

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF COLLETON**

State of South Carolina,

v.

Richard Alexander Murdaugh,

Defendant.

**COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

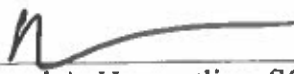
Indictment Nos. 2022-GS-15-00592, -593,
-594, and -595

**MOTION FOR INDEPENDENT
LABORATORY REVIEW OF DNA
EVIDENCE**

Defendant Richard Alexander Murdaugh, through undersigned counsel, hereby moves for an order requiring the State to produce DNA evidence in this case for independent laboratory review. The grounds for this motion are as follows. DNA evidence was collected from underneath Maggie Murdaugh's left-hand fingernails at the scene (SLED Item No. 70). SLED determined this DNA was from an unknown and unrelated male. No further analysis was attempted. This evidence, however, is crucial to the defense. For example, testing of initially unknown male DNA found at the murder scene is what eventually exonerated David Camm of the murders of his wife and children. Camm's two prior wrongful convictions were overturned because the prosecution improperly introduced prejudicial character evidence. *See In re Henderson*, 78 N.E.3d 1092 (Ind. 2017) (recounting procedural history of the case when issuing public reprimand against the second trial's prosecutor because his book-writing deal created a conflict of interest).

Defendant's counsel therefore contacted Othram, Inc., about the possibility of more thorough testing. Othram is a well-known company specializing in the use of forensic genetic genealogy to resolve unsolved murders. Counsel today learned that Othram believes it can conduct a more thorough analysis of the sample, but the testing takes considerable time, and a "rush" order would be needed. Defendant therefore moves for an order requiring the State to deliver the DNA sample to Othram by appropriate means for testing at Defendant's expense.

Respectfully submitted,


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June 24, 2026
Columbia, South Carolina.

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COLLETON CO GS, GARY HALE

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE

Defendant Richard Alexander Murdaugh, by and through his undersigned counsel, respectfully moves this Court, pursuant to the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, Article I, Section 14 of the South Carolina Constitution, and the common law powers of the Court as set forth in *State v. Harvey*, 128 S.C. 494 (1924) and *State v. Law*, 265 S.C. 11 (1975), for an order transferring venue of the trial of the above-referenced indictments to a county outside the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. The basis for this motion is that this is among the most heavily publicized criminal prosecutions in the history of this State. For years Defendant, his family, and the law firm with which his family was associated for generations have been the subject of saturating, sensational, and continuous media coverage. That coverage has been especially intense within the five counties that comprise the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit—Allendale, Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper—where the Murdaugh name has been synonymous with the local legal system for nearly a century, where the population is small and interconnected, and where the very documentaries, books, and films that have shaped public opinion were researched, filmed, and produced. Under these circumstances, the Defendant cannot obtain the fair and impartial trial guaranteed to him by the federal and state constitutions in any county within the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. A transfer to another county within the same Circuit would not cure the prejudice, because the saturation and the personal connections that give rise to it extend

throughout the Circuit. For these reasons, and for reasons which will be set forth in a supporting memorandum of law filed at such time as the Court may direct, Defendant respectfully requests that venue be transferred to a county outside the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,


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**MOTION FOR DEFENDANT TO HAVE
ACCESS TO CASE MATERIALS IN
ELECTRONIC FORMAT**

Defendant Richard Alexander Murdaugh, through undersigned counsel, hereby moves for an order requiring the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) to allow him to review case materials in this matter on a secure laptop computer. The discovery in this case is voluminous and, if printed, would fill numerous banker's boxes. Merely printing hard copies of the discovery would be far more expensive than a laptop computer. Mr. Murdaugh therefore proposes that his counsel provide SCDC a laptop computer with an encrypted, password-protected hard drive for his use when reviewing case materials in preparation for trial. When Mr. Murdaugh is not reviewing case materials, this computer would be secured in the warden's office or some other suitable location. The device would not have cellular capabilities and would not be otherwise connected to the internet. The device would not be used to video or audio record anything prior to written approval from SCDC. If lost or stolen, its contents would not be accessible without the password. This would be a much more secure method of providing Mr. Murdaugh access to materials in his case than sending several banker boxes of papers, a great many of which are sealed or subject to a protective order, to a prison.

Respectfully submitted,


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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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) IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
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)

The State of South Carolina,
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Holli Miller, paralegal to the attorney for the Defendant, Richard A. Harpootlian, P.A., with offices located at 1410 Laurel Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, hereby certify that on June 24, 2026, I did serve via electronic delivery the following documents to the below mentioned person:

Documents: 1. Motion for Defendant to Have Access to Case Materials in Electronic Format;
 2. Motion to Transfer Venue; and,
 3. Motion for Independent Laboratory Review of DNA Evidence.

Served: Creighton Waters, Esquire
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 Rembert C. Dennis Building
 Post Office Box 11549
 Columbia South Carolina 29211-1549
 cwaters@scag.gov


Holli Miller

JUN 24 2026 PM3:20
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