is involved? No. So why is the absence notable here? My opinion is that it's only notable because of how stitch together their conclusion is. Each detail in this report is meant to support their theory of suicide, which means they either thought these weird little details were significant, or they were using everything they could to bolster a theory that was not based on an autopsy or a comprehensive toxicology report. In the same paragraph, the report abruptly and incorrectly summarizes Mica's medical records. It says that she was hospitalized on November 29, 2022 until December 5, 2022. But as we know she was admitted November 28th, not the 29th. That might seem like a small detail, but it makes you wonder if this is a typo from them from the hospital, or were they relying on someone's memory? The report does not mention that Mica herself wanted this hospitalization. She wanted to find out what was going on with her. It does not mention that a police report indicates that she seemed to be drugged. Nor does it mention that there were serious concerns and accusations that she was not just drugged, that she was being drugged. That alone should have been a prompt to conduct a more thorough examination. The report says that Mica was hospitalized on suicide precautions for bipolar one comma recurrent manic episode, comma tetrahydrocannabinol. dependence and Dependent Personality Disorder. Whew, that's a lot. So let's start with THC dependence that was likely self reported by Mica by the way. And we're sort of confused. Is the ME hinting that people who use weed are suicidal? Hmm. The report then says Mica was again hospitalized on February 7th until February 12, 2024. And it says, quote, secondary to emergency protective custody by her therapist. So that raises the question, who was her therapist? And were there any connections between them and

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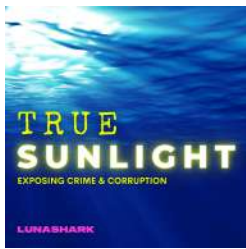
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her estranged husband? We do not have the answer, but it is important to know that a lot was going on at the time Mica was involuntarily hospitalized in February, shortly after her stay, she told a police officer that JP had orchestrated this hospitalization so that he could separate her from the car that she was driving, which is what he did. Shortly after her stay she also told the police officer that he was able to check herself out. A few weeks after this JP tried to get her committed to a mental ward, but the state of South Carolina determined that she didn't need treatment. Funny, I didn't see any of that mentioned in this report. Additionally, there are no real details from this February stay. Why were we given the diagnosis from 2020 and not from this one? Why not conclude what she was most recently treated for? Why not include her prescriptions? If she was suffering from a mental illness, serious enough to have a therapist intervene? It would seem that there would be some prescriptions. We will talk about that in a second. The report goes on to say that the medical record stated a previous suicide attempt with a firearm, which is likely the incident in Kenya that Wayne Miller, JP Miller's felon father mentioned in his strange letter to the Daily Mail. After Mica's death, an odd video started circulating from Mica's time in Kenya in October 2023 when she spoke to the missionary aka JP's people about a time when she held a gun to her head, and she tried to kill herself but the gun jammed. Sources close to Mica said that she was not in her right mind in Kenya as she was surrounded by some of JP's biggest supporters, and that she would never say a thing like that unless she was on serious medication. I still find it really odd that in October 2023 right after she filed for divorce from JP the first time JP's people managed to record a video that will later be used as evidence to support her death being ruled a suicide. Now, I went into this report thinking surely these medical professionals trained in death investigations had more evidence to conclude that Mica died by

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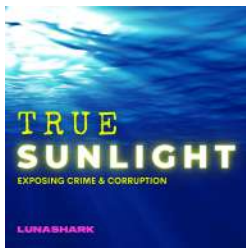
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suicide. But here's the thing, they did it. Instead, they muddied the water to make it look deep. The medical examiner added hot nonsense to attack Mica's character and bolster their conclusion that no autopsy was needed. The report said that records on 2/7/2024 also state Delta Eight gummy consumption and increased paranoia with bizarre behavior. I question those records. Was that an observation of the medical staff? Or was that what the therapist said in their emergency order? Whose accountant is that we also don't know how they would have known she was using Delta eight. Were they told that by her by her therapist, or by JP, did they do a screening. More than that we do not know what other medications Mica was either on or supposed to be on at that time. The use of Delta Eight and February might be notable to them, but it does not explain her suicide. Finally, the report notes that Mica was seen by someone three days before her death, and given a prescription for 25 milligrams of hydroxyzine. For anxiety. We looked at that drug and it is an antihistamine, which is used a lot to relieve itching caused by allergic skin reactions, but also sometimes used for anxiety. The report did not mention that the medical examiner spoke to whomever prescribed this medicine and a reason, nor did they say how they knew it was specifically used for anxiety. The toxicology report is even more strange. By the way, it appears that the ME's office didn't collect her blood to be able to conduct a test. Instead use fluid from her eyes that were extracted at an organ donation lab. Did they forget to do a toxicology at first, the toxicology report only tested for a few things. Interestingly enough THC components were not among them seems like if you're gonna use Delta Eight and THC as evidence for a person suicide, you would want to test for that right. Also, perhaps most importantly, the report does not know anything about what would be causing this woman's anxiety. Like, for instance, a long history of reported harassment and stalking from her past her husband, who she



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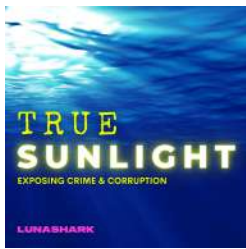
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was desperately trying to leave, you know, the one who has served divorce papers just two days before her death. How is that not even mentioned as a single circumstance surrounding her death. It is arguably the most important circumstance and this story in every woman's story who leaves a man and ends up dead because of it. Finally, the report says that a regional pathologist assisted and examined Mica's body, and that that exam was quote, consistent with the reported incident, to which the ME was like great, nothing to see here and concluded no foul play or autopsy needed. This report has us questioning whether the medical examiner was initially influenced by accounts other than the facts in front of them. Did they hear the narrative that Mica was sick and her poor poor husband had been struggling to get her help? And did that narrative ultimately cause the sloppiness of a report? I mean, we are not questioning all of this for fun. The FBI is now investigating. And despite what the powers that be in North Carolina want us to think it actually does seem like they are looking into her death to some extent. So in summary, like everything in this case, the report did nothing but remind us of yet another government body that failed Mica Francis and her family, the medical examiner's office.

### **Liz Farrell** 38:52

As we continue to cover Mica's case, we have been filing a slew of FOIA requests, which is both very exciting and frustrating. It's frustrating because each FOIA we get back inevitably results in several more foyers needing to be filed. And these things take a while to come back. But that is the beauty of us having a podcast in which we are reporting in real time with all of you along for that journey. This is what it looks like from the inside out. When it comes to investigative journalism. We are constantly getting new information, and that new information always





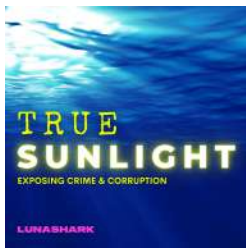
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means we have to reconsider the old information. In this case, we want to talk about one of the 911 calls we've received back along with reports that were filed by JP's ex wife around the time of their divorce. So let's start with a call. As you all know from our previous reporting, in the weeks and months leading up to Mica's death this past April, she had filed a number of police reports alleging persistent harassment against her by JP. On March 11th, she filed a motion for a restraining order against him because on that day, she had clearly had enough, and it's no wonder. In episode 52 we first told you about the call to Horry County Sheriff's Office that Mica had made after she found a razor blade protruding from the side of one of her car's tires. According to reports, Mica was at Spring May Pier until 1:30 that morning, and according to multiple other sources, it is believed that she was with a man in his 20s, who was a key member of JP's church and close to his inner circle. This young man also has a family connection to an Orange County deputy. That same deputy by the way, is purportedly the person JP was referring to when he threatened responding officers in November 2022. That was when police were called to walk them off Center for Mental Health where Mica's sister had taken Mica against JP's wishes and where JP was trying to drive away with Mica, who according to the police report, appeared to be under the influence of some sort of drug or medication back to March 11th. Though, the young man, Mica was apparently with that night is someone JP believed Mica was having an affair with. A reminder, Mica had filed for divorce in October 2023. And after she dropped the filing in early February at the behest of JP according to Mike esteem, JP immediately turned around and filed his own divorce papers against Mica so at this time, there could be no such thing as an affair. She was separated and living on her own and had just purchased a new car with the help of the woman she was sharing an apartment with because JP would not allow her to use either of the

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cars that were in her name at the time, JP appears to have exploited this friendship between Mica and this young man to gain sympathy with people in their lives, asking church members for prayers and claiming he couldn't eat or sleep because of this purported relationship. Also, I should mention that Mica believed JP to be having an affair as well. According to her October divorce filing. JP's ex wife also believed JP to be having an affair during his marriage to Mica, as evidenced in her affidavit filed this past May and Family Court. And according to Mike as list, JP had multiple affairs and basically told me that if she didn't satisfy him sexually in the way he wanted, that she was a bad wife, and he would be justified in seeking that sex elsewhere. Okay, so that was a whole lot of "ick". Anyway, on March 11th, Mica called 911 to report the razor she found in her tire. We're going to play the call and comment throughout because there are a few really significant things that we found here.

### EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

**911 Dispatcher** 42:43

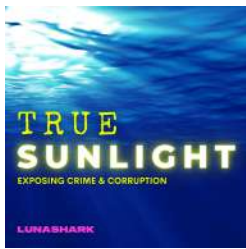
Dispatch, this is Winnie.

**Mica Francis** 42:46

Hi, I got a razor blade put in my tire at the Spring Made Pier, and I wanted to make a police report.

**Liz Farrell** 42:53

The dispatcher then asks Mica for her name and address. Mica lets her know that her car is now parked in front of her apartment building. Again. The car in question is one that JP has nothing to do with he didn't buy it. His name is not on it. And this is important to remember.



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### 911 Dispatcher 43:09

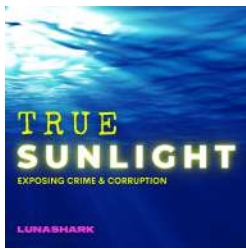
Okay, tell me exactly what happened.

### Mica Francis 43:13

I was parked at the parking garage right there at this Spring Made Pier. I walked on the beach. It was around 1:30'ish like AM that I got back to my car. And when I got back and I pulled away, I heard the pop in my tire. So I immediately got out and I took a picture. It's a giant razor sticking out the side of my wheel. And this same razor was put in my tire the day that I had to appear at probate court on March 5th in the parking lot of the county clerk. They saw the videos and they said nobody came near my car but I have pictures of both razors and they're identical.

### Liz Farrell 44:01

So in previous reporting, we've told you that JP Miller had mentioned that he tried to get Mica committed to a mental facility. He said that he tried to get her help and that no one would listen to him. Not doctors, not judges, not her family. According to Mica's list, he tried to have her involuntarily committed two times. We've also told you about how a mental commitment works in South Carolina. First, JP would have had to go to walk them off Center for Mental Health to get a referral from them that he could then bring to a probate court judge. He would not have needed to have Mica with him when getting that referral. It appears that his account would have been enough to get the wheels moving on this. What happens after that is probate court would then schedule the person for a psychiatric evaluation to determine whether or not treatment or hospitalization is warranted. We knew that Mica's list included an accusation that JP is ever to have or involuntarily committed was denied by a probate judge. But there's no record of that



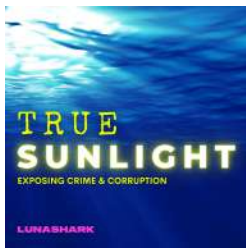
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because commitment cases are not subject to FOIA. So when Mica mentions she was at probate court on March 5th, that of course perked up our ears. from a previous police report. We knew that she had been at probate that day because of the other razor blades she found, but we didn't know for sure why. We could guess. March 5th was a Tuesday and Tuesdays are the day when Orange County probate court holds commitment hearings. Now, two things. One is that according to the medical examiner's report, Mica was involuntarily committed to walk them off in February for five days because of an emergency order from her therapist. Again, we do not know who her therapist was or what connection, if any, they might have had to the church or Mica's husband. And we say that because there are accusations in this case that JP used Mica's mental health as a weapon against her. Mr. "I've tried to get her help and no one would listen to me" tried to prevent her from getting care back in November 2022. According to police reports. Additionally, he stands accused of plying her with his own lithium prescription according to Mica's list, and he attributes her death to her not taking her prescriptions for lithium and Seroquel, which by the way, is a drug often administered to those with the diagnosis of schizophrenia. In a TikTok video, JP contended that Mica had bipolar disorder, dependent personality disorder and schizophrenia. The medical examiner's report mentions for 2022 diagnosis is as we told you, and schizophrenia is not on there. More than that, the report only mentioned one prescription and that was for that antihistamine use to manage anxiety, which was prescribed again three days before death. Nowhere does it mention a standing prescription for lithium. And it seems like if you're going to be writing a report about why you think a death was a suicide, and in that report, you're mentioning a prescription that deceased person was on at the time of their death. He might also mention that there were other prescriptions now, especially when the

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man who is under a spotlight now for his alleged actions leading up to her death, and who appears to be under investigation by the FBI for those actions, is claiming she was not close to taking her meds. And yet that report did not mention that. Second, Mica's account of her February stay, according to police report filed that month is again that she was there for two days and then checked herself out. That would speak to the unnecessary nature of her stay right? But again, according to the medical examiner's report, she was there for longer. It's not clear what is at the heart of that discrepancy because we do not have her records from that state. But we also do not fully trust the medical examiner's report because of how in Congress and sloppy it seems to be in places anyway, as you heard, Mica told the dispatcher that when she reported the razor blade that was put in her tire outside of probate court on March 5, investigators looked at video footage, and did not see anyone go near her car. The dispatcher inquires more about this.

### EXPOSING CRIME & CORRUPTION

#### **911 Dispatcher** 48:19

So when they weren't so obviously following me when they watched the videos, they never saw anyone going near your car.

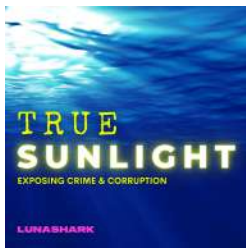
#### **Mica Francis** 48:26

Correct, which means that someone was trying to get me to not be able to go to court, and they wanted me to have a flat tire. It was a psych evaluation from my ex husband. It was a mandated psych evaluation, which I got dismissed after that day, they cleared me, dismissed and dropped the case. But there was still a razor in my tire that day at court. And then just now less than a week later, there's another razor in my tire, and he's accusing me of having an affair and all this crazy stuff.

#### **Mandy Matney** 49:00

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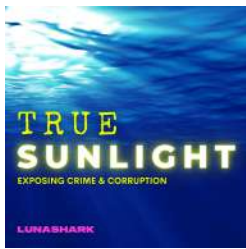
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Okay, so this call finally confirms for us that on March 5th, Mica was indeed at probate court for a psych evaluation, meaning she had a psych evaluation by two doctors from the state of South Carolina, and they did not agree that she had a problem requiring hospitalization. Also note that she referred to JP as her ex husband, and how she confirms that he was accusing her of having an affair at that particular time. Again, that corresponds with JP's purported text messages to church members, in which he painted himself as the poor, old devoted but scorned husband, who was crying so much and not eating because of this supposed affair. We need to talk more about why someone would have been trying to prevent Mica to show up to court that day on March 5th, after this quick commercial break and we'll be right back. Now let's talk about why a person would have been trying to prevent Mica from showing up to court that day on March 5, 2024. It's pretty simple. It would have put her on a path for more unnecessary drama and trauma. If she didn't show up to court that day, the court would reschedule for another Tuesday. If she showed up at the next scheduled evaluation, it is likely that doctors would have heard her story about a flat tire and thought, hmmm, right. And that could have contributed to how they viewed her during that meeting. If she did not show up at that next scheduled meeting. Well, she would be arrested. Basically, the judge would have sent deputies to her house, and they would have brought her in for evaluation. Meaning, if my gut didn't show up, it would have cast further doubt on the state of her mental health. It would have made it look like she was avoiding something worse, it would have lent credence to JP's assertion that Mica was sick. If someone was trying to keep her from that hearing, then they failed spectacularly. And again, the motion to have her committed was dismissed, meaning they determined that she did not need treatment. Now, something I want you to keep in mind is this. Remember when we

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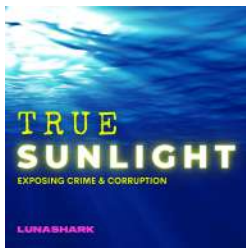
told you about the healthcare power of attorney that JP had drawn up the day Mica was hospitalized per her and her family's request and against his wishes and November 2022. That document gave JP broad and seemingly absolute power over Mica's health care, including when she should be admitted to a hospital and when she should be discharged. That document also included a directive on deciding whether she should be resuscitated. On the day Mica was released from the hospital in December 2022. She appears to have signed the POA and that POA remained dormant for 15 months, until March 20 2024. When it finally got filed in the Register of Deeds office. This would be 15 days after JP's effort to have Mica committed to a mental facility failed. In just nine days after this phone call and Mica filing for a restraining order against JP. As we told you before, we discovered that the POA could be filed by anyone. It did not need to be filed by Mica Miller. But it's Mica's name that does appear on the receipt from the day it got filed. We are still digging to find out whether this means Mica for sure filed this on her own, which would make absolutely no sense. Or if someone else filed it on her behalf just over a month before her body would be found. Okay, now regarding the tire razors. These do not seem like ordinary razors, but rather razors designed to do damage on tires. Let's go back to the call.

### **Mica Francis** 53:25

And the car is in my Godmother's name. So it's not marital property.

### **Liz Farrell** 53:34

This is important. This shows that Mica had tried and failed to get help so many times by this point that she was now speaking a language that one develops when repeatedly hitting a wall with law enforcement. She is telling the dispatcher a piece of information that she knows law



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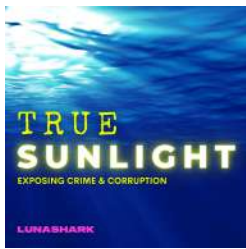
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enforcement will end up using against her to say they can't do anything in her previous calls to police about trackers that she was finding on her car and her February 21st call when she told police that JP had had her involuntarily committed so that he could take our car from her and leave her without transportation. She was told sorry, but because marital property is involved in this case, it's a civil case. The police didn't seem to check to see that the current question in February was actually Mica's; it was in her name alone. Her bringing this up to the dispatcher at this point. It's just heartbreaking. She's trying to preempt their dismissal. She's trying to show them that this is a problem. This is not just some random case of vandalism. She's trying to show them that she's being systematically harmed. So a little aside, have we ever talked to you about bicycle face? It's this condition. The all male medical community made up in the late 19th century claiming that the concentration it took to remain upright and balanced on a bike with lead to a sort of frozen look of exhaustion and worry on someone's face which could lead to depression and heart problems. According to Vox, which quoted an article from a London magazine 1896, to men, the bicycle in the beginning was merely a new toy. Another machine added to the long list of devices they knew and their work and play to women. It was a steed upon which they rode into a new world, meaning the ability for women to transport themselves to point A to point B, it was seen as a big threat to the patriarchy. Before this, women relied on men to get around. But now they had a contraction that they could power themselves. So to counter that, the men made up a health condition. Which brings us back to Mica. We said this so many times before, but she needed her car, she needed her car to get away from JP, she needed her car to build a life of her own, she needed to have a reliable means of transportation. In February, he allegedly took that from her telling the cop that Mica was lying about being separated, she was not.

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And then she was in the middle of an annual bout of mania. And that's why he took the car from her. He told the cop, he was afraid she was going to sell it, and the cop believed him. In response to that Mica found a way to get her own vehicle. For the first time. In this call, we're learning that it was her godmother or a person she considered to be her godmother, who had signed for the car she was driving at the time of her death, which means she was living with her godmother at that time.

### **911 Dispatcher** 56:37

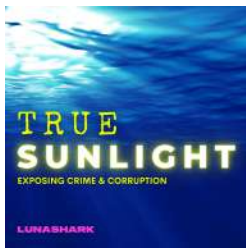
So your tire popped after this happened?

### **Mica Francis** 56:41

No, my dad's on the way now to crank it up, put a doughnut and then hopefully, the razors sticking out this side. So hopefully we'll be able to pull it and plug it, you know. So hopefully, the other tire did have to be replaced 100%. The one that he put this person, whoever it is that put it in at probate court that had to completely be replaced. This one's on the side. And if not all the way in. It's sticking out really far. So you can see the whole razor and hopefully I'll be able to go to the east coast on that we'll be able to pull the razor out. Is there like a way to check for fingerprints on that thing or something?

### **Mandy Matney** 57:25

So again, these razor blades are no small issue. Whoever was putting them and her tire was trying to keep her from her own independence. Whoever did this was trying to wear her down. The police report estimates this razor costs \$200 in damage. This is after having to replace a tire six days earlier. And at a time when Mica was really hurting for money. And can we talk about how sad it is that a victim feels like she



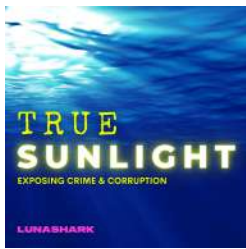
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has to point out evidence that can be gathered in an investigation? At this point, Mica already knew the failings of law enforcement, and how every time something happened, it ended up going nowhere. And she continued to suffer. The dispatcher told Mica that she had no idea if they could get fingerprints off the razor, and that this would be for the responding officer to decide. According to the written report, quote, responding officer observed the tire and Upon removal of the metal piece, it was found that the metal had a tire deflation device that can be purchased online. The officer notes that Mica believes that JP has people following her; there's about a half a line of text that is redacted. So we do not know what that says: did the officer ever submit the razor for evidence? It is very unclear. But it also seems like the answer is no. Because in this very same report, he closes the case he writes, quote, evidence was not sufficient to prove that the suspect placed the razor device under the tire. No mention of looking for surveillance footage from Spring may appear. No mention of jesting it for fingerprints or swabbing it for DNA. No mention of a forensic report coming back inconclusive. Just one big mess. At the end of the report. At the end of the month, Mica went to her hearing to get the restraining order against JP; it appears that she was unable to convince a court that there was a problem. We do not know exactly what went down because there is no transcript from that hearing. But we can guess that law enforcement repeated dismissals of her complaints played a role. Here is the saddest part.

### **911 Dispatcher** 59:54

Okay, all right. I'm gonna fit this information and we'll have officers out to you as soon as possible. Okay, and they may want to call you to get some more information. If they do, it'll be from a non blocked or private



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number. Just make sure you answer okay. Yes, ma'am. All right, good luck.

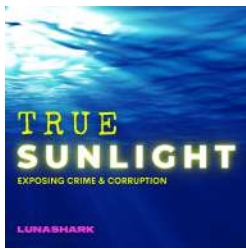
**Liz Farrell** 1:00:08

She said good luck. Sadly, at this time in her life, Mica really did need that lock and she did not get it. Before we go today, we want to talk a little bit about two reports that were filed by JP's ex wife while they were going through a divorce in 2015 and 2016. We've already talked about the struggles that Alison had with getting her alimony from JP and we told you about how he showed up at one hearing without a lawyer vote in a wheelchair, telling the judge he had fallen from a tree before the judge cut him off after making the mistake of asking JP, why were you on a tree? In March 2016. Allison Williams called Horry county sheriff's office to report the stalking and harassment she said she was getting from JP over the previous six weeks or so. This report speaks to the pattern of harassment that Mica appears to have been experiencing and it further validates the part of Alison's affidavit and Family Court, where she noted that Mica had confided in her what she was going through with JP and that Alison felt like Mica was being truthful because the behavior she was describing was very familiar to her. Now we have some insight into what that purported behavior was.

According to the police report, Alison told police that JP constantly stalks and harasses her. The report says quote, the offender will not leave the victim alone. Sound familiar? Alison told place that shave he was routinely showing up at her job. Remember how he told family court that he should be paying less alimony because of Alison's three jobs that she had to have post separating from him. Now we find out who is putting those jobs at risk. It's truly unbelievable. Also, I'll say it again, sound familiar? Mica accused JP of doing the same thing at the restaurant where she was working. In the report. Allison also told police

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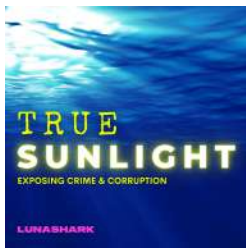
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that JP was showing up at her church. Again, this is something Mica accused JP of doing to Mike had told police that JB was clearly tracking or because after she attended a new church. He had texted her to let her know that he knew she had been there. Also, according to Mike is last JP called Mica's new pastor to quote explain her issues. In Allison's case, JP appears to have gone to her new pastor or to ask for counseling for some reason. Now, Alison told police that JP was using their children as an excuse to see her and that she was certain he was showing up at her home when she wasn't there. The police report actually refers to an earlier call for service to Allison's house when JP was found in Allison's front yard. lying in the grass. Alison was not at home at the time, according to the report, and JP appeared to be quote, under the influence of something and rescue was notified to respond. The offender refused treatment and said that maybe he got his medication next up and took his sleeping pills instead of his other medication. It's not clear if this is the same incident that was posted on Facebook in the form of video in which JP is seen lying in the grass curled up and crying and speaking in a very high pitched voice about wanting to see Jesus. That said the report also notes another time when police were involved with JP showing up at Allison's house. He went to her house to take one or more of their kids out for ice cream, and then called police when Alison refused to let him take them. She cited injuries he had at the time and medications he was taking. The responding officer at the time agreed with Alison and determined JP was in no condition to be driving children around. Back to the report of harassment though. It's about to get really interesting and frankly very bizarre. According to the report, JP was not just repeatedly showing up at Allison's work and church. He was texting her and calling her constantly asking her to spend and I quote 40 days and 40 nights with him without interference. Quote, The offender told the victim that it is God's will for him to move back in to

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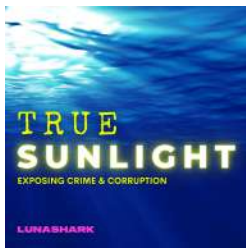
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the victim's house. Again, sound familiar? According to Mica's list, JP engaged in spiritual abuse in which he told my God that she was defying God by not bending to JP's. Well, quote, when he would do terrible, terrible things to her, he would tell her that God said she cannot judge him. And as a good Christian, she has to forgive him and even more so as his wife. It's amazing, right? There could not be a more clear example of someone using their positional power to harm and control those without that same power that a pastor claiming God is sanctioning his bad behavior. Raise your hand if you want to spend 40 days and 40 nights with a man who cheated on you. I see no hands raised, including Allison Williams because according to the report, she did not want JPA to be inside of her home. Nevermind, move back in with her. JP had a solution to that, by the way, he moved in across the neighborhood pond from her where he could basically spy on her house. I am not kidding. Also, sadly, this isn't the first time we've heard of a powerful South Carolina man doing the same thing. If I didn't mind being sued. This is the part where I'd like cough and say his name. Back to JP though, according to a police report, he would call and text Allison to let her know that he could see her coming and going and could see when she had guests over. Quote. The victim said the offender told her the only thing blocking his view, not allowing the offender to have complete visual access to the front of the victim's residence is a magnolia tree that is planted in the middle of the cul-de-sac. A tree you say like the kind you fall out of. The report goes on to say, quote, the victim said that she has noticed several times a white substance spread around the base of the tree, and he's realized that the substance is Epsom salt. Allison told police that she knew JP had used Epsom salt to kill trees on his church property before. At the time of this report. Alison had installed video cameras on her house. She said she didn't feel physically threatened by JP but that she feels like he is harassing and

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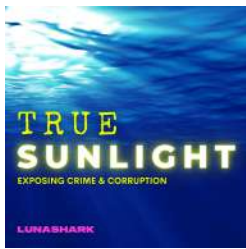
stalking her nonstop. The resolution to all of this was that Alison was advised to have her manager at work file a no trespass notice against JP and have her past her do the same thing, which is really embarrassing. It's not her problem. Quote at this time, this report will not be presented to a magistrate because the victim was referred back to her attorney to inquire about an order of protection. In other words, the officer is basically saying he's not seeking a warrant for JP's arrest because he considers this to be a civil matter. Not only does Allison say she feels like she's being stalked and harassed. Not only did she have a litany of instances in which JP had crossed the line, the police officer himself noted that there's a history of bizarre behavior from JP and yet nothing was done. Then, three months later, Alison had to file another report, this time because she said JP had been shining a green laser light into her house, and she caught this harassment on video, the responding officer noted that it did seem to be coming from around where JP lived. The report does not mention Allison's earlier report of persistent harassment. Instead, the report notes that the responding officer told her to have a copy of the video burned and to give it to her lawyer. Again, she was told this was a civil matter.

### **Mandy Matney** 1:08:08

There are several takeaways here. One is that by treating each incident of harassment and stalking as the thing separate and apart from each other law enforcement is missing the bigger picture. For instance, why didn't any of Mica's reports about JP include that he was accused of this same behavior and another relationship that this was not JP's first rodeo, with police when it comes to claims of harassment and stalking? Why didn't anyone search his name in the system to understand the full picture of the behavior he was routinely being accused of? Second, if harassment and stalking is always a civil matter to these responding

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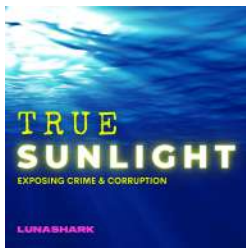
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officers then what is the point of the criminal statute? When men are repeatedly not held accountable for their behavior when the message consistently comes back to them that the victim can't touch him without being able to afford to launch an expensive multi year legal battle with him and civil court, his behavior will inevitably become worse and likely more dangerous. And as Allison's affidavit sort of headset, JP's behavior with Mica appears to be worse than what you had to deal with. Third, and this is to the women law enforcement officers who might be listening or anyone who feels like taking on the cause. We strongly believe that law enforcement agencies should have one person on staff appointed to do regular reviews of reports that accused people of domestic violence, harassment and stalking so that patterns can be discerned. The agencies cannot afford to devote paid resources to that endeavor, then maybe volunteers can do this. Maybe they can provide all of the relevant reports to a Citizens Advisory Board that can then analyze the reports themselves and offer suggestions about how to better document these cases to prevent future violence, murder and suicide. Something has to change. And right now, the pattern that we are seeing here is a pattern of dismissal to again, quote The 911 dispatcher, good luck. No one needs luck when they can depend on the system they help pay for to have their back when they can count on their taxpayer funded agencies to do right by them instead of further emboldening the people who are doing the harm. We have so much more to share in the Mica Francis case, but one thing is very clear so far, Mica did not die in vain. Not only has she brought light to potential wrongdoings in the church, her case is showing us the broken areas and law enforcement where solutions actually exist so that no other woman has to feel this alone and this helpless ever again. Stay tuned, stay pesky, and stay in the sunlight. True sunlight is a Luna Shark production created by me Mandy Matney and co-hosted by

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